

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1979

A NATION IN DOUBT

AS WE GATHER HERE TONIGHT, HOSTAGES ARE STILL BEING HELD CAPTIVE IN IRAN. OUR PAYCHECKS ARE BEING CONSUMED BY TAXES AND INFLATION. OUR FARMERS ARE FACING DWINDLING PRICES AT A TIME WHEN WE HAVE JUST RECORDED ONE OF THE GREATEST HARVESTS IN HISTORY. WE CONFRONT AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE OVER OUR ENERGY SUPPLIES. THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF IS UNDER ATTACK FROM THE LEFT WING OF HIS PARTY, AND SEEMS LIKELY TO LOSE THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION TO AN APOSTLE OF THE NOSTALGIC PAST.

FOR THREE YEARS, I THINK MANY AMERICANS HAVE BEEN ASKING THEMSELVES: HOW DID JIMMY CARTER GET IN THE WHITE HOUSE? THE ANSWER IS EASY -- MORE PEOPLE VOTED FOR JIMMY CARTER THAN VOTED FOR JERRY FORD AND ME. MORE PEOPLE WERE IMPRESSED BY CARTER'S STYLE, BY CARTER'S SMILE, BUT THEY FAILED TO LOOK AT A CRITICAL FACTOR -- EXPERIENCE. AND SADLY, WE HAVE ALL HAD TO PAY THE COST OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING EVER SINCE.

1. Organized "Campaign Dinner"
2. 4th Session R.R. fund
3. Special.
4. Indry. Conference
5. Target Box Dinner
6. 100 cents to General
Archibald Bennett

~~Dec 20
1940~~

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THE NEED FOR AN EXPERIENCED PRESIDENT

SO THE QUESTION ARISES: WILL AMERICANS SETTLE FOR SUGAR-COATED RHETORIC AGAIN? I DOUBT IT. POLITICS, GOVERNMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF OUR NATION'S AFFAIRS ARE NOT FOR NOVICES. LEADERSHIP IN THIS AREA COMES FROM BEING TESTED AND CHALLENGED IN THE NATIONAL ARENA.

FOR NINETEEN YEARS, FIRST IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND LATER IN THE SENATE, I THINK I HAVE WITHSTOOD THAT TEST ON A DAILY BASIS. THE PROBLEMS OUR NATION FACES ARE THE PROBLEMS THAT I FACE ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS. I'M NOT CONTENT MERELY TO OFFER SLOGANS. I WANT TO OFFER SOLUTIONS.

GETTING A GRIP ON INFLATION

IT IS MY PERSONAL OPINION THAT THE INABILITY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE DEMOCRAT-CONTROLLED CONGRESS TO COME TO GRIPS WITH SPIRALING INFLATION IS THEIR GREATEST SINGLE FAILURE IN OFFICE. AND, I BELIEVE THEY MUST BOTH BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE IN 1980.

THAT'S WHY I BELIEVE YOU HAVE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO DEFEAT TOM HARKIN IN 1980. I DON'T INTEND TO CHOOSE SIDES IN ANY UNFORESEEN CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY IN THIS DISTRICT, BUT SINCE CAL HULTMAN IS SEEKING THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT CAL WILL BE A MUCH BETTER REPRESENTATIVE FOR YOU THAN TOM HARKIN COULD EVER BE.

THE ISSUE IS SIMPLE, THE NEED OBVIOUS. AS PRESIDENT, MY MAJOR PRIORITY WOULD BE TO MAKE GOVERNMENT AFFORDABLE AGAIN.

MY FIRST ACTION WOULD BE TO REDUCE THE DEVASTATING IMPACT OF INFLATION BY PRESENTING A BALANCED BUDGET TO THE CONGRESS -- AND INSISTING THAT CONGRESS STAY WITHIN THE BUDGET GUIDELINES. AND TO EXERCISE MY VETO POWER TO THE FULLEST TO BALANCE THE BUDGET.

SECONDLY, I WOULD ENCOURAGE PASSAGE OF A TAX-INDEXING SYSTEM TO RELIEVE THE ADDITIONAL TAX BURDENS CREATED BY INFLATION-INDUCED PAY INCREASES.

