

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

S

FOIA Number:

S

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13635
Folder ID Number: 13635-001


Folder Title:
American Legislative Exchange Council 8/6/92 [OA 5811]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	18	4	1

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 4, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STEVE PROVOST 
SUBJECT: ALEC Annual Meeting

I. SUMMARY

You are scheduled to speak at the Opening Session of the 19th annual American Legislative Exchange Counsel (ALEC) at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The address is at 9:05 a.m., to an anticipated audience of 1,500.

II. DISCUSSION

ALEC provides a perfect forum to contrast your economic strategy with the other side. Bob Grady has drafted the attached remarks (14 minutes/teleprompted) which clearly outline your differences on spending, taxes and economic philosophy. The sound-bite is: On close examination, The New Covenant may be the "New Cover-Up."

This draft is being staffed simultaneously.

(8/3/92)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
 COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992

Thank you, Fred Noye and Sam Brunelli, for that introduction. For almost 20 years, the American Legislative Exchange Council has helped bring conservative principles to bear in our state legislatures.

Coming out here, I saw a chart that showed that ALEC's success ratio in getting legislation passed is about seven times that of the average Congressman. Then again, that's like saying that Charles Barkley can dunk a basketball better than Charlie Brown.

I want to talk to you today about three simple concepts: Ideas. Actions. And Trust.

Yogi Berra once said that sometimes you can observe a lot just by watching.

A close examination of these three concepts reveals a lot about the choice America faces today.

Ideas. When all is said and done, ideas matter. When Americans choose their leadership, they are choosing a direction, a set of beliefs.

For two decades now, the tide has gone our way for a simple reason: because the American people agree with us.

I suppose that we conservatives should be flattered. For years, we have been holding the line on government spending. Resisting the Pavlovian impulse of the other side to raise taxes

at every turn. Creating choice in education and child care. Keeping America strong enough to be the guarantor of peace.

The other side has given up debating these core principles. In words, if not in deeds, they now concede that they can't win by trumpeting their true desire for higher taxes and more spending. They concede, at least on paper, that more choice is better than more bureaucracy. Their speeches even go so far as to give oral endorsement to the need for a strong defense.

So in one sense, we gather today at a moment of triumph. We have not only won the Cold War; we have won the war of ideas. And we have won it with conservative principles.

Of course, actions speak louder than words. So it's important to look behind the speeches, to peel off the makeover that the other side has undergone -- to see what lives and breathes beneath the new face of supposedly reformed liberalism.

It's important, then, to go beyond the new labels and look at the record. On close examination, the "New Covenant" may be the New Cover Up.

First, let's take government spending. One candidate has proposed to attack all three parts of the problem. He's proposed a freeze on domestic discretionary spending. A cap on mandatory spending, with specific proposals for savings. And an orderly reduction in defense spending, consistent with America's mission as the leader of the world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

Another candidate says in his speeches that government takes too much of your money and gives you too little in return. But if you look at the details of his economic plan, you see something else: over \$200 billion in new spending, and at least \$150 billion in new taxes.

That's the candidate of change all right: if he wins, change is all you'll have left in your pocket.

One candidate supports the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, has proposed it in every budget and fought for its passage. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that he's for balanced budgets, but at the moment of truth -- when the balanced budget amendment was on the floor of the House, he worked against it. The amendment fell short by nine votes, after the henchmen of the Democratic leadership convinced twelve co-sponsors to change their position and vote no.

One candidate has proposed a line-item veto in every budget. He's proposed to eliminate 246 government programs this year alone, and kill over 4,000 wasteful projects. Once again, he's standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says he favors a line-item veto. But his co-conspirators in Congress have kept it from becoming law. And when he released his economic plan, he searched and searched through the millions of government programs, and found only one that he would eliminate: subsidies for honey bee growers!

With his legendary caution, he's still probably afraid he'll get stung by that one.

One candidate has recognized a central problem with our budget -- mandatory spending is out of control. He has proposed to cap it -- and has submitted specific savings: \$70 billion in this year's budget; \$47 billion in last year's; \$119 billion in 1990's.

The candidate who would bring spending under control is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that "we need a government that offers more empowerment and less entitlement." Yet in his economic plan, he completely ignored the need to cut entitlement spending. He offered only one small idea -- borrowed from my own budget, that would cut a mere one-tenth of one percent from mandatory spending next year.

One candidate has led the world in a campaign against aggression. He has offered an orderly phase down of defense spending -- saving \$18 billion in outlays over the next four years -- with a plan to maintain America's security in a dangerous world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate talks about an "America with the world's strongest defense." Yet, he plans to cut \$60 billion in outlays beyond what the experts say is responsible. That means a cut four times as deep as mine. That plan would throw a million

people out of work. But one industry would prosper -- the mothball industry.

Take the most important issue of all. Economic growth. One candidate has proposed a growth plan -- with incentives for investment to create jobs, help for first-time homebuyers, and tax reductions for families trying to save. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says that an expanding economy is the best policy of all. Yet when his allies in Congress had the chance to send me a growth package, they saddled it with a \$100 billion tax increase. That one I stopped with my veto pen.

But I suppose we shouldn't be surprised. When he was Governor, the new spiritual leader of the taxers in Congress raised 123 separate taxes. His speeches once promised a middle class tax cut, but when his economic plan came out, it was nowhere to be found. Even the New York Times called it: "(You know who's) Retreat."

And that brings me to my third concept: Trust.

It's a political year, and the other side is saying some pretty appealing words these days. They promise that they've reformed, and become "moderate." They've signed a pact with their own special interests -- a vow of silence on their real intentions, at least until after the election.

It reminds me of a cartoon I saw the other day, of two donkeys driving down the road. The sign read: "Left lane closed, next four months. Election ahead."

But before you get taken in by the new labels being marketed by the other side, read the Surgeon General's warning. It says: "A \$150 billion dollar tax increase will be hazardous to your health."

And that raises the central question: whom do you trust to control the size of government, to cut taxes, and to get this economy moving again? A President who vetoed the Democrats' tax increase, and sustained that veto?

Or a team that, given the chance to start with a clean sheet of paper on how to fix our economy, proposed in their economic plan the largest tax increase in American history -- larger than those proposed by Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale combined.

Now there is no denying that the other side has become more clever. Witness their recent convention in New York. Finding the Democratic leadership of the Congress on that podium was harder than playing "Where's Waldo?" on a board the size of a football field.

But that is a symptom of the bottomless cynicism of a campaign and a Congress that talk of change but block it, that speak of growth but smother it, that feign interest in a different future but remain wedded to the policies of the past.

Make no mistake: the Democratic leadership in Congress is happily in collusion with the would-be new leadership of the other party. They are rubbing their hands with glee at the prospect of a President who, when it comes to new spending, will replace the veto pen with the printing press.

But that leadership has a problem. The visions of sugarplums and pork barrels now dancing in their heads will be gone unless they can convince Americans that our country is a mess. So for some time now, Congress has been engaged in a conscious strategy: block measures to strengthen the economy, and then complain loudly when growth stalls and progress slows.

Well I have a challenge for my opponents and their partners in crime in the U.S. Congress. If you really believe in growth, pass my growth package now. If you believe in the line-item veto, put that bill on my desk right now, this month, and I'll show you how to cut spending with this year's appropriations bills. If you believe in a balanced budget, give me a balanced budget amendment and let's send it to the states this fall.

My opponents' clever campaign and the corrupt Congress are the Bonnie and Clyde of America's economic recovery. They look like such nice people -- but their actions will shoot our economy full of holes.

In the end, this campaign is about more than appearances. It's about ideas. And actions. And trust.

Teddy Roosevelt once told a friend: "I want to see you shoot the way you shout."

This year, when the shouting stops, Americans will face fundamental choice. They can aim forward, with policies that promote growth, and choice, and opportunity -- or they can aim backwards, toward a new target with an oddly familiar ring to it.

One that gives off the sounds of higher inflation, higher interest rates, and the misery index.

The choice is clear: we cannot turn back now.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

Document No. 342815ss

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/4/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: WED. 8/5 NOON

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO - 8/6/92

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HORNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SKINNER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCBRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MOORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVOST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	YEUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>FINDLAY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>KAUFMAN</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>GRADY</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			<u>KILBERG</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Bob Grady, Rm. 260 X4844, no later than NOON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary

6 AUG 4:51 AM.

UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)

CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

MODE:

SECURE FAX # _____

ADMIN FAX # 10

PAGES 17

DTG 060751Z

RELEASER _____

FROM / LOCATION: Colorado Springs

ACTION / LOCATION:

1. McGroarty Rm 118 OEGB
456-2930

- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

TIME OF RECEIPT

_____ M _____

INFORMATION / LOCATION:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

REMARKS:

UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)

UNCLAS
(CLASSIFICATION)

CIRCLE ONE BELOW:

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

MODE:

SECURE FAX # _____

ADMIN FAX # 09

PAGES 16+cover

DTG 060754 Z

RELEASER _____

FROM / LOCATION: COLORADO SPRINGS

ACTION / LOCATION:

1. WHCC / TO McGRADY

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

(TIME OF RECEIPT)

INFORMATION / LOCATION:

1. _____

2. _____

REMARKS: PLEASE PASS TO Sit Room FOR PROPER DISTR

PER CONVERSATION W/ SPC QUINTANA

UNCLAS
(CLASSIFICATION)

DELIVER AFTER 7:30AM

FROM: CHRISTINA MARTIN

* [FACT CHECK ASAP] *

12980

PM 22

11/21/92

DATE NO. 11/21/92

PLEASE PAY TO:

— UNCLAS —

08/20

AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992
9:05 A.M.

THANK YOU, FRED NOYE, FOR THAT GENEROUS
INTRODUCTION.

