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**Collection:** Reagan, Ronald: 1980 Campaign Files,  
1965-80

**Folder Title:** 09/07/1980, Super Senior Citizens /  
Philadelphia, PA (2 of 2)

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5 Sept. 1980

TO: Mike Deaver

FROM: Bob Garrick

*goes 7 Sept  
field  
house*

Herewith, suggestions for the St. Joseph Rally for Comm '80 .  
The personalized lead into the remarks from Bill Gavin might  
localize the situation.

x x x

To: Bob Garrick

September 5, 1980

From: Bill Gavin <sup>B</sup> -

Re: St. Joseph's College Rally.

Paul Westhead (a former neighbor of mine) is now coach of the world champion Los Angeles Lakers. He is also an alumnus of St. Joe's. Perhaps RR might want to make reference to this by saying at the beginning of his remarks.

"It's good to be here at St. Joseph's college, known for its distinguished academic achievements and for the ~~the Hawks~~ athletic program that has made the name "Hawks" known all over the country. As a citizen of California and Los ~~Angels~~ Angeles, I ~~want~~ to thank you for giving us Paul Westhead, coach of the champion Lakers and a distinguished alumnus of St. Joe's. This school knows how to produce champions and winners and I hope some of it rubs off today."

Suggested Remarks for St. Joseph College Fieldhouse Rally in Philadelphia, September 7, 1980.

(The following might be used as part of the basic speech)

I thought that since I am in such a distinguished academic setting, I would try to follow the example shown by scholars and provide you with some documentation of what Mr. Carter has said--and what he has done.

Let me give you a few examples:

In an interview with Fortune magazine in May 1976, he said: "I don't see any reason why the permanent level of inflation can't be as low as 2 or 3 percent."

Today we all know the reason the inflation rate isn't at 2 per cent: Jimmy Carter.

In his latest version of the oldest established permanent floating crap game in government -- the Carter economy -- he tells us that if we give him four more years he just might be able to bring inflation down to 6 per cent.

Only under Carter economics is it considered a triumph to aim for an inflation rate at the end of 8 years that is higher than it was at the beginning of those 8 years.

In an interview with Business Week Magazine, May 3, 1976, he said, "We can have a balanced budget if I'm President. There is no way now to estimate benefits to be derived from top competent management of government."

After four years of Carter economics, there still is no way we can estimate benefits from competent management because we haven't seen any.

At the end of that same interview he was asked: "How do you categorize your brand of economics...?"

His answer is one I cherish. He said:

"How would you describe me? I don't know."

We know now, don't we?

In a speech to the National Conference of Catholic Charities, on October 4, 1976, Jimmy Carter said that he was "deeply concerned" about the impact "the economy is having on family life in America."

That was when the rate of inflation was 4.8 per cent not the 12 or 15 or even 18 per cent annual rates we've had under Jimmy Carter. If he is deeply concerned about what he's done to the economy he certainly has a funny way of showing it.

And by the way--when Jimmy Carter speaks of his love for education as he often does, why doesn't he tell us why he has fought legislation that would offer tuition tax credits to parents sending their children to parochial and private schools?

By fighting this needed measure--which is supported by the Republican Party and which I wholeheartedly support, he is saying to millions of parents--not all of whom are Catholics by any means --that he isn't concerned about them or their right to have their children educated in schools that teach the values we cherish.

MEMORANDUM

*Supper Dr. Sunday  
7 Sept*

September 3, 1980

TO: Bill Casey  
Ed Meese

FROM: Paul Russo *p.R.*

RE: Governor Reagan's Social Security Statement

Attached for your review is a statement on social security, prepared by our House Core Group - Evans, Campbell, Kemp, etc.

It is their strong suggestion that the statement be used by the Governor at the Philadelphia Senior Citizens Day event on Sunday, September 7th in Philadelphia.

cc  
attachment

September 5 1980  
~~4:30 p.m.~~  
10:30 A.M.

