

4-24-1982

"Away From Ideology", Conference on Western Energy and National Resources

Max S. Baucus

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/baucus_speeches

Recommended Citation

Baucus, Max S., "'Away From Ideology", Conference on Western Energy and National Resources" (April 24, 1982). *Max S. Baucus Speeches*. 206.

https://scholarworks.umt.edu/baucus_speeches/206

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and Special Collections at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Max S. Baucus Speeches by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact scholarworks@mso.umt.edu.

Printing, Graphics & Direct Mail
ONBASE SYSTEM
Indexing Form

Senator * or Department*: **BAUCUS**

Instructions:

Prepare one form for insertion at the beginning of each record series.

Prepare and insert additional forms at points that you want to index.

For example: at the beginning of a new folder, briefing book, topic, project, or date sequence.

Record Type*: **Speeches & Remarks**

MONTH/YEAR of Records*: **April-1982**

(Example: JANUARY-2003)

(1) Subject*: **Conference on Western Energy & Natural Resources in Denver**

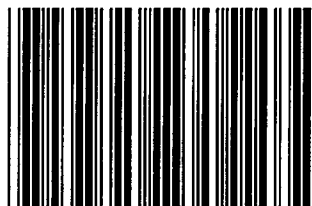
(select subject from controlled vocabulary, if your office has one)

(2) Subject* **Away from Ideology**

DOCUMENT DATE*: **04/24/1982**

(Example: 01/12/1966)

* "required information"



BAUCUS

AWAY FROM IDEOLOGY

A SPEECH BY SENATOR MAX BAUCUS
AT A CONFERENCE ON WESTERN ENERGY

& NATURAL RESOURCES

SPONSORED BY THE CENTER

FOR NATIONAL POLICY

APRIL 24, 1982

DENVER, COLORADO

TODAY, I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE,
AND HOW WE THINK ABOUT IT.

~~OUR~~ PRESENTLY
A ~~THE~~ NATION IS REEVALUATING THE ROLE OF
GOVERNMENT. THE CENTER FOR NATIONAL
POLICY IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT ^{IN THAT EFFORT.} WE
CERTAINLY NEED BOTH FRESH THOUGHTS AND
NEW POLICIES.

^{YET}
WE OFTEN FORGET THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN
POLICIES / AND GOVERNMENT. ^{I.E. GOVERNMENT} POLITICS IS
ADVERSARIAL. IT INVOLVES A FREE TRADE
IN IDEAS. POLITICAL PARTIES COMPETE IN
THE NATIONAL MARKETPLACE. THERE ARE
WINNERS AND LOSERS.

GOVERNMENT CANNOT BE DIVORCED FROM POLITICS
YET TOO OFTEN WE FALL VICTIM TO ADVERSARIAL
THINKING. WE LAPSE INTO THE TERMINOLOGY
OF SPORTS, AND EVEN WAR.

THE PRESS TENDS TO ENCOURAGE THIS. THE WORLD IS DIVIDED INTO TEAMS. INSTEAD OF UNIFORMS, WE HAVE LABELS TO IDENTIFY THE PLAYERS. THE TEAMS DO BATTLE. OFTEN WE HAVE A FINAL SCORE. FORM SIMPLIFIES SUBSTANCE.

SO DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS "JOCKEY FOR POSITION". THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS "PUT THEIR CARDS ON THE TABLE". THE PENTAGON LAUNCHES A "PREEMPTIVE STRIKE" ON THE DEFENSE BUDGET.

IDEAS MUST FIT INTO THE BOX SCORES. OTHERWISE THEY GET LOST IN THE SHUFFLE. THE DEBATE IS DOMINATED BY NARROW INTEREST GROUPS, OR RIGID IDEOLOGIES. THEOLOGICAL CERTAINLY REPLACES IDEA-BASED GOVERNMENT.

INSTEAD OF IDEOLOGY, WE SHOULD THINK *OF POLICIES*
OF IDEAS. IDEAS THAT ARE NEITHER
LIBERAL NOR CONSERVATIVE, NEITHER
MONETARIST NOR MARXIST. ^{AND,} WE SHOULD
^A THINK ABOUT TRANSLATING IDEAS INTO
ACTIONS.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, A FRENCHMAN WROTE
A BOOK ABOUT AMERICAN SUCCESS. HE
CALLED IT THE AMERICAN CHALLENGE. IT'S
RELEVANT TODAY.

HE MARVELED AT THE CREATIVITY OF AMERICAN MANAGEMENT.

HE ENVIED THE EXCELLENCE OF OUR PRODUCTS.