I WANT TO THANK MAYOR ISAAC FOR HIS HOSPITALITY. I
ALSO WANT TO RECOGNIZE SAM BRUNELLI, AMBASSADOR HOLLY
COORS, MY GOOD FRIEND JIM DOBSON, AND YOUR INCOMING
CHAIRMAN -- BILL RAGGIO. BILL FLEW IN WITH US FROM
RENO LAST NIGHT ON AIR FORCE ONE -- AND ALL THE WHITE
HOUSE STATIONARY FROM THE PLANE IS MISSING THIS MORNING
-- BUT BILL SWEARS THERE IS NO CORRELATION.

20 YEARS AGO WHEN ALEC STARTED, YOU WERE A LONE
VOICE IN THE CONSERVATIVE WILDERNESS. NOW YOU GATHER
IN THESE COLORADO MOUNTAINS -- AT A TIME WHEN THE
ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST IS TOPPED BY THAT CREATURE
RARELY SPOTTED OUTSIDE OF THE 202 AREA CODE: THE
UNRECONSTRUCTED LIBERAL. YOUR ENERGY, IDEAS AND
ENTHUSIASM HELPED LEAD THE IDEOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION
OF AMERICA -- SO IT IS AN HONOR TO BE INVITED TO SPEAK
TO YOU TODAY.

- 2 -

I UNDERSTAND THAT NO FEWER THAN SIX MEMBERS OF MY CABINET WILL SPEAK HERE. AND I AM ESPECIALLY DELIGHTED THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO GIVE THE THOMAS JEFFERSON FREEDOM AWARD TO THE IDEA MAN OF THE CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT: JACK KEMP.

COMING OUT HERE, I SAW A CHART THAT SHOWED THAT ALEC'S SUCCESS RATIO IN GETTING LEGISLATION PASSED IS ABOUT 10 TIMES THAT OF THE CONGRESS. I THINK THAT'S AN INCREDIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENT. BUT I GUESS A CYNIC MIGHT SAY THAT IT'S LIKE SAYING THAT CHARLES BARKLEY CAN DUNK A BASKETBALL BETTER THAN CHARLIE BROWN. //

AS YOU KNOW, SO FAR THIS ELECTION HAS BEEN A LITTLE ONE-SIDED. FOR NINE MONTHS, FIVE OTHER CANDIDATES AND VARIOUS SUNDRY SURROGATES HAVE AIMED A FIREHOSE OF CRITICISM AT ME. I HAVE BEEN BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING EXCEPT THAT CRAZY SCORING SYSTEM THAT WAS USED IN THE OLYMPIC BOXING COMPETITION. I SHOULDN'T GO OUT ON A LIMB LIKE THAT -- BECAUSE I HAVEN'T CHECKED THE A.P. WIRE THIS MORNING.

- 3 -

I ADMIT I'VE BEEN A LITTLE SLOW TO FIGHT BACK. MY OPPONENT HAS MENTIONED MY NAME ABOUT ONCE EVERY FIVE SECONDS. I STILL HAVEN'T EVEN SAID HIS NAME IN FULL. I HAVE REFERRED OCCASIONALLY TO "MY OPPONENT," "THE OTHER GUY," AND EVEN -- "THE GOVERNOR OF A CERTAIN STATE WITH A PROFITABLE CHICKEN INDUSTRY ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER LOCATED SOMEWHERE BETWEEN TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA."// LET ME TELL YOU WHY I HAVE WAITED. AS I LISTEN TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE -- I GET A SENSE OF SOMETHING YOU MIGHT PICK UP FROM OWN CONSTITUENTS. PEOPLE ARE SICK OF POLITICS. TIRED OF CHARGES AND COUNTERCHARGES. THEY WANT IDEAS -- THEY WANT ACTION - - AND THEY WANT TO TRUST THEIR LEADERS TO TURN THE FIRST INTO THE SECOND.

- 4 -

THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THIS MORNING.
IDEAS. ACTION. AND TRUST. ALTHOUGH I DON'T WANT TO
GET TOO PARTISAN -- I WILL DRAW A FEW COMPARISONS.
BUT IF YOU'LL GRANT ME ONE FAVOR, I'LL SAVE THE "C
WORD" FOR MY CONVENTION IN HOUSTON. I'LL JUST STICK
WITH THE ALL-PURPOSE TITLE -- "MY OPPONENT."//

IDEAS MATTER. WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE, IDEAS
COUNT -- ALEC KNOWS THAT. WHEN AMERICANS CHOOSE THEIR
LEADERSHIP, THEY ARE CHOOSING A DIRECTION, A SET OF
BELIEFS.

FOR THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY, THE TIDE HAS FLOWED
OUR WAY FOR A SIMPLE REASON: THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AGREE
WITH US.

- 5 -

IF IMITATION IS THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY, THE WHOLE WORLD IS WEARING THOSE RED ALEC BLANKETS THAT BOB ROGGI GAVE ME LAST NIGHT. FOR YEARS YOUR MEMBERS -- WORKING IN BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES -- HAVE BEEN HOLDING THE LINE ON GOVERNMENT SPENDING. YOU HAVE BEEN RESISTING THE PAVLOVIAN IMPULSE TO RAISE TAXES AT EVERY TURN. YOU'RE FIGHTING TO GIVE PARENTS THE CHANCE TO CHOOSE THEIR KIDS SCHOOLS AND DAY CARE. YOU'VE HELPED KEEP AMERICA STRONG, AND SUPPORTED THE COURAGE TO SHARE OUR IDEALS FROM MANAGUA TO MOSCOW.

ON MANY OF THE MAJOR ISSUES OF THIS CAMPAIGN, HOWEVER, MY OPPONENT AND I HAVE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT IDEAS. ON EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, ABORTION, DEFENSE AND PRAYER IN SCHOOL -- FOR EXAMPLE -- WE ARE SEPARATED BY A GULF AS WIDE AS THE GRAND CANYON. BUT ON SOME ISSUES -- ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC ISSUES -- WE SOUND REMARKABLY THE SAME.

- 6 -

OF COURSE, UNLIKE MY GREAT PREDECESSOR, I'M NOT KNOWN FOR THREATENING DANIEL WEBSTER'S PLACE IN ORATORICAL HISTORY. TO ME -- REAL ELOQUENCE IS ACTION. SO WHEN IT COMES TO IDEAS FOR FIXING OUR ECONOMY, I SAY: LOOK NOT JUST AT WHAT WE SAY, LOOK AT WHAT WE DO.

LET ME GIVE YOU SOME EXAMPLES OF WHAT I MEAN.

I BELIEVE WE MUST GET A HANDLE ON THIS BUDGET DEFICIT, BEFORE IT STRANGLES OUR FUTURE. MY OPPONENT AGREES WITH ME. HE SAYS IN HIS SPEECHES THAT GOVERNMENT "TAKES TOO MUCH OF YOUR MONEY AND GIVES YOU TOO LITTLE IN RETURN."

WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT IT? WELL, I HAVE FOUGHT FOR A FREEZE ON DOMESTIC DISCRETIONARY SPENDING. A CAP ON MANDATORY FEDERAL SPENDING, WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR SAVINGS. AND A RESPONSIBLE REDUCTION IN DEFENSE SPENDING, CONSISTENT WITH AMERICA'S MISSION AS THE LEADER OF THE WORLD.

- 7 -

MY OPPONENT HAS TAKEN A DIFFERENT APPROACH. HE HAS PROPOSED OVER \$200 BILLION OF NEW SPENDING AND AT LEAST \$150 BILLION IN NEW TAXES. WHEN IT COMES TO ANY CONCERN ABOUT THE FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT, HIS ACTION SOUNDS LIKE JOHN MCGLAUGHLIN'S SIGN OFF EVERY WEEK -- BYE, BYE.

ULTIMATELY I BELIEVE THE ONLY WAY TO GET THIS BUDGET DEFICIT UNDER CONTROL IS WITH A BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION. YOU HAVE DONE FOR THE AMENDMENT WHAT RUSS LIMBAUGH HAS DONE FOR THE ART OF PASSIONATE COMMUNICATION. AGAIN, MY OPPONENT AGREES WITH ME -- IN PRINCIPLE. BUT AT THE MOMENT OF TRUTH, WHEN THE AMENDMENT WAS ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE THIS SUMMER, HE CAME OUT AGAINST IT. THE AMENDMENT FELL SHORT BY NINE VOTES, AFTER LIBERAL CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS CONVINCED TWELVE CO-SPONSORS TO CHANGE THEIR POSITION AND VOTE NO.

- 8 -

OKAY, IF IT WE CAN'T GET A BALANCED BUDGET -- AT LEAST GIVE ME A LINE-ITEM VETO -- LIKE VIRTUALLY EVERY GOVERNOR IN AMERICA. AGAIN, MY OPPONENT SAYS HE FAVORS THE IDEA. BUT LOOK AT OUR ACTUAL PROPOSALS. IN MY BUDGET THIS YEAR, I IDENTIFIED 246 GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS THAT I WOULD END -- AND ANOTHER 4,000 WASTEFUL PROJECTS THAT I WOULD ALSO GET RID OF ALTOGETHER.

THIS LIST INCLUDES SOME BIG TICKET ITEMS, AS WELL AS SOME SMALLER THINGS LIKE A VITALLY IMPORTANT FEDERAL RESEARCH PROGRAM INTO THE MATING HABITS OF MINKS. THE COUNTRY SINGER RANDY TRAVIS SINGS -- "LOVES GOES ON FOREVER, AND EVER." I'M NOT SURE EVEN RANDY WOULD SAY THE SAME THING ABOUT A TAXPAYER SPONSORED MINK RESEARCH PROGRAM.

- 9 -

AGAIN, ON THIS ISSUE, MY OPPONENT IS SINGING THE SAME TUNE -- BUT THE DANCE STEPS ARE DIFFERENT. WHEN HE RELEASED HIS ECONOMIC PLAN, HE SEARCHED AND SEARCHED THROUGH THOUSANDS OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, AND FOUND ONLY ONE THAT HE WOULD ELIMINATE -- FEDERAL SUBSIDIES FOR HONEY BEE FARMS.

