

Text of the Announcement by Reagan

LOS ANGELES, July 26 [UPI]—Following is the text of Ronald Reagan's announcement today that he would select Senator Richard S. Schweiker, Republican of Pennsylvania, as his running mate if Mr. Reagan wins the Republican Presidential nomination:

Since I became a candidate for President, I have been questioned by newsmen and by delegates from every section of the country as to who my choice might be for Vice President.

During this period, I have serious concerns about the Vice Presidential selection process and I have now concluded that the convention delegates should know well in advance who I would select as my running mate.

Along with my staff, I compiled a list of persons both in and out of Government who might be potential nominees and whose basic beliefs were compatible with my own.

My purpose this morning is to tell you that the task

of finding a person who meets my qualifications for Vice President and who also has a broad general appeal has been completed.

'Same Basic Values'

After long hours of study and discussion, I have selected a man who believes in the same basic values in which I believe:

¶In a strong America able to preserve the freedom of its people.

¶In a compassionate America willing to care for those of its people unable to care for themselves.

¶In a moral and decent America dedicated to the preservation of the values that have given greatness to this nation.

¶In an America governed by the rule of law, not by men, law which exists to preserve each man's freedom, not to restrict it.

I have selected a man of independent thought and action with a background in business and 16 years in public service. He is respected

by his colleagues but he has not become a captive of what I call "the Washington buddy system."

He has an awareness of the shortcomings of our foreign policy and the domestic threat posed by continuing the present policies of inflationary deficit spending.

I have met with him and we have spent a considerable amount of time personally discussing the critical issues that face us today and the principles by which we would lead this nation.

Since I now feel that the people and the delegates have a right to know in advance of the convention who a nominee's Vice-Presidential choice would be, I am today departing from tradition and announcing my selection.

I have chosen the distinguished United States Senator, the Hon. Richard Schweiker.

I am convinced that this is a ticket behind which all Republicans can unite and one which will lead our party to victory in November.