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NRCC [National Republican Congressional Committee] Drop-by Ritz, 10/3/90

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((Speaking of someone who's made a name for herself, did you see that Millie's book was #1 on the New York Times bestseller list. I'm sorry she couldn't join us tonight, but she's negotiating the movie rights.\\

She's a tough negotiator. She's asking for 100 milkbones a week,\\ champagne with her Alpo \\ -- and a cut in the capital gains tax. \\

She wanted Arnold Schwarzenegger to play me in the movie.\\ You know -- Conan the Republican. \\

He turned it down -- said playing me demanded too much charisma.

~~He turned it down -- wanted to play Brent Scowcroft instead.~~

~~He turned it down -- he's holding out for enforceable spending cuts.~~

Grant/Simon
Draft one
September 24, 1990
A:RITZ

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY NRCC DINNER
RITZ-CARLTON PENTAGON CITY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1990
TIME?**

Thank you, [Drew Lewis] for that introduction.

((It's a pleasure to be here tonight to salute our great Republican committee leaders in the Congress. Now that the name "Ranking Minority Members" has been changed to "Republican Vice Chairmen," I asked Barbara if she thought I could command more respect by changing my name. "Probably," she said, "\\ "but "Mother Teresa" is already taken." \\))

As we gather tonight in anticipation of our upcoming elections, this evening another wonderful event takes place as well. From Berlin to Bonn, ^{from the Rhine to the Elbe} people are exulting in the day that all of Germany has been waiting for -- for 45 long years. Today, **Germany is united. Germany is finally free. **

((I don't want to be too partisan tonight, but some Democrats aren't too knowledgeable about international affairs. I heard one say, "Today's the day of the **big reunification.**" And the other said, "I didn't know **Sonny and Cher were getting back together.**" \\))

Tonight, a reunified Germany writes a new chapter in the history of that nation. **America, too, has the same chance.** We can write a new chapter in the story of America -- drawn from

both the **challenges** and **opportunities** facing us in today's world. From these, we **can** build a better America. \\\ We can

~~But getting the job done depends upon our elections next month. With the election comes our opportunity for new ideas and new Republican leaders to show the way -- towards putting power in the hands of people, not government. Towards free-market answers to big-government problems. And ultimately, towards~~
part
to
We can find
we can achieve
real opportunity and ~~empowerment~~ for all Americans.

One hundred and fifty years ago, De Tocqueville envisioned such a future. Its possibilities were endless, he wrote, because of America's experiment in government -- a democracy based on a free market unleashing the full force of the human mind. And that government sprang from perhaps the greatest example of returning power to the people: the American Revolution.

Now, two centuries later, we still hold that vision for America. But it's ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Republican way~~ that will get us there. From offering more options to parents seeking child care, to giving students and parents more choice in education; from allowing tenant management for residents of public housing, to creating free-market answers to environmental problems, to taking back our streets from drug dealers and murderers. \\\

We seek to **protect** the family, **empower** the poor and **reward** the creative. ~~And the rest follows.~~
 But to accomplish all this, we must have a ^{majority in} ~~Republican control of the~~ **Congress.** \\\

If ~~we had~~ ^{we had} Republican control of the Congress, America wouldn't be enduring ^a the mandated sequester right now. [INSERT].

Today, it is especially important that America is economically healthy and militarily strong, as we face new challenges overseas. Recent events in the Persian Gulf prove that there is **no substitute** for American leadership in the shaping of a new partnership of nations. \\

America must remain strong -- in our determination to stand up to aggression and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. We must not imperil our ability to keep our word and stand by our friends. We must protect our vital national security interests. For ~~once~~^{as} our objectives in the Persian Gulf ~~have been~~^{are} reached, a new world order ~~may~~^{can} emerge -- in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can **live** together and **prosper** together. ~~From the challenges abroad, this new opportunity~~
arises.

~~Our Party has always stood for opportunity,~~ for strength at home and strength abroad. For **leadership** and a **sense of purpose** in all that we do and all that we pursue. **Today it is no different.**

With more Republicans in the House we can in fact fulfill the mission set forth so long ago -- the mission that bears the mantel of Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and of course, **Ronald Reagan.** \\

For the sake of our Congressional candidates, and for the sake of a strong America -- **we've got an election to win.** \\

Thank you, and God bless each one of you.

