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The President has seen _____

(ROBINSON)

JULY 12, 1984

NATIONAL CAMPERS AND HIKERS
ASSOCIATION CAMPVENTION
BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY

THANK YOU, PORKY. SECRETARY CLARK,
CONGRESSMAN NATCHER, IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE
TO BE BACK IN KENTUCKY. AND MAY I SAY,
I'M DELIGHTED TO JOIN ALL OF YOU, MEMBERS OF
THE NATIONAL CAMPERS AND HIKERS ASSOCIATION,
HERE IN THIS BEAUTIFUL SETTING. I'VE JUST
COME FROM MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK AND I
WANT TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO
MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO ENJOY MAMMOTH
CAVE AND ALL OUR NATIONAL PARKS -- OUR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. MANY OF YOU HAVE
USED CAMPING FACILITIES MAINTAINED BY THE
PARK SERVICE OR HIKED ON TRAILS THE PARK
SERVICE HAS BLAZED / SO I KNOW YOU ~~WANT TO~~
JOIN ME ~~NOW IN GIVING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF~~
~~OUR PARK SERVICE A SHOW OF OUR HEARTFELT~~
GRATITUDE.

*a feeling of great
gratitude... We'll all be here*

I'M TOLD THERE ARE MORE THAN 15,000 OF YOU HERE TODAY, / FROM RETIRED COUPLES TO YOUNG FAMILIES WITH INFANT CHILDREN AN ALL-AMERICAN GATHERING OF PEOPLE FROM EVERY WALK OF LIFE, / FIRMLY UNITED IN ENJOYMENT OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS. } FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, YOUR NATIONAL CAMPERS AND HIKERS ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN HELPING PEOPLE TO ENJOY THE LAND } AND, IN MANY CASES, HELPING TO PRESERVE THE BEAUTY OF THE LAND ITSELF. } EVER SINCE TAKING OFFICE, WE HAVE URGED AMERICANS TO BECOME ACTIVE IN VOLUNTARISM PROGRAMS, / AND YOUR CONSERVATION WORK PROVIDES AN INSPIRING EXAMPLE. YOU MAINTAIN WILDLIFE REFUGES, / PLANT TREES, / AND CLEAN UP STREAMS, / PARKS, / AND HIGHWAYS. YOU'VE RAISED FUNDS TO PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES LIKE OUR NATION'S SYMBOL, THE BALD EAGLE.

AND, YOU'VE WORKED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF THE GYPSY MOTH, A BLIGHT ON OUR WOODLANDS.

THERE'S ANOTHER ASPECT OF YOUR ASSOCIATION THAT I WANT TO APPLAUD ~~/~~ YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILY. ~~I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT THE AMERICAN FAMILY IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR COUNTRY'S GOODNESS AND STRENGTH.~~ TAKE AWAY THE SENSE OF PURPOSE THAT RAISING A FAMILY GIVES TO MEN AND WOMEN, ~~/~~ TAKE AWAY THE LOVE, SUPPORT, AND TRAINING THAT CHILDREN GET FROM THEIR PARENTS, ~~/~~ AND ALL THAT WE HOLD DEAR WILL BE IN JEOPARDY. ~~WELL, BY PROMOTING ACTIVITIES EVERYONE FROM GRANDPARENTS TO TODDLERS CAN ENJOY / YOU'RE KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER AND KEEPING THEM STRONG / -- AND I THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.~~

TODAY I WANT TO SPEAK ABOUT A MATTER
THAT CONCERNS US ALL ~~f~~ OUR EFFORTS TO
PROTECT OUR COUNTRY'S NATURAL HERITAGE.

IT WAS NEAR THE TURN OF THE CENTURY THAT
CONCERNED CITIZENS / NATURALISTS /
AND EXPLORERS / FIRST BROUGHT TO THE NATION'S
ATTENTION A SERIES OF GRAVE THREATS TO OUR
ENVIRONMENT. } THEY POINTED TO DWINDLING
RESOURCES / UNPROTECTED WILDERNESS AREAS /
IMPERILED WILDLIFE / AND A PUBLIC THAT WAS
UNINFORMED.

ONE OF THE CENTRAL FIGURES IN THIS
MOVEMENT WAS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, (A GREAT
PRESIDENT) WHO FOR THE FIRST TIME OUTLINED
THE LEGITIMATE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT IN PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT.

“OF ALL THE QUESTIONS WHICH CAN COME BEFORE THIS NATION,” HE SAID, “SHORT OF THE ACTUAL PRESERVATION OF ITS EXISTENCE . . . THERE IS NONE WHICH COMPARES IN IMPORTANCE WITH THE GREAT CENTRAL TASK OF LEAVING THIS LAND EVEN A BETTER LAND FOR OUR DESCENDANTS THAN IT IS FOR US” I KNOW ALL OF US TAKE PRIDE IN THE MEASURES SET IN MOTION BY PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT OF HIS DAY.

