

YOUNG DEMOCRATS CONVENTION -- HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS

Six Broken promises of the Nixon Administration:

First:

I have a secret plan to end this war and if elected will end it in 6 months. That was his promise.. Now ladies and gentlemen, it is now almost three years later, and not only is the war not ended, it ^{has} spread ^{across} upon the length and breadth of the Indochina peninsula and I come to you today to say that it is the first imperative of this nation -- the first thing we've got to do before we'll heal any wounds -- before there'll be any prosperity -- before there'll be any new day or any new week -- peace -- is to seek to it that we withdraw every single American boy -- from -- force from Vietnam.?

----- And I take my fair share of the responsibility for our troubles , but I spoke to you and your parents with candor and may I say with more politeness ^{politeness frankness---} and-I-said--when I said if I elected that I would start a program immediately not only for cessation of the bombing but of the systematic withdrawal of all American forces, and I meant it. And when I left that office of the Vice Presidency after having admitted that statement, and not winning an election, which is quite obvious, I made up my mind that I would do everything within my power as a private citizen and now as a Senator, to end American involvement in that tragic, costly war.

And I have been a cosponsor of the Vietnam Disengagement Act . I have spoken-- voted and ----- with the Cooper-Church Amendment,. I have cosponsored---voted and cosponsored the Mansfield amendment. @- I offered an amendment to the Selective Service to prevent any further use of American selectees in combat roles, and I say to this audience that it is imperative for the security of this country and for the morale of our people, that we disengage from this costly, futile conflict, and get on with the job of building this great nation as the country that it ought to be.

Number two. The President of the United States, then candidate said: If elected President, he would dampen the fires of inflation, stop inflation, without rising unemployment. Yes, he said it. For two years, there were hundreds of thousands and millions of people getting added to the unemployment rolls, and inflation consuming 14 cents out of every dollar that the-A--- every American had, this man stood by looking by at football games and eating cottage cheese. And in mid-August of this year he made a 180 degree turn. One thing he learned by watching football is how to twist and turn. I remember Nelson Rockefeller said not long ago. He said every body should stand behind our President. And I said I would if I could find out which way he was facing.

I need not tell you what happened with unemployment and inflation. It's not a funny thing, it's a tragic thing.

Unemployment is not a statistic, it's a human tragedy. And inflation has been like an epidemic. You and I tonight must hope in every way that we can that what is being tried not will work. But I have to say in all candor that what is being tried now is the new economic game plan was hastily conceived, poorly thought out and depends primarily ^{up} on the pleas of the President to the American people ~~to~~-- that they'll sacrifice. And I think they will, if they have some reason to believe that ~~they're~~-- they're getting fair and equitable leadership. But I want to ~~ay-thi---s---~~ say to this audience, that a worker ~~who-has--that~~ waited a long time to get a wage increase -- and believe me, let's talk frankly about it -- a three-year contract has the following factors to it -- The first year you try to get a little bit ahead -- or you try to catch up. The second year you try to get ^{a little bit} ahead. And the ~~thi~~ third year you fall behind. And that is an economic fact. ~~-There---~~ It's apparent that this Administration doesn't understand it. And this Administration has broken the law because under the Landrum-Griffin Act and the Taft-Hartley Act, ~~contractsnegotiation--~~negotiated between labor and management are legally binding.

????? break for a moment

If you please, this Administration says no. Here's a President, speaking about inflation and unemployment said if elected, he said, for example, when Mr. Freeman was Secretary of Agriculture, he said 74 per cent of parity is

intolerable. And if elected, a I will do better.

Tonight as I speak to you Mr. Farmer throughout the length and breadth of this land has depression prices -- the prices are as low as they were in the depth of the depression in terms of parity ratio, and except for the Congress of the United States the architect of the Ezra Taft Benson farm program that was a disaster and we've been holding hearings on him up there -- his name is Dr. Butz -- and may I say, that's where some people are falling -- on their . . .

I'm going to vote against his confirmation for one reason above all -- I don't there- think there are any jobs for you -- or any prosperity for anybody if the American agriculture ~~of this---~~ economy of this society is in a depression. ~~This man who's in the White House told--~~ you-

Number three: This man who's in the White House told you -- and he told the electorate -- and he told me ~~---~~, I know, if elected President of the United States he would stop the crime ~~rate-~~ wave. Well, this was the law and order pitch as if somehow or other Democrats were against law and order and the Republicans ~~were~~ all the only ones that were for it. He was going to stop the crime wave. Well, my fellow Americans, tonight the crime wave in America is running at 12 and 13 per cent increase on an annual basis. And Mr. Nixon hasn't stopped it one bit. But he told us he would.

Promise number 4. I will protect the *American* ~~manual developers?~~, said the President. Not only hasn't he protected/ it, it's folding.

Can you imagine a Republican President that has permitted the American dollar to lose its purchasing power in the international economy?--The American ~~eeconomy~~---dollar to lose much of its purchasing power at home? And, my fellow Americans, for the first time since 1893, this country is running a trade deficit. That means that we're putting out more by far than we're able to bring in. We had a \$12 billion ~~del balan~~----deficit in balance of payments in this last month -- 12 billion%! Never been anything like it in the history of this country. And it's not a laughing matter, let me tell you. If it continues, this country will be in dire economic circumstances far beyond anything we've known. And it's ~~shen~~ happening, and happening, and the Administration ~~blinked its eyes at it~~ Did this President ^{to} promise us an open presidency. He said you young people, he said if elected President, the White House would be open to the youth of this land . The White House will be open to new ideas -- to creative ideas . The White House will be open ~~to-ee-~~ with communication to the public . ^{in this land} And I submit to you if there's any one group that has lack of access to the White House -- it's the youth of this land.