NOW I'VE GONE HEAD TO HEAD WITH SOME POWERFUL SPECIAL INTERESTS. BUT I DOUBT ANYONE WILL GET STUNG BY TAKING ON THE HONEY BEE INDUSTRY.

WHAT ABOUT MANDATORY SPENDING? IT'S DEVOURING MORE AND MORE OF OUR BUDGET EVERY YEAR. I PROPOSE IT'S TIME TO ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND GO AFTER IT -- NO MATTER WHAT THE POLITICAL PRICE. MY OPPONENT NODS HIS HEAD IN AGREEMENT -- SAYING, "WE NEED A GOVERNMENT THAT OFFERS MORE EMPOWERMENT AND LESS ENTITLEMENT."

- 10 -

DO WORDS MATCH ACTION? WELL, IN MY PAST THREE BUDGETS, I HAVE PROPOSED CAPS ON MANDATORY SPENDING -- AND SUBMITTED SPECIFIC IDEAS FOR SAVINGS. THE AMOUNTS AREN'T PALTRY -- \$72 BILLION IN THIS YEAR'S BUDGET, \$47 BILLION LAST YEAR, \$119 BILLION IN 1990.

WHAT DOES MY OPPONENT OFFER? YOU CAN SEARCH HIS ENTIRE ECONOMIC PROGRAM -- AND FIND ONE VERY TINY IDEA -- REDUCING MEDICARE SUBSIDIES FOR THE WEALTHY. IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA. IN FACT, I PUT IT IN MY OWN BUDGET. BUT KEEP IN MIND -- IT WOULD REDUCE MANDATORY SPENDING BY ONE-TENTH OF ONE PERCENT NEXT YEAR. THIS HARDLY QUALIFIES AS A PROFILE IN BUDGET CUTTING COURAGE!

DO YOU SEE A PATTERN HERE? WELL, LOOK AT OUR MOST PRESSING ECONOMIC CHALLENGE -- HOW TO CREATE MORE JOBS -- NOW.

- 11 -

I HAVE PROPOSED A PACKAGE THAT INCLUDES INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT TO CREATE JOBS, HELP FOR FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS, AND TAX REDUCTIONS-FOR FAMILIES TRYING TO SAVE.

MY OPPONENT SAYS THAT AN EXPANDING ECONOMY IS THE BEST POLICY OF ALL. BUT FIRST HE PROPOSES THE LARGEST TAX INCREASE IN AMERICAN HISTORY -- LARGER THAN WHAT MIKE DUKAKIS AND WALTER MONDALE PROPOSED TOGETHER. AND THEN HIS FRIENDS IN THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP TOOK MY GROWTH PACKAGE AND ADDED A TAX INCREASE TO IT, I HAD TO STOP THAT IDEA WITH MY VETO PEN.

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

WELL, AS I PEEL THROUGH THE DETAILS OF OUR ECONOMIC PLANS, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK OF THE WORDS OF ANOTHER GEORGE -- NAME OF MCGOVERN.

- 12 -

NOW, GEORGE MCGOVERN HAS NEVER BEEN A BIG FRIEND OF MINE, BUT YOU MAY RECALL DURING THE NEW YORK CONVENTION -- HE CALLED THE OTHER TICKET -- AND I QUOTE -- "A TROJAN HORSE." HE SAID -- "THEY ARE REALLY MUCH MORE LIBERAL THAN THEY APPEAR, AND THEY'LL SHOW IT AFTER THEY ARE ELECTED."

THAT'S WHAT WORRIES ME. AS I COMPARE THE DETAILS OF WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER -- I BEGIN TO WONDER. IS ALL THIS TALK OF A "NEW COVENANT" SIMPLY A COVER-UP FOR SOME VERY OLD AND TIRED IDEAS?

WHEN THE OTHER SIDE TALKS ABOUT CHANGING THE ECONOMY WITH NEW SPENDING AND TAXES -- ARE THEY REFERRING TO WHAT YOU WILL HAVE LEFT IN THEIR POCKET?

I KNOW WE HAVEN'T HEARD MUCH FROM THE LEADERS OF CONGRESS LATELY. SPOTTING ONE OF THEM ON THE PODIUM AT THE CONVENTION IN NEW YORK WAS PRETTY DIFFICULT. IT WAS LIKE PLAYING "WHERE'S WALDO ON A BOARD THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL FIELD."

- 13 -

BUT I WORRY THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ARE LIKE KIDS ON CHRISTMAS MORNING, POISED AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS WAITING FOR ME -- THE GRINCH -- TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE, SO THAT SANTA CLAUS CAN SLIDE DOWN THE CHIMNEY WITH A BAG FULL OF TOYS.

ONLY THOSE SUGARPLUM NEW SPENDING ITEMS AND TAX PROGRAMS ARE GOING TO GIVE THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER A BAD STOMACHACHE.

I HOPE I'M WRONG, I REALLY DO. I REALLY DO. JUST MAYBE GEORGE MCGOVERN'S TROJAN HORSE WILL BE TIGER WHEN IT COMES TO HOLDING THE LINE ON TAXES AND SPENDING. AND SO TODAY -- I HAVE AN IDEA TO PROPOSE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

A WAY TO MOVE AWAY FROM PARTISANSHIP. A WAY TO GET SOME OF THE IDEAS YOU'VE FOUGHT FOR OFF THE DRAWING BOARD. A WAY TO GET OUR ECONOMY MOVING TODAY, AND KEEP IT GROWING TOMORROW. AND MOST IMPORTANT -- A WAY TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR AMERICA.

- 14 -

TODAY, I ISSUE A CHALLENGE TO MY OPPONENT -- AND HIS ALLIES IN THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP.

IF YOU REALLY AGREE WITH US THAT THESE IDEAS ARE IMPORTANT, WHY HOLD THEM HOSTAGE TO A POLITICAL CAMPAIGN? IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT TAX CUTS CAN CREATE JOBS, PASS MY GROWTH PACKAGE --NOW. IF YOU WANT TO GET A HANDLE ON GOVERNMENT SPENDING, PUT A LINE-ITEM VETO ON MY DESK RIGHT NOW, THIS MONTH, AND I'LL START CUTTING RIGHT AWAY. IF YOU WANT TO CONTROL MANDATORY SPENDING, CONVINCING CONGRESS TO ADOPT MY PROPOSED SAVINGS NEXT WEEK. AND IF YOU BELIEVE IN A BALANCED BUDGET -- LET'S CALL IT UP FOR A VOTE AGAIN -- AND SEND IT IMMEDIATELY TO YOUR STATES FOR RATIFICATION.//

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TIRED OF SLOGANS, TIRED OF POSTURING, TIRED OF EXCUSES, TIRED OF GRIDLOCK. THEY TRUST US -- WHO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING THEM -- TO PUT ASIDE POLITICS AND DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR AMERICA.

- 15 -

IDEAS ARE NOT ENOUGH -- WE NEED ACTION. THE PLAN I HAVE OUTLINED TODAY -- A PLAN BASED ON SO MANY ALEC IDEAS AND INITIATIVES -- IS SO STRONG, SO COMPELLING - - THAT EVEN OUR OPPONENTS ARE TALKING ABOUT IT.

SO TODAY I SAY TO THE OTHER SIDE -- SHOW THAT WE CAN GET SOMETHING ACCOMPLISHED FOR AMERICA. PROVE THAT THIS CONVERSION SHOULD BE TRUSTED -- THAT THIS NEW TALK OF MODERATION IS NOT A MASQUERADE. BECAUSE IF WE CAN'T -- IF THE ACTION DOESN'T MATCH THE NEW RHETORIC -- THEN THE TAXPAYER'S HAND SHOULD TREMBLE AS THEY THEIR PAYCHECK. BELIEVE ME, I WILL TAKE THAT CASE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR STEVE PROVOST

FROM: DAN MC GROARTY *DMG*

SUBJECT: A.L.E.C. DRAFT -- SCHOOL CHOICE

Please see the attached article on the school voucher initiative on the Colorado ballot November 3. We can be sure Gov. Clinton will take his stand with Gov. Romer and the NEA when he comes to Colorado. We ought to make clear President Bush stands with parents -- against the status quo.

Note, according to the article, that the Colorado Education Association will tolerate school choice within the public system but not extending to private or religious schools -- i.e., Clinton's position.

Note also that with California's school choice initiative off the ballot, Colorado will be the battleground.

If there will be "war," we ought to fire the first shot. Is there a way to build school choice into the point-counterpoint section of the ALEC speech?

#

School vouchers head for ballot

Backers turn in a surplus of signatures, setting up Colorado as national battleground for Bush's educational reform plan.

Colorado expected to be national battleground over hotly debated plan to give funds to parents

By Bemy Morson

Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

A school voucher proposal is headed for the Nov. 3 election ballot, turning Colorado into a national battleground for the debated school reform plan.

Backers of the proposal, the heart of President Bush's education reform plan, delivered 91,060 signatures Thursday to the secretary of state for verification. Only 49,279 valid signatures are needed to put the measure to a vote.

Colorado conservatives have been pushing for school vouchers for at least 20 years. Assuming the signatures are valid, this is the first time Colorado voters will decide whether parents should be given vouchers worth about \$2,500 to send their children to the school of their choice, including private schools.

The voucher proposal comes one day after Gov. Roy Romer turned in 147,000 signatures on a plan to raise the sales tax by 1% in

order to fund schools and tighten academic standards.

Asked what happens next, former state Sen. Hugh Fowler, a longtime advocate of school vouchers, said, "War."

Supporters say school vouchers will force public schools to improve by encouraging competition. Opponents say vouchers could destroy the public school system.

Both sides say they will seek out-of-state funds that had been intended for California, where the measure was thrown off the ballot on a technicality. The money had been expected to pour into California from backers on both sides of the issue nationwide.