#

**DROP-BY NRCC DINNER \ RITZ-CARLTON PENTAGON CITY
OCTOBER 3, 1990 \ 7:40 P. M.**

**THANK YOU, BARBARA [MORRIS-LENT] FOR THAT
INTRODUCTION. I WANT TO SAY THANKS TO DREW LEWIS FOR
THE OUTSTANDING JOB HE HAS DONE AS DINNER CHAIRMAN AND,
OF COURSE, TO SAY A SPECIAL HELLO TO ANOTHER
OUTSTANDING CHAIRMAN, GUY VANDER JAGT. I'D LIKE TO
JOIN BOB MICHEL, AND THE REST OF THE CONGRESSIONAL
LEADERSHIP HERE TONIGHT, IN THANKING EACH ONE OF YOU.**

- 2 -

**THE FACT THAT YOU ARE IN THIS ROOM SHOWS HOW MUCH
YOU CARE ABOUT AMERICA'S FUTURE. YOUR SUPPORT IS
INVALUABLE -- FOR YOU ARE BRINGING US CLOSER TO THE
GREAT DAY WHEN WE WILL HAVE A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN
CONGRESS. \ **

((IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE TONIGHT TO SALUTE OUR GREAT REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE LEADERS IN THE CONGRESS. NOW THAT THE NAME "RANKING MINORITY MEMBERS" HAS BEEN CHANGED TO "REPUBLICAN VICE CHAIRMEN," I ASKED BARBARA IF SHE THOUGHT I COULD COMMAND MORE RESPECT BY CHANGING MY NAME. "PROBABLY," SHE SAID, \\ "BUT "MOTHER TERESA" IS ALREADY TAKEN." \\\))

I AM SORRY BARBARA IS NOT HERE. SHE'S OUT CAMPAIGNING FOR OUR CANDIDATES IN HAWAII AND CALIFORNIA. IF YOU WILL EXCUSE A LITTLE HUSBANDLY PRIDE ... I THINK BARBARA, WITH HER COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION, IS SETTING A GREAT EXAMPLE AS ONE OF OUR BRIGHTEST "POINTS OF LIGHT."

((DID YOU SEE THAT OUR DOG MILLIE'S BOOK WAS #1 ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER LIST? I'M SORRY SHE COULDN'T JOIN US TONIGHT, \\ BUT SHE'S NEGOTIATING MOVIE RIGHTS.\\))

AS WE GATHER TONIGHT IN ANTICIPATION OF OUR UPCOMING ELECTIONS, THIS EVENING ANOTHER WONDERFUL EVENT TAKES PLACE AS WELL.

**FROM BERLIN TO BONN, FROM THE RHINE TO THE ELBE, PEOPLE ARE EXULTING IN THE DAY THAT ALL OF GERMANY HAS BEEN WAITING FOR -- FOR 45 LONG YEARS. TODAY, GERMANY IS UNITED. GERMANY IS FINALLY FREE. **

TONIGHT, A REUNIFIED GERMANY WRITES A NEW CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THAT NATION. AMERICA, TOO, HAS THE SAME CHANCE.

**WE CAN WRITE A NEW CHAPTER IN THE STORY OF AMERICA -- DRAWN FROM BOTH THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING US IN TODAY'S WORLD. FROM THESE, WE CAN BUILD A BETTER AMERICA. **

WE CAN PUT POWER IN THE HANDS OF PEOPLE, NOT GOVERNMENT. WE CAN FIND FREE-MARKET ANSWERS TO BIG-GOVERNMENT PROBLEMS. AND ULTIMATELY, WE CAN ACHIEVE REAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AMERICANS.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO, DE TOCQUEVILLE ENVISIONED SUCH A FUTURE. ITS POSSIBILITIES WERE ENDLESS, HE WROTE, BECAUSE OF AMERICA'S EXPERIMENT IN GOVERNMENT -- A DEMOCRACY BASED ON A FREE MARKET UNLEASHING THE FULL FORCE OF THE HUMAN MIND. AND THAT GOVERNMENT SPRANG FROM PERHAPS THE GREATEST EXAMPLE OF RETURNING POWER TO THE PEOPLE: THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

**NOW, TWO CENTURIES LATER, WE STILL HOLD THAT VISION FOR AMERICA. BUT IT'S REPUBLICANS THAT WILL GET US THERE. FROM OFFERING MORE OPTIONS TO PARENTS SEEKING CHILD CARE, TO GIVING STUDENTS AND PARENTS MORE CHOICE IN EDUCATION; FROM ALLOWING TENANT MANAGEMENT FOR RESIDENTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING, TO CREATING FREE-MARKET ANSWERS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, TO TAKING BACK OUR STREETS FROM DRUG DEALERS AND MURDERERS. \\
**

**WE SEEK TO PROTECT THE FAMILY, EMPOWER THE POOR AND REWARD THE CREATIVE AND THE RISK-TAKERS. BUT TO ACCOMPLISH ALL THIS, WE MUST HAVE A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE CONGRESS. \\
**

AND WE HAVE TAKEN A MAJOR STEP TOWARD PUTTING AMERICA'S FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER THIS WEEK. AS YOU ALL KNOW, THIS WAS A DIFFICULT PROCESS. THE FINAL AGREEMENT IS A COMPROMISE, BUT IT IS ALSO FAIR.

