

The government simply cannot be allowed to interfere with this intimate choice. I am steadfastly opposed to a Constitutional amendment which would ban abortions and feel that poor women should have the opportunity to choose abortion as do women who can afford the cost.

Gun Control

Something simply must be done about handguns if we are to control the arming of our society. I favor a waiting period before a handgun can be purchased to allow a criminal records check, a strengthening of rules for commercial handgun dealers, the registration of all handguns at time of purchase or transfer, a license to own a handgun, a mandatory prison sentence for all persons using a handgun in a crime and a ban on the sale of small, cheap, low-quality handguns.

I've cited these three positions because it can be seen that they either require real sacrifice or they run counter to powerful, organized special interests.

Now, that's what the next President of the United States is going to have to do. Require real sacrifices. And challenge powerful, narrow interests.

It wasn't easy sitting in the heart of Iowa -- in farm country -- urging support of an embargo on the shipment of grain to the Soviet Union. But it seemed to me that it was passing strange that those who were critical of our foreign policy as being weak were unwilling to accept any measure of sacrifice when the first real test came to respond to the overt aggression that had just taken place against Afghanistan.

Also, in Iowa, I was asked how you balance the budget, cut taxes and increase defense spending at the same time. "You do it with mirrors," I answered.

And that's what it would take.

I don't recommend a general tax cut in 1980. Given the situation in the country today with the very real prospect of recession and the impact that would have on the receipts and expenditures of the federal government, I think it's irresponsible to call for a 33-1/3% tax cut.

Rather, I would put the emergency excise tax on gasoline into effect. Then I would recycle the proceeds of that tax to the wage earners of this country. In effect, I would give them the biggest tax cut in history -- \$46 billion -- by cutting their Social Security tax in half.

As far as federal spending is concerned, I oppose a Constitutional amendment limiting it, but favor a statute which would peg federal spending to a fixed percentage of our Gross National Product.

(over, please)