The Colorado Education Association, the state's largest teachers' union, has vowed to oppose the voucher plan and has access to national union funds.

CEA president Dan Morris said his group believes a voucher proposal could be "detrimental to the survival of public schools" by draining money away. More than 30,000 students now in private school would be entitled to vouchers, with the money coming from the public school budget, he said.

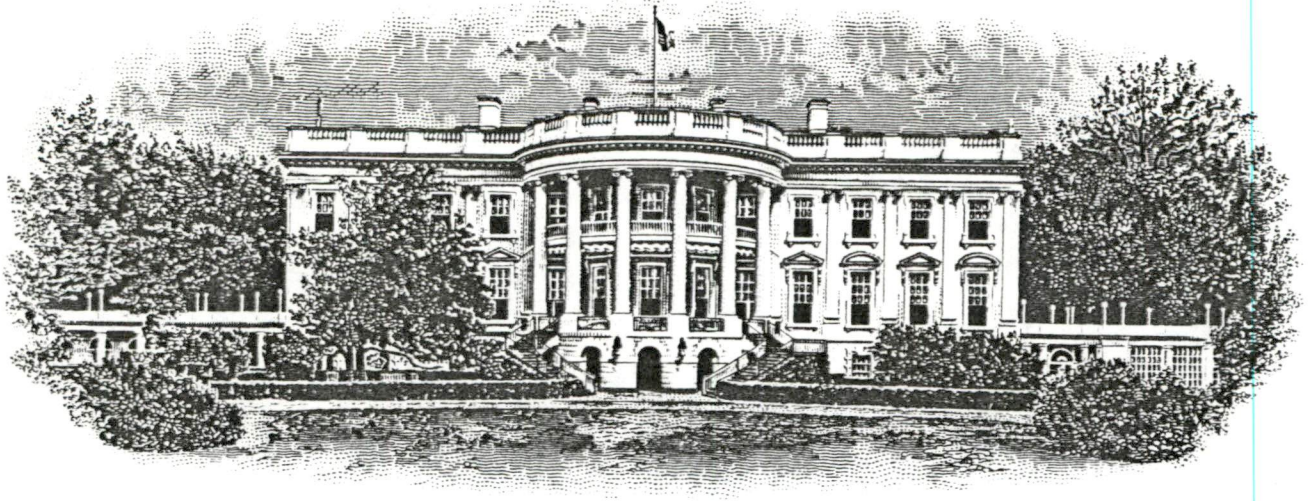
Morris said the education association doesn't oppose the right of

parents to select schools within their home districts and even across district lines. But the group objects to public funds going to private or religious schools.

The Colorado Catholic Conference, which includes the archdioceses of Colorado Springs, Denver and Pueblo, supports vouchers but has not decided what role it will take in a campaign, a spokesman for the Denver Archdiocese said.

Aaron Danielson, the treasurer of the pro-voucher Coloradans for School Choice, said real reform won't occur until schools are forced to compete for voucher funds. He called Romer's proposal "more of the same."

Vouchers give poor people the same choices as the wealthy, who can send their children to private schools, Danielson said. "The only option (for the poor now) is to cope with an inferior education of a second rate establishment."



OFFICE OF PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

Number of Pages (Including Cover) 9
To JIM CICCONE / JEREMY STANE
Fax Number 336-7943
Date 5 AUGUST 1992
From DAN MCGROARTY
Office Number 202-456-2930

COMMENTS

COMMENTS DUE 12 NOON.

92 AUG 5 4:25 PM

DMG's
copy

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992

(8/3/92)

Thank you, Fred Noye and Sam Brunelli, for that introduction. For almost 20 years, the American Legislative Exchange Council has helped bring conservative principles to bear in our state legislatures.

Coming out here, I saw a chart that showed that ALEC's success ratio in getting legislation passed is about seven times that of the average Congressman. Then again, that's like saying that Charles Barkley can dunk a basketball better than Charlie Brown.

I want to talk to you today about three simple concepts: Ideas. Actions. And Trust.

Yogi Berra once said that sometimes you can observe a lot just by watching.

A close examination of these three concepts reveals a lot about the choice America faces today.

Ideas. When all is said and done, ideas matter. When Americans choose their leadership, they are choosing a direction, a set of beliefs.

For two decades now, the tide has gone our way for a simple reason: because the American people agree with us.

I suppose that we conservatives should be flattered. For years, we have been holding the line on government spending. Resisting the Pavlovian impulse of the other side to raise taxes

at every turn. Creating choice in education and child care. Keeping America strong enough to be the guarantor of peace.

The other side has given up debating these core principles. In words, if not in deeds, they now concede that they can't win by trumpeting their true desire for higher taxes and more spending. They concede, at least on paper, that more choice is better than more bureaucracy. Their speeches even go so far as to give (oral endorsement) to the need for a strong defense.

So in one sense, we gather today at a moment of triumph. We have not only won the Cold War; we have won the war of ideas. And we have won it with conservative principles.

Of course, actions speak louder than words. So it's important to look behind the speeches, to peel off the makeover that the other side has undergone -- to see what lives and breathes beneath the new face of supposedly reformed liberalism.

*promises
made of
1/6/1984*

It's important, then, to go beyond the new labels and look at the record. On close examination, the "New Covenant" may be the New Cover Up.

✓
*move
this
down...*

too early.

*starts
w/ our side*

First, let's take government spending. One candidate has proposed to attack all three parts of the problem. He's proposed a freeze on domestic discretionary spending. A cap on mandatory spending, with specific proposals for ^{real} savings. And an orderly reduction in defense spending, consistent with America's mission as the leader of the world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

Another candidate says in his speeches that government takes too much of your money and gives you too little in return. But if you look at the details of his economic plan, you see something else: over \$200 billion in new spending, and at least \$150 billion in new taxes.

That's the candidate of change all right: if he wins, change is all you'll have left in your pocket.

One candidate supports the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, has proposed it in every budget and fought for its passage. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that he's for balanced budgets, but at the moment of truth -- when the balanced budget amendment was on the floor of the House, he worked against it. The amendment fell short by nine votes, after the henchmen of the Democratic leadership convinced twelve co-sponsors to change their position and vote no.

One candidate has proposed a line-item veto in every budget. He's proposed to eliminate 246 government programs this year alone, and kill over 4,000 wasteful projects. Once again, he's standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says he favors a line-item veto. But his co-conspirators in Congress have kept it from becoming law. And when he released his economic plan, he searched and searched through the millions of government projects, and found only one that he would eliminate: subsidies for honey bee growers!

With his legendary caution, he's still probably afraid he'll get stung by that one. ✓

One candidate has recognized a central problem with our budget -- mandatory spending is out of control. He has proposed to cap it -- and has submitted specific savings: \$70 billion in this year's budget; \$47 billion in last year's; \$119 billion in 1990's.

The candidate who would bring spending under control is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that "we need a government that offers more empowerment and less entitlement." Yet in his economic plan, he completely ignored the need to cut entitlement spending. He offered only one small idea -- borrowed from my own budget, that would cut a mere one-tenth of one percent from mandatory spending next year. *on empowerment?*

One candidate has led the world in a campaign against aggression. He has offered an orderly phase down of defense spending -- saving \$18 billion in outlays over the next four years -- with a plan to maintain America's security in a dangerous world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate talks about an "America with the world's strongest defense." Yet, he plans to cut \$60 billion in outlays beyond what the experts say is responsible. That means a cut four times as deep as mine. That plan would throw a million

Take the sensible cut I've proposed - and quadruple it.

people out of work. But one industry would prosper -- the mothball industry.

Take the most important issue of all. Economic growth. One candidate has proposed a growth plan -- with incentives for investment to create jobs, help for first-time homebuyers, and tax reductions for families trying to save. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says that an expanding economy is the best policy of all. Yet when his allies in Congress had the chance to send me a growth package, they saddled it with a \$100 billion tax increase. That one I stopped with my veto pen.

But I suppose we shouldn't be surprised. When he was Governor, the new spiritual leader of the taxers in Congress raised 123 separate taxes. His speeches once promised a middle class tax cut, but when his economic plan came out, it was nowhere to be found. Even the New York Times called it: "(You know who's) Retreat."

And that brings me to my third concept: Trust.

It's a political year, and the other side is saying some pretty appealing words these days. They promise that they've reformed, and become "moderate." They've signed a pact with their own special interests -- a vow of silence on their real intentions, at least until after the election.

It reminds me of a cartoon I saw the other day, of two donkeys driving down the road. The sign read: "Left lane closed, next four months. Election ahead."

still is (Dungles) time as



But before you get taken in by the new labels being marketed by the other side, read the Surgeon General's warning. It says: "A \$150 billion dollar tax increase will be hazardous to your health."

And that raises the central question: whom do you trust to control the size of government, to cut taxes, and to get this economy moving again? A President who vetoed the Democrats' tax increase, and sustained that veto?

Or a team that, given the chance to start with a clean sheet of paper on how to fix our economy, proposed in their economic plan the largest tax increase in American history -- larger than those proposed by Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale combined.

Now there is no denying that the other side has become more clever. Witness their recent convention in New York. Finding the Democratic leadership of the Congress on that podium was harder than playing "Where's Waldo?" on a board the size of a football field.

But that is a symptom of the bottomless cynicism of a campaign ~~and~~ a Congress that talk^s of change but block^s it, that speak^s of growth but smother^s it, that feign^s interest in a different future but remain^s wedded to the policies of the past.

Make no mistake: the Democratic leadership in Congress is happily in collusion with the would-be new leadership of the other party. They are rubbing their hands with glee at the prospect of a President who, when it comes to new spending, will replace the veto pen with the printing press.

?
610 McGrew
Trajectory?
✓

But that leadership has a problem. The visions of sugarplums and pork barrels now dancing in their heads will be gone unless they can convince Americans that our country is a mess. So for some time now, Congress has been engaged in a conscious strategy: block measures to strengthen the economy, and then complain loudly when growth stalls and progress slows.

