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## THE ELDERLY

The President has pledged "...to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation".

High on the list of the President's priorities are the income and health security for older Americans:

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-- To protect the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund -- a fund that is being rapidly depleted -- the President in his 1976 State of the Union Address also proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977 and would cost workers a maximum of \$1 a week.

-- As noted earlier, the President has also proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the elderly people must pay for medical and physicians' fees each year.

-- In November 1975, the President signed Amendments to the Older Americans Act that is intended to deliver coordinated, comprehensive services and meals to the elderly at the community level and to enable older persons to live independent lives in their own homes.



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Older Am for Ford

FILE

825-C Balmoral Court  
Lakewood, N.J. 08701

Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger  
Health, Education and Welfare  
330 Independence Avenue S.W.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

President Ford states in AARP News Bulletin  
"Maintaining the integrity of the Social Security system is a  
vital obligation-----".

Evidently your department is not quite in  
agreement with this statement where it concerns Medicare.

Until August of 1976, the rebate of paid  
medical bills were sent to us not less than four weeks from  
the date of mailing. These last several months, however,  
the payments are delayed over 12 weeks.

These delays also effect private insurance  
carried, since they request a copy of the "Explanation of  
Benefits" to accompany the claim.

If integrity really extends to the older  
and often poorer population, these delays cause hardships.  
Naturally, the doctors do not care to accept assignments.

I have asked others for their opinion on  
the subject. The consensus of opinion seems to be that this  
will not be taken care of unless we have a new administration.

Please let us know, either on newscasts  
or in newspapers how and when this can be corrected. At the  
moment, it is a VOTE-LOSER FOR FORD.

Yours very truly,

*Helen Schickler*

(Mrs.) Helen Schickler

PS Private Insurance companies process claims in 2-3 weeks.

cc President Gerald R. Ford



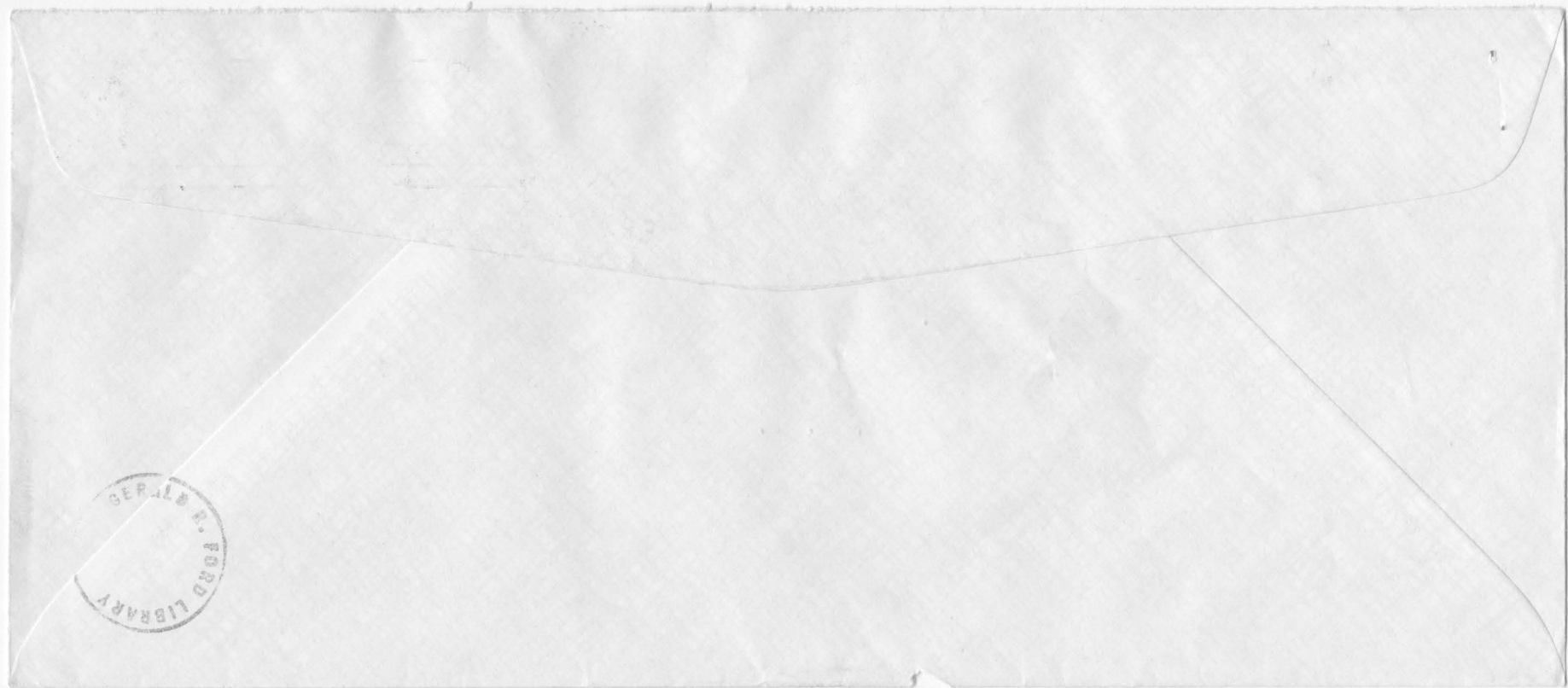
825-C Balmorsl Ct  
Lakewood N J 08701



President Gerald R. Ford

The White House Election Committee

Washington, D. C.



GER. J. B. FORD  
LIBRARY

Sen. Citizens

October 14, 1976

Mr. Thomas Turrell  
324 ½ E. Broadway  
Anaheim, California 92805

Dear Mr. Turrell,

Thank you for your letter expressing support for President Ford. Letters from individuals like yourself keep us in touch with the concerns of Americans everywhere.

President Ford has proposed several actions to help the elderly. He has pledged "... to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contribution that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation".

The President has proposed several pieces of legislation on social security and health insurance. In his State of the Union Address, he proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977 and would cost the workers a maximum of \$1 a week. He has also proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the elderly people must pay for medical and physicians fees each year.

Thank you for your letter and we hope this explanation gives you a better understanding on the President's policies on the elderly. He has not ignored them, but has only tried to help them. We hope your support continues and that the President can count on your vote in November.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN:br



I'm life  
a long re-  
publican who  
that begins to wander  
senior citizens  
general

374 1/2 E. Broadway  
Anthem, Pa. 19805  
October 5, 1976

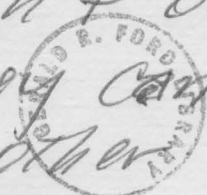
The Republican National Campaign  
Headquarters

1878 L. St. N.W., Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Gentlemen:

Jimmy Carter has spoken  
of the plight of the old peo-  
ple in this country, as being  
a disgrace, if I remember  
correctly, and I would have  
to agree <sup>with</sup> that! Furthermore,  
I think the social security  
system is so full of inequi-  
ties (injustices) that "it" is a large  
measure of this disgrace:

Listen; old people can't ob-  
tain "hearing aids" so they can  
hear the television, among other  
things, without blasting everyone  
else out of the neighborhood.





-2-

Why? I have asked, over and over; and I get such answers as: "that's the book!" or "that's the law!"—just as if, "that settles it!"

But does that settle such a "human" question as this is?

Again: dentures, if they happen to be "partial" are not replaced, even by the state, when broken. I have letters to prove that—letters telling me, very positively, that they could not replace my upper broken, and worn so badly that the weld will not hold for eating purposes.

I would like to ask why, old people cannot have these drastic needs? needs that if not supplied can result in a health problem—& hazard to health.

Now, in view of all of this;



just about a week ago it was reported that President Ford had decided that people on medicare would now have to pay a larger hunk on their medicare. I don't, for the life of me, understand this! especially with prices sky-rocketing out of sight, where on earth would they get the money to pay it? WHY? WHY? for goodness sake, such deprivation?

I suppose they will say, in Washington, that America is just too poor, to feed, and supply the other necessities of life to old people, who can't help themselves. But it seems that we have no problem in subsidizing the world. Does charity begin at home? I wonder. I'm puzzled.  
Sincerely,  
Thomas F Terrell

Comments: Senior Citizens ✓

October 14, 1976

Mr. Harley N. Cole  
5538 Ranchita Avenue  
Van Nuys, California 91401

Dear Mr. Cole:

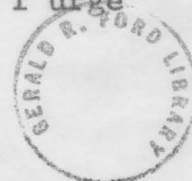
Thank you very much for your recent letter. We at the President Ford Committee certainly appreciate your efforts for the President's campaign in working with Senior Citizens. California is an important state for the President and the support of Senior Citizens could go a long way in guaranteeing victory.

President Ford's concern for the elderly has been evident since the early days of his administration. He has signed a \$22.8 billion anti-recession tax cut bill that included payment of \$50 to each of some 34 million individuals receiving Social Security, Railroad Retirement and Supplemental Income benefits. Families caring for elderly persons benefitted by a liberalization of tax deduction rules. The President has also signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 which, among other things, provides subsidized housing for low-income renters and authorizes direct, low-interest loans for housing for the elderly.

The President has also strongly supported the concept of the Older Americans Act. Less than a year ago he signed into law amendments to the Older Americans Act authorizing \$272 million for new services and goals - almost seven times more than available three years earlier.

More recently, President Ford has made several new proposals which include a cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits, and a program to alleviate the burden of catastrophic illness.

These accomplishments and innovative proposals have earned the respect of senior citizens throughout the country. We hope that with your assistance this record can be publicized to the senior citizens of California. I urge



-2-

you to contact Dave Liggett, the executive director of the President's campaign in California, and discuss ways of spreading this information to the senior citizens of California. Mr. Liggett can be reached by writing him at 5959 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, Cal. 90045.

Thanks again for your support. It's great to know that you are working with us and that the President can count on your vote on November 2nd.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/mb



Comments - senior citizens

Sept 26-1976

Mr. President - HARLEY N. COLE

Many of us are working hard for your well deserved reelection.

I attended a Senior Citizen's meeting last week since they are seeking a legislative representative & that I might be interested, but what impressed me was how angry & determined they are to eliminate all or any politicians involved in the recent overburdening them with excessive increases in property taxes thru fictitious home evaluation, throwing out of balance their plans for a relaxed retirement.

Carters was coached by an L.A. County Supervisor who had attended several citizen meetings where he was threatened with recall, he successfully impressed candidate Carter that this tax on residences could be exploited & now Carter is certainly successfully capitalizing thru D.V. & newspapers.

There are 55,000,000 seniors and they vote, plus those who have reached 65 & are wondering

SCOL CORP.  
SHERMAN OAKS  
CALIFORNIA



HARLEY N. COLE

What will happen to their plans  
retirement @ 62 or 65 yrs &  
another plus their sons & daughters  
who don't want to worry about  
their parents welfare

I'm perhaps more familiar  
with this broad & important  
picture that most, but above  
all I am able to bring the  
entire analysis to you & your  
campaign people, so you can  
make the most useful & pro-  
fund announcement for serious  
ever used or presented during  
a Presidential Campaign. If you  
need me I'll meet with you or  
your Campaign Mgrs wherever  
at my own expense

Respectfully yours  
Harley N. Cole  
5538 Ranchita Ave  
Van Nuys  
91401 69



SCOL CORP.  
SHERMAN OAKS  
CALIFORNIA

213-787-4663

Senior Citizens:

General

✓

October 13, 1976

Mr. David L. Lloyd, Jr.  
University of Pennsylvania  
Law School  
Box #2083  
3440 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174

Dear Mr. Lloyd:

Thank you for your letter of October 6, and your interesting ideas concerning the elderly. Mr. Baker has read your correspondence and has asked me to respond.

You are quite correct when you say that a conservative philosophy need not be merely negativist in scope. As much as being against something, it represents a positive assertion which provides the basis of its popular appeal.

President Ford has been confronted with an overwhelmingly Democratic Congress and thus has had to restrain the bedlam which they have sought to impose. Conversely, the Democratic controlled Congress has retarded those Presidential initiatives which are contrary to the majority viewpoints.