To: Bob Garrick

Fr: Bill Gavin *Bill*

Re: Additions, deletions, insertions for "Philadelphia" speech  
as per suggestions made by senior staff:

Page 1. sixth line from top. Take out "world" and insert  
"more" in its place, eliminating the use of the hyphen.

page 2. Timmons suggests taking out the words "and his friends in  
Congress" from line 12 and replacing them with "administration". This  
will mean that the word "the" will have to come before "Carte" in the  
same line. I do not know why this is necessary but I pass it  
along since it can't do any damage. My only question is : what is  
wrong with hitting the Congress, even in wildest Philadelphia? But  
I guess the point is that the city is so Democratic we don't want  
to raise the issue of our, he, he, differences.

page 3. the sixth line from the bottom beginning: "are twice as bad..."  
change to "have been twice as bad, three times as bad." That takes care  
of the former 18% inflation rate and the current rate.

Drew Lewis wanted to know if there is a National Grandparents'  
Day. There is, well-documented.

If any more suggestions come in before 12:00 noon tomorrow I  
will incorporate them in a final memo to you. But this is what I  
have up until this time.

P.S. Attached is suggested ("strongly" suggested) language  
from Congressmen Evans, Kemp, etc.

This should go to the Governor as is so that he can make the  
decision. (I have only one copy of this--all the copying machines  
are on the blink, so make a copy for Meese).



**MICKEY EDWARDS**  
FIFTH DISTRICT, OKLAHOMA

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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(RANKING MEMBER)  
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
LABOR STANDARDS  
ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
NATIONAL PARKS

REAGAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY STATEMENT

I am firmly committed to protecting our nation's Social Security system, both for the senior citizens today and for younger Americans who will be our senior citizens tomorrow. Under the Carter administration, with its terrible economic policies, people are losing confidence in the Social Security system, and yet Social Security affects the lives of more Americans than any other federal program. About thirty-five million Americans already are receiving Social Security benefits, and I say their rights must be protected. One hundred and fourteen million Americans are paying heavily into Social Security now. They expect to receive benefits some day. I believe their rights also must be protected.

It's no wonder people are losing confidence in the Social Security system. President Carter's Advisory Council on Social Security recommended that the Federal government tax Social Security benefits. I oppose a tax on Social Security benefits now and I shall oppose it as President. Those benefits were earned through the hard work of many people over the years, and those benefits must be protected.

The Social Security system must remain strong. People have worked hard and paid into that system. I guarantee that as President I will work to protect all the benefits they earned, whether they are entitled to receive those benefits now or in the future.

# check List

2 Sept. 1980

From: Rob Garrick

OUT AT: Dex to aircraft  
1pm/9/4

- ✓ Senator Paul Laxalt
- ✓ Ambassador Anne Armstrong 11:55 8/4  
am
- ✓ William Casey
- Edward Meese *on plane*
- ✓ Jim Baker
- ✓ Dean Burch  
(For Ambassador George Bush)
- ✓ Peter Daily
- Mike Deaver *on plane*
- ✓ Drew Lewis
- ✓ Lyn Nofziger
- ✓ Verne Orr
- ✓ Bill Timmons 3:25 Thurs.
- ✓ Dick Wirthlin

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✓ Richard Allen

✓ Martin Anderson *back 10:30 am 2 Sept.*

Jim Brady *on plane*

✓ Ed Gray

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Others

*deadline*  
*3pm/Fri, 5<sup>th</sup> Sept*

Sept. 4, 1980  
9:30 a.m.

TO: Bob Garrick

FROM: Bill Gavin

Suggested insert in Text of "Philadelphia Senior Citizen Remarks" for September 7, 1980. These lines would be inserted at the bottom of page four, right after the sentence about Social Security which ends "...millions of Americans." Then the following would be inserted:

"Now I know that you've been hearing from others what they think my views are on this crucial issue. So I thought today you'd want to hear my views as I see them and as I will continue to see them as President. Let me repeat: As President, I will defend the integrity of the Social Security system."