Well I have a challenge for my opponents and their partners in crime in the U.S. Congress. If you really believe in growth, pass my growth package now. If you believe in the line-item veto, put that bill on my desk right now, this month, and I'll show you how to cut spending with this year's appropriations bills. If you believe in a balanced budget, give me a balanced budget amendment and let's send it to the states this fall.

My opponents' clever campaign and the corrupt Congress are the Bonnie and Clyde of America's economic recovery. They look like such nice people -- but their actions will shoot our economy full of holes.

In the end, this campaign is about more than appearances. It's about ideas. And actions. And trust.

Teddy Roosevelt once told a friend: "I want to see you shoot the way you shout."

This year, when the shouting stops, Americans will face fundamental choice. They can aim forward, with policies that promote growth, and choice, and opportunity -- or they can aim backwards, toward a new target with an oddly familiar ring to it.

See G.M. pulled out parliament stops to. 8 months later recession stepped into recession.

NT.

x 2577.

One that gives off the sounds of higher inflation, higher interest rates, and the misery index.

The choice is clear: we cannot turn back now.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

Do what's right for America.

(8/3/92)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992

Thank you, Fred Noye and Sam Brunelli, for that introduction. For almost 20 years, the American Legislative Exchange Council has helped bring conservative principles to bear in our state legislatures.

Coming out here, I saw a chart that showed that ALEC's success ratio in getting legislation passed is about seven times that of the average Congressman. Then again, that's like saying that Charles Barkley can dunk a basketball better than Charlie Brown.

I want to talk to you today about three simple concepts: Ideas. Actions. And Trust.

Yogi Berra once said that sometimes you can observe a lot just by watching.

A close examination of these three concepts reveals a lot about the choice America faces today.

Ideas. When all is said and done, ideas matter. When Americans choose their leadership, they are choosing a direction, a set of beliefs.

For two decades now, the tide has gone our way for a simple reason: because the American people agree with us.

I suppose that we conservatives should be flattered. For years, we have been holding the line on government spending. Resisting the Pavlovian impulse of the other side to raise taxes

at every turn. Creating choice in education and child care.
Keeping America strong enough to be the guarantor of peace.

The other side has given up debating these core principles. In words, if not in deeds, they now concede that they can't win by trumpeting their true desire for higher taxes and more spending. They concede, at least on paper, that more choice is better than more bureaucracy. Their speeches even go so far as to give oral endorsement to the need for a strong defense.

So in one sense, we gather today at a moment of triumph. We have not only won the Cold War; we have won the war of ideas. And we have won it with conservative principles.

Of course, actions speak louder than words. So it's important to look behind the speeches, to peel off the makeover that the other side has undergone -- to see what lives and breathes beneath the new face of supposedly reformed liberalism.

It's important, then, to go beyond the new labels and look at the record. On close examination, the "New Covenant" may be the New Cover Up.

First, let's take government spending. One candidate has proposed to attack all three parts of the problem. He's proposed a freeze on domestic discretionary spending. A cap on mandatory spending, with specific proposals for savings. And an orderly reduction in defense spending, consistent with America's mission as the leader of the world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

Another candidate says in his speeches that government takes too much of your money and gives you too little in return. But if you look at the details of his economic plan, you see something else: over \$200 billion in new spending, and at least \$150 billion in new taxes.

That's the candidate of change all right: if he wins, change is all you'll have left in your pocket.

One candidate supports the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, has proposed it in every budget and fought for its passage. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that he's for balanced budgets, but at the moment of truth -- when the balanced budget amendment was on the floor of the House, he worked against it. The amendment fell short by nine votes, after the henchmen of the Democratic leadership convinced twelve co-sponsors to change their position and vote no.

One candidate has proposed a line-item veto in every budget. He's proposed to eliminate 246 government programs this year alone, and kill over 4,000 wasteful projects. Once again, he's standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says he favors a line-item veto. But his co-conspirators in Congress have kept it from becoming law. And when he released his economic plan, he searched and searched through the millions of government programs, and found only one that he would eliminate: subsidies for honey bee growers!

With his legendary caution, he's still probably afraid he'll get stung by that one.

One candidate has recognized a central problem with our budget -- mandatory spending is out of control. He has proposed to cap it -- and has submitted specific savings: \$70 billion in this year's budget; \$47 billion in last year's; \$119 billion in 1990's.

The candidate who would bring spending under control is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that "we need a government that offers more empowerment and less entitlement." Yet in his economic plan, he completely ignored the need to cut entitlement spending. He offered only one small idea -- borrowed from my own budget, that would cut a mere one-tenth of one percent from mandatory spending next year.

One candidate has led the world in a campaign against aggression. He has offered an orderly phase down of defense spending -- saving \$18 billion in outlays over the next four years -- with a plan to maintain America's security in a dangerous world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate talks about an "America with the world's strongest defense." Yet, he plans to cut \$60 billion in outlays beyond what the experts say is responsible. That means a cut four times as deep as mine. That plan would throw a million

people out of work. But one industry would prosper -- the mothball industry.

Take the most important issue of all. Economic growth. One candidate has proposed a growth plan -- with incentives for investment to create jobs, help for first-time homebuyers, and tax reductions for families trying to save. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says that an expanding economy is the best policy of all. Yet when his allies in Congress had the chance to send me a growth package, they saddled it with a \$100 billion tax increase. That one I stopped with my veto pen.

But I suppose we shouldn't be surprised. When he was Governor, the new spiritual leader of the taxers in Congress raised 123 separate taxes. His speeches once promised a middle class tax cut, but when his economic plan came out, it was nowhere to be found. Even the New York Times called it: "(You know who's) Retreat."

And that brings me to my third concept: Trust.

It's a political year, and the other side is saying some pretty appealing words these days. They promise that they've reformed, and become "moderate." They've signed a pact with their own special interests -- a vow of silence on their real intentions, at least until after the election.

It reminds me of a cartoon I saw the other day, of two donkeys driving down the road. The sign read: "Left lane closed, next four months. Election ahead."

But before you get taken in by the new labels being marketed by the other side, read the Surgeon General's warning. It says: "A \$150 billion dollar tax increase will be hazardous to your health."

And that raises the central question: whom do you trust to control the size of government, to cut taxes, and to get this economy moving again? A President who vetoed the Democrats' tax increase, and sustained that veto?

Or a team that, given the chance to start with a clean sheet of paper on how to fix our economy, proposed in their economic plan the largest tax increase in American history -- larger than those proposed by Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale combined.

Now there is no denying that the other side has become more clever. Witness their recent convention in New York. Finding the Democratic leadership of the Congress on that podium was harder than playing "Where's Waldo?" on a board the size of a football field.

But that is a symptom of the bottomless cynicism of a campaign and a Congress that talk of change but block it, that speak of growth but smother it, that feign interest in a different future but remain wedded to the policies of the past.

Make no mistake: the Democratic leadership in Congress is happily in collusion with the would-be new leadership of the other party. They are rubbing their hands with glee at the prospect of a President who, when it comes to new spending, will replace the veto pen with the printing press.

But that leadership has a problem. The visions of sugarplums and pork barrels now dancing in their heads will be gone unless they can convince Americans that our country is a mess. So for some time now, Congress has been engaged in a conscious strategy: block measures to strengthen the economy, and then complain loudly when growth stalls and progress slows.

Well I have a challenge for my opponents and their partners in crime in the U.S. Congress. If you really believe in growth, pass my growth package now. If you believe in the line-item veto, put that bill on my desk right now, this month, and I'll show you how to cut spending with this year's appropriations bills. If you believe in a balanced budget, give me a balanced budget amendment and let's send it to the states this fall.

My opponents' clever campaign and the corrupt Congress are the Bonnie and Clyde of America's economic recovery. They look like such nice people -- but their actions will shoot our economy full of holes.

In the end, this campaign is about more than appearances. It's about ideas. And actions. And trust.

Teddy Roosevelt once told a friend: "I want to see you shoot the way you shout."

This year, when the shouting stops, Americans will face fundamental choice. They can aim forward, with policies that promote growth, and choice, and opportunity -- or they can aim backwards, toward a new target with an oddly familiar ring to it.

One that gives off the sounds of higher inflation, higher interest rates, and the misery index.

The choice is clear: we cannot turn back now.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

(8/3/92)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992

Thank you, Fred Noye and Sam Brunelli, for that introduction. For almost 20 years, the American Legislative Exchange Council has helped bring conservative principles to bear in our state legislatures.

Coming out here, I saw a chart that showed that ALEC's success ratio in getting legislation passed is about seven times that of the average Congressman. Then again, that's like saying that Charles Barkley can dunk a basketball better than Charlie Brown.

I want to talk to you today about three simple concepts: Ideas. Actions. And Trust.

Yogi Berra once said that sometimes you can observe a lot just by watching.

A close examination of these three concepts reveals a lot about the choice America faces today.

Ideas. When all is said and done, ideas matter. When Americans choose their leadership, they are choosing a direction, a set of beliefs.

For two decades now, the tide has gone our way for a simple reason: because the American people agree with us.

I suppose that we conservatives should be flattered. For years, we have been holding the line on government spending. Resisting the Pavlovian impulse of the other side to raise taxes

at every turn. Creating choice in education and child care. Keeping America strong enough to be the guarantor of peace.

The other side has given up debating these core principles. In words, if not in deeds, they now concede that they can't win by trumpeting their true desire for higher taxes and more spending. They concede, at least on paper, that more choice is better than more bureaucracy. Their speeches even go so far as to give oral endorsement to the need for a strong defense.

So in one sense, we gather today at a moment of triumph. We have not only won the Cold War; we have won the war of ideas. And we have won it with conservative principles.

