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October 1, 1984

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: JOHN A. SVAHN
FROM: WILLIAM P. BARR
RE: PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE: Possible Question on
Judicial Appointments

A Possible Question:

It is possible that the President may get a question like this in the upcoming debate:

Mr. President, four or five of the Justices on the Supreme Court are older than you are. This means that whomever is elected President in this election may end up appointing the majority of the Justices on the Court and thus dictating the direction the Court will be taking well into the next century.

As you know, the Republican platform has a requirement that all judicial nominees must be opponents of abortion.

How are you going to go about picking Justices and judges and what direction do you want the Court to move in? And specifically, are you going to insist that all judges subscribe to the anti-abortion platform plank?

Suggested Response:

I suggest a general response as follows:

I will make the kind of appointments that I have made in my first term. I will choose hard-working scholarly men and women with outstanding legal credentials who share my basic philosophy--individuals like Justice Sandra

Day O'Connor, whom I appointed to the Supreme Court and who has done an excellent job.

My basic philosophy is that the people are sovereign. It is "we, the people" who adopted the Constitution. And it is "we, the people" who make the laws through our elected representatives.

The role of the courts is to interpret the law and apply the law fairly and equally. Too often in the past, however, liberal activist judges have tried usurping the power of the people, taking it upon themselves to make the law and playing at social engineer. During my first term, I have appointed judges who believe in judicial restraint and who believe their role is simply to construe the law, not to make their own law. I think we can already see some of the excesses of the past being turned around.

A few years ago, the courts were ignoring the victims of crime and bending over backwards to help criminals. Technicalities were carried to absurd extremes. Justice O'Connor has played a key role in turning this situation around, and now the courts are getting tougher on criminals. I don't think it's an accident the crime rate has been going down during my Administration.

Now, what the Republican platform says is that judicial appointees should be people who "respect the sanctity of innocent human life." My personal position on abortion has been clear, but I think the language in the platform goes beyond that to a larger concern. I think the point made in the platform--and it is one I firmly believe in--is that judges should be men and women who respect and cherish the worth and dignity of all people in our society and who will never make any group of us second-class citizens--whether we be racial or religious minorities, the elderly, or the handicapped.

memo from the desk of . . .
MIKE BAROODY

One-pagers on domestic issues

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK AND COMPARABLE WORTH

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Seems OK to Reagan and Republicans that women in the workforce make 59¢ on the dollar compared to men. (Mondale sometimes says 56¢ -- but the correct statistic is 59¢).
- o Not even willing to study comparable worth concept that could end the myth that a truck driver is somehow worth more to society than a teacher.

Key RR points:

- o Equal pay for equal work is the law of the land; has been since 1963. And we're enforcing it.
- o It means women get the same pay as men for doing same work. Anyone who pays them less is breaking the law.
- o The difference between salaries of men and women is not a new problem. Gap was just as great when Carter and Mondale were in office. If WM thinks he has the answer to the problem, why didn't he do something about it when he had the chance?
- o Comparable worth concept a much more complicated one. WM may think it easy and right for government to decide whether one job's worth as much as another. RR thinks it's better to let the market decide. *to let market decide*
- o But, no matter what WM or RR thinks, the idea is sure to be tested and studied and our understanding of it is sure to grow in coming years.

OLDER AMERICANS

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o None have been hit harder by Reaganomics than the elderly. Social Security is under constant threat, and the next target is Medicare.
- o Reagan plans to make older Americans pay much more of their Medicare bills.

Key RR points

- o No group's been singled out more for scare tactics from the Democrats than the elderly.
- o Fact is, Social Security benefits are up and the system is solvent. That wasn't a sure thing when Carter and Mondale left office. ~~No plans~~
- o And another fact is: there are fewer elderly in poverty now than when we took office.
- o And the elderly who live on fixed incomes were hardest hit by inflation. Purchasing power of \$10,000 fixed income at start of 1979 fell more than \$2000 by end of 1980 because of double-digit inflation.
- o Federal spending for programs for the elderly is up \$67 billion since we took office. Federal outlays average \$10,000 for every man and woman over 65 in the country.
- o As for Medicare, the program cost \$35 billion in 1980. We're spending \$66 billion this year.
- o We'll work out plans to improve Medicare just as we did with the retirement program -- on a bipartisan basis. RR hopes we can avoid political football over this one.

