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Master
Basic Speech #2

FIRST DRAFT-WFG

Sept. 9, 1980

Note: All facts, statistics
and quotations are taken
from "Talking Points"
fact sheets

Suggested Insert or Replacement for Basic Speech

(As the campaign progresses, the basic speech will have to be updated, made fresh and perhaps totally changed, if only to give RR fresh material. What follows is a suggested insert based on quotations, by Carter or about Carter.)

Today, instead of telling you what I think of Mr. Carter's record, I'm going to let him speak for himself.

And I'm going to give you some examples of how his fellow Democrats see him.

Let's look at what he promised the American people in 1976.

On March 7, 1976, the Atlanta Constitution quoted Candidate Carter as saying full employment was his number one priority and that "a government which cannot insure for its citizens an opportunity to work does not deserve their support."

Newsweek quoted him on October 4, 1976: "...we assume that at the end of the four-year period we can cut our unemployment rate down to 4-4 1/2 percent."

In August of 1976, he promised members of labor unions: "If I am elected we will establish a comprehensive program to fight the many causes of inflation..."

On September ^{29,} ~~29~~ 1976, he was quoted in the New York Times as follows: "I would never increase taxes for working people of our country and the lower- and middle-income groups...and you can depend on that if I am elected."

On ⁵ ~~29~~ May ~~29~~ 1976, he was quoted by Newsweek: "With a progressively managed economy, we can attain a balanced budget...by 1979."

He promised full employment--but 8 million are out of work.

He promised an inflation rate of below 5 percent--and it is now _____

He promised he would never increase taxes and then imposed the single largest tax increase in American history.

He promised a balanced budget--but, including off-budget items, the deficit for FY 1981 is estimated at \$51 billion--the deficit for 1980 is \$77 billion. This 1980 budget, with off-budget items included, has the largest deficit in history.

This isn't simply a case of one or two election-year promises made and broken. It isn't simply that Mr. Carter's broken promises have damaged whatever credibility he has left--they have **ALSO** destroyed the faith of the people in our institutions.

Mr. Carter's broken promises break the compact that binds our nation together. His record on employment and inflation and taxes is not simply worse than he promised--it is infinitely worse than anyone had predicted. His record is, as I have said, nothing less than an American tragedy.

We miss the essential point of his failures if we think that all of this concerns only the past. That's what Jimmy Carter wants us to think. He would like us to forget he ever made those promises. He would like us to forget he has brought such agony and misery to every American family through his economic policies. He would like us to think it's all in the past, that he can escape--and we can escape.

But it is not in the past. The Carter administration's failures are with us now, at this very moment. And even now these failures spread their atmosphere of despair and hopelessness to the future.

And that is the major issue today. Not just what he has done, not just the promises he has broken, not just the sorry record he has made--but what he is doing to us now, what his policies have already done to shape the future.

Mr. Carter's broken promises are not simply a matter for historians--they are an urgent, current matter of concern to every wage earner, every older citizen, every black American, every young American, every American family.

We know what Mr. Carter has done. We know what he plans for us is more of the same.

We have already seen and suffered from Jimmy Carter's view of the future--and we know it doesn't work.

Every time an American loses his job--Jimmy Carter's broken promises are at work.

Every time a visit to the supermarket becomes an exercise in high finance--Jimmy Carter's broken promises are at the checkout counter, adding on dollars to your bill.

Every time you look at your paycheck and see how much more taxes you are paying now than four years ago, Jimmy Carter's broken promises are there to take your hard-earned dollars.

The Democratic ticket this year is the first one in history with three partners: Carter and Mondale and Jimmy Carter's broken promises.

And it isn't only in the economy that he has failed.

Consider the following view of his foreign policy:

"Whether by incredible mismanagement or irresponsible action, the Carter Administration has managed to jeopardize the security of Israel, to damage the peace prospects in the Middle East, undermine relations with other friends and make American foreign policy the laughingstock of nations throughout the world."

(Source: Philadelphia Inquirer, March 6, 1980).

In case anyone thinks this is harsh, partisan rhetoric of a Republican, let me just say the words I have just read to you are those of Senator Ted Kennedy. The Senator, now, we are told, supports Mr. Carter. I wonder what they talk about when the subject of foreign policy comes up in those unity meetings?

And listen to these words about Mr. Carter's defense policies:

"While the Soviets push ahead on all fronts we cancel the B-1 bomber, push aside the neutron bomb, stretch out the cruise missile, scrap the nuclear aircraft carrier, stretch deployment of Trident far into the future, and shut down the production line for the Minuteman II missile and have stood aside while thousands of our best military personnel have been driven out of uniform by inadequate pay and benefits."

Those words were spoken by Senator Hollings of South Carolina, a Democrat, on September 18, 1979.

When that is the best Mr. Carter's fellow Democrats have to say about his record, Republicans don't have to say any more.

The time has come to get America working again.

The time is now.