IT SHARES THE SACRIFICES AND NO ONE GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL WILL BEAR THE BURDEN ALONE.

THERE ARE CRITICS ON BOTH SIDES. BUT TO THOSE CRITICS I SAY, \\\ YOU CAN PICK THIS PACKAGE APART BUT -- GIVEN THE REALITIES IN THE CONGRESS -- YOU CAN'T PUT A BETTER PACKAGE TOGETHER. \ I DIDN'T GET EVERYTHING I WANTED. I HAD TO COMPROMISE. BUT SO DID THE DEMOCRATS. \

LET ME TELL YOU WHAT THIS BUDGET AGREEMENT WILL DO: THIS AGREEMENT WILL CUT THE PROJECTED FEDERAL DEFICIT BY HALF-A-TRILLION DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. IT WILL MEAN REAL SPENDING CUTS -- \$120 BILLION DOLLARS' WORTH -- GUARANTEED BY LAW.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, WE WILL HAVE SPENDING CUTS WITH TEETH. NO MORE SMOKE AND MIRRORS. \

THE BUDGET AGREEMENT WILL ALSO SPUR ECONOMIC GROWTH. IT WILL BOOST AMERICA'S LONG-TERM ECONOMIC VITALITY BY GIVING A SHOT IN THE ARM TO SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES THROUGH GROWTH AND JOB-CREATING INCENTIVES.

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. THE AGREEMENT WILL BRING NEW AND NEEDED DISCIPLINE TO THE BUDGET PROCESS. "PAY AS YOU GO" WILL REPLACE THE "SPEND NOW -- PAY WHENEVER" BUDGET POLICIES OF THE PAST.

THESE ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF WHAT THE BUDGET AGREEMENT WILL DO. NOW LET ME TELL YOU WHAT IT WON'T DO:

BECAUSE IT PRESERVES A STRONG LEVEL OF DEFENSE, IT WON'T THREATEN OUR VITAL MISSION IN THE PERSIAN GULF OR THE SAFETY OF THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN STANDING FIRM AGAINST AGGRESSION.

IT WON'T AFFECT THE STATE AND LOCAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION.

AND IT WON'T RAISE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATES.

QUICK PASSAGE OF THIS BUDGET AGREEMENT IS CRITICAL TO AMERICA'S FUTURE. WE NEED MEASURES TO BOOST OUR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SOLVE LONG-TERM PROBLEMS. MOST OF ALL, THIS IS OUR LAST, BEST CHANCE TO GET THE FEDERAL BUDGET DEFICIT UNDER CONTROL.

I SUPPOSE THERE COMES A TIME WHEN EVERY PRESIDENT FACES A SITUATION SO SERIOUS THAT INDIVIDUAL PREFERENCES MUST BE SET ASIDE IN ORDER TO FIND COMMON GROUND. A TIME TO COME TOGETHER TO FIND A SOLUTION UPON WHICH THE FUTURE OF THE NATION DEPENDS. THIS IS SUCH A TIME.

TODAY, AS WE FACE NEW CHALLENGES OVERSEAS, IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT AMERICA IS ECONOMICALLY HEALTHY AND MILITARILY STRONG.

**RECENT EVENTS IN THE PERSIAN GULF PROVE THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE SHAPING OF A NEW PARTNERSHIP OF NATIONS. \ **

AMERICA MUST REMAIN STRONG -- IN OUR DETERMINATION TO STAND UP TO AGGRESSION AND TO PRESERVE THE SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIONS. WE MUST NOT IMPERIL OUR ABILITY TO KEEP OUR WORD AND STAND BY OUR FRIENDS. WE MUST PROTECT OUR VITAL NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.

FOR AS OUR OBJECTIVES IN THE PERSIAN GULF ARE REACHED, A NEW WORLD ORDER CAN EMERGE -- IN WHICH THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, EAST AND WEST, NORTH AND SOUTH, CAN LIVE TOGETHER AND PROSPER TOGETHER.