ACID RAIN

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o Lakes are dying and forests are being destroyed in the Northeast and the South.
- o Reagan wants more "study" but it's time for action.
- o Won't act on this because solving the problem would cost corporate polluters some money. When he says big business will "clean-up," he's talking tax policy, not environmental policy.
- o Committed to 50% reduction of sulfur dioxide emissions by end of 1980s; also will have treaty with Canada.

Key RR points:

- o Yes, have doubled budget for research because don't yet know enough about how it's caused and how best to cure it.
- o WM willing to go ahead with \$20 billion or more program on the "don't just stand there, do something" theory.
- o That's the same approach that gave us gas lines and grain embargoes when Mondale was Vice President.
- o By some estimates, actual cost would be closer to \$100 billion for sulfur emissions controls WM advocates.
- o That's \$100 billion added to your bill. Consumers always pay -- directly or indirectly.
- o Acid rain is a priority. I told EPA Administrator Ruckleshaus to make it one when he took the job.
- o Our policy is more than study -- working with states to bring back lakes that have been affected (e.g. liming).
- o We've already spent about \$150 billion in last decade on air pollution control. Willing to spend more to end acid rain problem, but not until we know how to spend it wisely.

Spent \$150 B
Since 1970
reduce SO₂ by
26%

SIZE AND COST OF GOVERNMENT

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Reagan hasn't really cut government. Budget is larger share of GNP than ever.
- o Has cruelly shifted priorities. Defense gets growing share, people programs get less and less.
- o Pentagon gets all it wants, at expense of food stamps, education, housing and the like.
- o Said he'd cut waste, but Pentagon spending hundreds for a hammer.

Key RR points:

- o Budget was growing at record 17 percent rate in last Mondale and Carter budget.
- o Have cut that rate almost 2/3s.
- o Would have cut more if Congress had given all we asked.
- o Not just spending, but regulation and size of bureaucracy were out of hand when we took office.
- o Regulations were costing Americans \$100 billion a year, adding \$1800 a year to typical family expenses for everything from groceries to clothes to cars.
- o Reforms so far will save Americans \$150 billion over next 10 years -- and we'll do even more next term.
- o Have also made start ^{man. do} at reducing size of bureaucracy. Cut federal civilian workforce by about 75,000. Not always easy to do. Dems in Congress pass laws that say Energy Department has to keep certain number on payroll even if there's nothing for them to do. (There isn't.)
- o Have cracked down on Pentagon waste (which Congress had studied since 1950s and done nothing about).
- o Example: Everyone heard about Pentagon spending \$1100 for a 31¢ stool cap. Fewer heard that we discovered this waste, took action and got a refund. Now, we spend 31¢ for a 31¢ stool cap.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o RR turning back the clock on civil rights. Every major civil rights organization has condemned his policy.
- o Tried to give segregationist schools tax exemption.
- o Opposing landmark Civil Rights Act of 1984.
- o Tried to end independence of Civil Rights Commission.

Key RR points:

- o Constitution guarantees basic rights of every individual American. Sacred duty of government to defend and protect those rights. That's what we're doing.

homosexuals, Muslims, immigrants

Real difference between RR and WM is simple. WM, other liberals, favor quotas. RR does not.

- o That's why he's for busing, and RR's not.
- o Also, RR knows quotas can keep people out, not let them in. Were used to exclude Jews, Catholics, others from schools, neighborhoods. Can be used against blacks, too. For example:
 - Justice Dept. has New York landlord in court over quotas in big public housing project there.
 - Project turns blacks away because 30% quota is filled. In effect, says to some families "you can't live here because you're black and we already have enough blacks." That's wrong.
- o Quotas are also the issue with Civil Rights Commission appointees. Those WM complains about are honorable Democrats. Just don't agree with him on quotas, that's all. One example, Morris Abrams.
- o No place for bias against women in education. RR would sign bill to strengthen Civil Rights protections for women that were weakened in Court's Grove City ruling. But House-passed bill goes much further. Thoughtful people across country having second thoughts about it.
- o Reminder notes on RR's strong enforcement record:
 - more criminal prosecutions than Carter-Mondale;
 - involved in more voting rights cases, too;
 - record awards for victims of job discrimination;
 - 161 investigations of unfair housing complaints.
- o Also increased spending for civil rights enforcement.