HE ADMIRED OUR METHODS OF THINKING AHEAD.

HE RESPECTED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE POWER OF IDEAS.

HE REJOICED IN OUR EXPANSION OF HUMAN POTENTIAL, THROUGH EDUCATION, AND TRAINING.

HE KNEW THAT THE WEALTH OF NATIONS DEPENDED ON THOUGHT, CREATIVITY, AND ACTION.

HE SAID: "MODERN POWER IS BASED ON THE CAPACITY FOR INNOVATION, WHICH IS RESEARCH, AND THE CAPACITY TO TRANSFORM INVENTIONS INTO FINISHED PRODUCTS, WHICH IS TECHNOLOGY."

HE WAS TALKING ABOUT ~~THE~~

HUMAN CAPITAL. THE CAPITAL OF IDEAS.
THINKING AHEAD. CREATIVITY. EXCELLENCE.

THESE ARE THE IMPORTANT CONCEPTS IN
TODAY'S WORLD ECONOMY. NEW TECHNOLOGIES
ARE EMERGING. FOREIGN COMPETITION IS
INCREASING. THE ENERGY CRISIS POSES
NEW DANGERS AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES.

THE OLD ANSWERS, THE OLD IDEOLOGIES,
JUST WON'T DO. OUR MINDS MUST LOOK
AHEAD, AND NOT BE FROZEN IN THE PAST.

PRIMARILY

I'M TALKING ABOUT ATTITUDE. CALL IT
AMERICAN INEGUNITY. CALL IT IDEALISM
WITHOUT ILLUSIONS. IT'S A COMMON THREAD
IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

OUR NATIONS

TAKE ~~THE~~ CONSTITUTION. THE FOUNDING FATHERS CREATED SOMETHING NEW. THEY WANTED A CONSTITUTION THAT WOULD LAST. THEY WERE THINKING AHEAD, LOOKING FORWARDS. THEY TALKED — BUT THEY ALSO ACTED. THEY DISAGREED — BUT THEY COMPROMISED. THEY GOT THE JOB DONE.

TAKE THE MARSHALL PLAN. PRESIDENT TRUMAN HAD LEARNED THE LESSON OF HISTORY. HE UNDERSTOOD THE MISTAKES MADE AFTER WORLD WAR I. HE VOWED IT WOULD NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN DECIDED TO REBUILD EUROPE. TO ~~REGAIN~~ ^{REGAIN} STABILITY THROUGH PROSPERITY. IT WAS A GENEROUS ACT BY A GREAT POWER. IT WAS VISIONARY, ~~AND~~ AND, IT WAS IN OUR NATIONAL INTEREST. IT CHARTED A NEW PATH, AND IT WORKED.

TAKE THE SPACE PROGRAM. PRESIDENT
KENNEDY WANTED TO MOVE INTO A NEW
FRONTIER. GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND
LABOR WERE MOBILIZED. RESOURCES WERE
ALLOCATED. GOALS WERE DEFINED. NATIONAL
PURPOSE WAS RALLIED. BEING AN AMERICAN
WAS A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE. AND PRIDE.

THE CONSTITUTION. THE MARSHALL PLAN.
THE SPACE PROGRAM. EACH INVOLVED TRYING
SOMETHING NEW — EXPERIMENTING. EACH
INVOLVED A POSITIVE, CAN-DO ATTITUDE —
CONFIDENCE. INSTEAD OF FINDING REASONS
NOT TO ACT, WE ACTED.

THIS IS THE AMERICAN IDEA. THIS IS THE
AMERICAN CHALLENGE. THIS IS THE PIONEER
SPIRIT THAT BUILT THE COUNTRY. AMERICANS
WERE PART OF SOMETHING IMPORTANT,
SOMETHING TO CARE ABOUT, SOMETHING WORTHY
OF NATIONAL COMMITMENT

IT'S THIS ATTITUDE, MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE, THAT WE NEED TODAY.

POLITICIANS NEED TO THINK BEYOND THE NEXT ELECTION.

BUSINESS SHOULD THINK BEYOND THE NEXT QUARTER'S PROFITS.

Lower voice

I'M A MEMBER OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE. I SIT ON THE TRADE SUBCOMMITTEE.

WHERE

WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT JAPAN. AND JAPAN SPENDS A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE. THEY FORCEFULLY PROMOTE NEW TECHNOLOGIES. THEY DEVELOP FOREIGN MARKETS. THEY HUSBAND CAPITAL AND SAVE ENERGY. THEY TRAIN WORKERS.