AMERICANS WANT TAX RELIEF. LAST YEAR, 77% OF ALL AMERICAN TAXPAYERS PAID HIGHER TAXES JUST BECAUSE INFLATION PUSHED THEM INTO HIGHER BRACKETS. THE AVERAGE IOWA TAXPAYER WAS HIT WITH A BILL FOR \$111 SOLELY BECAUSE WASHINGTON COULD NOT RESTRAIN ITS NATURAL INCLINATION TO SPEND ALL OF US INTO THE POORHOUSE. THAT'S THE BIGGEST WINDFALL TAX OF ALL -- AND I WANT TO STOP IT. THAT'S WHY I'VE INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO INDEX THE TAX SYSTEM -- AND THUS PROTECT THE LIVING STANDARDS OF MILLIONS OF MIDDLE INCOME AND RETIRED PEOPLE.

IT'S TIME TO STOP MERELY TALKING ABOUT INFLATION. IT'S TIME TO ATTACK IT AT ITS ROOTS. I'M PUSHING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PLACE STIFF LIMITS ON BOTH FEDERAL TAXATION AND FEDERAL SPENDING. NOTHING LESS WILL DO. NOTHING LESS WILL ALLOW MIDDLE-CLASS AMERICANS TO BREATHE EASY AND KNOW THEIR DOLLAR WILL BE WORTH MORE THAN THE PAPER IT'S PRINTED ON.

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NONE OF THIS WILL BE EASY. IT WILL REQUIRE EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH THE CONGRESS, AND A SUREFOOTED KNOWLEDGE OF THE FEDERAL ESTABLISHMENT. IT CALLS FOR A PRESIDENT WITH A SENSE OF THE STRUGGLES ENDURED BY THE AVERAGE AMERICAN -- AND THE ABILITY TO RALLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BEHIND HIS DETERMINED EFFORTS.

THE NEED FOR CAMPAIGN EXPERIENCE

AND, JUST AS WE NEED A PRESIDENT WITH THE EXPERIENCE TO ACHIEVE HIS BEST INTENTIONS, SO WE REPUBLICANS NEED A CANDIDATE WHO KNOWS THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TRAIL -- AND THE STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE LIKELY DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE.

WHICH BRINGS US TO TEDDY KENNEDY. HE'S BEEN IN CONGRESS 17 YEARS. I'VE BEEN THERE 19. HE'S ON THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE -- SO AM I. HE'S INTRODUCED A CRADLE-TO-GRAVE BUREAUCRATIC NIGHTMARE CALLED NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE. I'VE INTRODUCED AN AFFORDABLE, PRIVATE-BASED PROGRAM OF CATASTROPHIC HEALTH INSURANCE. HIS PROGRAM HASN'T A CHANCE OF PASSAGE -- MINE HAS A VERY GOOD CHANCE.

I'VE GONE TOE-TO-TOE WITH TED KENNEDY ON NATIONAL DEFENSE, EXCESSIVE FEDERAL REGULATION AND A BLOATED FEDERAL BUDGET. WE EVEN HAVE OUR OFFICES IN THE SAME CORRIDOR. NEEDLESS TO SAY, HIS IS 50 YARDS TO THE LEFT OF MINE. I KNOW HOW TO DEBATE TEDDY, AND HOW TO WIN. WHAT DOES HE KNOW ABOUT AGRICULTURE, A VITAL INDUSTRY IN IOWA?

THE FACT IS, WE NEED A PRESIDENT IN 1980 WHO UNDERSTANDS THE STRUGGLE OF THE FARM FAMILY TO EARN A LIVING FROM THE SOIL. WE NEED A PRESIDENT WHO KNOWS ABOUT HARVESTING SOMETHING MORE THAN HEADLINES. CAN YOU IMAGINE TED KENNEDY DISCUSSING PARITY OR MEAT IMPORTS OR TARGET PRICES?

I KNOW A LITTLE ABOUT THE FARMERS OF THIS COUNTRY, AND THEIR LEGITIMATE ECONOMIC NEEDS. JUST LAST WEEK, I WAS ABLE TO PERSUADE THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE TO RAISE TARGET PRICES FOR WHEAT THIRTEEN CENTS ABOVE THE ADMINISTRATION'S LEVEL. I'VE GOTTEN AMENDMENTS PASSED TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION OF GASAHOL, AND GREATER RELIANCE UPON MIDWESTERN FOOD AND FIBER IN SUCH PROGRAMS AS FOOD STAMPS AND FOOD FOR PEACE.