ABORTION AND FAMILY PLANNING

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o You're trying to impose your personal morality on all women who ought to be free to make their own decisions.
- o Supreme Court has said abortions are legal right. Your denial of federal funding for abortions gives wealthier women rights poor don't have. Unfair.
- o You care more for unborn than born, tell women to carry pregnancy to term but cut programs to help them when they're pregnant, help their babies when they're born.
- o You're trying to end federal family planning programs.

Key RR points:

- o I believe abortion takes a human life. (Note: even WM's pro-choice running-mate says fetus is a "baby.")
- o If one believes that, have to try -- as I have -- to guarantee fundamental right, the right to life. Isn't just a private belief. Abortion is a public issue and public officials have to take a stand.
- o Views on both sides of issue are strongly held. I'm for constitutional protection for unborn; against using federal funds. You're not. Neither likely to change.
- o Most Americans, no matter which side they take, are disturbed to read that abortions outnumber live births in some places. RR sure Mondale and Ferraro aren't content with that.
- o So, in tonight's debate, you and I have a choice:
 - either try to score debaters points against each other -- which serves no one's interest.
 - or not focus on disagreement we can't resolve, but focus on the mothers and children involved. (In State of the Union, RR asked both sides for this.)
- o My Administration trying the latter; has programs, for example, to help encourage adoption of unwanted children. Have also increased tax credit for child care.
- o 1 of 5 babies born this year will benefit from WIC food assistance for pregnant or nursing mothers and their babies. Budget \$1.3 billion in FY84; twice '80 level.
- o Don't oppose family planning. Proposing to let states spend funds more effectively and give parents more say.

CRIME

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Baby boom generation getting older, so there are fewer crime prone teen-agers now. Crime rate would have dropped under any President. RR can't take credit.
- o RR's anti-crime crusade just PR. His big push against organized crime, drug traffic, just hype. No results.

Key RR points:

- o Crime rate dropping:
 - down 2 years in a row for first time ever;
 - down 7% last year, biggest drop ever.
- o Drop comes because courts, police, people at large, getting tougher. Can't be explained by liberal theories that crime is society's fault.
- o Administration working hard on problem:
 - law enforcement budget up 60%;
 - added 1700 federal investigators and prosecutors;
- o Coordinated crack-down on drug traffic:
 - over 30 federal agencies working together now;
 - FBI involved in drug cases for first time ever;
 - South Florida task force showed coordination works and have 12 more like it now around the country.
- o And getting results:
 - 3100 indictments for mob drug dealing;
 - federal seizures of cocaine have quadrupled, heroin seizures have doubled;
 - prosecutions of organized crime figures tripled;
 - AG reports serious crime more likely to lead to arrest and imprisonment now than in 1980.
- o Also, courts going back to commonsense; renewed concern with rights of victims, not just rights of criminals. Less chance today of getting off on some technicality.
- o Still, with progress we've made, need better tools. RR's anti-crime package contains some of these tools. In Senate, Democrats and Republicans passed it 91-1. Liberal House leaders won't act, though.

ENERGY

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o World-wide recession temporarily eased energy crunch. But world recovery would renew pressures. Supply will be strained again, prices rise if world economy picks up.
- o Reagan policy is laissez-faire; "we'll worry about that tomorrow."
- o No real plans to deal with another embargo, or cut-off of Persian Gulf supply.
- o No plans for future -- and day not far off when we'll need synthetics, other fuels to replace fossil fuels.