Your ideas are very helpful in providing examples of alternatives to existing practices. I am forwarding a copy of your memorandum to our Older Americans Desk so that they may benefit from your suggestions.

Thank you once again for your interest and concern. With your help and support, President Ford will be elected President on November 2.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence



BN:TS

*Senior Citizens  
General.*

Box #2083 - University of  
Pennsylvania Law School  
3440 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19174  
October 6, 1976

Mr. James A. Baker III  
President Ford Committee  
1828 L Street, N.W.  
Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20036

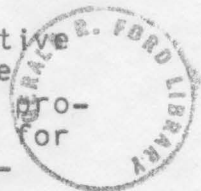
Dear Mr. Baker:

Thank you for your response (per Ms. Barbara Norris) to my letter of September 14, 1976. I have been in touch with the Committee's Philadelphia office and have worked the telephone banks and signed on for election day activities.

My first note made the concededly vague suggestion that President Ford should come forth with "creative initiatives". While Ms. Norris pointed out that the President has made some initiatives which have been stalled by Congress, with the exception of the graduated mortgage plan, the proposals have been less than innovative. Even the mortgage plan is regrettably belated in that I understand the President has had the authority to implement it for nearly two years. I still think the impression is emerging that the President may want to do less of the same old things, but the same old things nonetheless.

I am simply not persuaded that conservatism need be confined to holding the line against Democratic spending excesses. Rather, the Republican Party must come forward with alternatives to the very real problems in America. I use the term "must" in both its moral imperative sense and also in its practical political one. Creative conservatism, properly presented, can be a winning approach. As you know, in the final analysis, most people vote the way their families have voted for generations. Only a strong affirmative reason will alter that. Since the Republicans are in a substantial minority, we have the necessity of coming forward with these affirmative reasons to break the traditional voting patterns. This cannot be done by broad image strategies, but by careful political market segmentation and a program specifically geared to these market components. The Democrats have realized this for years.

The enclosed memorandum is a brief, but specific, "creative initiative" which targets on a market segment and has the emotional impact to shift voting patterns. Happily, the proposal not only has strong vote-getting impact, but calls for a real change with meaningful results for people who desperately need some nonexploitive attention: the elderly.

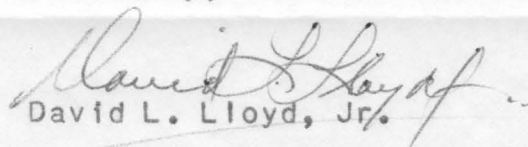




Finally, I want to emphasize that my comments are not intended to be critical of your job, which I think has been splendid, indeed, miraculous. Furthermore, I fully recognize the limitations I have in trying to evaluate the national mood from an apartment in West Philadelphia. On the other hand, it was a pipe dream in Plains, Georgia, which has put us in the hole we are in today. Perhaps the Washington vantage point is not so exceptionally advantageous after all. Thus, while I acknowledge my limits, I do not care to sell these ideas short. I earnestly hope you catch the distinction.

Best of luck; I hope I have not made a pest of myself.

Sincerely,

  
David L. Lloyd, Jr.

Enclosures



MEMORANDUM

TO: President Ford Committee

FROM: David L. Lloyd

DATE: October 6, 1976

RE: Proposed position on "means test" for elderly Americans

BACKGROUND -

There are approximately 23-million elderly Americans. Of this number, I understand that more than 9-million turn out to vote in Presidential elections. A recent poll disclosed that in the current Presidential race, Mr. Carter leads the President among these voters by a margin of roughly 60% to 30%, a ratio sharply out of line with the nation taken as a whole.

In addition, the problems confronting the older American directly touch friends and relatives who are not yet themselves elderly. The "senior citizen" bloc must include those in this category who are politicized by the issues concerning the elderly. The total electoral clout of this bloc is therefore considerable.

In recent years, the senior citizens have recognized this potential political influence and have set out to organize themselves. They have made significant strides at all levels of government, at least in being recognized. Sadly, most politicians have given them lip service to exploit their vote potential, but have delivered little. The title of a recent book on aging says it all: Everybody's Studying Us.

The most powerful and political senior citizen organization is the National Council of Senior Citizens, located at 1511 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20005. The President of the National Council is Nelson H. Cruikshank who served as director of the AFL-CIO Social Security Department from 1955 until his retirement in 1965. Following his retirement, Mr. Cruikshank taught at Michigan State University, Pennsylvania State University and the University of Michigan. He has become a veritable folk hero among the elderly.

Mr. Cruikshank has taken a leave of absence from the Presidency of the National Council to serve as co-chairperson of the Carter-Mondale Senior Citizens Committee.

The foregoing makes clear the unmistakable conclusion that Mr. Carter has a distinct advantage over the President among older Americans and those concerned with problems of aging - a very sizable and political group. This group could make the difference in a close election. In the key state of Pennsylvania, for example, there are many politically active and aware senior citizens.

If the President could take a clear and meaningful stand on an issue of importance to these people, he could materially improve his chances to be elected. The so-called "means test" presents precisely this issue.

## MEANS TEST

Title XX of the Social Security Act authorizes a program to build and operate senior citizens facilities. These centers provide a place for the elderly to meet, play cards and generally reduce the loneliness which plagues them. See, "We Built You America!", The Sunday Bulletin (Philadelphia), September 26, 1976, p. 1 (attached).

The Federal regulations governing the operation of these centers require that a means test be administered to all citizens desiring to use a facility. While the Federal standards are satisfied by a mere declaration of eligibility, many states insist on more elaborate examinations. Some of these, Pennsylvania, for instance, force the elderly citizen to be subjected to the means test every six months.

The test is ostensibly designed to screen out those older Americans who are too well-to-do to qualify for the program. It is indeed curious that a program aimed at combating loneliness has an income criterion for eligibility. Be that as it may, it is estimated by some that as many as 80% to 90% of all the elderly would pass the means test anyway. It turns out that the cost of administering the test is greater than the savings created by eliminating the "ineligibles".

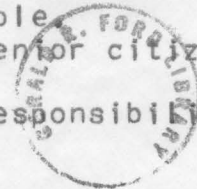
For example, the cost to administer the means test twice a year in Pennsylvania is \$5-million, yet it would only cost about \$1-million to simply permit the "ineligibles" to use the centers. This figure is derived from testimony given March 8, 1976, before the Senate Subcommittee on Public Assistance by Mr. Daniel Schulter, Special Assistant for Aging to Governor Milton Shapp. Mr. Schulter cites the example of Snyder County, Pennsylvania, where the means test cost \$4840 to administer while servicing all the "ineligibles" would have cost but \$900. Obviously not all the ineligible would, in fact, use the center so the disparity would be even greater. The cost of the means test was over 50% of the total governmental cost of \$9334 in Snyder County.

By far the bigger cost, however, is the humiliation these people go through. The tests seek personal information, sometimes going far beyond income statistics. Frequently these lonely people opt to live with their loneliness rather than suffer the ordeal. See, The Sunday Bulletin, supra. The data sought appears to be for sociological studies and is not required by Federal regulations. The regulations permit such privacy invasions, however.

The National Council and other local and statewide aged organizations are very much up in arms about the means test and seek its elimination. The issue is emotional.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The President should announce his intention to abolish the means test immediately or as soon as possible.
2. The announcement should be made at a senior citizen center.
3. The point should be made that fiscal responsibility and



compassion for human costs are not incompatible.

#### PROBLEMS

The President is sure to be viewed as a johnny-come-lately to the cause of the elderly. Perhaps this is too little too late. His record on Social Security is not a good one in the eyes of the elderly. The Catastrophic Health Program he proposed to Congress imposes tremendous costs on the very group that it should be helping.

The Republican platform is not much better. The section on Older Americans is sufficiently vacuous that Mr. Carter might be content to run with it.

#### SUMMARY

In spite of the problems, the proposal to get rid of the means test appears to be an issue which pleases all sides. Naturally, the elderly citizen who no longer has to face the personal ordeal of the test is given some welcome relief. Those senior citizens who had been deterred from using the centers would feel more welcome. Those aged who would not have qualified under the means test but who are suffering from loneliness would have a place to go to make friends. On the other hand, the expanding scope of the bureaucracy would be cut back somewhat with a considerable saving of tax dollars.

Here, in an area of great political potential, in an area where Mr. Carter has the lead but primarily through default, is an opportunity to make some political hay while doing an awful lot of real good.





## The Elderly American: Stranger in a Strange Land

# 'We Built You, America!'

By **NANCY GREENBERG**  
*Of the Bulletin Staff*

Miss Margaret Jane Ryan, a 70-year-old retired English teacher living in Philadelphia, is the sort of woman who goes years without getting upset over anything more controversial than poor grammar. But one day this summer she was upset and shouting with uncharacteristic fervor:

"Regardless of income, we deserve fun! We should be allowed to be united in our senior centers as the American states are united . . . But more than this, WE WANT FUN! WE DESERVE FUN! WE WANT FUN!"

Miss Margaret Jane Ryan was not the only one angry. Or the only one shouting at members of the State Commission on Aging during a hearing this summer on the

*Please Turn to Page 4*

*There are 228,000 people over the age of 65 in Philadelphia alone, and perhaps again as many in the city's New Jersey and Pennsylvania suburbs.*

*Reporter Nancy Greenberg spent 10 weeks talking with hundreds of these elderly Americans and officials of agencies serving them.*

*In this (and two related articles appearing on Page 6 of today's Focus Section) she begins her story of what it is like to be "old" in contemporary America.*

*The series will continue in Focus tomorrow.*



Continued From First Page

1977 Pennsylvania Plan for Aging.

Soon after Miss Margaret Jane Ryan spoke, a black woman, Ms. Martha Butler was at a microphone telling the commissioners a thing or two.

"I don't believe in being sassy," Ms. Butler began. "I'm real obedient, y'hear? But the senior centers belong to us, not you. We're first class citizens. We're the ones who built this country. The young people — they don't know what they doin' . . ."

And suddenly from the back of the room a 76-year-old South Philadelphia woman, Mrs. Sophie Satton, who came to this country from Russia, screamed out in a thick Yiddish accent: "We built you, America! We are the pilgrims. We are the pilgrims. WE ARE THE PILGRIMS!"

The focus of the anger of these elderly Philadelphians was the "means test" (or personal income report) which is now required of all who wish to participate in social service programs for elderly.

Until the spring of this year, access to any of Philadelphia's 35 government-funded senior citizen centers — or to related services such as home-delivered meals — was freely available to anyone 60 or more years old. But since April 1, these services have been available only to senior citizens whose monthly income is less than \$464 for an individual or \$606 for a couple.

Under this system, thousands of elderly citizens have been made ineligible for such services.

And those still eligible are forced to fill out a complicated form detailing the sources of their income, whether they are on medical assistance, and so forth, and then sign a declaration of understanding that making false statements on the form can result in prosecution for perjury.

All this to walk into a "Y" basement to play a game of checkers.

Two such checker players are Vince Giamporcaro, a retired tailor, and Meyer Kramer, a retired paperhanger, whose playground has been the JYC Multi-Service Center at Marshall and Porter streets in South Philadelphia. Recently, the two embittered men in their 70's had this to say about the means test:

Vince: "It's unbelievable. They want to know about your relatives. Just to come in to a place like this, just to come in, we vote in this country. We . . ."

Meyer: "We fought in two world wars. We built this country. It's one of the most degrading things to ever happen in my life. I've paid my taxes. I've never asked for welfare, never two cents did I ask for."

Vince: "I wouldn't tell my children the personal things they ask for. The things they ask. Why doesn't the government go ask Lockheed to fill out forms. Heh, that I'd like to see."

Meyer: "I feel sorry for the staff who have to write all this junk down. I feel like we're all on parole around here."

Vince: "I have friends outside who tell me, 'I'm alone, Vince, I just have the four walls.' I'm ashamed to tell them to come to the center, the ones who have a few dollars but are lonely anyway. This means test would scare

them away. I think this means test was thought up by people who have nothing better to do."

Meyer: "I was a paperhanger. When I reached the age of 65, I went to the union and handed in my tools. I said, 'Here, give them to some apprentice.' I was glad to get rid of them. I didn't want to be the richest paperhanger in the cemetery. Now what do I get? They treat me like a chiseler."