IN 1916 OUR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WAS CREATED / AND TODAY IT CARES FOR 335 SITES / WITH A TOTAL AREA BIGGER THAN TENNESSEE, WEST VIRGINIA, AND KENTUCKY PUT TOGETHER. OUR PARKS INCLUDE WONDERS LIKE THE DESERT MAJESTY OF THE GRAND CANYON AND THE ICY BEAUTY OF MOUNT MCKINLEY / AND LAST YEAR ALONE, THEY WERE ENJOYED BY SOME 254 MILLION VISITORS.

IN THE YEARS SINCE THE FOUNDING OF OUR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, OTHER LANDMARK ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION HAS BEEN PASSED.

THE 1964 WILDERNESS ACT CALLED FOR AREAS TO BE SET ASIDE IN WHOLLY NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS, LACKING EVEN ROADS. IN 1973, THE CONGRESS PASSED THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT / ONE OF THE MOST FAR-REACHING LAWS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD TO PREVENT THE EXTINCTION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS.

DURING THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES, WE BECAME AWARE OF A GROWING THREAT / POLLUTION / AND IN 1970 WE CREATED THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY. AT THE TIME SOME CLAIMED THAT, DESPITE THE E.P.A., ECONOMIC PROGRESS WOULD BRING IN ITS WAKE MORE AND MORE POLLUTION.

BUT ADVANCES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
BORN OUT OF OUR SYSTEM OF FREE ENTERPRISE,
COMBINED WITH THE WORK OF THE E.P.A. TO
PROVE JUST THE OPPOSITE.

DESPITE A 60-PERCENT INCREASE IN
COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC GENERATION CAPACITY
DURING THE PAST 14 YEARS, (~~FOR EXAMPLE,~~) ^{7/11}
POWER PLANT SULFUR EMISSIONS TODAY ARE LOWER
THAN THEY WERE IN 1970. DURING THE DECADE
1970 TO 1980, THE NUMBER OF MILES TRAVELLED
BY CARS AND TRUCKS INCREASED BY NEARLY
40 PERCENT. YET AT THE SAME TIME,
TOTAL POLLUTION EMISSIONS FROM ^{THESE CARS} MOTOR ^{TRUCKS}
VEHICLES ACTUALLY DROPPED BY ALMOST
20 PERCENT. OVER THE SAME PERIOD,
WE'VE SEEN DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT IN THE
QUALITY OF SURFACE WATER THROUGHOUT THE
COUNTRY. TODAY, SALMON AND TROUT ARE
RETURNING TO RIVERS AND STREAMS WHERE THEY
HAVEN'T BEEN SEEN FOR GENERATIONS.

AMERICA HAS BUILT A PROUD RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT IN PROTECTING HER NATURAL HERITAGE OVER THE PAST THREE-QUARTERS OF A CENTURY.

AT THE SAME TIME THAT OUR POPULATION WAS GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS AND WE WERE BUILDING THE MOST PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY ON EARTH, WE WERE PROTECTING OUR LANDS AND WILDLIFE AND WORKING SUCCESSFULLY TO KEEP OUR AIR AND WATER CLEAN.

SADLY, THOUGH, IN RECENT YEARS, OUR ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS BEGAN TO LOSE SOME OF THEIR ENERGY AND DIRECTION. INDEED, BY THE TIME OUR ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD BECOME NEGLIGENT IN ITS CARE OF OUR NATURAL HERITAGE.

OUR PARKS HAD SUFFERED FUNDING DECLINES FOR MAINTENANCE AND WERE IN DISREPAIR.

AT YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK ALONE, THERE WERE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARDS THAT WOULD REQUIRE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO CORRECT.

AMERICA'S WETLANDS WERE IN GRAVE DANGER OF DISAPPEARING. STATE PLANS TO COMBAT POLLUTION HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO PILE UP IN AN ENORMOUS BACKLOG. AND THE VITAL TASK OF PRESERVING ENDANGERED SPECIES HAD BEEN NEGLECTED/ BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT HAD FAILED TO COMPLETE THE NECESSARY RECOVERY PLANS /- PLANS LONG AGO MANDATED BY THE CONGRESS.