RR key points:

- o First, just a few facts:
 - gallon of gasoline costs over a dime less now than on last day Mondale and Carter were in office;
 - heating oil prices also down;
 - U.S. importing 25% less oil than in 1980 (even with today's growing economy).
 - much less vulnerable to cut-off -- 200 days worth of imports in reserve -- 2/3s added under RR;
- o Mondale and Carter had their chance -- tried everything they could think of. (Guess they never thought of the free market.)
- o Their policies gave us gas lines, soaring fuel prices. (Gallon of gas cost 66¢ in 1977, \$1.22 in 1980.)
- o Critics said oil decontrol would bring \$2 a gallon gas, send inflation through the roof.
- o Instead, gas under \$1 this summer in some parts of the country and inflation lowest in a dozen years.
- o If it had hit \$2 a gallon -- Carter-Mondale trend would have taken it higher -- would cost average driver about \$500 more a year to drive to work, kids to school, etc.
- o They were wrong on decontrol, wrong in nearly every case on energy policy. Gave us rationing coupons we never used, made us memorize license plate numbers for "odd-even" days.
- o Don't deserve a second chance.

BUDGET PRIORITIES -- PENTAGON VERSUS SOCIAL PROGRAMS

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o Reagan spending priorities are backwards. He's using money that ought to go to feed, house and help the needy for weapons we don't need.
- o Everyone's for a strong America but it starts with society that's willing to provide for the weakest within it.
- o Can have an adequate deterrent force with 4 percent spending growth and the difference between 4 percent and the 8 to 10 percent or more that Reagan wants is at least \$100 billion off the deficit in the next 4 years.

Key RR points:

- o Would need less now for adequate deterrent if last Administration had used funds more wisely. They cancelled or delayed at least half a dozen major weapons programs.
- o They also kept military pay so low that people in the enlisted ranks qualified for food stamps.
- o We came into office with a lot of catching up to do.
- o Still:
 - Pentagon now getting less than 30% of the budget (was near 50% just 20 years ago or so, in last JFK budget.)
 - close to half of DoD budget goes for pay and pensions for military and civilians in defense;
 - Pentagon budget \$65 billion less than HHS';
- o Actually, now spending about the same as the Carter-Mondale budget had proposed for this budget year.
- o The difference is, we're getting more for our money than they would have -- and so are the men and women in uniform. Low inflation helps Pentagon and personnel.
- o Same Reagan five year budget plan that proposed to spend \$1.7 trillion for defense proposed to spend about \$2.6 trillion -- almost \$1 trillion more -- on human services.

TOXIC WASTE AND SUPERFUND

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o We all know about the horror of Love Canal. Have learned it's duplicated at hundreds of places around the country.
- o Congress set up the billion dollar Superfund to clean-up those places. There are 100s of them but so far, the Reagan Administration has cleaned up 6.
- o It's nothing short of dereliction of duty.
- o Lavelle was so incompetent she lied to Congress rather than admit how badly the program was being run. Her conviction for perjury was just one part of the sweeping scandal in the Reagan-Burford EPA.

Key RR points:

- o When we took office, the Superfund had just been authorized,
- o We had to start from scratch on problem that had been largely ignored for decades.
- o Have a good record on toxic waste clean-up:
 - action begun on 600 sites;
 - 300 of these are short-term emergency actions to eliminate immediate safety hazards;
 - 300 more are in Superfund category because damage is so serious; many will take years to clean-up;
 - clean-up often takes years, so finishing even one through program that didn't exist just 4 years ago is good.
- o Very complicated process. Clean-up can't be done overnight; often ground water affected or deep soil invasion. Can't just bring in a bull-dozer and be done with it. Each one is different and may require different methods.
- o EPA getting companies responsible for the problem to pay for clean-up. Have reached reached 125 such agreements so far, worth \$300 million in clean-up money.
- o We'll also triple federal share for Superfund next year over this year -- to \$620 million (Dems in Congress gave us less than we asked for) -- and we're doubling the Superfund staff at EPA to over 1300 people.

TUITION TAX CREDITS

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o Another give-away to the rich and a threat to the public schools as well.
- o People who want private schools should be free to send their children there, but taxpayers shouldn't have to help pay for their tuition.

Key RR points:

- o The full credit would only go to low and middle-income families with incomes under \$40,000; no credit at all for the wealthy.
- o In some cities, more than half the private school students are minority students: Black, Hispanic, Asian.
- o Credit not near enough to cover costs at elite prep schools. Might make wider choice possible for brick-layer's son, or bank teller's daughter, though.
- o 2/3s of private school pupils in a recent (1982) study were from families with incomes less than \$35,000.
- o Unfair that their parents pay twice, (1) to support public schools through taxes and, (2) to support private or parochial school through tuition.
- o No threat to public schools in this. Mary Futrell, President of the NEA rightly points out that some public schools have solved their problems so well that they're drawing kids away from the private schools.
- o The idea is not that private is better, or that public is better. Greater competition will make both better.
- o And tuition tax credits will give more parents the ability to choose.