The means test protest is so loud and so strong because the test involves the two central facts of the elderly American's life — his isolation and his poverty.

The eligibility standards have increased the isolation of many. And for many others, the test is the "last straw" of their poverty — its demeaning public admission.

There are more than 228,000 Philadelphians over the age of 65, and 24 percent of them are living below the federal poverty level of \$2,800 a year for an individual or \$3,700 a year for a couple.

Almost half our senior citizens live on less than \$4,300 a year and most don't have a whole lot more than that. Their incomes are largely fixed. But prices are not.

(Ironically, senior citizens must fill out the means test form every six months to have their eligibility for services "redetermined." As one old person put it, "They must be on the lookout for lottery winners or something.")

Not only are elderly Americans, on the average, very poor, they are often very alone. Many go months without a phone call — those, that is, who can still afford a phone.

A Kensington woman we'll call Mrs. Mildred Childs, whose social security check comes to \$142 a month and who refused to apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) because she was raised "never to take nothing for nothing," tortures herself each month when the approximately \$8 phone bill comes in.

"I know it could go for food," she sighs, "but I keep praying my children will call."

Mrs. Childs has a son in Chicago who calls every Easter and a daughter in Phoenixville who will speak to her mother when Mrs. Childs allows herself a 46-cent call ("my maximum . . . I have to eat, you know"). But the daughter seldom calls other than on the 77-year-old woman's birthday, which happens to fall in April.

Mrs. Childs, whose rent is \$79.50 a month, says she feels guilty "with the phone not ringing much from May

on," but justifies the luxury on grounds that a phone would be good to have around if she ever had to call an ambulance.

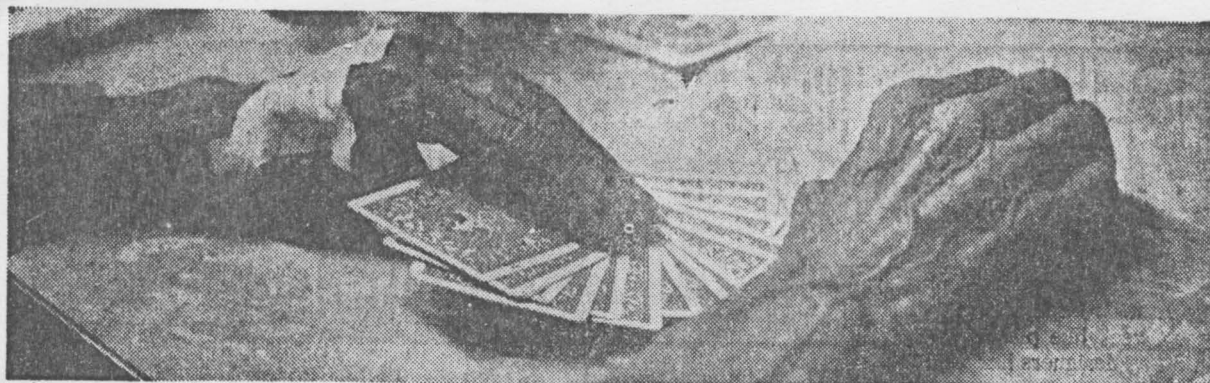
"In most cases children are not abandoning their parents," says Mrs. Elaine Brody, director of the department of human services at the Philadelphia Geriatric Center. "But even given good will on the part of adult children — and I see the middle generation wearing themselves out trying to take care of their parents — the proportion of surviving old people to available caregivers is changing drastically.

"Old people today have children in their 50's, 60's and even 70's, with their own aches and pains. Daughters, who historically took their parents shopping and did the housecleaning and nursing, now have full-time careers of their own . . . In no way is this society prepared to take care of the thousands of old people whose needs go starkly unattended."

And in this atmosphere, the elderly wonder where along the way they went wrong.

Mrs. Doris Vauxhill of Bridgeport, Pa., nurses her husband Henry, a stroke victim and retired metalworker, on a pension and Social Security check which together come to less than \$400 a month. Their home is paid for ("Thank God") and their married children are "Thank God good kids." But the roof leaks and they don't think they'll ever get enough money together to have it fixed. Mrs. Vauxhill would love, just one night, just one, to go into Center City for dinner — not even a movie afterwards, just dinner.





Bulletin Photo by Don Camp

Hands, which bespeak the trials of a lifetime, patiently wait to play out the cards that were dealt.

"I don't understand," she says, brushing her gray, wispy hair away from her face. "We never bought anything on credit, never. There was the time the washing machine went kaput and we could have bought a new one if we were willing to charge it. But Henry and I stuck to our rule and used the laundromat until we could pay for a new machine with cash on the table. Why must we live this way? Honest — we never bought anything on credit, never. We were always so careful . . ."

In Cherry Hill, N.J. a 71-year-old retired, widowed dentist has no financial worries, but he wonders why so much of his time is spent alone, why there are no friends left anymore, why the kids have all but disappeared.

"We always pushed education with the children," the dentist tells you, "and now I'm paying for it. The older

one is a big science professor in Scotland — don't ask me what he teaches, it's too complicated. My daughter and her husband are off doing this anthropology work in Mexico — important work, I'm sure, but maybe we made a mistake pushing them so hard. Study, become something, we told them. But were are they?"

Not surprisingly, blacks are hardest hit by the stresses of aging. Hobart C. Jackson, founder of the National Caucus on Black Aged and director of the Stephen Smith Geriatric Center on Girard avenue, Philadelphia, says that the stresses are so severe on black males that most don't live to collect Social Security. The average life expectancy for black men is 61 compared with 67.5 for white men.

"And there are thousands of old black people living lonely and reclusive lives," he adds. "The myth of the jolly black family taking in every stray relative, is a myth. Blacks don't like blacks any more or less than whites like whites. If it has seemed that the family has all pulled together, it is because economic hardship has forced them to do so. Unfortunately, blacks are just more accustomed to finding alternatives to untenable situations."

Jackson has been put under stress himself of late by the "life safety code" for nursing homes, which is forcing him to partially shut down one of the few black nursing homes in the country, the Stephen Smith Home for the Aged, while renovations are being made.

"Everything gets treated the same," he complains, slapping his hand on the table in front of him, "like blacks don't have special problems. You know, there aren't many nursing homes that will take blacks, let alone poor ones. We can get all excited about a nursing home fire, but we're killing our people every day."

Laura Singleton, a 72-year-old black woman who lives in West Philadelphia, is in pretty good health, she says, and if she dies of anything, she's pretty sure it will be boredom. Her rent is \$100 a month, her Social Security is only \$52 more than that. She lives on mashed potatoes, baked beans and lettuce and spends most of her day simply sitting on the stoop of her battered rowhouse.

"Nowhere to go, nowhere to go," she hums eerily upon being asked what she does with her time. "I don't have visitors and I don't go visiting."

One day, while Mrs. Singleton was stoop-sitting, she was passed by an elderly white neighbor who would only say that her name was Marian and that she lived at the Royal Palms, an apartment building a block south of Mrs. Singleton's home.

"Sitting, sitting again," chided Marian. "I told you, Laura, that when you sit, you vegetate. You should be like me . . . I'd go crazy if I had to sit all day. Walk, Laura, walk like me. You'll see, it'll make you feel better. It passes the time faster."

Marian was heading towards the Acme supermarket at 43d and Locust streets outside of which, ready with her plastic shopping bag, she explained that she walks so much because "it helps when everything is bunched up inside you and you don't have nobody

to talk to."

"Your enemies, you don't want to tell them your problems, they gloat," Marian explained. "Your friends, you don't want to burden your friends," she continued. Then she burst out with: "What friends?"

Asked what gives her pleasure in life, tears filled the woman's eyes. She said, "Honey, if you want to be smart, ask an old person how they feel about death. That's a good question. Don't ask about pleasure. It's not a good question to ask. It's too personal. It's not a nice question, Honey. You shouldn't ask questions where there aren't any answers."

Wiping her eyes, Marian never went into the supermarket. She just started walking again.

*How do the elderly react to the changed values of today's society? When did being "old" in America cease to be a blessing and become a burden? See articles in Focus: Section 3, Page 6.*

## Choice Boiling Down to the Known, as Unknown In St. Louis Suburb With Many Doubtful Voters

By JOSEPH LELYVELD  
Special to The New York Times

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 3—As it is viewed from Robinwood West—a patch of Suburbia U.S.A. that, by its appearance, could be almost anywhere—the Presidential election is boiling down to a choice between the known and the unknown.

The known is well ahead at this stage in Robinwood West although the man who embodies it, President Ford, evokes an enthusiasm so slight as to be almost invisible. Of 17 potential Ford supporters who were interviewed here on a random basis, only four were prepared to say that they thought Mr. Ford had been a good President.

Wayne Stephenson, a middle-level manager for the McDonnell Douglas Corporation, was one of those four. But he went on to describe Mr. Ford as a "died-in-the-wool politician" who is lacking in "innovative capacity."

Noting a report that he had just heard on the radio that the Watergate special prosecutor was abandoning his investigation of Mr. Ford's campaign finances in Michigan, Mr. Stephenson commented: "I wouldn't have been at all surprised the investigation had turned out the other way."

### Salesman Not Impressed

Richard Wohlberg, a salesman of fabricated metal, said he thought the President had done an "excellent" job but added: "I'm not really impressed with Ford. He's not exactly a guy I look at and say I want to be just like him. The people I deal with day to day come across better, a lot of them, than Ford."

Much has been made in election analyses of the "softness" of Jimmy Carter's support but these responses seem to indicate that softness is a general attribute of any candidate's support this fall. The latest New York Times-CBS poll showed that the vote in the suburbs was swinging decisively in the President's favor.

But when the trend was examined in microcosm in Robinwood West—a generally conservative community that secretly backs Democrats at state and

local levels—it seemed that the voters were not so much choosing Mr. Ford as they were rejecting Mr. Carter and the promise of change that he offers.

"I think the mood in this country is to want to settle down a bit," said Dave Kupferer, a personnel relations manager. "We've been through an awful lot. We want somebody in the White House who is not going to pop any surprises."

### 'Comfortable' With Ford

Janet Mabrey, an accountant, said she did not know whether Mr. Ford had done a good job as President or not. "But I feel comfortable with him," she said. "I think he's honest and I think he's trying to do a good job."

Mr. Carter seemed to be winning more respect than votes. "I don't see him as getting pushed around," said Mr. Kupferer, who is inclining to Mr. Ford. "I believe he's a brilliant man," said Harold Hawkinson, who works for an oil company and plans to vote for the President.

Yet there was always a "but," a hesitation. Not even the potential Carter voters spoke of being comfortable with the Georgian or sure that they knew what his objectives would really turn out to be once he was installed in the White House.

In part the doubts were ideological—a fear that the Democrat would prove to be a "spender"—but they were more commonly expressed as doubts about his character.

"I'm from Missouri," said Barbara Stone, a Democrat who would have voted for Ronald Reagan and now regards herself as undecided. "Show me that he's real and not bionic."

Mr. Carter's general failure to persuade the voters of Robinwood West was most striking in the area of government reorganization and budgeting. When the candidate talks of "tough, competent management," he is talking the language of most of the voters here.

### Backgrounds Like Carter's

No lawyers were discovered in the door-to-door interviewing. The residents of Robinwood West had practical and business backgrounds that were

much more comparable to that of Mr. Carter than Mr. Ford.

Yet the Democrat's promise to apply management techniques rigorously in a way that would make a difference generally aroused skepticism among the voters in what is turning out to be a year of lowered expectations.

"No single individual can have that much impact," Mr. Kupferer said.

"I don't believe any man alive can do what he says he's going to do, especially him," said Tony Gorman, a real estate man whose vest buttons were inscribed with the name Pierre Cardin.

Bruce Wilson, a pharmaceuticals salesman, said that he initially saw Mr. Carter as "the great white hope," but complained that the candidate "seems like he's trying to encompass everything and trying to appease everybody."

Now there was only one way Mr. Carter could win back his vote, he said. He would have to go on television and make a speech, Mr. Wilson said, that would "tell you exactly what he's for."