Bob -- Then we pick it up on the top of the next page (5) with the other sentence about his commitment to Social Security.

Draft #1 (WFG)  
9-3-80  
2:00 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA "SUPER SENIOR SUNDAY" REMARKS

Philadelphia is proud to be known as city of neighborhoods. I think all of them must be here today.

It is fitting that we should meet here. Philadelphia's museum of art is a symbol of the great cultural heritage you are so justly proud of. And, of course, these steps have been made world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a belief in a dream.

The new dream we all have for a better America can begin soon--this November.

In Ben Franklin's city, where our nation first announced its independence to the world, we are reminded in a special way that older Americans want and deserve the kind of compassion and effectiveness and responsiveness from government that the Founders envisioned.

In 1776, when, in this city, the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed, one out of every fifty Americans was 65 years of age or older. In 1980 one out of every nine Americans is 65 or over.

In 1776, in this city, the Founders gave us a Declaration of Independence. But in the past four years, Jimmy Carter has given us something different. He's given us a Declaration of Indifference --

--indifference to the plight of the homeowner,

--indifference to the worker,  
 --indifference to the young just starting out, and  
 especially

--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace  
 of mind depend on a strong, sound economy.

The Carter record is a litany of despair, of broken promises,  
 of sacred trusts abandoned and forgotten.

Eight million people out of work. Inflation running nearly  
 three times as high as four years ago. Black unemployment at  
 about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government  
 began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits  
 run up by Carter and his friends in Congress. The highest  
 interest rates since the Civil War--reaching at times close to 20  
 percent--lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up  
 again--productivity falling for six straight quarters among the  
 most productive people in history.

He promised he would not increase taxes for the lower and  
 middle-income people--the workers of America. Then he imposed on  
 American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen  
 heavily upon you and other Americans who have contributed so much  
 to building your country into a dynamic nation, proud to be  
 "Number One."

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done  
 to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in

America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Our older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Our older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be under Mr. Carter, let me quote what Jimmy Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home..."

That's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below ~~five~~ <sup>six</sup> percent. What in the world does he expect us to think of it today, when--because of his policies--it is in double digits?

Using his own commentary on the evils of inflation, things are twice as bad, three times as bad today.

But he wants us to forget about that. He doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done because he's ashamed of his record.

But I'm here today to tell you that, together, we can have a new beginning.

As Governor of California I cared about older citizens and I did something about their problems:

I approved cost of living increases in senior citizens aid and provided \$46 million in new property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from 32 percent for those at the \$6,000 a year income level to more than 80 percent at \$3,000 a year and below, and up to 92 percent in the lowest income bracket.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans--and I don't--I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California.

She has been and is today this nation's most ardent supporter of the Foster Grandparents program. This program brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President :

--I will defend the integrity of the Social Security system, the foundation of the economic life of millions of Americans.

That system will be strong and reliable and protected under a Reagan Administration.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. I will not tolerate, and will fight with all my strength, the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs. Many of these programs are aimed at older Americans.

A May 31, 1979, Congressional Joint Economic Committee report cited a Justice Department estimate that deliberate fraud and abuse accounted for one to ten percent of the federal programs--that's \$2.5 to \$25 billion. "That excludes waste," the report noted. Including waste would give a much higher figure.

This waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to watch every penny, to scrimp and save while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

They know where those tax dollars come from and they are tired of hearing the same old excuses about how it can't be helped. It can be helped and we know it.

I say it's time the federal government starts watching every penny and older Americans start getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!



That's the spirit I'm going to bring to Washington. That's the spirit of Philadelphia. That's the spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day, I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!" And now let's get on with the job.

With your help, with your vote--and I need and want both, and do not hesitate to ask for them--we will start that task in January 1981.