Of course, actions speak louder than words. So it's important to look behind the speeches, to peel off the makeover that the other side has undergone -- to see what lives and breathes beneath the new face of supposedly reformed liberalism.

It's important, then, to go beyond the new labels and look at the record. On close examination, the "New Covenant" may be the New Cover Up.

First, let's take government spending. One candidate has proposed to attack all three parts of the problem. He's proposed a freeze on domestic discretionary spending. A cap on mandatory spending, with specific proposals for savings. And an orderly reduction in defense spending, consistent with America's mission as the leader of the world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

Another candidate says in his speeches that government takes too much of your money and gives you too little in return. But if you look at the details of his economic plan, you see something else: over \$200 billion in new spending, and at least \$150 billion in new taxes.

That's the candidate of change all right: if he wins, change is all you'll have left in your pocket.

One candidate supports the balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, has proposed it in every budget and fought for its passage. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that he's for balanced budgets, but at the moment of truth -- when the balanced budget amendment was on the floor of the House, he worked against it. The amendment fell short by nine votes, after the henchmen of the Democratic leadership convinced twelve co-sponsors to change their position and vote no.

One candidate has proposed a line-item veto in every budget. He's proposed to eliminate 246 government programs this year alone, and kill over 4,000 wasteful projects. Once again, he's standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says he favors a line-item veto. But his co-conspirators in Congress have kept it from becoming law. And when he released his economic plan, he searched and searched through the millions of government programs, and found only one that he would eliminate: subsidies for honey bee growers!

With his legendary caution, he's still probably afraid he'll get stung by that one.

One candidate has recognized a central problem with our budget -- mandatory spending is out of control. He has proposed to cap it -- and has submitted specific savings: \$70 billion in this year's budget; \$47 billion in last year's; \$119 billion in 1990's.

The candidate who would bring spending under control is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says in his speeches that "we need a government that offers more empowerment and less entitlement." Yet in his economic plan, he completely ignored the need to cut entitlement spending. He offered only one small idea -- borrowed from my own budget, that would cut a mere one-tenth of one percent from mandatory spending next year.

One candidate has led the world in a campaign against aggression. He has offered an orderly phase down of defense spending -- saving \$18 billion in outlays over the next four years -- with a plan to maintain America's security in a dangerous world.

That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate talks about an "America with the world's strongest defense." Yet, he plans to cut \$60 billion in outlays beyond what the experts say is responsible. That means a cut four times as deep as mine. That plan would throw a million

people out of work. But one industry would prosper -- the mothball industry.

Take the most important issue of all. Economic growth. One candidate has proposed a growth plan -- with incentives for investment to create jobs, help for first-time homebuyers, and tax reductions for families trying to save. That candidate is standing right in front of you.

The other candidate says that an expanding economy is the best policy of all. Yet when his allies in Congress had the chance to send me a growth package, they saddled it with a \$100 billion tax increase. That one I stopped with my veto pen.

But I suppose we shouldn't be surprised. When he was Governor, the new spiritual leader of the taxers in Congress raised 123 separate taxes. His speeches once promised a middle class tax cut, but when his economic plan came out, it was nowhere to be found. Even the New York Times called it: "(You know who's) Retreat."

And that brings me to my third concept: Trust.

It's a political year, and the other side is saying some pretty appealing words these days. They promise that they've reformed, and become "moderate." They've signed a pact with their own special interests -- a vow of silence on their real intentions, at least until after the election.

It reminds me of a cartoon I saw the other day, of two donkeys driving down the road. The sign read: "Left lane closed, next four months. Election ahead."

But before you get taken in by the new labels being marketed by the other side, read the Surgeon General's warning. It says: "A \$150 billion dollar tax increase will be hazardous to your health."

And that raises the central question: whom do you trust to control the size of government, to cut taxes, and to get this economy moving again? A President who vetoed the Democrats' tax increase, and sustained that veto?

Or a team that, given the chance to start with a clean sheet of paper on how to fix our economy, proposed in their economic plan the largest tax increase in American history -- larger than those proposed by Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale combined.

Now there is no denying that the other side has become more clever. Witness their recent convention in New York. Finding the Democratic leadership of the Congress on that podium was harder than playing "Where's Waldo?" on a board the size of a football field.

But that is a symptom of the bottomless cynicism of a campaign and a Congress that talk of change but block it, that speak of growth but smother it, that feign interest in a different future but remain wedded to the policies of the past.

Make no mistake: the Democratic leadership in Congress is happily in collusion with the would-be new leadership of the other party. They are rubbing their hands with glee at the prospect of a President who, when it comes to new spending, will replace the veto pen with the printing press.

But that leadership has a problem. The visions of sugarplums and pork barrels now dancing in their heads will be gone unless they can convince Americans that our country is a mess. So for some time now, Congress has been engaged in a conscious strategy: block measures to strengthen the economy, and then complain loudly when growth stalls and progress slows.

Well I have a challenge for my opponents and their partners in crime in the U.S. Congress. If you really believe in growth, pass my growth package now. If you believe in the line-item veto, put that bill on my desk right now, this month, and I'll show you how to cut spending with this year's appropriations bills. If you believe in a balanced budget, give me a balanced budget amendment and let's send it to the states this fall.

My opponents' clever campaign and the corrupt Congress are the Bonnie and Clyde of America's economic recovery. They look like such nice people -- but their actions will shoot our economy full of holes.

In the end, this campaign is about more than appearances. It's about ideas. And actions. And trust.

Teddy Roosevelt once told a friend: "I want to see you shoot the way you shout."

This year, when the shouting stops, Americans will face fundamental choice. They can aim forward, with policies that promote growth, and choice, and opportunity -- or they can aim backwards, toward a new target with an oddly familiar ring to it.

One that gives off the sounds of higher inflation, higher interest rates, and the misery index.

The choice is clear: we cannot turn back now.

Thank you, and God bless the United States of America.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

92 AUG 5, 11:07
August 5, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR STEVEN PROVOST

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER

SUBJECT: A.L.E.C. Speech

This speech might be strengthened through mentioning the President's principal reform initiatives: parental choice of schools, term limits for Congress, welfare reform, health care reform. This is one audience that supports these reforms, understands their significance, and can actually speed their enactment.

In addition, it may be powerful and timely to mention the educational choice initiative which is on the ballot in Colorado for November 3 (see attached article.)

A suggested insert which might be placed after the paragraph that begins at page one, paragraph eight (we've changed the phrase "Pavlovian response" to a "knee-jerk reflex") is attached. Changes are in **boldface**.

Attachments

Suggested insert

We conservatives should be flattered. For years, we have held the line on government spending. Resisting the knee-jerk reflex of the other side to raise taxes at every turn. But we've also pushed for an agenda of reform that returns authority to states, to local government and to individual people -- like returning the power to choose a child's school to parents.

The unions go crazy every time I push for school choice. They know that allowing parents to choose the best schools for their children -- public, private, or religious -- will break up their monopolistic control over the education system and improve all schools for all children.

There's a presidential candidate who claims to be for education reform, but he opposes the real school choice I stand for. I would like for him to explain to the child who is stuck in an inadequate inner city school why he would deny him or her a good education and the opportunity for a better life. He stands with the unions and ~~for~~ the special interests. I stand with America's families who want opportunity and a better life for their kids.

I'm for giving low- and middle-income families the same choices of schools that only wealthier families now have. I'm for the parental choice initiative that will be on the Colorado ballot this November. And I need your help to get Congress to pass my G.I. Bill for Children so that all families in America will have the opportunity to choose the best possible education for their children. Thank you to all the ALEC members who are working hard in your states for this important reform.

Unlike the other candidate, I'm also for:

- giving states waivers so they can pursue welfare reforms.
- enacting term limits on a Congress which has used the privileges of incumbency to insulate itself from the people.
- a health care reform plan that holds down costs without producing socialized medicine. My proposals depend on action by the states to reform the health insurance market. The states have historically been the regulators of insurance, and I want to keep it that way. The faster solutions happen in the states, the sooner we'll be helping the American people.
- getting condoms out of schools and putting voluntary prayer back into our schools.
- And back in Washington, the same fiscal reforms, a balanced budget amendment and the line-item veto, that you in state government have had for years.

School vouchers head for ballot

Backers turn in a surplus of signatures, setting up Colorado as national battleground for Bush's educational reform plan.

Colorado expected to be national battleground over hotly debated plan to give funds to parents

By Berny Morson

Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

A school voucher proposal is headed for the Nov. 3 election ballot, turning Colorado into a national battleground for the debated school reform plan.

Backers of the proposal, the heart of President Bush's education reform plan, delivered 91,060 signatures Thursday to the secretary of state for verification. Only 49,279 valid signatures are needed to put the measure to a vote.

Colorado conservatives have been pushing for school vouchers for at least 20 years. Assuming the signatures are valid, this is the first time Colorado voters will decide whether parents should be given vouchers worth about \$2,500 to send their children to the school of their choice, including private schools.

The voucher proposal comes one day after Gov. Roy Romer turned in 147,000 signatures on a plan to raise the sales tax by 1% in

order to fund schools and tighten academic standards.

Asked what happens next, former state Sen. Hugh Fowler, a longtime advocate of school vouchers, said, "War."

Supporters say school vouchers will force public schools to improve by encouraging competition. Opponents say vouchers could destroy the public school system.

Both sides say they will seek out-of-state funds that had been intended for California, where the measure was thrown off the ballot on a technicality. The money had been expected to pour into California from backers on both sides of the issue nationwide.

The Colorado Education Association, the state's largest teachers' union, has vowed to oppose the voucher plan and has access to national union funds.

CEA president Dan Morris said his group believes a voucher proposal could be "detrimental to the survival of public schools" by draining money away. More than 30,000 students now in private school would be entitled to vouchers, with the money coming from the public school budget, he said.

Morris said the education association doesn't oppose the right of

parents to select schools within their home districts and even across district lines. But the group objects to public funds going to private or religious schools.