WE SHOULD DO A LOT MORE OF THESE THINGS.
~~OURSELVES - PARTICULARLY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF~~
~~ENERGY~~ ENERGY

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY USED LITTLE ENERGY---MOSTLY
RENEWABLE. FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS,
INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY USED MORE ENERGY---
MOSTLY NON-RENEWABLE.

TODAY WE STAND AT A CROSSROADS.
INFORMATION INDUSTRIES ARE GROWING
DRAMATICALLY. ALTERNATIVE ENERGIES
ARE BECOMING MORE PRACTICAL. FORESIGHT
IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.

AND FORESIGHT MEANS WE DON'T DEPEND ON
MIDDLE EAST STABILITY. WE DON'T CUT
CONSERVATION. WE DON'T NEGLECT ALTER-
NATIVE ENERGIES.

BUT LOOK AT THE PROPOSED 1983 BUDGET:

CONSERVATION RESEARCH: DOWN ALMOST 90%.

CONSERVATION GRANTS: DOWN 98%. THE
REMAINING 2% IS TO PHASE OUT THE OTHER
PROGRAMS.

CONSERVATION INVOLVES RESEARCH, INVEST-
MENT, MARKETING AND INCENTIVES. YET
RESEARCH AND GRANTS ARE TO BE CUT,
AND INCENTIVES ARE UNDER ATTACK.

THIS IS THE WRONG POLICY, REFLECTING
THE WRONG ATTITUDE, SENDING THE WRONG
MESSAGE.

THE SAME IS TRUE OF ALTERNATIVE
ENERGIES. THEY ARE NEEDED, AND THEY
ARE COMING. BUT LOOK AGAIN AT THE
PROPOSED BUDGET.

TOTAL ENERGY RESEARCH: DOWN
ALMOST 75%.

FOSSIL FUELS: DOWN ALMOST
75%.

COAL: DOWN OVER 80%.

RENEWABLE ENERGIES: DOWN
ALMOST 75%.

SOLAR RESEARCH: DOWN OVER 70%.

PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS: DOWN
OVER 60%.

WHAT'S LEFT IN THE ENERGY BUDGET?

NUCLEAR POWER. FISSION ALONE WOULD TAKE
ALMOST HALF OF THE '83 RESEARCH BUDGET.

THIS BLEND IS UNBALANCED AND UNWISE.

IT NEGLECTS CONSERVATION, ALTERNATIVE
ENERGIES, AND THE STRATEGIC PETROLEUM
RESERVE. IT NEGLECTS THE FUTURE.

NOT ALL NATIONS ARE MOVING IN THIS
DIRECTION. JAPAN ISN'T. ^{A GOOD EXAMPLE IS} ~~THE~~ ^{PHOTO-}
VOLTAICS, A PROMISING NEW TECHNOLOGY.

THREE YEARS AGO WE SPENT TWICE AS MUCH
AS JAPAN. ^{SINCE THEN} ~~THEY~~ [^] THEY HAVE INCREASED
THEIR COMMITMENT ^{WHILE} [^] WE HAVE REDUCED OURS.

IF THE PROPOSED '83 BUDGET PASSES,
JAPAN COULD BE SPENDING TWICE AS MUCH
AS WE ARE ~~—~~ IN REAL DOLLARS. HISTORY
COULD REPEAT ITSELF, AND WE'LL HAVE JAPAN
FLOODING US AGAIN.

~~OUR FUTURE IS AT STAKE.~~

7
I DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN. I WANT
THE UNITED STATES --- NOT JAPAN --- TO BE
THE SAUDI ARABIA OF NEW ENERGY SOURCES.

BUT AGAIN --- WE HAVE TO INVEST. LOOK
TO THE FUTURE. THINK AHEAD.

THIS IS TRUE THROUGHOUT THE ECONOMY.

WE CAN ACT TO BECOME MORE COMPETITIVE---

AND SAVE ENERGY IN THE PROCESS. NEW

CARS ^{CAN BE} ~~ARE~~ MORE EFFICIENT THAN THE OLDER

ONES THEY REPLACE. NEW MACHINERY CAN

INCREASE ~~THE~~ PRODUCTIVITY AND ~~OFTEN~~ SAVE

ENERGY AS WELL.

^{AND}

LET'S INVEST IN PEOPLE. NEARLY ONE IN

10 WORKERS IS UNEMPLOYED. BUT MANY

INDUSTRIES NEED SKILLED LABOR. WE

SHOULD MATCH THE WORKERS TO THE WORK.