WHO SPEAKS FOR THE PEOPLE?

I COME FROM A SMALL TOWN IN THE HEARTLAND OF AMERICA, WHERE YOU DON'T NEED GOVERNMENT TO INSTILL COMPASSION FOR YOUR NEIGHBOR.

WHEN YOU ASK WHY BOB DOLE FOR PRESIDENT, I CAN RESPOND BY RECITING MY KANSAS AND SENATE RECORD, MY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN EXPERIENCE, THE CONFIDENCE THAT JERRY FORD PLACED IN ME AS HIS CHOICE FOR VICE PRESIDENT IN 1976. OR I COULD TELL YOU ABOUT RUSSELL, AND WHAT IT IS MY NEIGHBORS INSTILLED IN ME AS A BOY.

THEY TAUGHT ME THAT AMERICA IS THE GREATEST COUNTRY ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH -- NOT BECAUSE GOVERNMENT MADE IT SO, BUT BECAUSE GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGED THE NATURAL GENIUS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. THEY TAUGHT ME THAT WE SHALL REMAIN A GREAT POWER -- JUST AS LONG AS WE DISPLAY GUTS INSTEAD OF GRITS.

AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

LOOK AT THE WORLD TONIGHT. WE HAVE IN THE WHITE HOUSE A DECENT MAN, WHO THINKS THAT PERSONAL DECENCY ALONE IS ENOUGH TO HOLD OUR OWN IN THE MODERN WORLD. IN THE NAME OF SO-CALLED DECENCY, HE HAS CANCELED THE B-1 BOMBER, DELAYED THE MX MISSILE, CUT BACK ON RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER CUBA. HE HAS BROKEN RELATIONS UNILATERALLY WITH TAIWAN, SIGNED AWAY THE PANAMA CANAL, AND TURNED HIS BACK ON AMERICAN ALLIES SPANNING THE GLOBE.

WORST OF ALL, HE HAS ACCEPTED THE DANGEROUS AND UNJUST ASSUMPTION OF THE POST-VIETNAM ERA -- THAT IF ONLY AMERICA WILL STOP MAKING TROUBLE ABROAD, THEN WE CAN ALL LIVE PEACEFULLY IN A PERFECT WORLD. WELL, THAT'S HOGWASH. IF THE WORLD IS IMPERFECT, IT IS BECAUSE THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS HIRED ALLIES INSIST ON PURSUING THEIR AGE-OLD VISION OF GLOBAL DOMINATION.

TO IGNORE THAT FACT IS NOT DECENCY, MY FRIENDS. IT IS WISHFUL THINKING. IT IS A BLUEPRINT FOR INTERNATIONAL DISASTER.

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES NEEDS MORE THAN INDIVIDUAL DECENCY -- HE NEEDS A BACKBONE.

I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT BACKBONE. WHEN I WAS FLOWN BACK FROM ITALY AFTER WORLD WAR II, I HAD 39 MONTHS TO DO SOME LONG, HARD THINKING ABOUT WAR AND PEACE. NOT MANY IN THIS HALL KNOW MORE ABOUT WAR THAN I DO. NOT MANY HERE HAVE HAD A MORE PERSONAL EXPERIENCE ON THE BATTLEFIELD. AND NO ONE IS A MORE PASSIONATE PARTISAN FOR PEACE.

BUT HOW DO YOU ACHIEVE PEACE? I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THAT, TOO, AND I WANT TO SHARE MY THOUGHTS WITH YOU.

I THINK ONLY A NATION WILLING TO STAND BY ITS FRIENDS CAN HOPE TO KEEP THOSE FRIENDS. THAT MEANS STANDING BY OUR ONE HISTORIC UNSHAKEABLE ALLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, THE STATE OF ISRAEL. THAT MEANS STANDING BY OUR TRADITIONAL ALLIES IN EUROPE, AND PROVIDING THE NATO ALLIANCE WITH SOMETHING BETTER THAN WEAPONS TWENTY YEARS OUT OF DATE. THAT MEANS STANDING UP TO FOREIGN MOBS -- AND STANDING UP TO THEIR INCITERS BEFORE THE MOBS POUR OUT INTO THE STREETS.