"No. 1, on the Panama Canal, blah, blah," the voter said, illustrating his point. "No. 2 on national health insurance, blah, blah. No. 3 on foreign policy, blah, blah. Even if I didn't like what he said, I might vote for him because the guy was finally putting it on the line."

One normally Republican voter said he had been tempted to switch. Ron Ryberg, a salesman of institutional food, said that he had been an enthusiastic supporter of Barry Goldwater in 1964 and had backed former President Richard M. Nixon "just about to the end" but might be tempted to vote for Jimmy Carter if he believed that the Democratic nominee was really committed to the program of national health insurance and the improvement of the status of old people.

But Mr. Ryberg plans to vote for Gerald Ford. "It's a vote," he said, "for the status quo." He doesn't believe that Mr. Carter offers anything more, finally, than a change of faces.

"I think he'd fall right into the groove, the Washington scene," he said.



*Senior Citizens*

October 13, 1976

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Strauss  
946 President Avenue  
Building 2, Apartment 14  
Tom River, New Jersey 08753

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Strauss:

Thank you for your recent letter and your concern about the plight of senior citizens. I have been asked to respond on behalf of the President Ford Committee.

President Ford has pledged, "...to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our Nation." Among the top priorities of the Ford Administration are income and health security for older Americans.

In his 1976 State of the Union Address, President Ford proposed that Social Security benefits be expanded by the full cost-of-living increase. This benefit became effective on July 1 of this year. To protect the integrity of the Social Security Trust Fund, the President proposed a small increase in both employer and employee social security taxes. This increase would become effective January 1, 1977, and would cost workers a maximum of \$1 a week.

The President proposed a catastrophic health insurance program to limit the out-of-pocket amount the older Americans must pay for medical and physicians fees each year. President Ford signed the Amendments to the Older Americans Act that delivers coordinated, comprehensive services and meals to the elderly at the community level and enables older persons to live independent lives in their own homes. In addition to these actions, President Ford has made cutting the rate of inflation his top economic goal. The rate of inflation has been cut in half to around 6% from its high of 12.2% in 1976.

Thank you once again for your concern and interest. With your help and support, President Ford will be elected President on November 2.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence



BN:TS

Hon.

Dear President S. Ford

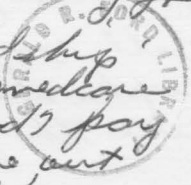
Sept 14, 1976  
senior citizens  
general 8:45 a.m.

I am taking time out to write to you  
I hope you will ans. a personal letter  
and not your staff.

We live in a area. were in contact with  
a lot of senior citizens. listen to all your  
speeches. All ask the same question you  
never mention any thing about the  
senior citizens. And who would like  
to hear what you are doing for them??

My husband and I are (my husband is 75  
and I am 69. We have taken care of America  
for we are both here my husband was  
born in N.Y.C. And I was born Northampton,  
Pa. And have been working since I was 14  
year old. for my father died at 38 years old and  
left my mother with 7 children. And you know  
we didn't have <sup>employment insurance</sup> employment at that time.

So we did have it hard my mother never  
had welfare or food stamps like they do  
to-day and still complaining. But the old people  
are forgettor people <sup>the young</sup> all they think think is  
how bad they have it. I think as young  
people have to much. and income is <sup>easy</sup> easy  
for they don't know how I know hardship  
I was sick and had a help from medicare  
thank god <sup>we</sup> pay in on this. (and I pay  
in all this years since it came out  
(social security)



and they still take out now for the <sup>2</sup> increase. But thank god with here it. but I know we have it hard. When I go to the store to buy any thing I mean food forget the other things ~~to~~ between the rent and a car ect, ect my rent goes up every time my lease is up I mean every year. We must have a car, I live in south Jersey. where we don't have buses like they do in North Jersey, I mean like Newark, Orange, Bergen, I could go out and buy. I think we live in a last age. down here ?? why. (We have a beautiful shopping mall) here, but I know lot of people around here cannot get to them whats a shame, all this buses standing in school yards doing nothing whats a pity. for Ocean County. But they are all out in force went ~~to~~ <sup>election</sup> time here. (true why) ??

I know one thing I don't like a democrat party. So will vote for you my husband and my children will vote for you and I ask some people here who they like and I am sure they will vote for you thank god.

3

I think you will think of us. I like  
we are thinking of you. Please  
help the old people they did take  
care of at S. A. through two world  
wars and all the others. I think they  
need a thought too from you  
and our party, too. Sorry I didn't  
give anything for your campaign  
for we are short of money and just came  
out of the hospital. I hope I stay well  
from now on. you just cannot  
afford to get sick. ?

I will try to get votes for you  
the best I can (sure will try)  
here is ~~to~~ 2 votes you can count  
on. Hoping to hear from you  
sincerely yours

Mrs. Peter Strauss

946 President Ave. Bldg 2 apt 4

Tom River, New Jersey

08753



over

<sup>4</sup>  
excuse writing and spelling for it  
is hard to write. when you have  
so much you want to say  
but don't know how.

Thank you for taking up  
your time for I know you are  
a very busy man.

Anna Strauss

a voter

hoping to hear from you.

good luck and good health to  
your ~~voters~~ winning the  
President for next term.

good luck

for you need it, god bless you  
stay well and think of us. ? ? ?

1 1 1

Comments Senior Citizens

October 12, 1976

David and Vera Lawrence  
730 Hamilton Drive  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence:

Thank you for sending us your ten suggestions for campaign strategy. Your suggestion about citing specific figures in dollars and cents for the cost of government programs was particularly interesting and useful.

From the many letters we receive on the subject of campaign strategy, I have singled out yours to share with the Director of Opposition Research. We in the Ford Committee believe in a two-way communication with the voters. Since we highly value original thought, we are currently giving full consideration to your ideas.

We really appreciate the time you took to write us. Your interest and support is encouraging. We look forward to victory in November with your help.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/krh

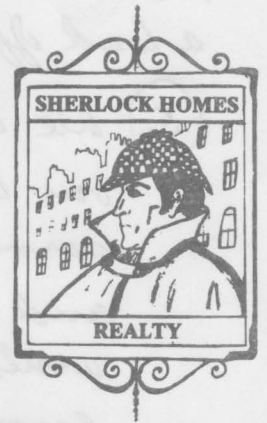


3557 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 23 Lafayette, Ca. 94549 (415)284-1447 or 937-5284

9/18/76

President Ford  
Washington, D.C.

Camp  
strat.



Dear President Ford:

My wife + I wanted to drop you a short note with some ideas we think may help you win in Nov. The following are our suggestions:

1. Have Ron Regan give an hour or two speech for you and the party platform just prior to election on prime T.V. time - nationally. It helped immensely during the Goldwater Campaign.

2. Give the American public some actual examples of the economics involved (in dollars + cents) as to how some of the Democratic, or for that matter, any government "programs", are going to effect the average wage earner's purse. Most of us are economically illiterate - keep it simple.

3. Establish a permanent computer center in Wash. D.C. with a toll free 800 phone # that citizens can phone and give their opinions to on specific measures + programs + issues congress, the executive + judicial branches are proposing. Let us call you and tell you if we are for or against a proposal. You could even let us suggest new proposals. Sorted out by city, county, state, region, the nation - you folks in Washington could get feedback from your constituents.

4. You should propose a Federal law that gives every worker 100% vesting in his retirement plan and that that vesting can move with the worker from job to job - Employer to Employer. The way they are set up now, the odds of any worker receiving his vesting or his company retirement plan are stacked against him and the managers of the plans use the funds for political and their own economic gain. They are designed with those high odds + requirements are such that it is never intended for

the bulk of the workers to get a co. retirement. It would sure take a load off of our social security program.

5. We believe in Rotation in Office and feel that if our Congressmen served 3 years or 4 and our Senators served 4 yrs. or 5 and our President served 5 or 6 years and each only was permitted one term in office - We would see lots of benefits. No one would be in Wash. long enough to forget that a person has to work for a living. They wouldn't be there long enough for any special interest to get their "hooks" into them and they wouldn't get their "hooks" in to ripping off the public. They would be there to do a job and not political huff or three quarters of the time they were in office. We could give politics some prestige as we would want our best representatives working for us - We might even get some better calibre people to run for office too.

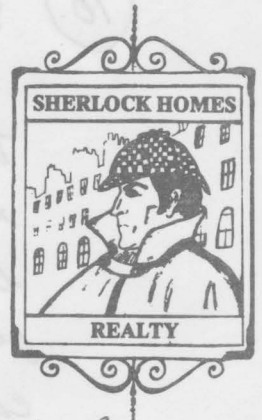
6. As a real estate broker in an area where the average home sells for \$65,000., I am concerned for my children being able to buy a home when they have families. The way it looks now, they probably won't be able to afford one. I feel it is time factory built housing (with production line quality and savings) be supported by the government.

Building codes should be standardized and streamlined and Labor unions convinced of the efficacy of such homes. We still build homes like we built log cabins and the costs are killing us. I also think the U.S. + State Govts. should free up some of their idle lands in housing short areas that could take factory built homes and lease the ground to the owners at a rate commensurate with their incomes.

7. Stop the graduated income tax + all its loopholes. The idea of taxing the rich sounds good to the masses of the voters, but all the graduated tax does is prevent any new people from becoming rich. It in fact protects the old rich who have already accumulated their capital. The loopholes only help the old rich keep more of the income their capital base generates.



3557 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 23 Lafayette, Ca. 94549 (415)284-1447 or 937-5284



9/18/76

7. (cont.) Why don't we have a 10% tax on all personal income? This tax can be paid quarterly by each person. Think of the money in corporate book keeping, government book keeping, etc. that could be saved. Our income tax forms would be so simple, with no loopholes and the mass of non-productive IRS agents and bookkeepers could be freed to work at producing something. It would also mean that we could have some new rich join the club with the old rich and that competition should be stimulating. America used to be a country one came to (as my ancestors did from Canada) to make money. Now it seems we are allowed to earn just enough to live on, but never enough to get ahead with because of our graduated taxes. Either our desire to work and produce and be productive is subverted on us or we become tax evaders or loophole jumpers.
8. Real estate taxes should not be based on improvements but on the land and its zoning. By taxing improvements, buildings in many areas are not improved or even maintained. The idea of taxing someone for making improvements to their property is counter to all American principals. It is truly a negative tax. We should review all of our taxes, their purposes, and revise our system so it becomes more positive and productive instead of negative and confiscatory. We need to get away from socialism and back to capitalism where we can produce capital and enjoy it.
9. Carter's proposal of full employment means guns, shovels, or paper in the hands of the unemployed at our expense. You might tell us what that "plank" of lumber will cost us.

10.

There ought to be some way to limit the federal debt or tie it to the federal income and prevent this tremendous consumption of the American people's substance. If both the congress + senate had to pass by 2/3 majority any increases, perhaps that would slow things down. The biggest cause of inflation, isn't me buying a car, it's you guys, spending and giving away our money. If you don't stop, there will be a taxpayers rebellion. If we all stop paying our taxes, even for one quarter, you would be in trouble.

Enough of our thoughts. We want you to win in Nov. '76 and we want our individual rights preserved. We want some room to move in and a stop to creeping socialism and collectivism. I'm tired of paying someone else's way besides my own. I have never collected unemployment, social security, welfare, etc., but have been paying for these for 20 years or more. I believe that the government can never make another person's demonstration for them - nor can we feed & arm and finance the world. These people & countries must learn to be independent and productive. If they won't change their beliefs, get new ideas, & new habits after we show them a better way, then I feel our responsibility is over to them. God feeds the birds, but he doesn't drop it in their nests. Our government should not try to take up where God leaves off.

Best of luck to you in Nov. -

We are behind you & the party.

P.S. The new tax bill has a real rip off in estate taxes. That should be a good campaign tool for you.

David + Vera Lawrence

September 20, 1976

*Senior Citizens ✓*

Mr. Clifford H. H. Smith  
456 Sophomore Blvd  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your recent letter addressing the problems of Older Americans. President Ford has faced these problems squarely and has done much to overcome them.

Since the President took office, he has reduced the rate of inflation from over 12% in 1974, to around 6% this year. President Ford will continue to lead the fight against inflation while pursuing economic policies which ensure a sound healthy economy.