Thank you.

Master

DEX TO PLANE  
Completed  
1 PM. 9/4  
(Gwen receiver)

FOR: ED MEESE  
FROM: BOB GARRICK

Sept. 4, 1980  
9:30 a.m.

TO: Bob Garrick

FROM: Bill Gavin

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America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.)

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Our older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

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6

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And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day, I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!" And now let's get on with the job.

With your help, with your vote--and I need and want both, and do not hesitate to ask for them--we will start that task in January 1981.

Thank you.



September 4, 1980  
12:30 p.m.

Bob:

In the Philadelphia speech, Stand Anderson of Timmon's shop suggests two changes that I think should go in.

On page 4 in that Social Security line at the bottom of the page, scratch out "the integrity of". Place the words "support and" in front of "defend" so that it reads:

"As President, I will support and defend the Social Security System"

Since we repeat this line in the insert I gave you this morning, the same correction should be made as follows:

~~... following would be inserted:~~

"Now I know that you've been hearing from others what they think my views are on this crucial issue. So I thought today you'd want to hear my views as I see them and as I will continue to see them as President. So let me repeat so that there can be no doubt: As President, I will <sup>SUPPORT AND</sup> defend ~~the integrity of~~ the Social Security system"

He also suggested that on page 3 of the same speech, the third line from the bottom, beginning, "policies have done", we take out the words "because he's ashamed of his record" and replace them with "to all Americans but particularly those on fixed incomes".

Bill Gavin *Bill*

To Bob Garrick:

Sept. 4 1980

47#02222X

9:30 a.m.

From :Bill Gavin (B) .

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Bob--Then we pick it up on the top of the next page (5) with the other sentence about his commitment to Social Security.



FIRST DRAFT (WG)

9-1-80  
11:35 a.m.

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Philadelphia is proud to be known as city of neighborhoods. I think all of them must be here today.

It is fitting that we should meet on these steps, made world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a belief in a dream. Rocky finally realized that dream. And in November the people of Philadelphia and of America will see the new beginning of their dream for a better America.

You want inflation to stop killing your hopes and dreams. You want to have more of your hard-earned money in your pocket and not going to Washington. You want a job. You want a strong national defense.

To all of these demands Jimmy Carter for four years, by his ~~lack~~ lack of action, has been saying: "No, we can't".

But you prefer and I prefer the spirit of Philadelphia, the spirit of Rocky, and we're going to say "Yes we can!"

We can have a strong America again and we will, starting in January of 1981 if you help us between now and November.

There is ~~something~~ more to today's gathering than good friends, good food, good music and good fellowship.

I see a living commitment to the values of family, work and neighborhood.

I see a commitment to the compact that binds all Americans, a pledge to each other of all that is best in our lives for the sake of our country. Today, all along this majestic parkway, that compact is seen in action.

In Ben Franklin's city, where our nation first announced its independence to the world, we are reminded in a special way that older Americans want and deserve the kind of compassion and effectiveness and responsiveness from government that the Founders envisioned.

Ben was 81 when he helped shape the Constitution of the United States. That's the spirit of Philadelphia's and America's older citizens: faith in this country; belief in its values.

In 1776 when, in this city, the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed, one out of every fifty Americans was 65 years of age or older. In 1980 one out of every nine Americans is 65 or over.

In 1776, the Founders gave us a Declaration of Independence; in the past four years, Jimmy Carter has given us a Declaration of Indifference --

--indifference to the plight of the homeowner,

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--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace of mind depend on a strong, sound, economy.

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Through his inflation he has raised taxes on the American people by 30 percent -- while their real income has risen only 20 percent. He promised he would not increase taxes for the low and middle-income people -- the workers of America. Then he imposed on American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen upon older Americans.

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

In the past four years we have seen savings eaten away, pensions eroded and fixed incomes savaged by the inflationary policies of the Carter administration.