OUR PARTY HAS ALWAYS STOOD FOR STRENGTH AT HOME AND STRENGTH ABROAD. FOR LEADERSHIP AND A SENSE OF PURPOSE IN ALL THAT WE DO AND ALL THAT WE PURSUE. TODAY IT IS NO DIFFERENT.

WITH MORE REPUBLICANS IN THE HOUSE WE CAN IN FACT
FULFILL THE MISSION SET FORTH SO LONG AGO -- THE
MISSION THAT BEARS THE MANTLE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, TEDDY
ROOSEVELT, DWIGHT EISENHOWER, AND OF COURSE, RONALD
REAGAN. \\\

FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES, AND
FOR THE SAKE OF A STRONG AMERICA -- WE'VE GOT AN
ELECTION TO WIN. \\\

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS EACH ONE OF YOU.

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MK

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
October 1, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*
SUBJECT: NRCC FUNDRAISER DROP-BY

I. SUMMARY

Attached are brief remarks for your drop-by at the National Republican Congressional Committee fundraising dinner, to be held on Wednesday, October 3 at 7:40 p.m. You will be addressing approximately 500 people, including 60 Republican Members of Congress. This \$1000-a-plate dinner will be held at the new Ritz Carlton in Pentagon City and is closed press.

II. DISCUSSION

You will be preceded by the Duke Ellington High School choir, who will perform the National Anthem. Drew Lewis will introduce you; on stage with you are Bob Michel and Guy Vander Jagt.

This event is being promoted as a "Salute to Republican Vice Chairmen," which used be the Ranking Minority Members of the Congressional committees. The 27 Vice Chairmen will be seated at a separate dais.

Grant/Simon
Draft three
October 1, 1990
A:RITZ

**BRIEF REMARKS: DROP-BY NRCC DINNER
RITZ-CARLTON PENTAGON CITY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1990
7:40 P.M.**

Thank you, [Drew Lewis] for that introduction. I want to say thanks to Drew for the outstanding job he has done as dinner chairman and, of course, to say a special hello to another outstanding chairman, Guy Vander Jagt ... And I'd like to join the Congressional leadership here tonight, in thanking each one of you. \\ The fact that you are in this room shows how much you care about America's future. Your support is invaluable -- for you are bringing us closer to the great day when we will have a Republican majority in Congress. \\

((It's a pleasure to be here tonight to salute our great Republican committee leaders in the Congress. Now that the name "Ranking Minority Members" has been changed to "Republican Vice Chairmen," I asked Barbara if she thought I could command more respect by changing my name. "Probably," she said, \\ \\ "but "Mother Teresa" is already taken." \\ \\))

((Speaking of someone who's made a name for herself, did you see that Millie's book was #1 on the New York Times bestseller list? I'm sorry she couldn't join us tonight, \\ but she's negotiating movie rights.\\

She's a tough negotiator. She's asking for 100 milkbones a week, \\ champagne with her Alpo \\ -- and an earned income tax credit. \\

She wanted Arnold Schwarzenegger to play me in the movie -- \\ You know, Conan the Republican. \\ He turned it down -- said playing me demanded too much charisma. \\))

As we gather tonight in anticipation of our upcoming elections, this evening another wonderful event takes place as well. From Berlin to Bonn, from the Rhine to the Elbe, people are exulting in the day that all of Germany has been waiting for -- for 45 long years. Today, Germany is united. Germany is finally free. \\

Tonight, a reunified Germany writes a new chapter in the history of that nation. America, too, has the same chance. We can write a new chapter in the story of America -- drawn from both the challenges and opportunities facing us in today's world. From these, we can build a better America. \\)

We can put power in the hands of people, not government. We can find free-market answers to big-government problems. And ultimately, we can achieve real opportunity for all Americans.

One hundred and fifty years ago, De Tocqueville envisioned such a future. Its possibilities were endless, he wrote, because of America's experiment in government -- a democracy based on a free market unleashing the full force of the human mind. And that government sprang from perhaps the greatest example of returning power to the people: the American Revolution.

Now, two centuries later, we still hold that vision for America. But it's Republicans that will get us there. From offering more options to parents seeking child care, to giving students and parents more choice in education; from allowing tenant management for residents of public housing, to creating free-market answers to environmental problems, to taking back our streets from drug dealers and murderers. \\

We seek to protect the family, empower the poor and reward the creative and the risk-takers. But to accomplish all this, we must have a Republican majority in the Congress. \\

And we have taken a major step toward putting America's fiscal house in order this week. As you all know, this was a difficult process. The final agreement is a compromise, but it is also fair. It shares the sacrifices and no one group or individual will bear the burden alone.