AID TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

Possible Mondale attack line and/or rebuttal:

- o Reagan student aid cuts are making it more difficult for all and impossible for some to go to college.
- o Next year's budget funds about 800,000 fewer grants and loans.
- o College is becoming again what it was before WWII -- an exclusive preserve of the rich and the privileged.

Key RR points:

- o More than half of all full-time college students are getting some form of student aid.
- o Count it all up, and it's worth about \$13 billion to college students this year.
- o How much more than that should taxpayers finance?
 - how much more than \$13 billion worth?
 - how many more students than 1 out of every 2?
- o Have imposed a means test on student loans. It's lower income students who need the help getting affordable loans and this year ___ million of them are getting it.
- o Also have cut the number of students who get grants. Have retargetted so grants go only to the neediest.
- o Now, only the neediest students get what are called Pell grants -- money that doesn't have to be paid back. And 3 out of every 4 Pell grant dollars now going to students from families making less than \$12,000.
- o Because of retargetting, grants are worth much more to those who need them -- we've raised the maximum grant from \$1900 to \$3000.
- o Also putting emphasis on work and study programs that encourage able students to take jobs and earn a part of their college expenses.
- o Hope to expand number getting work-study help from this year's 874,000 college students to 1.2 million next year.

POVERTY

- o Every year of this Administration sees more people in poverty than the year before.
- o Latest Census report says Reaganomics made almost a million more people poor just last year.
- o Study after study pins the blame for this squarely on the Reagan budget cuts -- and so do I.
- o The rich are better off. The poor are worse off, and there are lots more of them.

Key RR points:

- o When you have low growth and high inflation, poverty goes up. High growth and low inflation bring it down.
- o That's why, for three decades after WWII, poverty went down in America.
- o Economic growth -- and the opportunity that comes with it -- made it possible for people to escape poverty and make things better for themselves and their families.
- o Not long ago, that historic trend stopped and turned around -- but it was longer ago than WM wants to admit.
- o It wasn't 1981 that poverty started its dramatic rise; it was in 1979, when they were in office and their party controlled both Houses of Congress.
- o One example of how people fall into poverty: Family with fixed income of \$7000 started 1979 about \$500 above the official poverty line and ended 1980 nearly \$500 below it. Only one reason for that: double-digit, Carter-Mondale inflation.
- o The bad news WM cites are last year's statistics. The good news is -- those statistics are already out of date. More than 4 million people have found jobs since that census study was done -- and for them and their families, a job is the surest way out of poverty.
- o In whole post-war period, poverty rose fastest under Carter-Mondale. It fell fastest when the economy grew and it will start falling again as growth continues.

HOMELESS ISSUE AND HOUSING FOR THE POOR

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o RR doesn't even understand the homeless problem, much less have an answer for it.
- o Says some are "homeless by choice."
- o Hundreds of thousands living in their cars or on grates and park benches -- many of them are the new poor that Reaganomics has give us.

Key RR points:

- o Programs to help house the poor serving a half million more families now than in 1980, before RR took office.
- o Almost 10 million people benefitting from this.
- o To make limited budget dollars go further -- and because it's just better urban policy -- have deempha-sized new construction of large public housing projects and re-emphasized rehabilitation of existing housing.
- o Have worked with local governments and private agencies to fill emergency housing needs.
 - For example, right in Washington D.C. made federal building available to city government. They ran it as a shelter along with local private group. Housed about 1000 men and women who needed temporary place to live.
 - Also, HUD owns many homes in urban areas (fore-closures mainly) and these are made available to private groups as shelters. Farmers Home to do the same in rural areas.
- o Homeless by choice? There are people who've been let out of institutions and don't want to go home. Some of these "street people" are hardest to deal with because bad experiences with officials -- whether real or imagined -- makes them suspicious of any authority or institution.
- o Feeding centers for homeless: RR encouraged Pentagon and HHS to cooperate in getting surplus food to food banks. So far, more than 130 food banks been allowed to get surplus from military commissary system.

