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DOLE TELLS WEST VIRGINIA GOP: DUKAKIS/BENTSEN; FOR AND AGAINST

The following is an excerpt from a speech Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole will give this evening at the West Virginia Republican State Convention.

"DESPITE ALL THIS TALK ABOUT 'UNITY', THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION HAS GIVEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A SPLIT TICKET -- THREE CANDIDATES AND TWO CAMPAIGNS DESIGNED TO BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE.

"BUT THE STRATEGY WON'T WORK -- THE AMERICAN VOTER IS TOO SMART TO FALL FOR THE DEMOCRAT'S SHELL GAME.

"THE DEMOCRATS KNOW FULL WELL THAT DUKAKIS LIBERALISM WON'T SELL, SO THEY TAILORED THEIR CONVENTION TO PRODUCE A SPLIT TICKET WITH SPLIT PHILOSOPHIES, SPLIT CANDIDATES AND SPLIT MESSAGES FOR THE AMERICAN VOTER. IT'S A BUFFET OF IDEOLOGIES AND POLICIES DESIGNED TO SATISFY EVERY APPETITE.

"AFTER TWO WEEKS OF HEDGING, DODGING AND BENDING IN ATLANTA, THE DEMOCRATS HAVE GIVEN US THREE CANDIDATES -- JESSE JACKSON, LLOYD BENSTEN AND MICHAEL DUKAKIS.

"THE LIBERAL CANDIDATES WILL TARGET THE NORTHEAST AND INDUSTRIAL STATES, WHILE THE OTHER CANDIDATE TAKES TO THE SOUTH.

"THE DUKAKIS/JACKSON/BENTSEN TICKET IS FOR AND AGAINST TAXES; FOR AND AGAINST DEFENSE; FOR AND AGAINST A STRONG AMERICA; FOR AND AGAINST AID TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS AROUND THE GLOBE; AND FOR AND AGAINST MORE FEDERAL SPENDING.

"NEVERTHELESS, THEY ARE UNIFIED ON ONE POINT: NOT GIVING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A CLUE AS TO WHAT THEY PLAN TO DO IF THE DEMOCRATS MOVE INTO THE WHITE HOUSE. THAT KIND OF STRATEGY MAY LOOK GOOD IN SOME SMOKEY BACK ROOM AT THE CONVENTION HALL, BUT IT CERTAINLY DOESN'T DO MUCH FOR THE LEADERSHIP GAP THAT CONTINUES TO PLAGUE THE DEMOCRATS.

"NEXT MONTH IN NEW ORLEANS, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE SPELLING OUT A WINNING THEME FOR AMERICA. IT WILL BE A SINGLE MESSAGE OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY -- AN AMERICA PROUD AND STRONG, AND DETERMINED TO STAY."