There are critics on both sides. But to those critics I say, \\ \\ You can pick this package apart but you can't put a better package together. \\ We have put America first. \\

Let me tell you what this budget agreement will do:

This agreement will cut the projected federal deficit by half-a-trillion dollars over the next five years. It will mean real spending cuts -- \$120 billion dollars' worth -- guaranteed by law.

For the first time, we will have spending cuts with teeth. No more smoke and mirrors. \\

The budget agreement will also spur economic growth. It will boost America's long-term economic vitality by giving a shot in the arm to small and medium-sized businesses through growth and job-creating incentives.

But that's not all. The agreement will bring new and needed discipline to the budget process. "Pay as you go" will replace the "spend now -- pay whenever" budget policies of the past.

These are some of the highlights of what the budget agreement will do. Now let me tell you what it won't do:

It won't threaten our vital mission in the Persian Gulf or the safety of the brave men and women standing firm against aggression.

It won't affect the state and local income tax deduction.

And it won't raise individual income tax rates.

Quick passage of this budget agreement is critical to America's future. We need measures to boost our economic growth and solve long-term problems. Most of all, this is our last, best chance to get the federal budget deficit under control.

Because today, it is especially important that America is economically healthy and militarily strong, as we face new challenges overseas. Recent events in the Persian Gulf prove that there is no substitute for American leadership in the shaping of a new partnership of nations. \\

America must remain strong -- in our determination to stand up to aggression and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. We must not imperil our ability to keep our word and stand by our

friends. We must protect our vital national security interests. For as our objectives in the Persian Gulf are reached, a new world order can emerge -- in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can live together and prosper together.

Our Party has always stood for strength at home and strength abroad. For leadership and a sense of purpose in all that we do and all that we pursue. Today it is no different.

With more Republicans in the House we can in fact fulfill the mission set forth so long ago -- the mission that bears the mantle of Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and of course, Ronald Reagan. \\\

For the sake of our Congressional candidates, and for the sake of a strong America -- we've got an election to win.\\\

Thank you, and God bless each one of you.

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Grant/Simon
Draft two
September 24, 1990
A:RITZ

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RITZ-CARLTON PENTAGON CITY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1990
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Thank you, [Drew Lewis] for that introduction ((rest of acknowledgements)) ... And I'd like to join the Congressional leadership here tonight, in thanking each one of you. \\ The fact that you are in this room shows how much you care about America's future. Your support is invaluable -- for you are bringing us closer to the great day when we will have a **Republican majority in Congress.** \\

((It's a pleasure to be here tonight to salute our great Republican committee leaders in the Congress. Now that the name "Ranking Minority Members" has been changed to "Republican Vice Chairmen," I asked Barbara if she thought I could command more respect by changing **my** name. "Probably," she said, \\ \\ "but **"Mother Teresa" is already taken.**" \\ \\))

((Speaking of someone who's made a name for herself, did you see that Millie's book was #1 on the New York Times bestseller list? I'm sorry she couldn't join us tonight, \\ but she's negotiating **movie rights.** \\

She's a tough negotiator. She's asking for 100 milkbones a week, \\ champagne with her Alpo \\ -- and a cut in the capital gains tax. \\

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\\ You know, Conan the Republican. \\ He turned it down -- said
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America. But it's **Republicans** that will get us there.

From offering more options to parents seeking child care, to giving students and parents more choice in education; from allowing tenant management for residents of public housing, to creating free-market answers to environmental problems, to taking back our streets from drug dealers and murderers. \\

We seek to **protect** the family, **empower** the poor and **reward** the creative and the risk-takers. But to accomplish all this, **we must have a Republican majority in the Congress.** \\

If Republicans controlled Congress, America wouldn't be enduring a mandated sequester right now. [INSERT].

... Today, it is especially important that America is economically healthy and militarily strong, as we face new challenges overseas. Recent events in the Persian Gulf prove that there is **no substitute** for American leadership in the shaping of a new partnership of nations. \\

America must remain strong -- in our determination to stand up to aggression and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. We must not imperil our ability to keep our word and stand by our friends. We must protect our vital national security interests. For as our objectives in the Persian Gulf are reached, a new world order can emerge -- in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can live together and prosper together.