The Colorado Catholic Conference, which includes the archdioceses of Colorado Springs, Denver and Pueblo, supports vouchers but has not decided what role it will take in a campaign, a spokesman for the Denver Archdiocese said.

Aaron Danielson, the treasurer of the pro-voucher Coloradans for School Choice, said real reform won't occur until schools are forced to compete for voucher funds. He called Romer's proposal "more of the same."

Vouchers give poor people the same choices as the wealthy, who can send their children to private schools, Danielson said. "The only option (for the poor now) is to cope with an inferior education of a second rate establishment."

effects of the terror he felt 50 years ago with this young kid sitting in the back seat. [Laughter] And very frank and honest guy that he is.

But more seriously, I did learn something from him and from my other soul mates and comrades in arms in the Navy. I learned about teamwork, and I learned about the importance of sticking together from Mr. Crume and all the other guys in the Navy. I learned to depend on my wingman for friendship, for support, and even for survival.

As you may know, some of you may know this history, but after I left basic training, J.C.'s great instruction, I was assigned to the Pacific. One day, my plane was shot down, TBF flying over the island of Chi Chi Jima, just off the island, and parachuted into the water. When I was swimming in the middle of the Pacific, one of my wingmen pointed me to a liferaft that had fallen from the plane, while another wingman then helped keep the enemy at bay. They put boats out from this island of Chi Chi Jima.

After the Navy, I didn't wear my uniform every day, but believe me, friends have been part of every good fortune in my life, every good fortune. Now I'm about to embark on another political battle, and I know this is a nonpolitical convention, but I would be remiss if I did not express my thanks to those who have helped here and to those, regardless of party, who have done so much to strengthen, whatever our politics, strengthen support for the American veteran.

And I am saying, some things transcend politics. And I'm just saying to all of you, let's stay together. Let's stay together. Let's not the wingman peel off as we fight for the proper recognition of and support for the American veteran.

Thank you all very, very much. And may God bless the United States of America.

Note: The President spoke at 5:02 p.m. in the Goldwyn Ballroom at the Reno Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Cleveland Jordan, national commander, DAV; Joseph C. Zengerle, national senior vice commander, DAV; and Maj. Robin Higgins, whose husband, Col. William R. Higgins, was killed while held hostage in Beirut, Lebanon.

A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks to the American Legislative Exchange Council in Colorado Springs, Colorado

August 6, 1992

Thank you for that wonderfully warm ALEC welcome. And Fred Noye, thank you for that generous introduction. I want to thank the official host, the Mayor, Mayor Isaac, for his hospitality; recognize Sam Brunelli, of course, an old friend with us here who feels very comfortable here; Holly Coors, so well-known; and ALEC; my dear friend and respected leader of faith, Jim Dobson here. Let me just say, Fred, you have done a wonderful job as chairman. I'm not pronouncing you dead yet; you have a few more months. But you've done a great chairman job. And I know that your shoes will be ably filled by Bill Raggio, over here, from the State of Nevada.

Bill flew in with us last night from Reno on Air Force One. And all the White House stationery and matchboxes from the plane are missing. [Laughter] But he swears there's no correlation whatsoever. [Laughter] But I was so honored that he came all the way up from the convention, took the puddle-jumpers all the way, to just represent ALEC on the ride down, fill me in on what a fantastic convention is underway right here in Colorado Springs.

Twenty years ago, when ALEC started, I see it that you were a lone voice in the conservative wilderness. Now you gather in these marvelous Colorado mountains at a time when the endangered species list is topped by that creature rarely spotted outside of the 202 area code; I'm talking, of course, about the unabashed, unreconstructed liberal. [Laughter]

But your energy and your ideas and your enthusiasm helped lead the ideological transformation of America. So it's an honor to be standing here as your guest, invited to speak to you today. I understand that, I think the figure is no fewer than six members of my Cabinet will speak here. I'm especially de-

le for verification of
arks.

American Legislative n Colorado

t wonderfully warm
Fred Noye, thank you
roduction. I want to
the Mayor, Mayor
ility; recognize Sam
old friend with us here
ortable here; Holly
and ALEC; my dear
leader of faith, Jim
st say, Fred, you have
as chairman. I'm not
yet; you have a few
ve done a great chair-
that your shoes will
aggio, over here, from

last night from Reno
d all the White House
boxes from the plane
But he swears there's
ver. [Laughter] But I
e came all the way up
took the puddle-jump-
st represent ALEC on
in on what a fantastic
ay right here in Colo-

when ALEC started, I
lone voice in the con-
ow you gather in these
mountains at a time
species list is topped
spotted outside of the
iking, of course, about
reconstructed liberal.

d your ideas and your
d the ideological trans-
So it's an honor to be
guest, invited to speak
stand that, I think the
an six members of my
ere. I'm especially de-

ighted that you've chosen to give the Thom-
s Jefferson Freedom Award, that coveted
award, to the idea man of the conservative
movement, Jack Kemp.

As you know, so far this election has been
a little one-sided. For 9 months—and I'm
not complaining; my day is coming—for 9
months, five other candidates, maybe it was
six way back then, various sundry surrogates
have aimed a firehose of criticism at me. I
have been blamed for everything except that
crazy scoring system that was used in the
Olympic boxing competition. I shouldn't
really go out on a limb like that because I
haven't checked the AP wire and see how
it went. [Laughter]

But I admit I've been a little slow to fight
back. My opponent has mentioned my name
about once every 5 seconds, not always in
the most flattering light. I still haven't even
said his name in full. I've referred occasion-
ally to my opponent, "the other guy," and
even "the Governor of a certain State with
a profitable chicken industry on the Mis-
sissippi River, located somewhere between
Texas and Oklahoma." [Laughter]

And let me tell you why I have waited.
As I listen to the American people, I get a
sense of something you might pick up from
your own constituents. People are sick of pol-
itics. I think they think this election year has
gone on a little too long. You used to start
on Labor Day. Labor Day isn't even at hand
yet. They're tired of the charges and the
countercharges. They want ideas, and they
want action. They want to trust their leaders
to turn the first into the second.

That's what I want to talk about this morn-
ing: ideas, action, and trust. Well, I don't
want to get too partisan. I'm going to draw
a few comparisons. Grant me a favor, though,
and I'll save the "C" word for my convention
in Houston. And then I'll just stick with the
all-purpose title for today of "my opponent."
But let me guarantee you one thing: When
our convention is over—I am tired of being
plugged by these people, and I will fight back.
I am going to win this election. I will fight
tough, but I will fight fair.

Which reminds me, remember the old
story of the fierce gladiator? He'd killed
every lion that they could throw up against
him, every lion he'd faced. So one day the

centurions went out, went to Carthage and
found the meanest lion in the world. They'd
buried the gladiator in the arena there in
Rome, right up so just his head was sticking
out, fill him with sand. The lion was released,
charged him, making a deadly pass at the
gladiator's head. And as he did, the gladiator
reached up and took a very ferocious bite
in a very sensitive place in the lion's anatomy.
[Laughter] The lion howled in pain and ran
for the exit, fled from the arena. And the
lead centurion ran out, attacked the gladiator
screaming, "Fight fair, damn it, fight fair."
[Laughter]

Now, every time I tiptoe into the water
with this guy, they start yelling, "Negative
campaigning." I am going to fight back. And
I will define his record as he's ill-defined
mine. I will fight on the only battleground
that really counts, and that is the battle-
ground of ideas. And ideas matter.

If ever there was an organization that un-
derstood it, ideas matter, and ALEC knows.
They know that. When Americans choose
their leadership, they're choosing a direction.
They're choosing a set of beliefs.

For the past quarter century, the tide has
flowed our way for a very simple reason: The
American people agree with our philosophy
and with our ideas. If imitation is the
sincerest form of flattery, the whole world
is wearing those red ALEC blankets that I
saw last night. For years your members,
working in both political parties, have been
holding the line on Government spending.
You've been resisting the Pavlovian impulse
to raise taxes at every turn. And you're fight-
ing to give parents the chance to choose their
kids' schools and choose their day care. I am
for this, and I hope you'll all support it.

This is the wave of the future. It will make
the public schools better, the private schools
better, and the religious schools better.
When I got out of the service nobody said
to me, "Here's the GI bill; you can only go
to School A. They said, "Go to the school
of your choice." That enhanced the great
State universities and the private universities
and those based on religious faith.

On many of the major issues of this cam-
paign my opponent and I have entirely dif-
ferent ideas. On education, on health care,
on life, on defense, on prayer in school, for

example, we are separated by a gulf as wide as the Grand Canyon. But on some issues, especially economic issues, I'm afraid we don't yet sound all that different.

Of course, unlike my great predecessor, I will have to confess I am not known for threatening Daniel Webster's place in oratorical history. I will confess, there have been other greater speakers. But to me, real eloquence, real eloquence, lies in action. So when it comes to ideas for fixing our economy, I say, look not just at what we say; look at what we are trying to do and have done.

Let me give you some examples. I firmly believe we must get a handle on this budget deficit before it strangles our future. My opponent supposedly agrees with me. He says in his speeches that Government takes too much of your money and gives you too little in return. And what do we do about it?

Well, I have fought for a freeze on domestic discretionary spending. I have fought for a cap, and this is the only way we're going to get the deficit down, a cap on mandatory Federal spending, with specific proposals for savings, and a responsible, I emphasize that word, a responsible reduction in defense spending consistent with our mission as the leader of the world and consistent with my oath to be responsible for the national security. I am not going to cut into the muscle of our defense and go back to a hollow army. So let's be clear on that.

I know everybody at ALEC likes light reading. Now here is a midsession review, and in it, it tells exactly and specifically how to get this budget deficit down. It's been sitting up and languishing in the Congress, who do not want to make the tough decisions that I have recommended year after year. I urge you all to go out to your nearest bookstore, hopefully getting it at a discount, and read this program. You'll be impressed because it is ALEC philosophy.