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A GREAT NATION -- WELL I SAY LET'S START ACTING LIKE ONE. A GREAT NATION DOESN'T SLASH ITS NAVY TO LESS THAN 400 SHIPS. A GREAT NATION DOESN'T GIVE AWAY THE CANAL IT BUILT AND OPERATED IN PANAMA BECAUSE A DICTATOR AND HIS CAREFULLY REHEARSED MOBS THREATEN US.

THE LESSONS OF IRAN

THE GRAVE EVENTS TRANSPILING IN IRAN SHOULD SERVE AS A SOBER REMINDER TO EACH AND EVERY AMERICAN: WISHFUL THINKING AND THE BEST OF INTENTIONS DO NOT SUFFICE IN THE MODERN WORLD. PLACATING THE AYATOLLAH WITH KEROSENE AND MILITARY SPARE PARTS DID NOTHING TO FORESTALL THE SEIZURE OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN TEHERAN.

WE MUST NEVER AGAIN HOLD BLINDLY TO THE SELF-DELUSIONS THAT HAVE MARKED THE LAST FEW YEARS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. INSTEAD, WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT THE MODERN WORLD IS A HARSH PLACE, WHERE MILITARY STRENGTH IS RESPECTED MORE THAN PIOUS PROMISES, AND WE MUST BEHAVE ACCORDINGLY.

IRAN MAY YET BE A DECISIVE TURNING POINT IN THE WAY THIS COUNTRY APPROACHES THE REST OF THE WORLD. IT MAY YET STIFFEN OUR RESOLVE AND BOLSTER OUR MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC STRENGTH OVERSEAS. IF WE FAIL TO LEARN THIS LESSON, THEN THE TRAGEDY OF TEHERAN WILL BE EVEN GREATER THAN THE HOLDING OF 49 HOSTAGES AGAINST EVERY COMMAND OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND COMMON HUMAN DECENCY.

BUT TONIGHT IS NOT THE TIME TO WAGE A FULL-SCALE DEBATE OVER WHAT WENT WRONG IN IRAN. THERE WILL BE TIME FOR THAT IN THE DAYS AHEAD. TONIGHT, ANY RESPONSIBLE POLITICAL FIGURE MUST STAND PUBLICLY BEHIND THE PRESIDENT, AND INDULGE, NOT IN PERSONAL DIPLOMACY, BUT IN PERSONAL PRAYER.

ALL OF THESE ISSUES WILL PLAY THEIR PART IN THE CURRENT CAMPAIGN. BUT ULTIMATELY, YOU WILL CAST YOUR VOTES ON YOUR VISION OF AMERICA AND HER FUTURE -- AND WHICH CANDIDATE MOST CLOSELY SHARES THAT VISION. I SUBMIT THAT, WHEN THE BANDS STOP PLAYING AND THE TV COMMERCIALS HAVE PLAYED OUT THEIR RUN, THEN EACH AMERICAN WILL CONFRONT HIS OR HER PRIVATE DREAMS AND ASPIRATIONS. THAT'S WHEN YOU WILL MAKE YOUR DECISION, AND IN THAT CONTEXT. I'M CONFIDENT YOU WILL GIVE MY CANDIDACY THE CONSIDERATION I HOPE IT WILL MERIT.

IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, WE'VE ALL SEEN THE PICTURES OF COLLEGE KIDS OUTRAGED LIKE THE REST OF US, HOLDING HIGH THE AMERICAN FLAG. WE'VE NEVER BEEN PROUDER OF OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS.

WHAT KIND OF COUNTRY WILL WE GIVE THEM MY FRIENDS? THAT'S WHAT THIS ELECTION IS ALL ABOUT. THAT'S WHAT YOU WILL INFLUENCE BY THE BALLOTS YOU CAST AT THE JANUARY CAUCUSES.

YOU AND I HAVE FOUGHT THE SAME BATTLES IN THE PAST. I THINK WE SHARE A SIMILAR VIEW OF THE FUTURE. NOW WE ARE LAUNCHED ON A NEW STRUGGLE. IT WON'T BE EASY. BUT NOTHING GREAT IS EVERY OBTAINED WITH EXERTION.

TOGETHER WE SHALL MAKE AMERICA ONCE AGAIN WHAT SHE WAS MEANT BY GOD TO BE -- THE LAST BEST HOPE OF FREEDOM ON THIS EARTH.