This is the way things are. But things don't have to be this way.

The spirit that is so evident here today, the spirit of family and neighborhood and work and a commitment to our compact together -- this spirit, if put into effective political action can put an end to this rising inflation, insensitive government and the Carter approach of "No action, No hope, No record."

Inflation isn't a force of nature, something beyond our capacity to control -- although Jimmy Carter certainly makes it seem that way.

Inflation is caused. It is caused by decisions -- bad decisions, unnecessary decisions -- made in the White House and in Congress. If there is one message I want you to carry away with you today it is this: something can be done about inflation. Something can be done about high taxes. Something can be done to insure that the older Americans get the benefits they deserve without seeing them eaten away by inflation.

Don't believe the Carter message that all we can do is wait and hope.

Working together we can change the government policies and make them responsive to our values and to our goals.

We know it can be done. When President Ford left office the inflation rate was 4.8%. You know what has happened to that inflation rate under Carter policies. It has gone as high as 18%. Look back over his record and ask yourself: does the kind of economic treatment you have been getting from this administration deserve four more years?

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be under Mr. Carter, let me quote what Jimmy Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home, can't buy a new dress every year, ..."

If that's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below five per cent, what does he expect us to think of it today, when through his policies it is in double digits?

According to his own views of the evils of inflation, things are twice as bad, three times as bad today.

But he doesn't want to talk about that. He doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done to Americans and especially to older Americans.

He doesn't want to talk about his record because he's ashamed of it.

But I'm here today to tell you that a new beginning can be ours. And this is a special day to bring that message. Seven years ago, as Governor of California, I notified all California agencies on aging to observe and honor this day, the first Sunday after Labor Day, as "Grandparents Day." I don't take credit for originating the idea. That must go to Mrs. Marion McQuade of West Virginia, a grandmother of fifteen grandchildren. So this is a day honoring many here today -- including me, I'm proud to say!

As Governor I cared about the older citizens in California and I did something about their problems:

I approved cost of living increases in senior citizens aid and provided \$46 million in new property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from 32 percent for those at the \$6,000 a year income level

to more than 80 per cent at \$3,000 a year and below, and up to 92 per cent in the lowest income bracket.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans -- and I don't -- I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California.

She has been involved in the Foster Grandparents programs. It brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President

--I will protect and defend the integrity of the Social Security System.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs, are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. And I will not tolerate and will fight with every bit of strength at my command the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs, many aimed at older Americans.



A May 31, 1979, Joint Economic Committee report cited a Justice Department estimate that deliberate fraud and abuse accounted for one to ten percent of the federal budget -- that's \$5 to \$50 billion. "That excludes waste," the report noted, "including it would give a much higher figure."

The same report said that fraud, abuse and waste in HEW's programs alone ranged between \$6.3 billion and \$7.4 billion. Jimmy Carter's own Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare estimated a few years ago that at least \$7 billion was wasted every year by his department.

Estimates of waste in GAO reports over an eight month period came to an astonishing \$10 billion -- and that's only from studies of relatively few federal programs.

All of this waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to watch every penny, to scrimp and save while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

I say it's time the federal government starts watching every penny and older Americans start getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!

That's the spirit I'm going to bring to Washington. That's the spirit of Philadelphia. That's the spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!"

9-1-80  
11:35 a.m.

## PHILADELPHIA "SUPER SENIOR SUNDAY" REMARKS

Philadelphia is proud to be known as city of neighborhoods. I think all of them must be here today.

It is fitting that we should meet on these steps, made world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a belief in a dream. Rocky finally realized that dream. And in November the people of Philadelphia and of America will see the new beginning of their dream for a better America.

You want inflation to stop killing your hopes and dreams. You want to have more of your hard-earned money in your pocket and not going to Washington. You want a job. You want a strong national defense.

To all of these demands Jimmy Carter for four years, by his ~~lack~~ lack of action, has been saying: "No, we can't".

