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Subseries: B: Bill Gavin File

Folder Title: Drafts and Back-up Documents –
09/07/1980, Philadelphia (Older Americans) (2 of 7)

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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.

Bill -
Good speech - Comment on
page 1 & 6 - Should not be more
than 10 minutes
Drew

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
more ~~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,

2

--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

3

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~~ ^{six} 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.

4

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.

? Is this correct?

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.

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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

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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.

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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.

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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!

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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.

To / 4 Sept.
Bill
Gavin

ren garick
10:35

Senator Paul Laxalt

Ambassador Anne Armstrong

William Casey

Edward Meese

Jim Baker

Dean Burch
(For Ambassador George Bush)

Peter Daily

Mike Deaver

Drew Lewis

Lyn Nofziger

Verne Orr

Bill Timmons

Dick Wirthlin

Richard Allen

✓ Martin Anderson

Jim Brady

Ed Gray

Others

Thursday, 4 Sept. 1980

From: Bob Garrick

OUT AT: 10:00 AM

¥ Any corrections on the
attached speech will have
to be returned to me by
3:00 p.m. Friday 5 Sept.

X X X

This speech is to be
given Sunday, 7 Sept.
"Super Senior Sunday"
in Philadelphia.

X X X

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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..."

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11:55am
2 Sept.

Bell Gaveri
from
rm garick

Bob -

Anne thought the speech was fine and only suggested the insertion of a couple of graphic examples of the impact of inflation on the elderly.

Roger

Senator Paul Laxalt

✓ Ambassador Anne Armstrong

William Casey

Edward Meese

Jim Baker

Dean Burch
(For Ambassador George Bush)

Peter Daily

Mike Deaver

Drew Lewis

Lyn Nofziger

Verne Orr

Bill Timmons

Dick Wirthlin

Richard Allen

Martin Anderson

Jim Brady

Ed Gray

Others

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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,

2

--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~~ ^{six} 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.

4

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.

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 ^{SUPPORT AND} 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



CC #5 / dol to Dick Wirth lin/ 1 Sept./1850

Bill A "Super" speech — Right on target
... compassionate & concerned.. Can we "hype" the
social security angle just a bit — get that as the headline?

FIRST DRAFT (WG)

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. ~~You want the option of working or enjoying a financially secure retirement~~

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.

"STRONG
APPROPRI-
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INTRO"

I favor
the concept
but do
we need
it here?
Cost right
info
stronger
militar
P-2.1
3

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 -- || Nice! ✓

--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. — Good!

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 the time is now for 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.

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First & foremost

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--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.

Already
made
part

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.

Good!
765 very
sensitive to
this!

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!

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

"Yes, we can!"