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Carter's figures not whole story

PLAINS, Ga. (AP) — Jimmy Carter is telling campaign audiences that Democrats deal best with inflation and deficits. He's reciting statistics he says prove it. But his figures don't cover all the facts.

In almost every speech, the Democratic presidential nominee cites statistics on inflation, unemployment and budget deficits under the last three Democratic presidents, and compares them with the record during the current Republican administration.

"I don't care how you look at it, tough management, balanced budgets, low inflation, high employment, low deficits, the Democratic party stands up well," Carter says.

"I don't intend to destroy

the reputation of the Democratic Party if I'm elected."

It is part of Carter's effort to counter Republican assertions that he is a big-spending liberal, an effort he acknowledges has led him to emphasize some conservative themes in the initial phase of his campaign.

His economic statistics cover the administrations of Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, comparing them with the deficits, inflation and unemployment rates under Richard M. Nixon and President Ford. Carter skips the Republican administration of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

There are two apparent errors in the figures Carter

uses. And the record shows that the numbers were carefully chosen to make his point while avoiding less favorable statistics about the economic past.

Republican vice presidential nominee Robert J. Dole countered Carter's claims by saying unemployment was low under Johnson because of the war in Vietnam. Ford's campaign

Analysis

committee issued a statement by Sen. Robert P. Griffin of Michigan that "it's no trick for a President to achieve 'full employment' when our sons are marching off to war" as in Vietnam and Korea.

Here are some of Carter's figures, along with the record:

"Under Johnson and Kennedy, the inflation rate was two per cent — and when Truman went out of office, the inflation rate was only one per cent. Under this

Republican administration, the inflation rate has averaged more than six per cent."

The Consumer Price Index has gone up by an average of 6.6 per cent annually during the Nixon-Ford years.

Under Kennedy and Johnson the average increase in the Consumer Price Index was 2.2 per cent a year, slightly higher than Carter said. There was 4.7 per cent increase in the cost of living in 1968, Johnson's last full year in office. That jump in inflation, which continued into the Nixon administration, stemmed from earlier spending on the war in Vietnam.

"Obviously the aftermath of the Vietnam war did contribute to the inflation rate," Carter acknowledged at a news conference last Thursday.

Truman left office on Jan. 20, 1953, and the inflation rate for that year, most of it under Eisenhower, was .7 per cent. But during 1952, Truman's last full year, the inflation

rate was 2.2 per cent. During the previous two years, as the Korean War expanded, the cost of living had gone up by 7.9 per cent.

That round of inflation was stemmed by price controls in effect during the last two years of Truman's term.

The inflation rate under Nixon also was affected by price controls, which he imposed in August, 1971.

"When President Johnson went out of office, unemployment was less than four per cent, and at the end of Truman's term, less than three per cent of our people were out of work. But the unemployment rate today is 7.9 per cent."

In 1968, Johnson's last year, the unemployment rate averaged 3.6 per cent. However, during the eight Kennedy-Johnson years the average rate was 4.85 per cent. Unemployment reached 6.7 per cent in 1961, Kennedy's first year, stayed above five per cent until 1965. The drop in unemployment came as the war in Vietnam expanded.

Argentine Nazis claim bombings

Buenos Aires, featuring such well-known authors as Adolf Hitler, Joseph Goebbels and Benito Mussolini.

On the first page of each of these pamphlets, the publisher prints a brief note reading, "Today, with more fanaticism and more conviction than ever, we launch — arms outstretched — the universal cry of war and victory of all Aryans... Heil Hitler!"

One booklet written by Hitler and entitled "My Enemy is Yours" shows on its cover a photo of the German dictator.

The pamphlet "Towards the Third Reich," written by Goebbels, carries a small leaflet which calls out to the prospective buyer, "And don't forget to ask for your free National-Socialist flag." Attached to the back cover is a red armband with a black swastika emblazoned on a white circle.

Some of the other pamphlets, most of which depict swastikas, stormtroopers, photos of Hitler, and stereotyped drawings of Jews with bloodied hands and teeth, carry such titles as: "We the Racists," "The Jews," "Facism," "Jesus Christ was not a Jew" and "The Racist Policy of National-Socialism."

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Schweiker assesses losing bid

HARRISBURG, Pa. (UPI) — Sen. Richard Schweiker knew he was taking the biggest risk of his political career when he joined Ronald Reagan's ill-fated presidential campaign as a potential running mate.

But he called it a "coalition for victory" and forged ahead, promising his liberal reputation would lure moderate supporters into Reagan's conservative camp, giving a forgotten wing of the party a voice in presidential politics.

It was a gamble that led to a devastating loss, and now Schweiker is assessing the damage caused by the first defeat in an otherwise brilliant political career that has spanned 15 years in Congress.

Schweiker is an aggressive and ambitious man. He and his friends admit that. He has four years to erase the first blotch of defeat on his record, and his campaign is already underway.

Schweiker, who will become Pennsylvania's senior senator when Hugh Scott retires at the end of this year, does not face re-election until 1980, when he will be 54. Time is on his side.

"My first objective is to go

back to being a good senator for Pennsylvania," Schweiker said. "And I can't emphasize that too strongly. I'm working on a new legislative package now."

He said he wants to review the government programs he once supported "and see just how effective they really are. I want to know if the taxpayer is really getting his money's worth."