President Ford has requested a cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, and has proposed a new program to alleviate the burdens of catastrophic illness. The Ford Administration has financed and proposed many programs directed for Older Americans, one of which is the "Administration on Aging", a program which provides meals, transportation, work, and legal services.

President Ford, has not forgotten America's older citizen; he has a strong commitment to resolving their problems and using their talents.

Thank you for your concern and interest and I hope that President Ford can count on your vote this November.

Sincerely,

BDN/tse

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence



Clifford H. Smith  
456 Sophomore Blvd.  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

*Elder Americans*  
*Senior Citizens*

*Camp  
Street*

Twin Falls, Idaho  
August 30, 1976

*General*

Committee to Elect  
"FORD FOR PRESIDENT"  
The White-House  
1600 Penn. Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20013

ATTENTION: Director of Campaign  
Planning and Strategy

Gentlemen:

S U G G E S T I O N :

It is all good and well that you give proper emphasis to the six campaign issues so recently mentioned in the speech by the Republican Vice-Presidential Nonimee, Senator Bob Dole, but the matter of relief for the AGED (those who have had to retire and live on their 1950 to early 1960's income savings who now find their meager savings wiped away by double-digit inflation) was totally ignored. These people's lifetime savings have now been decreased 50% or more in monetary value and living expenses doubled or tripled.

I convey the views of hundreds (yes thousands) of elderly people in this state and nation who are in this position and who would like to vote a straight Republican ticket but probably will not unless the same visible consideration is given to their plight as is being given to unemployment (primarily the young and middle-aged), home ownership, etc.

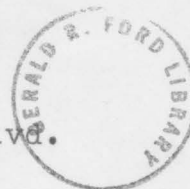
You are "missing the boat" by overlooking the very sizable group of voters in this category that well can spell the difference between victory and defeat. They are going to vote for the Candidates that offer them some hope and help. As yet we have been completely forgotten in the speeches and promises of both President Ford and Senator Dole.

Again--this is only a suggestion from the grass-roots but offered because I care and KNOW that it will make a difference. Please try to see that encouragement is given in this direction if you want this vote. Thank you.

Yours truly

*C. H. Smith*

C. H. SMITH  
~~456~~ Sophomore Blvd.  
456



*Dr. Citizens* ✓

September 8, 1976

Ms. Karen Thompson  
Edelman Inc.  
2121 East Lake Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Ms. Thompson:

Thank you for contacting the President Ford Committee.  
Your interest in the campaign is appreciated.

President Ford has pledged "to do everything in my power to help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and worth of our older persons. By doing so, our Nation will continue to benefit from the contributions that older persons can make to the strengthening of our nation". The enclosed material should help provide you with a clearer understanding of the President's position in this crucial area. Should you need additional information, please feel free to call or write us at any time.

Thanks again for your cooperation and interest. I apologize for the delay in answering your request.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL  
Answer Desk  
Coordinator

RQ:tw  
enclosure



Senior citizen ✓

September 8, 1976

Mrs. Mary G. Fitzell  
7600 North Park Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21219

Dear Mrs. Fitzell:

Thank you for your very generous contribution to President Ford's campaign. We think that it is commendable when someone sends us a contribution and pledges their support. We think that it is marvelous that a person who is 81 years old is so politically active and supporting of President Ford. It was through the generosity of many Americans, like yourself, that our financial goal was reached.

President Ford looks forward to the challenges of the campaign and to the opportunity to serve the American people as President again. He stated in his acceptance speech on August 19, 1976...

"While I am President .. we will build an America where people feel rich in spirit as in worldly goods. We will build an America where people feel proud about themselves and about their country."

You have helped us towards our goal financially by your contribution, and can help President Ford by voting for him in November.

Thank you once again for your support. Wishing you the best of health in the future.

Sincerely,

Barbara Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BN/dsp



Senior Citizen

Standard  
contribution  
reply  
with a paragraph  
conventional  
near for  
still  
were  
so  
political  
active  
at  
81

President Gerald R. Ford  
c/o The President Ford Committee  
P. O. Box 300  
Washington, D.C. 20044

\$50.00

Dear Mr. President:

Yes, I want to be a part of your campaign effort. I believe as you do that 1976 will be a critical election year for America, and I want to see you elected so that you may carry on the programs and policies outlined in your letter.

*during 1975 to the Republican National Committee over \$100. and on December 31, 1975 I mailed a check to the same committee for \$25. for you 1976. Enclosed is my contribution for: Is not this paid to your campaign? If not, why?*

\$100       \$250       \$500       \$1,000

(Mrs. Roy F.) Mary G. Fitzell 99C1  
Name (Please print)

*Mary G. Fitzell*  
Signature of Contributor

7600 North Park Rd.  
Address

Baltimore Maryland 21219  
City State Zip Code

Retired Check for \$50.00 enclosed  
Occupation Place of Business

*I am past my 61st year and have a very modest income.*  
Please make checks payable to: THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.

Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

**The President Ford Committee is the only organization, under law, which may raise and spend money in behalf of President Ford's campaign.**

Individuals are limited to contributions of \$1,000—spouses and children over 18 years of age may also contribute up to \$1,000. The individual contributor must sign the check or this contribution form.

*Please return your contribution in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.*

THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Howard H. Callaway, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

If you are a Federal employee or if you have a matter pending before a Federal regulatory commission or a Federal agency, please disregard this appeal.



*Sr. Citizens-General*

September 2, 1976

Mr. Oliver A. Michels  
1026 16th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Michels:

Thank you for your interest in President Ford's positions on the problems of the elderly. Enclosed you will find excerpts of the President's remarks addressing your concerns. I hope that this will satisfactorily answer your question.

Thanks again for your interest. I hope that after consideration of the issues facing the nation you will support the President in November. If we may be of further assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Rob Quartel  
Answer Desk Coordinator





*Sr Citizen* ✓

August 26, 1976

Ms. Lisette Owens  
8671 Cerritos Avenue  
Stanton, Ca. 90680

Dear Ms. Owens:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing support for President Ford. We appreciate your interest ~~and~~ the concern of individuals like yourself is an invaluable contribution to the campaign.

I apologize for the number of times that you have been contacted regarding contributions. Your good wishes and support, however, are actually the greatest contribution that you can personally give to the campaign. Although enthusiasm is an intangible contribution, it ~~never~~ nevertheless, is something, that cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

President Ford is making every effort to improve the security, health and quality of life of older Americans. As the President has stated:

Older Americans continue to enrich our lives with their vision, strength, and experience. They've earned the right to live securely, comfortably and independently.

Therefore, the President has proposed increased Social Security and Medicare benefits. In addition, he has signed into law the Employee Retirement Income Security Act as well as the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 which provides for low-interest rates for housing of the elderly.

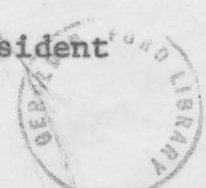
President Ford has done much to combat inflation but looks forward to the next four years during which time he can continue to keep our nation on the road to a bright, more optimistic future.

Thank you again for your support and I hope that President Ford can count on your vote in November.

Sincerely,

BDN/fe

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence



Ms. Lisette Owens  
8671 Cerritos Ave.  
Stanton, California

Lisette Owens age 74  
8671  
Cerritos, apts #4  
Stanton Ca. 90680

Senior Citizen  
7-8-76  
Stanton Ca.

Dear Mr president:

Well maybe you will never read this, but I'm going to write it anyway. Well you ask for money many times, well last week I got a small raise 6.4% which I was very glad for, but before I could get my check cashed the landlord raised my rent \$15.00 now making it \$160.00 a mo. now how in the Hell can one contribute to anything at the rate things are going up daily. there are 6 apt houses in our midst, 6 apt in each unit, making 36 apts. giving each one \$15.00 raise, now I understand this man own's 3 more complexes, besides he is a Doctor, now I'm sure any Doctor makes plenty of money and doesn't have to gouge renter's, why can't some protection put on to protect us Senior Citizen's, from getting one raise after another. it takes much more then half of my sb. & d. check for rent + utilities, I would like to live a little longer + not starve, I can't contribute any thing unless I deny myself of food.

August 12, 1976

8/24  
senior citizens  
general

Irs Nelson Tuck  
801 North Broad Street, Apt. 4D  
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208

Dear Mr. Tuck:

Thank you for your letter to Mr. Rogers Morton. I have been asked to reply and want, first to apologize for the delay in answering your letter. We have been swamped with letters and have been making every effort to reply to each one in a meaningful way.

President Ford is, of course, much concerned with the problems of Older Americans. He believes they have made--and must be allowed to continue to make--invaluable contributions to the strength, stability, and advancement of our society. As their role increasingly becomes recognized and acknowledged, a provision such as you outline in your letter will undoubtedly have to become an integral part of future programs designed to ensure the well-being--and the productivity--of our older citizens.

Sincerely,

ROB QUAREEL  
Answer Desk Coordinator

RQ/cm

*Senior Citizens  
General*

August 5, 1976

Mrs. George Reneke  
Alma, Nebraska  
68920

Dear Mrs. Reneke:

Thank you so much for your letter of July 7th and  
your kind words of support and prayers.

Even though you cannot send a financial contribution,  
your loyalty and dedication to the President's cause  
is a great help to us and we are grateful for it.

Thanks ~~again~~ for writing and it is good to know the  
President can count on your support in the months  
ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm



Alma Nebr, July 7 1976  
ALMA, NEBR. 68920

President Ford Committee  
Washington D.C. 20044

Dear Friends on Ford Committee;

I have wanted to send you another  
contribution. But here in Alma seems  
things are not too good for writing checks  
and I was told one man was on trial and  
is in jail for 6 months,

And I am alone here and seems folks  
are on the watch,

So I do not want to go on trial now  
at age 91 years. But I do not hesitate  
to talk to God and am asking his  
support for our Present President as  
we need him back in his Office.  
And God can do more than I know I can,  
I do hope you will pardon me on this

MRS. GEORGE RENEKE

Sincerely,

Mrs George Reneke

P.S. I am so sorry about all this



Senior Citizens: general ✓

August 4, 1976

Mr. Mike Jimafon  
American Health Care Assoc.  
1200 - 15th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Jimafon:

Thank you for contacting the President Ford Committee.  
Your interest in the campaign is appreciated.

President Ford is deeply committed to meeting the needs of  
Older Americans. In the area of nursing homes, the  
President has proposed:

- Expanding Medicare ~~benefits~~ by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care.
- Limiting the out-of-pocket expenses of beneficiaries for covered services to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing services.
- The collection of information on nursing homes nationally to recommend sound policies to improve and raise the quality of long-term care for the elderly.
- Development of a national rating system for nursing homes receiving Medicaid and Medicare funds.

I hope this information, and the enclosed material, will help answer most of your questions. Should you need any additional material, please feel free to call or write us at any time.

Thank you again for your interest and concern.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL  
Answer Desk  
Coordinator



RQ:mg

Enclosure

Pres. Ford Campaign Manager - July 9 1975

Dear Sir

Listening to the news on radio today prompted me to write this letter.

Perhaps the following might be a good subject to be brought up at this time for votes from Senior Citizens who are single, and I believe should be entitled to use "head of household rates in computing their income tax".

I am a senior citizen and in November 1974 I received a reply to my letter to the President signed by Ethel M. Stanley Jr. Associate Director, Office of Tax Analysis. Among other things it mentioned, "fairness of the relative tax burden on different types of household has been questioned since the early days of the income tax".

I feel a single person living alone has the same expenses as a couple



person leasing an apartment or owning  
a home and should be given more considera-  
tion.

Thank you for any courtesy  
extended.

Please bring this to the attention  
of the President.

Very truly yours  
Miss Margaret M. Lally  
105 Wm England Ave  
Summit N.J. 07901



Senior Citizens ✓  
~~Dr. Citizens~~  
~~.....~~  
Inflation

July 27, 1976

Mrs. A. Ibbetson .....  
2923 Queen Avenue .....  
West Dearborn Michigan 48124 .....

Dear Mr. Ibbetson: .....

