

*announcement* *pid speech*

WELL, WE CERTAINLY HAVE COME FULL CIRCLE. TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO I WAS ELECTED STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT AT BASIC HIGH SCHOOL HERE IN HENDERSON, I MET LANDRA HERE, AND HERE I AM TODAY RUNNING FOR CONGRESS. I GUESS IT IS LOVING YOUR HOME THAT MAKES YOU LOVE YOUR COUNTRY, AND THAT'S WHY I AM HERE THIS MORNING.

I HAVE COME HERE TODAY TO ANNOUNCE MY CANDIDACY FOR A SEAT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. I AM SEEKING A POSITION OF TREMENDOUS TRUST AND RESPONSIBILITY. I THINK IT ESSENTIAL THAT AT THE VERY OUTSET OF THIS CAMPAIGN I TELL YOU WHY I AM QUALIFIED, AND WHAT I INTEND TO DO IF I AM ELECTED.

I AM A SOUTHERN NEVADAN, BORN AND BRED. I HAVE HAD THE HONOR OF SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE AS A MEMBER OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE, AS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR UNDER MIKE O'CALLAGHAN FOR FOUR YEARS, AND AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION.

I KNOW, AND DEEPLY CARE FOR, NEVADA AND HER PEOPLE. IT IS BECAUSE I CARE, AND BECAUSE I THINK I CAN HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEMS WHICH NOW FACE US, THAT I AM ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS CAMPAIGN.

OUR COUNTRY IS IN TROUBLE. WE ARE IN THE WORST ECONOMIC SHAPE SINCE THE GREAT DEPRESSION. THIS IS NOT A TIME TO ATTACK THE OTHER SIDE FOR ITS FAILINGS. IT IS A TIME TO FINALLY FACE UP TO THE PROBLEMS; TO PROPOSE REASONABLE, WORKABLE, HUMANE SOLUTIONS, AND TO MAKE THOSE SOLUTIONS WORK.

I AM GOING TO DISCUSS SOME OF THOSE PROBLEMS AND SOME OF THEIR SOLUTIONS TODAY. I WILL TALK ABOUT FOUR ISSUES I THINK VITALLY IMPORTANT. THE ECONOMY, NATIONAL DEFENSE, THE PROBLEMS

OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND CRIME. THERE ARE OTHER AREAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS NATION; FOREIGN POLICY, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND ENERGY RESOURCES TO NAME A FEW. I WILL DISCUSS THEM IN THE COURSE OF THIS CAMPAIGN. BUT THE ISSUES OF WHICH I SPEAK TODAY ARE GOING TO BE MY CENTRAL FOCUS, AND I THINK THEY REPRESENT OUR NATION'S MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS.

THE MAIN QUESTION IN THIS, AND EVERY CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR, IS GOING TO BE THE ECONOMY. THIS COUNTRY CANNOT LIVE WITH A BUDGET DEFICIT OF OVER A HUNDRED BILLION DOLLARS. HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE WE ARE SIMPLY FLAT BROKE? I AGREE WITH WHAT THE WHITE HOUSE USED TO SAY ON THIS ISSUE - THE BUDGET HAS GOT TO BE BALANCED - NOW!!

IN GENERAL, I BELIEVE THE 25% INDIVIDUAL TAX CUTS SHOULD STAY IN PLACE. THAT IS GOING TO HAVE TO DEPEND, HOWEVER, ON THE SIZE OF THE DEFICIT, AND THE STIMULATION PROVIDED BY THE FIRST TWO ROUNDS OF THE TAX CUT. I WANT TO SEE IF THE PRESENT'S PROGRAM IS WORKING BEFORE I WILL PROMISE TO SUPPORT THAT THIRD CUT.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT TAX CUTS AND INCENTIVES TO BUSINESSES FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND TO THE HARD-PRESSED SMALL BUSINESSMAN. BUT I RESENT PROGRAMS LIKE "TAX LEASING" WHICH HAS BEEN NOTHING BUT A RIP OFF BY LARGE CORPORATIONS. GENERAL ELECTRIC HAS PURCHASED SO MANY TAX BREAKS IT NOT ONLY PAID NO TAX AT ALL ON ITS PRE-TAX PROFITS OF 2 1/2 BILLION DOLLARS IN 1981, BUT IT IS GETTING A 90 MILLION DOLLAR REFUND FOR PREVIOUS YEARS.

CONGRESS HAS GOT TO REVIEW THE LAWS WHICH HAVE CAUSED A DECLINE IN AVERAGE CORPORATE TAXES FROM 38% IN THE 1950s TO 19% IN 1979. WE NEED THAT MONEY. IT IS THAT SIMPLE.

I CANNOT SUPPORT ANY FURTHER CUTS IN HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS UNTIL THE CONGRESS FIRST ELIMINATES SUBSIDIES TO SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS LIKE PEANUTS, SUGAR AND ESPECIALLY TOBACCO. THE GOVERNMENT IS PAYING SOUTHERN FARMERS TO GROW A CROP THAT HAS NO LEGITIMATE USE WHATSOEVER. PROGRAMS LIKE THESE CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE.

A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE IS VITAL, AND WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO PAY FOR IT. BUT EVERY VETERAN OUT THERE KNOWS WE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND FAT TO CUT OUT OF THE MILITARY BUDGET. MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT. THE UNITED STATES MILITARY IS GOING TO GET EVERY CENT IT NEEDS TO DEFEND OUR COUNTRY. BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN I AM GOING TO CLOSE MY EYES TO WASTE, FRAUD OR COST OVERRUNS IN THAT, OR ANY OTHER AREA.