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With more Republicans in the House we can in fact fulfill the mission set forth so long ago -- the mission that bears the mantle of Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and of course, **Ronald Reagan.** \\\

For the sake of our Congressional candidates, and for the sake of a strong America -- **we've got an election to win.**\\\

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Grant/Simon
Draft four
October 1, 1990
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I am sorry Barbara is not here. She's out campaigning for our candidates in Hawaii and California. If you will excuse a little husbandly pride ... I think Barbara, with her commitment to education, is setting a great example as one of our brightest "points of light."

((You know, when we first moved to the White House, I remembered the advice of Harry Truman: "If you want a friend in Washington, \\ get a dog." Well, times have really gotten tough. First the budget negotiations, and now my own dog writes a lick-and-tell book. \\))

These are difficult times for America. Overseas, we face a crisis in the Persian Gulf while an economic crisis threatens prosperity here at home. Last night, I addressed the American people on the budget crisis we are confronting, and asked them for their support.

I know there are quite a few Members of Congress here tonight, and every one of you is acutely aware of tomorrow's vote on this crucial budget package. Let me take a moment to talk about the agreement and why its passage is so critical.

This agreement will cut the projected federal deficit by half-a-trillion dollars over the next five years -- a deficit that's strangling our economic vitality. It will mean the largest spending savings ever -- more than \$300 billion dollars' worth -- guaranteed by law.

For the first time, we will have spending cuts with teeth. No more smoke and mirrors.\\

The budget agreement will also spur economic growth. It will boost America's long-term economic strength by giving a shot in the arm to small and medium-sized businesses through growth and job-creating incentives.

And the agreement will bring new and needed discipline to the budget process. "Pay as you go" will replace "spend now -- pay whenever."

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As you all know, this was a difficult process. The final agreement is a compromise, but it is also fair. I didn't get everything I wanted. I had to compromise. But so did the Democrats. \\

As I said last night in my address to the American people, \\ \\ You can pick this package apart but -- given the realities in the Congress -- you can't put a better package together. \\

Quick passage of this budget agreement is critical to America's future. We need measures to boost our economic growth and solve long-term problems. Most of all, this is our last, best chance to get the federal budget deficit under control.

I suppose there comes a time when every President faces a situation so serious that individual preferences must be set aside in order to find common ground. A time to come together to find a solution upon which the future of the nation depends. This is such a time.

For Members, I know this will not be an easy vote, but this was not an easy deal to negotiate. And there simply won't be a better deal than this -- because we don't have enough Republicans in Congress to get the deal we would really like.

With a Republican majority in Congress, we would have seen a very different budget agreement because there are very real differences between the two parties. That's why your support is so important.

We need more Republicans so that we can rid ourselves of this budget deficit once and for all. So we can put power in the hands of people, not government. So we can find free-market answers to big-government problems. And ultimately, we can achieve real opportunity for all Americans.

One hundred and fifty years ago, de Tocqueville envisioned such a future. Its possibilities were endless, he wrote, because of America's experiment in government -- a democracy based on a free market unleashing the full force of the human mind. And that government sprang from perhaps the greatest example of returning power to the people: the American Revolution.

Now, two centuries later, we still hold that vision for America. But it's Republicans that will get us there. From offering more options to parents seeking child care, to giving students and parents more choice in education; from allowing tenant management for residents of public housing, to creating free-market answers to environmental problems, to taking back our streets from drug dealers and murderers. \\

We seek to protect the family, empower the poor and reward the creative and the risk-takers. But to accomplish all this -- and meet these challenges -- we must have a Republican majority in the Congress. \\

Today, as we face new challenges overseas, it is especially important that America is economically healthy and militarily strong. Recent events in the Persian Gulf prove that there is no substitute for American leadership in the shaping of a new partnership of nations. \\

America must remain strong -- in our determination to stand up to aggression and to preserve the sovereignty of nations. We must not imperil our ability to keep our word and stand by our friends. We must protect our vital national security interests. For as our objectives in the Persian Gulf are reached, a new world order can emerge -- in which the nations of the world, east and west, north and south, can live together and prosper together.

Our Party has always stood for strength at home and strength abroad. For leadership and a sense of purpose in all that we do and all that we pursue. Today it is no different.

With more Republicans in the House we can in fact fulfill the mission set forth so long ago -- the mission that bears the mantle of Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and of course, Ronald Reagan. \\

For the sake of our Congressional candidates, and for the sake of a strong America -- we've got an election to win.\\

Thank you, and God bless each one of you.

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