Thank you for your note and your comments on certain issues of interest and great concern to you. We appreciate your sharing your thoughts with us and your opinions have been carefully noted.

As senior citizens, your generosity in the past has been an asset to President Ford and he thanks you for all the help you have given. He also shares your concern for inflation and medical costs for our older citizens and has worked to bring relief in these areas for people living on fixed incomes. I am enclosing a pamphlet that might be of interest to you in this area.

Thank you again for keeping in touch and it is good to know the President can count on your support in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm .....  
Enc. ....



# President Ford '76 Club

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

COUNT ME IN AS A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENT FORD '76 CLUB.

*we get letters from all persons running for the white house for a  
Yes, I want to support President Ford. Enclosed is my contribution of: \$ Hand outs,*

Please print or type  
 Mr.  Mrs.  Miss  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
MRS. A. IBBETSON  
2923 Queen Avenue  
W. Dearborn, Mich. 48124

*How about bussing and*  
Employer Federal Medical Control

Name *We have already made a*

Employer Address of Doctors and Hospitals like

Home Address Couple of Contributions

City Canada State skyrocketing of living costs Zip \_\_\_\_\_

City We a Senior Citizens are

Occupation Retired, inflation!

Signature of Contributor: fixed Pensions.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Please make checks payable to: **THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.** Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

*Federal Spending?*

L2

## **A Reminder to Our Contributors**

*President Ford recently signed into law a Tax Reform Bill which doubles the amount of political contributions which can be deducted on your 1976 federal income tax return.*

An individual filing a separate return has the following options:

1. Take a direct tax credit of an amount equal to one-half of total annual political contributions up to \$25 *or*,

2. Take a regular deduction of total annual political contributions up to \$100.

A couple filing a joint return has the following options:

1. Take a direct tax credit of an amount equal to one-half total annual political contributions up to \$50 *or*,
2. *Take a regular deduction of total annual political contributions up to \$200.*

You may choose whichever one of these methods is most advantageous to you!

~~No Card~~

Issues  
SENIOR CITIZENS  
(General)

July 22, 1976

Mrs. Hazel C. Rouse  
7 Highland Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 15301

Dear Mrs. Rouse:

The President has asked that I thank you for your kind letter and words of support. He appreciates your loyalty and dedication, they mean a great deal to him. Your contribution of helping through your efforts to speak out in his behalf will help his campaign tremendously in the long run.

The President believes that older Americans continue to enrich our lives with their vision, strength and experience and that they've earned the right to live securely, comfortably and independently. He is working continuously for your benefit and to improve the quality of life for all our senior citizens.

Thank you again for writing and it is good to know the President can count on your support in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm



Issue -

\*\*\*\*\*  
Yes, Mr. President,  
you can count on me.  
\*\*\*\*\*

7 Highland Ave  
Washington 15301

Dear Mr. President -

I am in your corner 100% and  
have a picture of you and Betty  
in my stairway, but I am 73  
and on small social security so  
am unable to send any more  
contribution - but I do <sup>0001</sup> a lot of  
talking and sure hope you  
make it and please be good  
to the old people. It's ashame  
some people have so much, there  
should be some way to take from  
the old rich and give to the poor.  
I get by, but a lot don't. Sincerely,  
Hazel Chouse

President Gerald R. Ford  
c/o The President Ford Committee  
P. O. Box 300  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. President:

Yes, I want to be a part of your campaign effort. I believe as you do that 1976 will be a critical election year for America, and I want to see you elected so that you may carry on the programs and policies outlined in your letter.

*Enclosed is my contribution for:*

\$15

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$250

\$500

\$1,000

99HI

Name (Please print)

Signature of Contributor

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Occupation

Place of Business

*Please make checks payable to: THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.*  
Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

**The President Ford Committee is the only organization, under law, which may raise and spend money in behalf of President Ford's campaign.**

Individuals are limited to contributions of \$1,000—spouses and children over 18 years of age may also contribute up to \$1,000. The individual contributor must sign the check or this contribution form.

*Please return your contribution in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.*

*THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.*

If you are a Federal employee or if you have a matter pending before a Federal regulatory commission or a Federal agency, please disregard this appeal.

~~Support~~ Support

7-9-76

File also

Senior  
Senior

Dear Mr Mosbacher:

Thanks for your kind letter  
of July 1-76.

I have always been 100%  
for Pres Ford and Nelson Rockefeller.  
I noticed in the enclosed letter, it says  
I sent a \$50<sup>00</sup> contribution in 1975.

→ The only contributing was for  
Pres Ford only.

Congressman Vander Jagt was  
very kind in writing me, but please  
destroy letters etc of July 4/76 -  
it has been an error, any  
money from me was for  
Pres Ford and sent to him.

God bless you, President Ford,  
& Rockefeller.

Sincerely,

Shelma LeBaron  
age 78.



*Dr. Citizens* ✓

July 7, 1976

Mr. George L. Bertrand  
348 W. Clackamas Circle  
Woodburn, Oregon 97071

Dear Mr. Bertrand:

Thank you for your letter of May 17th to the President Ford Committee regarding the President's policies on senior citizens and retired federal employees.

In charging false advertising, you seem to dismiss the increased Social Security tax which has no other purpose than to insure prompt payments to the elderly who are entitled to such benefits; catastrophic illness protection which is essential to elder citizens; and other programs designed specifically to aid older Americans. These are substantial programs deserving of support.

With regard to the President's policy toward retired Federal employees, I think that your concern is understandable; but you should in your own interest look at the larger picture. This country has been in a serious recession in which the inflation rate at one point hit over 12%. Such a drastic inflation hurts the very people with whom you identify. The President has targeted inflation as the major ill of the economy and adopted a budget plan accordingly. As a result, inflation has been cut in half. There are many older Americans who do not come under any cost-of-living escalator, and their interests are protected by the President's courageous stand on budget issues. If you consider these facts, I think that you will find that not only has there been no false advertising; but there has been some failure to adequately communicate the President's accomplishments.

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. We appreciate your taking the time to write to us.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL  
Answer Desk Coordinator

RQ/ljp





July 2, 1976

Issue  
(Senior citizens)

Ms. Virginia R. Fiess  
Catholic Social Services  
222 North Seventeenth Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Dear Ms. Fiess:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting information on what President Ford has done to help older Americans. We appreciate your interest in this subject which is of particular concern to the President. The President is firmly committed to meeting the needs of older Americans as well as drawing on their strengths in resolving the problems facing America. His recommendations in this area attest to that fact.

President Ford has noted that the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. In light of this, in his budget request for fiscal 1977, the President has requested a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits that will help bolster the purchasing power of 32 million older Americans. Likewise, the President signed a \$22.8 billion dollar anti-recession tax cut bill that included payment of \$50 each to some 34 million individuals receiving Social Security, Railroad Retirement, and Supplemental Security Income benefits. In addition, families caring for elderly persons were benefitted by a liberalization of the tax reduction rules.

Additionally, President Ford has signed the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which, among other things, provides for subsidizing housing for low income renters and authorizes direct, low-interest loans for housing for the elderly.

The President has also signed into law Title XX of the Social Security Act which provides 2.5 billion dollars to the states for social services. Under Title XX, older persons will receive increased services, planned and implemented by state and local governments.

Lastly, President Ford has supported the concept of the Older Americans Act since its inception in 1965. This past November, the President strengthened the Act when he signed into law amendments creating new services and goals. Under President Ford's administration, \$272 million - almost seven times the amount available three years earlier - went to this program. Through the Administration on Aging, created by this Act, a national network on aging composed of state, area and nutrition agencies has been established. As an example of what the Act does, nutrition agencies serve older persons over 300,000 hot meals a day, five days a week at 5,000 locations.



Ms. Virginia R. Fiess - 2  
7/2/76

These are but a few of the many proposals that the President has put forth in an effort to help America's older citizens. I hope that this information has been of interest to you, but please feel free to contact us if any further problems arise. Thank you again, and I hope that President Ford can count on your support in the months ahead.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence





ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA  
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

222 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET - PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103 - (215) 587-3500

June 11, 1976

President Ford Reelection Committee  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

As one who works with the elderly I am interested in knowing what the President's plans are for those over 65.

Please send me any information on his plans for older adults in the new term of office.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Ms. Virginia R. Fiess



BARTON S. MITCHELL  
BALTIMORE, MD.

June 8, 1976

Mr. Robert Mosbacher, Finance Chairman  
President Ford Committee  
1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 250  
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Mr. Mosbacher:

As a supporter of President Ford I am writing to make a suggestion.

Other than the fact that I have been listening to enough campaign rhetoric to last a lifetime, I don't feel that the message is getting out to the people as to what the President's real accomplishments have been in what is coming up on two years that he has been in office. In my opinion, his actions in vetoing the deluge of spending bills that the giveaway Democratic Congress has showered on the White House is the key element in the fact that it is pretty generally agreed that the economy is on its way to recovery. This is certainly a generalization, but with the resources at your disposal it seems to me that a nationwide, state by state, campaign effort should contain such a thrust in all the media.

Other areas of domestic and foreign affairs certainly can show similar accomplishments. I guess what I really am saying is that all the other candidates in both parties are spending a lot of money and a lot of time letting the people know what they think has not been accomplished. I don't get the impression that the Ford Campaign is getting the message across as to what has been accomplished. Maybe it is in your strategy to lay back. If it is I hope you are right in doing so because you have to get past Reagan.

The President came in to office under extremely difficult circumstances and in my opinion he has handled himself very well since that time. He deserves the opportunity to serve a full term.



BARTON S. MITCHELL  
BALTIMORE, MD.

(2)

But if he is going to get that opportunity, his campaign is going to have to get it for him by letting the people know what has been accomplished and what can be accomplished by continuation of existing programs and policies. It is certainly true that there are tremendous tangible and intangible benefits in waging a campaign of the incumbent. It seems to me however, that the opposition is more determined than ever. And the media is no less zealous in their interest in criticizing everything that anybody tries to do. This is what you have to overcome and I sincerely hope you will give it the maximum effort.

Sincerely,



Barton S. Mitchell

BSM:mce

P. O. Box 2799  
Baltimore, Md. 21225



Senior Citizens: general

June 14, 1976

Mrs. Lula C. Cox  
231 Bibb Street  
Preskegee Institute  
Alabama 35088

Dear Mrs. Cox:

My sincere apology for having taken so long to respond.

Enclosed is a pamphlet regarding President Ford's plans for helping older Americans and retired persons. I hope it answers all of your questions. If not, please feel free to write us again.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL  
Answer Desk Coordinator

RQ:mm  
enclosure



Senior Citizens: general  
6/23/76  
opinion-support

June 14, 1976

Mr. Lloyd Richardson  
9250 East Marginal Way  
Seattle, Washington 98108

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Thank you for your recent letter to Rogers Morton and for taking the time to share your thoughts with the President Ford Committee.

I have enclosed<sup>05</sup> a brochure containing President Ford's views and programs for our country's older persons. After reading it, I think you will soon learn of President Ford's deep concern for our nation's senior citizens. You may be assured that he has your best interests in mind and heart as he formulates policy on behalf of older Americans.

We appreciate your affirmation of support for President Ford. I hope that he may continue to enjoy your confidence in the months to come.

Sincerely,

Barbara Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BN/alm



Rogers Morton  
President Ford Committee  
1828-L-ST N.W. Suite 250  
Washington D.C. 20036

Lloyd Richardson  
9250-E-Marginal Way  
Seattle Wash 98108

I don't believe Ronald Reagan can be elected President of the U.S. until he satisfactorily explains his present and future attitude on all Pensions. The people of California may have forgotten but while he was Governor he had them in terrible fear, especially the old people when (if I am not mistaken) he ~~took~~ indirectly took Pension Moneys away from the old people and forced the Relatives to support them when many complained they didn't have enough for themselves. To most of the people I talked to in California at that time his action meant that he was against all Pensions and would go back to the "No Pension County Poor Farm" days for the old people. I believe if he don't—



answer it now the Democrats  
will use it against him in the  
General Election Campaigns.  
The people also blamed Reagan  
for not paying his state and  
Federal Income Taxes and  
Vetoing a Bill to institute  
withholding on the already  
existing California state Income  
Tax, this would have saved the  
State of California millions of  
Dollars in Interest paid to the  
Banks on money borrowed to pay  
state expenses until the tax  
moneys came in at the end of the year  
adding to the already high state  
debt. By finally signing this Bill  
under pressure and Indirectly  
~~cutting~~ taking pension money  
away from the old people he  
took credit for balancing  
the Budget and paying the Debt.  
Being an Independent and not  
being able to get a job because  
of my age and not too far  
from retirement I am concerned.  
do you have a job for me?