THE ECONOMIC BASE OF NEVADA NEEDS DIVERSIFICATION. I INTEND TO ACTIVELY SOLICIT INDUSTRY, ESPECIALLY DEFENSE RELATED CONTRACTORS, TO LOCATE IN NEVADA. WE HAVE NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE AND THE TEST SITE, AND WE ARE AN IDEAL LOCATION FOR SUCH INDUSTRY.

BUT, LETS NOT FORGET OUR MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY. AS A FORMER NEVADA GAMING COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, I HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND THE KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO KEEP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OUT OF GAMING REGULATION AND REVENUES. WE MUST PROTECT OUR MOST BASIC ASSETS - GAMING AND TOURISM. I INTEND TO DO SO.

A MOMENT AGO, I MENTIONED NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE. I HAVE RECENTLY TOURED THAT FACILITY. I AM VERY PROUD OF IT, AND OF THE PEOPLE WHO SERVE THERE. WE ARE, AT LEAST, SAFE IN SAYING



WE HAVE THE MOST SKILLED AND EFFICIENT TACTICAL FIGHTER AIR FORCE IN THE WORLD. THE TRAINING THAT GOES ON AT NELLIS CONTRIBUTES TREMENDOUSLY TO THAT SUPERIORITY. I INTEND TO SEE THAT NELLIS HAS EVERY ASSET IT NEEDS - EQUIPMENT, RANGE DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AND PERSONNEL - TO CONTINUE ITS VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO OUR DEFENSE.

I AM NOT, HOWEVER, AS CONFIDENT ABOUT OUR MILITARY POSTURE IN ALL OTHER AREAS. THE SOVIET UNION HAS FOR THE LAST FIFTEEN YEARS ENGAGED IN A TREMENDOUS CHALLENGE TO THE MILITARY SUPERIORITY WE ONCE ENJOYED IN THE AIR, AT SEA AND IN STRATEGIC WEAPONS.

WE RETAIN A LEAD AND A CRUCIAL ONE IN CERTAIN IMPORTANT TECHNOLOGICAL AREAS. FOR INSTANCE, ELECTRONIC WARFARE, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE SPACE SHUTTLE. WE MUST MAINTAIN THAT LEAD. WE MUST PAY FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT NOW. TOMORROW IT MAY BE TOO LATE.

I WILL ACTIVELY SUPPORT FUNDING FOR SUCH RESEARCH INCLUDING THE AREA OF LASER AND PARTICLE BEAM WEAPONRY.

I WILL ALSO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF CERTAIN LONG LEAD TIME WEAPONS - SUCH AS NAVAL VESSELS - WHICH TAKE YEARS TO BUILD. WE MUST MAINTAIN THE SEA LANES TO OUR GLOBAL ALLIES - IT IS A TASK VITAL TO THE DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY. THAT TASK FALLS ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY, AND IF WE EVER NEED THOSE SHIPS, WE ARE NOT GOING TO HAVE TIME TO CONSTRUCT THEM AFTER THE FACT.

EVERY WEAPON SYSTEM, HOWEVER, MUST BE SCRUTINIZED FOR COST EFFICIENCY, AND EFFECTIVENESS. THAT SCRUTINY IS A PRIMARY

FUNCTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS THEIR RIGHT AND DUTY. I INTEND TO EXERCISE THAT RIGHT AND FULFILL THAT DUTY.

I ALSO INTEND TO FULFILL MY DUTY TO OUR SENIOR CITIZENS. I BELIEVE A PRIMARY GOAL OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST BE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR ALL OLDER AMERICANS.

THE PRINCIPAL MEANS FOR ACHIEVING THAT GOAL MUST REMAIN THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM. THAT SYSTEM MUST BE PUT ON A SOUND FINANCIAL BASIS WITHOUT DIMINISHING BENEFITS TO SENIOR CITIZENS. WE MUST RETURN THAT SYSTEM TO THE ONLY TASK FOR WHICH IT WAS INTENDED - ENSURING AN ADEQUATE INCOME TO SENIORS. WE MUST CURTAIL WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE IN THE SYSTEM. WE MUST ENSURE THAT SOCIAL SECURITY FUNDS ARE INVESTED TO BRING A MAXIMUM RETURN WITH MINIMUM RISK. I INTEND TO SEE THAT WE DO SO.

I AM ALSO STRONGLY COMMITTED TO PROTECTION OF MEDICAL COVERAGE FOR THE ELDERLY, NOT ONLY TO ENSURE THEY RECEIVE HEALTH CARE, BUT ALSO TO ASSURE THAT ITS COST DOES NOT DEPRIVE THEM OF LIFE'S OTHER NECESSITIES. THESE ARE FRUGAL, DECENT PEOPLE WHO HAVE WORKED HARD ALL OF THEIR LIVES. FOR MANY OF THEM, TEN DOLLARS OF HEALTH CARE DOES NOT MEAN NOT GOING OUT TO DINNER. IT MEANS NOT EATING AT ALL. WE CANNOT, WE WILL NOT, LET THAT SITUATION CONTINUE.

I WILL ALSO WORK TO ENSURE FUNDING FOR HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS. OLDER AMERICANS ARE THIS NATION'S HIDDEN ASSET. THEY CANNOT BE ISOLATED FROM THE MAINSTREAM OF COMMUNITY LIFE.

FINALLY, I AM COMMITTED TO SOLVING A PROBLEM WHICH AFFECTS SENIORS, MINORITY COMMUNITIES AND ALL OF US IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES. THAT PROBLEM IS THE RAMPANT AND HORRENDOUS INCREASE IN VIOLENT