

# U. S. Department of Transportation

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TALKING POINTS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION NEIL GOLDSCHMIDT, COMMUNICATION WORKERS OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH 24, 1980.

It's a pleasure to speak before a group with the vision and tradition and muscle of the Communication Workers of America -- a group known for their courage and activism in pursuit of their beliefs.

We remember the wise words your President delivered this past summer before any real political skirmishing began: "On the basis of his record, I think President Carter deserves to be re-elected," Glenn said. "He's done as well as any man could have under difficult circumstances."

They have been difficult circumstances. President Carter has steered a courageous and steadfast course through some of the most complex and dangerous issues this country has ever faced -- and through a period of change unparalleled in this nation's history.

He has led this country in our twin battles with the problems of energy and inflation. In both areas, the President has proposed -- and is seeing enacted by Congress -- tough remedies for tough problems. And I think he'll succeed in both areas, as well.

Our problems in these areas are similar and related:

\* In energy, we are far too dependent on expensive and unreliable foreign oil -- a major source of inflation and a dangerous weapon to hand other countries to use on us -- and we waste too much of what we use.

\* In our economy, we are feeling the ripple effect of energy price increases; and as our economy adjusts, we are allowing far too many jobs to go overseas.

In both energy and the economy, the President is advancing a national conservation strategy -- we are going to stop wasting energy, we are going to balance the budget, we are going to introduce regulatory reform and competition to the marketplace, we are going to make smart use of our resources today so as to preserve our values in the future.

Those values are what's important. Circumstances may change; values are permanent. As Democrats and as working men and women we stand by the President as he calls for:

- \* Jobs -- work for our people is a basic; it's why we have to wage this fight on inflation and put an end to the idea of a throw-away economy. And remember -- in the first three years of his presidency, Jimmy Carter's leadership provided a record-breaking eight million new jobs for Americans.
- \* Education -- our children's hope for the future; Jimmy Carter boosted spending there by 60 percent.
- \* Equal opportunity -- this President has appointed more qualified women and minorities to top jobs in the Administration than any prior president.
- \* Peace and strength in the world -- Jimmy Carter is the first president in 56 years in whose term no American boy has fallen in Combat; and he's kept us strong by providing a three percent defense increase each year.

These are the values we stand for, the values we have always stood for. They find their expression in our political party.

Because finally it is through our political action that these policies are put into practice. At every level of government, from the city council to the President, we either elect leaders who believe as we do or we watch as someone else puts their values into practice. And as we saw with Mr. Nixon and Mr. Ford, that's too painful and too high a price.

It's really up to you. The kind of country we have, the kind of leadership we elect. Your hard work, your time, your energy, your contribution keeps America on track and builds a future we all can live with.

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