But you prefer and I prefer the spirit of Philadelphia, the spirit of Rocky, and we're going to say "Yes we can!"

We can have a strong America again and we will, starting in January of 1981 if you help us between now and November.

There is ~~something~~ more to today's gathering than good friends, good food, good music and good fellowship.

I see a living commitment to the values of family, work and neighborhood.

I see a commitment to the compact that binds all Americans, a pledge to each other of all that is best in our lives for the sake of our country. Today, all along this majestic parkway, that compact is seen in action.

In Ben Franklin's city, where our nation first announced its independence to the world, we are reminded in a special way that older Americans want and deserve the kind of compassion and effectiveness and responsiveness from government that the Founders envisioned.

Ben was 81 when he helped shape the Constitution of the United States. That's the spirit of Philadelphia's and America's older citizens: faith in this country; belief in its values.

In 1776 when, in this city, the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed, one out of every fifty Americans was 65 years of age or older. In 1980 one out of every nine Americans is 65 or over.

In 1776, the Founders gave us a Declaration of Independence; in the past four years, Jimmy Carter has given us a Declaration of Indifference --

--indifference to the plight of the homeowner,  
--indifference to the worker,  
--indifference to the young just starting out, and especially  
--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace of mind depend on a strong, sound, economy.

The Carter record is a litany of despair, of broken promises, of sacred trusts abandoned and forgotten.

Eight million out of work. Inflation running at 18 percent in the first quarter of 1980. Black unemployment at about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits run up by Carter and his friends in Congress. The highest interest rates since the Civil War -- reaching at times close to 20 percent -- lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up again -- productivity falling for six straight quarters among the most productive people in history.

Through his inflation he has raised taxes on the American people by 30 percent -- while their real income has risen only 20 percent. He promised he would not increase taxes for the low and middle-income people -- the workers of America. Then he imposed on American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen upon older Americans.

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

In the past four years we have seen savings eaten away, pensions eroded and fixed incomes savaged by the inflationary policies of the Carter administration.

This is the way things are. But things don't have to be this way.

The spirit that is so evident here today, the spirit of family and neighborhood and work and a commitment to our compact together -- this spirit, if put into effective political action can put an end to this rising inflation, insensitive government and the Carter approach of "No action, No hope, No record."

Inflation isn't a force of nature, something beyond our capacity to control -- although Jimmy Carter certainly makes it seem that way.

Inflation is caused. It is caused by decisions -- bad decisions, unnecessary decisions -- made in the White House and in Congress. If there is one message I want you to carry away with you today it is this: something can be done about inflation. Something can be done about high taxes. Something can be done to insure that the older Americans get the benefits they deserve without seeing them eaten away by inflation.

Don't believe the Carter message that all we can do is wait and hope.

Working together we can change the government policies and make them responsive to our values and to our goals.

We know it can be done. When President Ford left office the inflation rate was 4.8%. You know what has happened to that inflation rate under Carter policies. It has gone as high as 18%. Look back over his record and ask yourself: does the kind of economic treatment you have been getting from this administration deserve four more years?

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be under Mr. Carter, let me quote what Jimmy Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home, can't buy a new dress every year, ..."

If that's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below five per cent, what does he expect us to think of it today, when through his policies it is in double digits?

According to his own views of the evils of inflation, things are twice as bad, three times as bad today.

But he doesn't want to talk about that. He doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done to Americans and especially to older Americans.

He doesn't want to talk about his record because he's ashamed of it.

But I'm here today to tell you that a new beginning can be ours. And this is a special day to bring that message. Seven years ago, as Governor of California, I notified all California agencies on aging to observe and honor this day, the first Sunday after Labor Day, as "Grandparents Day." I don't take credit for originating the idea. That must go to Mrs. Marion McQuade of West Virginia, a grandmother of fifteen grandchildren. So this is a day honoring many here today -- including me, I'm proud to say!

