dent 5/18/83

DAN QUAYLE

Press Conference - 2/2/82

TV - Channel 6 Indianapolis; Independent News Network; Corinthian Channel 8 Indiana and Channel 15 Fort Wayne ("two for the price of one").

Room 224 Armed Service Committee Room - "only one we could get."

ABC calls and says 'Why do you have this in Armed Services Room.' "Only one we could get." "Oh!" The ABC guy gets call, then leaves room after we get there. "We just lost ABC to Bush! He got shot at." (Just what Rich feared.)

Then he says "We've got a TV camera. A camera is a camera is a camera. I feel better already. It's not a press conference unless you get at least one camera.

They run out of Quayle statements quickly - Rich yells more Quayle statements are coming. We didn't think it would be so popular. If we'd have known it would be this popular, we'd have gotten a better rate on the printing." A mark of inexperience. They underestimated the crowd. About 80-100 people are here. (About 12 reporters and 3 cameras.)

At the beginning, Rich is like usher at a funeral - few people are there at 10:15. "I'll take anything I can get" he says. By 10:20 he is and jokes with reporters.

Room 224 is long and narrow--3 chandaliers - gilt mirror at end.

DQ and Tk came in - Quayle thanks Kennedy and starts in talking about "pain and misery" of unemployment. "12% in Indiana." "A bipartisan issue."

4 principles. (1) It's not an income maintenance program; it's a training program. (2) There is more active involvement by private sector. (3) There is more of a role for governors and states. (4) It is oriented toward job performance.

"It replaces CETA and we hope it will have broad bipartisan support."
He sits down.

Kennedy thanks ""Chairman Quayle" and commends him for "very significant

effort and energies. "I take a special pride in going with him today and looks forward to working with him." "to answer please of the unemployed."

There is a "national economic emergency," and although this is "a sound and constructive step forward--(it)" won't change the emergency.

He reads his statement perfunctorily.

Quayle talks about 3 minutes; Kennedy about 10 minutes.

The 1st question goes to "Senator Kennedy" asking what were the compromises made. Kennedy lets DQ answer: (1) funding level (2) protection for local officials. "These two main differences took a lot of discussion."

2nd question: Why shouldn't private sector dp tje kpb? DQ says "there is a certain segment of our society that private industry will not touch (especially minorities in center cities)... Therein lies the responsibility of government—especially the federal government."

Kennedy echoes sentiments, more strongly.

3rd question: Do you have a White House commitment? "No, we've told them what we are doing... There is no commitment... I'm convinced that at some point they will come forth."

Qu. - "What will convince them, 10% unemployment?

DQ - I imagine that would be an incentive (laughter).

Question: Senator Quayle, isn't this a rather unusual alliance. How will it play back home?"

TK butts in: "You mean in Mass.?" (laughter)

DQ - They don't know who Dan Quayle is in Mass. But they do know who Ted Kennedy is in Indiana" (laugher). "I don't think there will be any recall. Actually, the fact that the two of us would get together underscores the seriousness of the problem of unemployment and it emphasizes our commitment... The problem is now... A high rate of unemployment is unacceptable."

K agrees - Next question is same as earlier - any commitment from admin? "No commitment--here kept lines of communication open."

The conference took 30 minutes in all. Dan asked me afterward to tell him something about the people who wrote article about media elite in Public Opinion.

I went over (with new ID) to sit in gallery with Rich while Dan and Ted K introduced the bill and praised each other profusely. First thing Rich said was "We lost all three networks to the same story. They were all out chasing Bush." He had yelled to Phil Jones "Where were you?"

Re Kennedy's "hyperbolic" praise of Dan: "They don't compete for each other's constituency. There's no way Quayle's hard core constituency is going to go for Kennedy and there's no way Kennedy's hard core will go for Quayle. Each one can talk to his own constituency. The whole is greater than the parts."