

## Text 1

Obama: Bob, I think it's going to be important to just – I'll respond to these two particular allegations that Senator McCain has made and that have gotten a lot of attention In fact, Mr Ayers has become the centerpiece of Senator McCain's campaign over the last two or three weeks This has been their primary focus So let's get the record straight Bill Ayers is a professor of education in Chicago Forty years ago, when I was 8 years old, he engaged in despicable acts with a radical domestic group I have roundly condemned those acts Ten years ago he served and I served on a school reform board that was funded by one of Ronald Reagan's former ambassadors and close friends, Mr Annenberg Other members on that board were the presidents of the University of Illinois, the president of Northwestern University, who happens to be a Republican, the president of The Chicago Tribune, a Republican-leaning newspaper Mr Ayers is not involved in my campaign He has never been involved in this campaign And he will not advise me in the White House So that's Mr Ayers Now, with respect to ACORN, ACORN is a community organization Apparently what they've done is they were paying people to go out and register folks, and apparently some of the people who were out there didn't really register people, they just filled out a bunch of names It had nothing to do with us We were not involved The only involvement I've had with ACORN was I represented them alongside the US Justice Department in making Illinois implement a motor voter law that helped people get registered at DMVs Now, the reason I think that it's important to just get these facts out is because the allegation that Senator McCain has continually made is that somehow my associations are troubling Let me tell you who I associate with On economic policy, I associate with Warren Buffett and former Fed Chairman Paul Volcker If I'm interested in figuring out my foreign policy, I associate myself with my running mate, Joe Biden or with Dick Lugar, the Republican ranking member on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, or General Jim Jones, the former supreme allied Those are the people, Democrats and Republicans, who have shaped my ideas and who will be surrounding me in the White House And I think the fact that this has become such an important part of your campaign, Senator McCain, says more about your campaign than it says about me

McCain: Well, again, while you were on the board of the Woods Foundation, you and Mr Ayers, together, you sent \$230,000 to ACORN So – and you launched your political campaign in Mr Ayers' living room

Obama: That's absolutely not true

McCain: And the facts are facts and records are records

Obama: And that's not the facts

McCain: And it's not the fact – it's not the fact that Senator Obama chooses to associate with a guy who in 2001 said that he wished he had have bombed more, and he had a long association with him It's the fact that all the – all of the details need to be known about Senator Obama's relationship with them and with ACORN and the American people will make a judgment And my campaign is about getting this economy back on track, about creating jobs, about a brighter future for America And that's what my campaign is about and I'm not going to raise taxes the way Senator Obama wants to raise taxes in a tough economy And that's really what this campaign is going to be about