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to more than 80 per cent at \$3,000 a year and below, and up to 92 per cent in the lowest income bracket.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans -- and I don't -- I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California.

She has been involved in the Foster Grandparents programs. It brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President

--I will protect and defend the integrity of the Social Security System.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs, are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. And I will not tolerate and will fight with every bit of strength at my command the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs, many aimed at older Americans.

A May 31, 1979, Joint Economic Committee report cited a Justice Department estimate that deliberate fraud and abuse accounted for one to ten percent of the federal budget -- that's \$5 to \$50 billion. "That excludes waste," the report noted, "including it would give a much higher figure."

The same report said that fraud, abuse and waste in HEW's programs alone ranged between \$6.3 billion and \$7.4 billion. Jimmy Carter's own Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare estimated a few years ago that at least \$7 billion was wasted every year by his department.

Estimates of waste in GAO reports over an eight month period came to an astonishing \$10 billion -- and that's only from studies of relatively few federal programs.

All of this waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to watch every penny, to scrimp and save while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

I say it's time the federal government starts watching every penny and older Americans start getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!

That's the spirit I'm going to bring to Washington. That's the spirit of Philadelphia. That's the spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!"



# Reagan & Bush

Reagan Bush Committee

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*rec'd 9/8.  
Bob Garrison*

## NEWS RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL:

Sunday, September 7, 1980  
2:00 p.m. EDT

CONTACT:

Lyn Nofziger  
or  
Ken Towery  
703-685-3630

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE RONALD REAGAN  
"SUPER SENIOR SUNDAY"  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA  
SEPTEMBER 7, 1980

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Philadelphia is proud to be known as city of neighborhoods.  
I think all of them must be here today.

It is fitting that we should meet here. Philadelphia's  
museum of art is a symbol of the great cultural heritage you are  
so justly proud of. And, of course, these steps have been made  
world-famous by "Rocky." They symbolize determination, hope, a  
belief in a dream.

The new dream we all have for a better America can begin  
soon--this November.

In Ben Franklin's city, where our nation first announced its  
independence to the world, we are reminded in a special way that  
older Americans want and deserve the kind of compassion and  
effectiveness and responsiveness from government that the Founders  
envisioned.

In 1776 when, in this city, the Declaration of Independence  
was proclaimed, only one out of every fifty Americans was 65 years

- MORE -

Paid for by Reagan Bush Committee. United States Senator Paul Laxalt. Chairman. Bay Buchanan. Treasurer.

of age or older. In 1980 one out of every nine Americans is 65 or over.

In 1776, in this city, the Founders gave us a Declaration of Independence. But in the past four years, we've been given something different. We've been given a Declaration of Indifference --

--indifference to the plight of the homeowner,

--indifference to the worker,

--indifference to the young just starting out, and especially

--indifference to older Americans whose happiness and peace of mind depend on a strong, sound economy.

The Carter record is a litany of despair, of broken promises, of sacred trusts abandoned and forgotten.

Eight million people out of work. Inflation running nearly three times as high as four years ago. Black unemployment at about 14 percent, higher than any single year since the government began keeping separate statistics. Four straight major deficits run up by Carter and his friends in Congress. The highest interest rates since the Civil War--reaching at times close to 20 percent--lately down to more than 11 percent but now going up again--productivity falling for six straight quarters among the most productive people in history.

He promised he would not increase taxes for the lower and middle-income people--the workers of America. Then he imposed on American families the largest single tax increase in history.

Directly and indirectly, this crushing burden has fallen heavily upon you and other Americans who have contributed so much to building your country into a dynamic nation, proud to be "Number One."

I am particularly aware of what the Carter policies have done to women over 65. They are the fastest growing group of poor in America today. (According to testimony before the Pension Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee, April 3, 1979.) They are tragic victims of the Carter Declaration of Indifference.