If There has been a time in recent days when we've appraoched an era of censorship. And paerental censorship. It is in this Administraton. We are in dire danger of losing what we call free speech and free press.

Except for the courage of those who write the printed word and for those that still are willing to make their commentaries. When a man like Daniel Schorr, a distinguished commentator of television, can find out that he's under investigation by the FBI and then they try to fuzz it up by saying they're gonna give him a job, j-- what they meant was they're gonna give him the workd! I teel you that there's something wrong, and you ought to be ~~worried-about-it~~--concerned about it. Finally, this man says what every American wants to have happen. He said if I'm elected President, I will bring us together-- bring this country together -- bring you together. We all want it. ^{here} And-Everybody in the audience knows that we've ~~got~~-simply got to have it someway, somehow. But instead of bringing us together, what's happend? There is a bitterness in this country -- a growing gap between young and old -- between black and white -- between urban and rural 00 between rich and poor -- and I see very ~~little-done~~-very little being done to ~~be~~ing us together. I happen to believe that this nation needs three things -- The first thing we need is to understand that what we do ~~own~~ie or do not do now ~~in-terms~~--determines the future. ~~Thae~~--- Three's a man down in Washington who is the coach of the Washington Redskins who's got a ^{little} sign up on the wall that says "the future is now." And that's the only day that you have. This minute, right now -- not yesterday -- that's gone. Not tomorrow, because you don't know if you'll be there.

Now. And what we do not -- or what we don't do now -- determines the future. And the only part of life that is worth anything is the future. Yes, we can learn from the yesterdays, and I hope we do. But I must tell you this -- that much of the yesterday has little relevance to ~~this~~--the tomorrows.. There have ~~have~~ fundamental changes. There have been periods in huma hisotry that have been benchmarks, so to speak -- epochs. The period of the first ---- of the renaissance -- the middle ages ~~first~~-- first, the renaissance, the reformation , the industrial revolution -- today the social revolution. And ~~mush~~ of what ^{had} ~~w-have~~ in the past has little relation to what the needs ^{ship} are of tomorrow. And we have to be future-oriented. And anybody that's going to lead this country must not look at the ground, but look at the ~~starts~~-stars.He must think fowhat we can be, and what we ought to be-- not what we wre, r what ew could have been. Not where we've been, but wheree we're gonna go. This is what people want. There's a tremendojs reservoirs of strength ~~on~~ this county . A tremendous body of good will, waiting to be tapped, waiting to be harnedsed. There is a consummate hyposcisy taking place in this country.On the one hand over here are over 5 million skilled and semi-skilled, and over 250,000 of them skientists, with doctors and masters degrees -- scientist and technicians -- unemployed-- w~~o~~th nothing to do -- told they 're not wanted. And over here, my young Republican friends have the greatest amount of savings that this world

has ever known. And the banks and the savings and loan companies right here . The money is there, the skills are there, the technology is here, and God only knows that the needs are here. The whole country to be rebuilt. Cities to come alive. People to be given a chance. Health systems to be created. Colleges and schools -- not only of bricks and mortar -- but whole new programs of learning new curricula, ^{new} and values -- and we sit here like a stunned ox -- with a great tremendous reservoir of talent unused, with unbelievable financial resources untapped, and Why? Because like any great movement, it needs the leaders. Like any great country, or any great action, it needs ~~the leaders~~ --- ~~some one to~~ --- a leader -- someone to blow the trumpet, as they say, someone to blow it clearly.

Something to remember. Reconciliation, reconstruction, and reaffirmation. Reconciliation, ~~which we know~~, -- between all of us. Listen. If we can today look upon Japan and Germany as allies and friends, and if we'll remember that we rebuilt a Europe that was devastated ^{the} by Nazis and a Japan and Asia that was devastated by militarists and imperialists, you mean to tell me that we can learn how to be friends and be allies of and to call friends enemies once -- people that took our brothers -- people that destroyed us? -- You mean to tell me that if we can learn how to be friends with them -- and don't misunderstand

me, this is what it's all about -- of course we must. ~~They~~-They're great people. We need them, and they need us. But if we can reconcile our differences with former enemies that almost destroyed all that we have -- & you mean to tell me that we can't reconcile the differences between black and white -- and between Chicano, black and white -- between the rich and the poor, of fellow American~~s~~, fellow citizens? That's your number one task. You're not going to rebuild this ~~country~~--economy, you're not going to do anything in this country until we start to respect each other and ~~and~~- eliminate . . . (covered with applause).

-- From John F. Kennedy -- When President Kennedy was assassinated, by the way, that will be 8 years ago this coming Monday, that was a tragic loss, an irreparable one, he had in his pocket the ~~text~~ of a speech that he would never deliver. And I have copied ^{just} ~~out~~ a couple of paragraphs -----(nothing on tape)

He didn't just mean economically, there are people. He knew the purpose of knowledge was action. ~~These are his~~ ~~words~~---And here's what he said. Listen to these words/
He This should be your creed. This country is moving. And it must not be stopped. It cannot stop, for this is a time for courage, an a time for challenge.

And neither conformity nor complacency will do. Neither the fanatics nor the fainthearted are needed. And our duty as a Party is not to our Party alone,

but to the nation and indeed all of mankind. Our duty is
 not merely the preservation of political power, but the
 preservation of peace, ~~so-let-us-not-be~~ and freedom. so
 let us not be petty ^{when our} cause is a stranger

quarrel
 Let us not ~~per~~-among ourselves when our nation's future
 is at stake. Let us stand together with renewed confidence
 in our cause, united in the heritage of the past and the
 hopes for the future. Thank you, my fellow Democrats,
 Now let's go to work.



Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



www.mnhs.org