Schweiker had one of the most liberal voting records in the Senate. He supported bills setting up consumer protection agencies, battled appropriations for the F111, supported food stamps for strikers, and pushed for open legislative meetings.

And while it may seem unrelated, his future voting record could play a major role in determining how successful he is in walking away from what some say was a serious mistake and fatal defeat.

Many Republican officials say the Reagan-Schweiker failure gives Schweiker a chance to make his voting record more moderate in time for reelection.

That way, he will be able to appeal to his traditional Republican supporters, make inroads among conservatives

and retain the support he has among independents, Democrats and organized labor.

"I think with a more moderate kind of voting record and being an effective Senator over the next few years, he can be a major force in 1980," said Drew Lewis, former candidate for governor. "What he has to do is accept the fact that he had a four week shot at the vice presidency that did not work out and he has tremendous potential for the future. Get on with the future and forget about the past," Lewis said. "The most important thing for Schweiker is to become part of the team again and start working for the Ford-Dole ticket. He can still play a substantial role this year and it could be enough to help Ford win the state."

Other political observers are not so optimistic.

Most refuse to talk on the record because they are determined to mend the rift Schweiker's vice presidential candidacy created.

"I don't think the guy is very smart politician," said one leader.

"He never put a political campaign together for

himself and he never helped anyone else get elected. That is a problem that Schweiker has to change."

Others are angry at what they see as Schweiker's cool endorsement of Ford when Ford won the nomination in Kansas City.

Schweiker says he pledged to back the GOP ticket regardless of the outcome and also voiced his plan to support Ford after Ford won the nomination.

But some Republicans say he didn't go far enough, or fast enough.

"I think that Schweiker lost more between the time Ford was nominated and now than he lost when he accepted Reagan's offer," said one GOP leader.

"It's tough losing, everyone knows that. But you just have to realize that in politics, someone wins and someone loses. He has to forget about his feelings and get on board."

Schweiker seems to have put his first major failure behind him.

He says he is wholeheartedly behind the Ford ticket and carries no grudges against the people who worked to defeat him.

And he says that any damage that was done by the failure of a Reagan-Schweiker candidacy will not be an issue in 1980.

"Look," he said, "conservatives are complimenting me now for trying to tie the wings of the party together. I even had letters from some Democratic officeholders who said it would have been a tough ticket to beat."

He said his mail has been running "about 10 to one" in his favor and contains "a lot of second thought letters. People are saying 'Now that the shock has worn off, it wasn't a bad idea.'"

Schweiker has one element going for him that few other Pennsylvania Republicans can claim, and it is a factor that could well minimize any problems created by the Reagan alliance.

In Pennsylvania, he is and has been, a winner.

In his 1974 election, he defeated Pittsburgh Mayor Pete Flaherty, a Democrat, by a 54 to 46 per cent margin at a time when Democrats had almost a half million vote registration edge.

And when he was first sent to the Senate in 1968, he upset Sen. Joseph S. Clark of Philadelphia, a popular liberal who headed the Americans for Democratic Action, by a 52 to 46 per cent margin.

He made the Senate bid after spending eight years in the House.

Scott's Gulf funds examined by IRS

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service has sent a tax deficiency notice to Sen. Hugh Scott, R-Pa., for funds he allegedly received from Gulf Oil but did not report on his 1973 income tax return, according to a published report.

Scott could not be reached for comment yesterday on the report in the Philadelphia Bulletin. The IRS refused to comment, saying all tax matters are confidential.

A deficiency notice indicates that the IRS believes a taxpayer failed to pay certain taxes without intent to defraud.

The Bulletin source said the IRS is also investigating the Senate minority leader's tax returns before 1973 for possible tax fraud, for which the normal three-year statute of limitations does not apply.

Gulf lobbyist Claude Wild had said he gave Scott \$10,000 a year from the early 1960s until 1973 for "office or personal use."

Scott, 75, who is not seeking re-election, has admitted to the Senate Ethics Committee that he received \$45,000 to \$50,000 from Wild after becoming minority leader in 1969, using it for his 1970 campaign and passing most of it on to other Republican senators.

But he would not acknowledge taking any contributions prior to that and has refused public comment about the Gulf money except to deny any impropriety.

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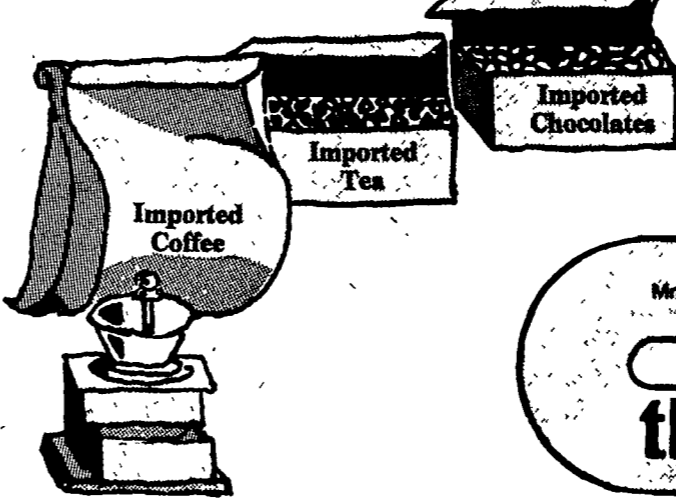
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