Our older Americans are an important, vital part of the community that makes America strong.

Our older Americans want a government that will keep its promises to them and meet its commitments to them. Today I pledge such a government to you.

If you want to take a look at the future as it would be if the present administration is continued, let me quote what Candidate Carter was saying four years ago. In 1976 he said: "Older people with fixed incomes fear the day that their lives are squeezed. An elderly person on a fixed retirement check buys inferior food, maybe has to leave one's own home..."

That's what Jimmy Carter thought of inflation when it was below five percent. What in the world does he expect us to think of it today, when--because of his policies--it is three times that high?

But he doesn't want to talk about his record. He doesn't want to talk about what his policies have done--certainly not in this election season.

But I'm here today to tell you that, together, we can have a new beginning.

A few months ago when the inflation rate reached 18 percent, the President called back his own budget and said he was going to reduce it. Well that's fine--it ended up not being reduced--but I think it's significant that one of the cuts he suggested was in the way Social Security payments are adjusted for inflation. A study he authorized also called for an income tax on Social Security benefits. That would be double taxation because you paid income tax on your payments into Social Security. You shouldn't have to pay again when that money is returned to you.

As Governor of California I found there were things that could be done about your problem:

I approved cost of living increases in senior citizens aid and provided \$46 million in new property tax relief for senior citizens, ranging from 32 percent for those at the \$6,000 a year income level to more than 80 percent at \$3,000 a year and below,

and up to 92 percent in the lowest income bracket. Remember this was before the runaway inflation we have today.

And in case I need any reminder of what we owe to older Americans--and I don't--I have the example set by Nancy when we were in California.

She has been and is today this nation's most ardent supporter of the Foster Grandparents program. This program brings together the elements that make up a sense of community for all Americans: those in need, those who can help, and an awful lot of love. The experience and the tenderness, the love and the wisdom that only older citizens can bring to the care of children is at the heart of this program. Nancy saw this program work in California and through her help, we have seen it expand into other states and is part of a federal program as well.

So we will bring to Washington a commitment to the need and the hopes of older Americans, a proven record of accomplishment.

And it is on this record I intend to build a growing commitment to your needs. As President

--I will defend the integrity of the Social Security system, the foundation of the economic life of millions of Americans. That system will be strong and reliable and protected under a Reagan Administration.

--I will see to it that the promises made by government to every older American under the Medicare and other programs are kept.

--I will institute real tax reforms that can help older Americans retain their dignity, their self-respect, and their self-reliance as productive members of society. I will not tolerate, and will fight with all my strength, the inexcusable waste, fraud, and abuse of government programs--many of which are aimed at older Americans.

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This waste is not only economically unacceptable, it is an insult to millions of older Americans who have to scrimp and save and watch every penny while the federal government squanders tax dollars.

You know where those tax dollars come from and you are tired of hearing the same old excuses about how it can't be helped. It can be helped and we know it.

It's time the federal government started watching every penny and older Americans started getting their money's worth out of taxes and their full value out of social security and pensions!

That's the spirit of Philadelphia; that's the spirit I'd like to bring to Washington--a spirit that older Americans want to see once more in government.

And so on these steps, on Grandparents Day, I say to you, in that great spirit:

"Yes, we can!" Let's get on with the job.

With your help, with your vote--and I need and want both, and do not hesitate to ask for them--we will start that task in January 1981.

Every generation is critical of the generation that went before. In recent years our generation has been blamed for much of what seems to be wrong in the world today. Well I will not apologize for our generation. We have known four wars in our lifetime and a great depression that changed the face of the world.

No people who ever lived have fought harder, paid a higher price for freedom, or done more to advance the dignity of mankind.

I would like to quote a line from an address that was never given; an address John F. Kennedy intended to make in late November of 1963. His unspoken words are appropriate today: "We in this country, in this generation, are, by destiny rather than choice, the watchmen on the walls of world freedom."

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