FOOD ASSISTANCE AND HUNGER PROBLEM

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o This Administration particularly insensitive to hunger problem.
- o Cut school lunches, cut food stamps during worst recession in 50 years.
- o Appointed Hunger Task Force but opposes bill to enact the task force's own recommendations.
- o Has adopted "let them eat cheese" attitude.

Key RR points:

- o Overall, Administration spending about \$20 billion on food assistance programs this year -- more than ever.
- o Food stamps? Spent more last year than ever on this, \$3.5 billion more than in 1980 to help more people than ever, 2.3 million more than in 1980.
- o School lunch? More than 10 million kids from low-income families got free lunches last year, almost a half million more than in 1980.
- o Fewer non-needy, even affluent kids got cut-price lunches subsidized by taxpayers. No apologies for that.
- o As for cheese, it seemed unconscionable to us to let it sit in warehouses when churches and other groups could distribute it to the poor. So that's what we did -- and we make no apologies for it.
- o Have given away free over 1.2 billion pounds -- not just cheese, but milk, rice, flour and other foods, since end of 1981.
- o Real question is why didn't Carter and Mondale do the same when they had the chance.

JOB SAFETY

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o This Administration has let employers who violate safety standards off with a slap on the wrist.
- o Mondale would toughen OSHA enforcement, make workplace safer than ever.
- o Only reason for fewer accidents on the job in the Reagan years is that there were fewer jobs -- not because workplace is safer.

Key RR points:

- o 1982 is latest year we have complete figures for and it was the safest year on record.
- o Total job injury rate is lowest ever recorded (since DOL started records in 1972).
- o No more recent government figures are available but the private National Safety Council says 1983 looks even better than 1982 was.
- o Job injury rate is measure of injuries per 100 workers so the rate isn't affected by numbers who work -- but by number of accidents among those working.
- o Have changed safety-inspection policies. Doing more of them at known "high-hazard" job sites, where risk to worker is greatest.
- o OSHA did 69,000 inspections and record checks in FY83 and 86% were at these sites where danger is greatest. (That was more inspections in any year since 1976.)
- o Doing fewer at low-hazard workplaces.
- o Real reason for OSHA and safety inspections is not to see how many fines we can collect or how many employers we can take to court.
- o Real reason is to improve safety -- and we're doing that.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Reaganomics has hurt millions of Americans and children have been among those most affected by the budget cuts.
- o Hundreds of thousands of poor children have lost the protection of Medicaid coverage, immunization funds slashed, school lunch and WIC nutrition programs cut.
- o Infant mortality up in many cities, worst among blacks.

Key RR points:

- o If WM wants to play a numbers game, the numbers favor RR. (Spending up for many programs to serve children.)
- o But, real standard is not whether we're spending less than WM and other liberals think is the right amount.
- o Real test is two-fold:
 - 1. how well are children's needs being met now;
 - 2. can we build a future of opportunity for them?
- o Children better off if their families are. Fact is, America's families are better off. Tax cuts and lower inflation have boosted purchasing power; recovery putting parents to work.
- o Last year, for first time since 1978, the typical family's income went up faster than inflation.
- o For the future: Nothing's more important for children than the new emphasis on excellence in education.
- o We can build a safer world and an expanding economy that'll have jobs and opportunities waiting for them when they get older.
- o NOTE on budgets and programs:
 - FY85 Head Start funds up 1/3 over FY80, 63,000 more kids served;
 - 1 child in 6 covered by Medicaid, 1/2 million more than in 1980;
 - immunization rates high as ever (less funding because most now immunized);
 - maximum child care tax credit almost doubled;
 - tougher child support helping mothers and children and got 78,000 families off welfare;
 - over 10 million get free school lunches.

SLEAZE FACTOR

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o This Administration has set a new record for the number of people involved in conflicts of interest and the abuse of power.
- o At least 50 high officials have been involved. Many have been forced to resign under a cloud.
- o One's been convicted of perjury.
- o Even if some are not guilty of breaking the law, that's not the standard. Almost all are guilty of abusing their public trust.
- o It represents a pattern and an attitude among these people. These Republicans think they're better than the rest of us -- and above the law.