*Comments ✓*  
*Dr. Citizen*

April 28, 1976

Mr. William L. Wessels .....  
Blue Mountain Lake .....  
New York, New York 12812 .....

Dear Mr. Wessels: .....

Then President has asked me to thank you so much for  
your letter of March 17th and your generous contribution  
to his campaign. ....

We appreciate your support and help, you are to be  
commended for sharing part of your limited income to  
assist the President. Enclosed is a certificate of  
our appreciation for your generosity. ....

Thanks again for your kind words. ....

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/dm .....  
Encl. ....



WILLIAM L. WESSELS  
ADVERTISING - PUBLICITY - AUTHOR  
ADIRONDACKS - NEW YORK STATE

ADDRESS  
BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE  
NEW YORK 12812  
TEL. 352-7772

Senior  
citizen

15-

March 27-1976.

Dear President Lock!

your comple-  
ments in letter of March 22- at-  
tend here in Florida - a  
letter with hearty friend.

See how  
most modest check for \$152.00  
to help along the good cause

I am retired  
at age 82 and my income is  
solely from pension from  
Savings Bonds - stock and Bonds  
It is a hassle to make ends  
meet.

Sincerely yours,  
William L. Wessels



~~Comments~~  
Mr. Coate ✓

April 27, 1976

Mr. James H. Coate  
6833 S.E. Pine Court  
Portland, Oregon 97215

Dear Mr. Coate,

We thank you for your recent letter to President Ford. The President is well aware of the difficulties that you experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living.

The contributions you can make to his campaign are not measured solely by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas are invaluable to the President and your support is a real asset.

Please know that we are all sympathetic to the pressures that taxes create for people, especially for senior American citizens. The President continues to seek the best solutions to our complex problems.

Thanks again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Barbara D. Norris  
Director of Correspondence

BDN/bw



I will be 89 on 6/1/76. My wonderful wife for 64+ years was seriously ill for 6 years etc.

SP. CITIZEN

JAMES H. COATE  
6833 S.E. PINE COURT  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97215

Mar 31 1976

Dear President Ford.

Do we need to reply to this?

Yours of March 25th.

I have been making Income Tax Returns since 1917 but have never had as many problems as I have on 1975.

Arthur Young & Co and predecessors have prepared my Income Tax Returns since 1938 but tell me they will not be able to make a rough estimate of amount of amount tax I will have pay on 4/15 prior to 4/9 or 10 due to changes effective on 75 income on account of my dear wife's death 9/6/74 and her will providing for Marital Trust being set up for over three children ages 58-61-64.

I am deferring any commitments on everything until I know how much I have to borrow on 4/14. If you do not hear from me by 4/18, remind me again. quite sure I can do something. James H. Coate

~~Handwritten signature~~  
Dr. C. C. C. C.

April 19, 1976

Mr. J.J. Chambers, Jr.  
825 Anchor Drive, Box 1222  
Forked River, N.J. 08731

Dear Mr. Chambers:

We sincerely appreciate your letter of March 12. Please be assured that President Ford is sympathetic to your problems and those of all senior citizens.

The President has stressed repeatedly his belief that the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older citizens is inflation. Thus, his chief economic priority has been to fight inflation--the double digit inflation of 1974 has been cut nearly in half at this point.

In his recent State of the Union Message, the President proposed a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits payments which if passed, should be of help to you.

In his tax package, President Ford signed legislation to extend the 1975 tax cut; recommended an increase in the personal exemption from \$750 to \$1,000 and substitution of a single standard deduction--\$2,500 for couples filing jointly--for the existing low income allowance and percentage standard deduction.

And, in a major new program to aid senior citizens, President Ford has proposed extending Medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing care for beneficiaries and limiting the out-of-pocket expenses for beneficiaries for covered services to \$500 per year for hospital and skilled nursing care and \$250 per year for non-institutional medical services.

Again, we appreciate your letter and are hopeful of your support.

Sincerely,

ROB QUARTEL  
Answer Desk Coordinator



RQ:mm  
enclosures

*Senior Citizens*

April 6, 1976

Mrs. Frances Harding  
1416 South 6th Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147

Dear Mrs. Harding,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration





NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION  
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 04722

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL . . . . Donor restriction  
TYPE OF MATERIAL . . . . . Letter  
CREATOR'S NAME . . . . . Mrs. Frances Harding  
RECEIVER'S NAME . . . . . Gerald Ford  
DESCRIPTION . . . . . personal/financial  
CREATION DATE . . . . . 03/08/1976  
  
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 003403455  
COLLECTION TITLE . . . . . PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN  
RECORDS  
BOX NUMBER . . . . . B82  
FOLDER TITLE . . . . . Senior Citizens (1) - (2)  
DATE WITHDRAWN . . . . . 04/15/1992  
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST . . . . LET

~~old~~  
Senior Citizen

April 6, 1976

Miss Florence L. Long  
111 20th Street #525  
Rock Island, Illinois 61201

Dear Miss Long,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration



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Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL . . . . Donor restriction  
TYPE OF MATERIAL . . . . . Letter  
CREATOR'S NAME . . . . . Miss. Florence Long  
RECEIVER'S NAME . . . . . Gerald Ford  
DESCRIPTION . . . . . personal/financial  
CREATION DATE . . . . . 03/18/1976  
  
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 003403455  
COLLECTION TITLE . . . . . PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE CAMPAIGN  
RECORDS  
BOX NUMBER . . . . . B82  
FOLDER TITLE . . . . . Senior Citizens (1) - (2)  
  
NEW LOCATION . . . . . Donor Restriction Closed File  
DATE WITHDRAWN . . . . . 04/15/1992  
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST . . . . . Leesa E. Tobin  
KNOWN DUPLICATES . . . . . No

Yellow

~~older~~ ✓  
Senior Citizens

April 6, 1976

Mrs. Herman Glienke  
Route 1  
Alta, Iowa 51002

Dear Mrs. Glienke,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration



Alta Iowa  
March 7<sup>th</sup> 1976

Dear President Mr. Ford

May our God and Lord grant you long Life and His Blessings for your work as our President, and may You and all those that work together with you look to God for guidance and help as you perform your duties, every Sunday Morning I say a Prayer for you Mr. President and for all Government Officials asking our Father in Heaven to lead you in His ways, and that our Lord may hold <sup>His</sup> protecting hand over this our Beloved United States of America.

Please read the Booklet I'm inclosing, "Our Bicentennial America at the Crossroads". Mr. Graham explains what I'd like to write about but I'm not good at finding the right words, just want to add, American People and Government turn back to God our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The future does not look bright but dark, so much Crime and Murder and then they get

away with it and go, and do the same thing over again, those that kill others should also be put to death and not let them run loose, in the Holy Bible Matthew 26, v. 51, 52, 53, we read about this.

Unemployment is, also not good and how does it come about? Women want to rule the Country, work away from home, are not satisfied with that what the Husband earns, their God given duty is in the home to take good care of the children instead of leaving them with a Baby sitter, cook a good meal for their Husband and leave the other jobs for the men, if People would read the Bible Proverbs for home life and Ecclesiastes about King Solomon for Government and then Fear Love and Trust God above all things, God tells us through the Prophet Malachi Chapter 3 how He will Bless us if we listen to Him. We are to keep the Sabbath Day Holy and rest our tired bodies, go to Gods House and listen to His Word, instead many People

work all day Sunday to make more Money  
and forget that all depends on Gods Blessing  
And now Mr. President you are asking for  
Money for Campaigning and that seems un-  
necessary to me, we pay Taxes and every  
year we have to pay more Taxes, there has  
to be a limit to that all of you in Washington  
should learn how to save cut down the expenses  
instead of all the trips to other Countries  
you should look after things here and  
bear with the Farmers a little more if the  
Farmers go broke then who shall feed all  
the city People, we better not say this can not  
happen to our Country, it has happened in Bible  
time and also to Germany during and after  
the War, those People had forsaken the Lord  
and God punished them and we are not  
any better, if we do not repent from our  
sinful ways and ask God to forgive us  
He will also furnish us.

Now Mr. President I suppose this my  
scribbling will just land in the Waste

Paper basket, I know that I can not write a perfectly worded letter, but beings you wrote to me I feel like I owe you a few lines I'm sorry that I did not answer sooner, I kept putting it off because my letter writing ambition is failing me at my age of 76 or 77 in April God willing to let me live that long, My now departed Husband and I have lived under Gods protection and Blessing for 52 years, Blessed with 10 healthy children, later with 41 Grandchildren, a lot of hard work but with our Lords help we made it, there still is a lot to do with Letters arriving sometimes 3 in a day asking for Donations to help the poor and needy in this wide World of ours. I'll try to help them in a little way, and also by Lutheran World Relief.

As long as God lets me live and in good <sup>keep me</sup> Mind I will keep on Praying for you and our Country, Sincerely

Mrs. Herman Gienke

R1 Alta Iowa 51002





Senior Citizens: general

~~Issues~~ ✓

April 6, 1976

Mr. Elwood Allison  
1115 El Centro Avenue  
Oakland, California 94602

Dear Mr. Allison:

Thank you very much for your recent comments on the status of older Americans throughout the country. Letters such as yours provide those of us at the President Ford Committee, an excellent gauge of public opinion.

President Ford shares your concern with the quality of life for the elderly in America. In a recent special message to Congress, the President asked Congress to "help our Nation demonstrate by its deeds a deep concern for the dignity and workh of our older persons."

He feels the single greatest threat to the quality of life of older Americans is inflation. Consequently, the President's 1977 budget requests include a full cost of living increase in Social Security benefits, that will help bolster the purchasing power of 32 million older Americans.

In a major new program to alleviate the burden of catastrophic illness the President proposes extending medicare benefits by providing coverage for unlimited days of hospital and skilled nursing facility care for beneficiaries as well as placing limits on the out of pocket expenses of beneficiaries for covered services.

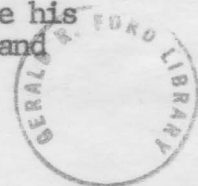
Under President Ford's administration \$272 million, almost seven times the amount available three years earlier, has been spent on programs authorized by the older Americans Act. In November of 1975 the President signed into law amendments to the Act designed to strengthen the current program and to create even more services.

We hope these actions, and others which the President has taken and will continue to take on behalf of older Americans, demonstrate his concern. We also hope that these actions merit your approval and support in the upcoming election.

Thanks again for your comments.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman for Administration



GERALD R. FORD  
WASHINGTON

February 16, 1976

Mr. E. Allison  
1115 El Centro Ave  
Oakland, California 94602

Dear Mr. Allison:

In the past, you have generously supported the Republican party and its candidates for office. Today, I am writing to ask for your support for my own campaign.

Let me try to set forth what I believe can be accomplished with your help and that of other concerned Americans. As I see it, our country 17 months ago began an experience that was unique in the history of our democracy: we transferred the reins of the highest office in the land to a man chosen for that office under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

The country was facing one of its sternest tests. Bitterness, rancor and distrust festered in the body politic. The longest, most divisive war in our history was winding toward an unhappy conclusion, and many feared that the end of an external war would mean the beginning of an internal war of recriminations. And finally, our economy was afflicted with the disease of inflation -- inflation so serious that it would ultimately drive us into the worst recession in a generation. Clearly, there were great challenges both for me and for the Nation.

I have tried during these months to give my very best to the American people and to the causes which we hold dear as a Nation. I lay no claim to perfection; much remains to be done. But the hemorrhaging has been stopped, and the process of healing has begun. Our spiritual and economic health is returning.