WE COULD FILL JOBS THAT INDUSTRY NEEDS,

AND WORKERS WANT.

WE ARE FALLING SHORT IN THE SCIENCES.

JAPAN IS NOW PRODUCING TWICE AS MANY

ENGINEERS AS WE ARE, PER CAPITA.

DOCTORATES ARE DOWN. COMPARE THE

NUMBER OF ^{US} DOCTORATES ^{TODAY} TO THE 1970'S:

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY: DOWN
OVER 40%.

CHEMISTRY: DOWN OVER 30%.

ENGINEERING: DOWN ALMOST 30%.

MATH AND COMPUTER SCIENCE:
DOWN ALMOST 30%.

AND, MANY OF THOSE WHO GRADUATE ARE
FOREIGN. THEY RETURN HOME TO COMPETE
AGAINST AMERICAN FIRMS.

WE CAN RESTORE EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP.
WE CAN GRADUATE THE PEOPLE OUR ECONOMY
NEEDS. AND AS WE INVEST IN PEOPLE---WE
INVEST IN IDEAS. AMERICA SHOULD BE THE
RESEARCH CENTER OF THE WORLD. WE STILL
ARE, BUT WE CANNOT AFFORD TO RETREAT.

CERTAINLY---WE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE.
PROGRAMS COST MONEY, AND MONEY IS LIMITED.
WE HAVE TO FIND SAVINGS EVERYWHERE.
INCLUDING TAXES. INCLUDING DEFENSE.

~~_____~~
- EVEN HERE -

BUT ULTIMATELY [^] ~~_____~~ WE RETURN TO
ATTITUDE.

THE ATTITUDE OF BUSINESS. THE WISDOM
TO MOVE AWAY FROM SHORT-TERM OBSESSION.
THE FORESIGHT TO LOOK AHEAD. THE GOOD
SENSE TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE.

THE ATTITUDE OF LABOR. THE WISDOM TO
AVOID SEEING MANAGEMENT AS A MORTAL
ENEMY---A WISDOM, I ADD, THAT MUST BE
MUTUAL. THE FORESIGHT TO MASTER THE
NEW TOOLS OF THE MODERN ECONOMY.

THE ATTITUDE OF GOVERNMENT. THE WISDOM
TO MOVE AWAY FROM RIGIDITY, TO KNOW THAT
OLD ANSWERS DON'T SOLVE NEW PROBLEMS.

THE COURAGE TO LEAD. AND THE FORESIGHT
TO KNOW WHERE TO LEAD.

DESPITE OUR SHORT TERM PROBLEMS, THE
FUTURE HOLDS UNLIMITED POTENTIAL. MY
FATHER IS A RANCHER. HE IS AN OLD
FASHIONED MAN OF THE LAND. I AM A
LAWYER, A PUBLIC SERVANT, I HOPE. MY
SON IS FIVE YEARS OLD. WHAT WILL HE
BECOME?

MAYBE HE'LL BUILD SOLAR ENERGY HOUSES.
OR DEVELOP COMPUTERS THAT REDUCE ENERGY
WASTE. OR PERFORM EXPERIMENTS ON
ORBITTING SATELLITES.

IT IS OUR JOB TO GIVE HIM THE CHOICE.
TO PIONEER NEW ENERGY SOURCES THAT HE
WILL ENJOY. TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT
THAT HE WILL INHERIT.

7
WHAT'S MISSING FROM OUR NATIONAL
DIALOGUE IS A SENSE OF WONDER. SCOTT

FITZGERALD DESCRIBED IT IN THE GREAT
GAISBY. HE IMAGINED HOW THE FIRST
EXPLORERS FELT WHEN THEY LAID EYES ON
AMERICA. THE AWE THEY MUST HAVE FELT,
ABOUT THE DANGERS AHEAD, ABOUT THE
ADVENTURE THEY HAD BEGUN.

TODAY WE GET LOST IN BUDGETARY DETAILS.
WE HAGGLE TOO MUCH.

OUR GENERATION COULD DECIDE WHETHER THE
WORLD SURVIVES THE NUCLEAR DANGER.
WHETHER CANCER IS CURED. WHETHER
ENERGY IS BOUNTIFUL IN THE FORESEEABLE
FUTURE ^{MORE THAN} ~~THESE~~ ENOUGH FOR WONDER.

THE AMERICAN CHALLENGE IS TO RISE ABOVE
NARROW THINKING AND TO LOOK AHEAD. IF
WE DO, WE CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING.
SO LONG AS WE DO IT TOGETHER, AND DO IT NOW.