Now, my opponent has taken a very different approach. He has proposed over \$200 billion of new spending and at least \$150 billion in new taxes. And when it comes to any concern about the Federal budget deficit, his action sounds like John McLaughlin's sign-off every week, "Bye-bye." [Laughter]

Look, ultimately—you know this; the men and women of ALEC know this—I believe

the only way to get the budget deficit under control, the major disciplinary tool is a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. You at ALEC have done for the amendment what Rush Limbaugh has done for the art of passionate communication.

Let me just single out one person, probably embarrass the daylights out of him, but I know of what David Halbrook, a former ALEC chairman had done. A most respected Democrat, he has taken the lead on the balanced budget amendment. He has taken your message and mine all across this country, and we owe him a vote of gratitude. Thank you very, very much. I knew he'd be embarrassed. There he is. Don't give him equal time or he'll tell you how his town in Mississippi is the center of the Universe. I don't have time for that. [Laughter]

No, but again, on this question of the balanced budget agreement, look at the rhetoric out there. My opponent agrees with me in principle. But at the moment of truth, when we finally got that amendment to the floor of the House this summer, he came out against it. The amendment fell short by 9 votes, after that liberal congressional leadership convinced 12 co-sponsors, 12 people that had co-sponsored the amendment, to change their position at the last minute and to vote no.

Okay. We're going to keep fighting. But if we can't get a balanced budget amendment right now, at least give me a line-item veto like virtually every Governor in the United States has. But again, he says he favors the idea, this opponent, nameless opponent. But look at our actual proposals. In my budget this year—and again, I don't want to lift that heavy book up—I identified 246 Government programs—will you mind holding it up at the appropriate time? [Laughter] This is an all-purpose book, I'll tell you—246 that I would end and another 4,000 wasteful projects that I will also get rid of altogether. They're in there. They are defined.

Now, this list includes some big-ticket items as well as some smaller things, like vitally important Federal research program into the mating habits of the mink. Again on this issue, my opponent is singing the same tune, but the dance steps are different. When he released his economic plan—look at it,

of George Bush, 1992

budget deficit under disciplinary tool is a bal-
ment to the Constitu-
e done for the amend-
ough has done for the
unication.

out one person, prob-
lights out of him, but
one. A most respected
en the lead on the bal-
ment. He has taken
re all across this coun-
n a vote of gratitude.
much. I knew he'd be
he is. Don't give him
ll you how his town in
ter of the Universe. I
at. [Laughter]

his question of the bal-
ent, look at the rhetoric
ent agrees with me in
moment of truth, when
amendment to the floor
summer, he came out
dment fell short by
al congressional leader-
co-sponsors, 12 people
ed the amendment, to
at the last minute and

g to keep fighting. But
iced budget amendment
ive me a line-item veto
Governor in the United
n, he says he favors the
nameless opponent. But
proposals. In my budget
, I don't want to lift that
identified 246 Govern-
l you mind holding it up
ime? [Laughter] This is
, I'll tell you—246 that
another 4,000 wasteful
also get rid of altogether.
ey are defined.

cludes some big-tick-
ne smaller things, like
ederal research program
its of the mink. Again on
nent is singing the same
steps are different. When
onomic plan—look at it,

don't take my word for it—he searched and
searched through thousands of Government
programs and found only one that he would
eliminate, Federal subsidies for honeybee
farmers.

Now, I have gone head-to-head in this job
day in and day out, regardless of the polls.
And I'm going to continue to do what I think
is right with some very powerful special in-
terests: the NEA, the powerful teachers
union; the labor bosses; the ACLU; the
Ralph Naders of beltway fame. But I doubt
anyone will get stung by taking on the honey-
bee industry. They're just not that tough.
[Laughter]

What about mandatory spending? It's de-
vouring more and more of our budget every
year. About two-thirds of the budget the
President doesn't get a shot at, I think we
all know that. I propose it's time to roll up
our sleeves and go after it. No matter what
the political price, we owe it to the young
people here today. My opponent nods his
head in agreement saying, and here's a quote,
"We need a Government that offers more
empowerment and less entitlement." And all
again, I'm asking, and I'll be asking this all
fall, is do the words match the action?

In my past three budgets, I have proposed
the caps on mandatory spending, and I have
submitted specific ideas for savings. The
amounts aren't poultry: \$72 billion in this
year's budget, \$47 billion last year, \$119 bil-
lion in 1990. And what does the opposition
offer? You can search the entire economic
program and find one very tiny idea: reduc-
ing Medicare subsidies for the wealthy. That
isn't a bad idea. In fact, I put it in my own
budget. But keep in mind, it would reduce
mandatory spending by one-tenth of one per-
cent next year. This hardly qualifies as a pro-
file in budget-cutting courage.

Do you see a pattern? Do you see a pattern
here? Look at our most pressing economic
challenge: how to create more jobs now. I
have proposed a package that includes incen-
tives for investment to create jobs, many in-
centives that ALEC has been so forcefully
advocating. That help, that credit, for the
first-time homebuyer so that that homebuyer
can participate in the American dream, tax
savings through juggling around the IRA's for

families that are trying in these tough times
to save.

My opponent copies you and me when he
says that an expanding economy's the best
policy of all. But first, he proposes the largest
tax increase in American history, larger than
what Mike Dukakis and Walter Mondale pro-
posed together. Then he proposes at least
a 7-percent payroll tax to finance a new Gov-
ernment-run health care scheme. Then his
friends in the congressional leadership took
my growth package and added a tax increase
to it, and I took care of that with the veto
pen. And as your able chairman said, that's
the first time a President has done that.

And so you have every right to say, "What's
going on here? What's happening? What's
really happening?"

As I peel through the details of our eco-
nomic plans, I can't help but think of the
words of another George—I'm not used to
quoting him—George McGovern. George
McGovern has never been what I would call
a big friend or fan of mine. But you may
recall during the New York convention, he
called the other ticket, and I quote here, "a
Trojan horse." He said, they are really, here's
the quote, exact quote, "They are really
much more liberal than they appear. And
they'll show it after they are elected." Well,
I don't know if I ever have told you this be-
fore, but George McGovern is a very smart
man. He is very intelligent. [Laughter]

But this is what worries me. As I compare
the details of what we have to offer, the de-
tails, and I begin to wonder. Is all this talk
of what they call a new covenant simply a
coverup for some very old and tired ideas?
The other side talks about changing the econ-
omy with new spending and taxes. But when
they talk about change, that's all you're going
to have left in your pockets when these guys
get through with you. [Laughter] So please
get the ALEC message around this country.

There's one other thing—and I say this
with respect for the conservatives on both
parties that are here—my opponent talks
about change, but he refuses to even mention
the one thing that hasn't changed in 36 years.
I'm talking about the liberal leadership in the
United States Congress. It's about time we
changed that if we want to move this leader-
ship forward.

So if you really want to clean out the dead-lock in Washington, why not clean out that same liberal deadwood on that leadership that has fought me every inch of the way, scared to death that the American economy might just get a little bit better if they pass those incentives that I know would have helped this economy grow.

Now I'm hoping, and I really do, this may be George McGovern's Trojan horse will be a tiger when it comes to holding the line on taxes and spending. But I doubt it. I believe the voters need more proof than mere words. So today, I have an idea to propose to the American people, a way to move away even in this fiercely partisan election year, a way to move away from partisanship, a way to get some of the ideas you fought for off the drawing board and into action, a way to get our economy moving today and keep it growing tomorrow, and most important, a way to do what is right for our country.

And today I issue a challenge to my opponent and to his close allies there in the congressional leadership: If you really agree with us that these ideas are important, why hold them hostage to a political campaign? If you really believe that tax cuts can create jobs, pass my growth package now. If you want to get a handle on Government spending, put a line-item veto on my desk right now and give me a chance to get this deficit under control. I'll start cutting right away.

If you want to control mandatory spending, convince the Congress to adopt this proposed savings plan just next week. They don't have to wait. If you really want to reform health care, bring it up. Our plan is up there. It's a good one. Bring it up, and vote on it. If you really believe in a balanced budget amendment, let's call it up and vote for it again. And leave the pressure off of these Members, and let them vote their consciences, and let them do what's right for the American people. Send it to your States right now for ratification.

Now, the plan I've outlined today, a plan based on so many ideas that you've fit into the system, ALEC ideas, ALEC initiatives, is the strong, compelling action that our economy desperately needs. Quite frankly, I don't expect the other side to come forward and back their ideas, these pronouncements,

back them with action. I think there's a Trojan horse lurking in the weeds, ready to put a fast one on the American people, and I simply am not going to let that happen.

In the next 4 months and for the next 4 years, I will accelerate our fight for these tax incentives and lowering the taxes, for budgetary discipline, for making the tough calls on runaway spending. I will put my case in words, but I will back my words with action. I will show the American people, we must not return to a failed philosophy for America, no matter how neatly packaged it is today. It is time to continue moving forward, forward on a positive, conservative vision for our great Nation.

May I thank each and every member of ALEC. And may God bless the greatest, freest, fairest country on the face of the Earth, the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much.

Note: The President spoke at 9:12 a.m. at the Broadmoor Hotel International Center. In his remarks, he referred to ALEC officer Fred C. Noye, national chairman, Sam Brunelli, executive director, and William Raggio, incoming national chairman; Bob Isaac, Mayor of Colorado Springs; Holland H. Coors, who gave opening remarks to the meeting; and James Dobson, president, Focus on the Family.

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters on Departure From Colorado Springs

August 6, 1992

Bosnia

The President. A few remarks on the situation in Bosnia and the former Yugoslavia and what the United States, working with the international community, is doing to contain and defuse this escalating crisis.

Like all Americans, I am outraged and horrified at the terrible violence shattering the lives of innocent men, women, and children in Bosnia. The aggressors and extremists pursue a policy, a vile policy, of ethnic cleansing, deliberately murdering innocent civilians,