Key RR points:

- o We have a lot of people working very hard in this Administration. I'm proud of them.
- o Most people can see through the politics of the Democrats' charges on this.
- o It's more than political; it's hypocritical. There are a few rotten apples in public life; each party has some. But there really are very few -- and and we shouldn't pretend otherwise.

HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Irrelevant whether one approves of gay "life-style" or not. The issue is that gays and lesbians are citizens of the U.S. and they deserve the full rights of citizenship.
- o Matter of record that discrimination against them is rampant in housing, hiring.
- o Reagan Administration just plain unsympathetic. Doesn't care that they're victimized by bias, and won't do anything about it.

RR rebuttal:

- o Constitution does guarantee rights of all citizens.
- o It's not right to discriminate against people because they are homosexual but they don't deserve preference because of it either.
- o Reminder: RR opposed California ballot proposition that would have barred them from teaching.

IMMIGRATION REFORM -- SIMPSON-MAZZOLI

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Reagan supported Simpson-Mazzoli is wrong and unfair, will encourage job discrimination toward Hispanic who are American citizens.
- o It requires employers to act as police -- can't expect them to enforce laws, that's the immigration service's job.
- o Will lead to second-class citizen treatment of Hispanic Americans.
- o Better solution is to tighten border enforcement.

Key RR points:

- o U.S. lost control of its borders years ago. Last three Presidential Administrations have studied, researched the problem -- looking for a fair solution that will work.
- o Our plan drew on our studies and those that went before it. Carter-Mondale plan also contained employer sanctions, for example (and Mondale favored them in a 1978 Mexico City speech.)
- o Outright opposition today to Simpson-Mazzoli is more special interest politicking by WM. And he's on the wrong side. Hispanic Americans want the problem addressed the same as most Americans do.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY REVIEW PROGRAM

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Reagan cut this program -- the unkindest cut of all.
- o Administration threw tens of thousands of disabled off the rolls -- often with little warning.
- o Worst of all, threw many mentally handicapped out of the program. Many were unable to understand why it happened to them or how they could exercise their rights to appeal the decision.
- o There have been several suicides reportedly among people despondent at losing their disability incomes.
- o Sure, GAO found in 1980 there were some abuses in the program, but once this Administration found it could save money by dropping people from the rolls, there was no stopping them.
- o Congress (Democrats and Republicans) tried to force them, Courts tried to block them -- but they kept resisting reform.
- o They couldn't see the hardship they were causing, or they didn't care. All they could see were the dollars they were saving (more money for weapons).

Key RR points:

- o Congress passed a law requiring us to review all 2.9 million disability beneficiaries cases in short time (3 years). An almost impossible requirement.
- o They did that because the General Accounting Office said in 1980 that as many as 1 of every 5 who were getting benefits shouldn't be eligible.
- o In effect, Congress put the burden on us to fix the problem Congress, and previous Administration had created -- and then gave us way too little time to do it.
- o We ourselves put a moratorium on new reviews last April and just stopped doing them until reforms could be developed.
- o Administration worked with Congress to design fair procedures for reviewing cases and, in September, they passed a new law which will vastly improve the process.
- o RR determined that disability reviews will be conducted humanely and fairly -- glad to finally have reforms.

IMMIGRATION REFORM -- SIMPSON-MAZZOLI

Possible Mondale attack lines and/or rebuttal:

- o Reagan supported Simpson-Mazzoli is wrong and unfair, will encourage job discrimination toward Hispanic who are American citizens.
- o It requires employers to act as police -- can't expect them to enforce laws, that's the immigration service's job.
- o Will lead to second-class citizen treatment of Hispanic Americans.
- o Better solution is to tighten border enforcement.

Key RR points:

- o U.S. lost control of its borders years ago. Last three Presidential Administrations have studied, researched the problem -- looking for a fair solution that will work.
- o Plan we supported drew on our studies and those that went before it. Carter-Mondale plan also contained employer sanctions, for example (and Mondale favored them in a 1978 Mexico City speech.)
- o A difficult issue: many competing interests to satisfy. That's why Congress has been unable to agree to act. But a fair solution must be found -- because history shows that a country without control of its borders may not long endure.