The moment has now come, I believe, when we can begin to look ahead once again -- to envision the America we would like to see during our third century as a Nation and to formulate concrete programs that will make our dreams come true. Our Bicentennial should be more than a year of brass bands and birthday banners; it should be a year when we choose a fresh, positive course for ourselves and for our children.

February 16, 1976  
Mr. E. Allison

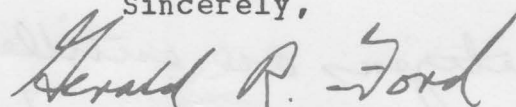
As President, I want to build upon the progress of the past by charting and guiding the Nation toward a brighter future. I am pledged first and foremost to bringing a renaissance of the individual in our society. I want to reverse the flow of power to centralized government and to give people more power over their own lives. I am convinced that personal satisfaction and happiness can only be achieved in America when individual citizens have the freedom and the ability to determine their own destinies. I am also pledged to strengthening the spiritual and moral values in our country. We have to restore a greater sense of meaning to our lives. Finally, I am pledged to keeping America strong in the world -- strong in its economy, strong in its military power, strong in its commitment to liberty. Freedom is endangered across the globe; now, even more than in Lincoln's day, America is truly "the last, best hope of earth."

During the course of the year, I will be setting forth many concrete proposals to start us down this road. I will ask that we cut both taxes and Federal spending. I will press once again for stronger legislation to promote energy independence. I will advocate reductions in governmental regulation. I will seek to create new jobs and reduce inflation through a variety of steps, including greater capital formation. I will seek changes in the structure of government so that the government is more effective, more honest, and more responsive to the needs of the American people. Some of these programs were spelled out in my recent State of the Union Address; others will be included in forthcoming messages and speeches.

This will be a positive, substantive agenda, but let us always recognize a singular truth: policy pronouncements can only be translated into reality when they have the active support of the American people. That is why I am turning to you for help -- financial help that is needed to make my campaign a success and to set the country on a better course for the future. I hope that you will join me.

I believe in America and I believe that when Americans work together, there is almost nothing we cannot accomplish. Let this be the year when we rekindle the Spirit of '76, and let us work together to make the Bicentennial a fitting celebration for America.

Sincerely,



Gerald R. Ford

Monday, March 8, 1976

Brochure

Dear President Ford:

I am not prepared to support you until you indicate some concrete evidence to assist older citizens to have health care, a sound social security program a proper honest welfare program. I do not see any honest reason for our senators and representatives being allowed to increase their salaries now or any later time, especially since we have inflation and many, many of our people going without food and proper medical care.

You have not done or recommended a health care program for older citizens at anytime during your term of office, even though this need has been recognized and talked about for over 10 years. You have recommended a plan which penalizes the older people. While you and the senators and representatives have health care provided, free of charge, in any of our armed forces hospitals in the land. Is this honest and fair to the older people? Don't you feel the older citizens are entitled to care as much as these government employees?

You have done nothing, nor have you recommended anything that will make social security safe and



fair for older people, while at the same time you have provided yourselves with good retirement incomes. Is this fair and honest? Are not our citizens, old, entitled to something for their old age? You government officials have seen to it to provide for yourselves, while some of the older persons are completely neglected.

I believe in America, too, and feel there are many wonderful advantages in America and have spent several years of my life in working for the principles of our land.

In this letter, there is not one single statement regarding social security, health care and a determined change of food stamps or welfare. Lets take a definite stand and speak forward with

honesty and fairness

Sincerely,

Elwood Allison



~~Older~~  
Senior Citizens ✓

April 6, 1976

Mr. and Mrs. L. Schaeffer  
7551 Beech Avenue  
Hammond, Indiana 46324

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schaeffer,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration



February 16, 1976  
Mar. 8, 1976

Dear Mr. President.

We would like very much to be able to help with your campaign and the Republican Party but we are on Social Security only and it is very hard to keep our bills paid and buy groceries, and try to maintain our home.

It seems like the money spent for parks, money sent overseas could be put to a better use here in our own country for the elderly.

If the utilities are permitted to get increases all the time, we don't see how many, many people our age can keep on going.

The cry is to build more places to live like big units, it takes heat for these, extra and we are supposed to conserve. We sit around with sweaters on, blankets over our feet and legs, close off rooms to try to conserve heating costs.

Why can't something be done about things?

The aged need help and more help. Utilities could have special rates for the <sup>needy</sup> retired people.

Respectfully

7551 Beck Ave Hammond Ind Mr & Mrs J Schaffer  
46324

February 16, 1976  
Mr. & Mrs. L. Schaeffer

7551 Beech Ave  
Hammond Ind 46324

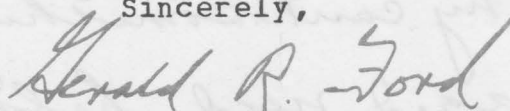
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I believe in America and I believe that when Americans work together, there is almost nothing we cannot accomplish. Let this be the year when we rekindle the Spirit of '76, and let us work together to make the Bicentennial a fitting celebration for America.

Sincerely,



Gerald R. Ford



*Older*  
*Senior Citizens* —

April 6, 1976

Mr. F.E. Forster  
126 Pemugwood Avenue  
Roosevelt, New York 11575

Dear Mr. Forster,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration





President Gerald R. Ford  
 c/o The President Ford Committee  
 P. O. Box 300  
 Washington, D.C. 20044

Dear Mr. President:

Yes, I want to be a part of your campaign effort. I believe as you do that 1976 will be a critical election year for America, and I want to see you elected so that you may carry on the programs and policies outlined in your letter.

Enclosed is my contribution for:

- \$15                       \$25                       \$50                       \$100  
 \$250                       \$500                       \$1,000

*F. FORSTER - Unfortunately I can not help financially*<sup>99F1</sup>  
 Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_  
*any more - except that I will help to*  
 Signature of Contributor \_\_\_\_\_  
*put a good word in for our President so*  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*that all our friends will vote for him -*  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
*Sincerely yours F. E. Forster - 126 East Denningwood Ave*  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Business \_\_\_\_\_ Roosevelt, N.Y. 11575

Please make checks payable to: **THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE.**  
 Only personal checks may be accepted—corporate contributions are prohibited by law.

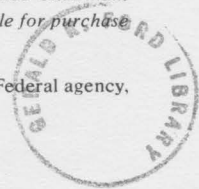
**The President Ford Committee is the only organization, under law, which may raise and spend money in behalf of President Ford's nomination.**

Individuals are limited to contributions of \$1,000—spouses and children over 18 years of age may also contribute up to \$1,000. The individual contributor must sign the check or this contribution form.

Please return your contribution in the enclosed postage-paid envelope.

THE PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE, Howard H. Callaway, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

If you are a Federal employee or if you have a matter pending before a Federal regulatory commission or a Federal agency, please disregard this appeal.





~~Order~~  
Senior Citizen ✓

April 6, 1976

Mrs. C.V. Bates  
1015 Christie Avenue  
Princeton, West Virginia 24740

Dear Mrs. Bates,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration



It is a sad time for me we would  
have been married 48 years this 1st  
March 6th. But we have always tried  
to support the Republican Party as  
we could, I am here alone and can  
not even get out without one of my  
daughters or son in law helping me due  
to a pull from the spine going away  
on me 1974, but I am enclosing  
an offering just as much as I would  
like to but due to circumstances I  
cant send as much as I would like  
to, but hope to help what I can now.  
Mrs. L. V. Bates

Important Reminder

March 10, 1976

The President Ford Committee will not be soliciting funds in the period after the Republican National Convention, inasmuch as funds will be provided under the new Federal Elections Campaign Act. That is why it is important that you support President Ford today.

Under the new election law, the Republican National Committee is the only committee allowed to spend up to \$3,300,000 in direct support of and in consultation with the Republican nominee for President. In addition, the RNC plans to actively support Republican candidates for the House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and for candidates for Governor. Accordingly, we feel it is vitally important that you financially support the RNC in addition to your financial support of the President Ford Committee.

Thank you.

Mr. E. V. Bates deceased  
June 18, 1975 over

Give "Certificate"

GERALD R. FORD  
WASHINGTON

We think you  
have done a fine  
job, and your being  
a Christian in the  
Lord pleases me  
I read your  
testimony in Insight  
published by Rev. Rex  
Humbard  
in Akron, Ohio

February 16, 1976

*deceased*  
7 Mrs

Mr. C. V. Bates  
1015 Christie Ave  
Princeton, West Virginia 24740

Dear Mr. Bates:

In the past, you have generously supported the Republican party and its candidates for office. Today, I am writing to ask for your support for my own campaign.

Let me try to set forth what I believe can be accomplished with your help and that of other concerned Americans. As I see it, our country 17 months ago began an experience that was unique in the history of our democracy: we transferred the reins of the highest office in the land to a man chosen for that office under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

The country was facing one of its sternest tests. Bitterness, rancor and distrust festered in the body politic. The longest, most divisive war in our history was winding toward an unhappy conclusion, and many feared that the end of an external war would mean the beginning of an internal war of recriminations. And finally, our economy was afflicted with the disease of inflation -- inflation so serious that it would ultimately drive us into the worst recession in a generation. Clearly, there were great challenges both for me and for the Nation.

I have tried during these months to give my very best to the American people and to the causes which we hold dear as a Nation. I lay no claim to perfection; much remains to be done. But the hemorrhaging has been stopped, and the process of healing has begun. Our spiritual and economic health is returning.



The moment has now come, I believe, when we can begin to look ahead once again -- to envision the America we would like to see during our third century as a Nation and to formulate concrete programs that will make our dreams come true. Our Bicentennial should be more than a year of brass bands and birthday banners; it should be a year when we choose a fresh, positive course for ourselves and for our children.

*Older  
Senior Citizen ✓*

April 5, 1976

Miss B. Rickey  
Route 4, Box 348  
Anderson, Indiana 46011

Dear Miss Rickey,

Your letter to President Ford has been received and your ideas and concerns duly noted. He is grateful that you have taken the time to advise him of your concerns.

The voice of the Senior Citizen is of vital importance and must be heard. Hopefully, the enclosed leaflet will be helpful in answering some of your questions in this regard.

Please know that the President is well aware of the difficulties that you, particularly, experience in trying to meet the financial pressures of today's living. The greatest contribution you can make to this campaign is not measured by money. Your loyalty, interest, and ideas will be your most valued support in the months ahead.

President Ford at the same time, is giving careful consideration to your views and continues to seek the best solutions to your complex problems.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Marik  
Deputy Chairman  
for Administration





GERALD R. FORD  
WASHINGTON

(over)

February 16, 1976

Miss B. Rickey  
Route 4, Box 348  
Anderson, Indiana 46011

Dear Miss Rickey:

In the past, you have generously supported the Republican party and its candidates for office. Today, I am writing to ask for your support for my own campaign.

Let me try to set forth what I believe can be accomplished with your help and that of other concerned Americans. As I see it, our country 17 months ago began an experience that was unique in the history of our democracy: we transferred the reins of the highest office in the land to a man chosen for that office under the 25th Amendment to the Constitution.

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Dear Mr President;  
If you had kept the price  
of oil & Gasoline down,  
maybe I would have had  
a few dollars.

As it is, I am a Senior Citizen  
on a fixed income, too old  
to work. My oil bill has been  
running around \$60<sup>00</sup> a month.  
my light bill has been \$25<sup>00</sup>  
a month. Could you live on  
a fixed income at that rate?

I heard you give a speech on  
T.V. about taking control off oil.  
you said the elderly would  
get a refund on oil. I have not  
seen one penny.  
you promise, but forget.

Sincerely

Mrs Bonnie Richey  
Rt - Box 348  
Anderson, Ind. 46011



Senior Citizens: General

February 18, 1976

*Success*

Mr. G. Leroy Eckardt  
Assistant Regional Representative  
National Association of Retired  
Persons  
O'Hare Office Center North, Suite 108  
2720 Des Plaines Ave.,  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

Dear Leroy:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the President's Special Message to Congress on older Americans along with a copy of the White House fact sheet on his proposal.

Thank you so much for your recent note which I found to be of great use.

Please give my best to Karen and the family.

Sincerely,

Fredric W. Slight  
Director of Research

Enclosures