YOU REMEMBER THAT WHEN WE TOOK OFFICE, WE WERE LEFT WITH THE WORST ECONOMIC CRISIS SINCE THE GREAT DEPRESSION/ AND A WEAK AND VACILLATING FOREIGN POLICY THAT HAD LOST THE RESPECT OF FRIEND AND FOE ALIKE. YET, EVEN WHILE WE MOVED TO ADDRESS THESE TWIN CRISES/ WE WERE DETERMINED TO MOVE QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY TO DEAL WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S LAGGING EFFORTS TO PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT.

ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT EFFORTS HAS INVOLVED HAZARDOUS WASTES. WHERE WASTES WERE MISMANAGED IN THE PAST, WE HAVE MOVED AGGRESSIVELY UNDER THE SUPERFUND PROGRAM. BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY EXPECTS TO HAVE UNDERTAKEN MORE THAN 400 ACTIONS TO ADDRESS CONTAMINATION THREATS. AT HUNDREDS OF OTHER NATIONAL PRIORITY SITES, LONG-TERM WORK IS UNDERWAY TO REMOVE WASTES AND ELIMINATE CONTAMINATION OF VALUABLE LAND AND GROUNDWATER. AND AS I TOLD THE CONGRESS IN MY STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, I AM COMMITTED TO SEEKING AN EXTENSION OF THE SUPERFUND LAW. NEGLIGENCE HANDLING OF TOXIC WASTES THREATENS THE HEALTH OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS. I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT WE WILL TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO PROTECT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AGAINST THE MENACE OF HAZARDOUS WASTES.

TO COMBAT WATER POLLUTION,
OUR ADMINISTRATION HAS ESTABLISHED MORE
STRINGENT STANDARDS FOR 19 CRITICAL
INDUSTRIES. TO DEAL WITH THE THREAT OF LEAD
POISONING, WE HAVE ISSUED REGULATIONS THAT
SHARPLY REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF LEAD IN
GASOLINE. IN CONTROLLING PESTICIDES,
WE'RE HANDLING MORE REVIEWS OF NEW
CHEMICALS, AND WE HAVE MOVED AGAINST THE
DANGEROUS PESTICIDE (ETH-EL-EEN) DIBROMIDE,
~~OR~~ (E.D.B.)

AND AS A FIRST PRACTICAL STEP TO DEAL
WITH ACID RAIN, OUR ADMINISTRATION IS
CONDUCTING EXTENSIVE RESEARCH. INDEED,
DURING THE COMING YEAR, WE PLAN TO SPEND
\$127 MILLION ON RESEARCH. AS THIS RESEARCH
PRODUCES ANSWERS, WE'LL PUT THE INFORMATION
TO WORK. AND WE'LL KEEP ON WORKING UNTIL WE
PROVIDE RELIABLE PROTECTION FOR ALL OUR
NATURAL RESOURCES.

EACH OF US KNOWS THE THRILL WE GET WHEN WE SEE AN EAGLE IN THE MOUNTAINS OR A DEER IN THE FOREST / AND I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU HOW WE'RE TRYING TO PRESERVE THE RICH BEAUTY AND BOUNTY OF OUR LANDS AND WILDLIFE.

WE'VE ADDED MANY MILES TO OUR NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM / AND WE'VE PUT SCORES OF HISTORIC SITES ON THE NATIONAL REGISTRIES OF HISTORICAL AND NATURAL LANDMARKS. TO EXPAND OUR NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SYSTEM, WE'VE PROPOSED ADDING 245 RIVER MILES ALONG 8 DIFFERENT RIVERS. WE HAVE A PROPOSAL THAT, (IF ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS) WILL BE THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE EFFORT IN OUR HISTORY TO PROTECT OUR NATION'S WETLANDS.

AND OUR COASTAL BARRIERS RESOURCES ACT IS ALREADY PROTECTING LARGE SECTIONS OF OUR GULF AND ATLANTIC COASTS / INCLUDING MORE THAN 700 MILES OF DUNES, BEACHES, AND MARSHLAND.

TO PRESERVE OUR WILDLIFE, WE'RE WORKING WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CREATE A WILDLIFE SANCTUARY THAT WILL PROTECT THOUSANDS OF SEALS AND SEA BIRDS. IN TEXAS, WE'RE HELPING THE STATE GOVERNMENT AT ARANSAS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE TO PROTECT THE WHOOPING CRANE. AND WE HAVE COMPLETED RECOVERY PLANS FOR MORE THAN 80 ENDANGERED SPECIES. TODAY, THE CALIFORNIA CONDOR, THE ATLANTIC SALMON, THE PEREGRINE FALCON AND MANY MORE MAGNIFICENT CREATURES HAVE A NEW CHANCE TO MULTIPLY AND FLOURISH-- AND TO BE HERE TO GREET OUR GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN.

THIS BRINGS ME TO A MEASURE THAT I KNOW IS CLOSE TO YOUR HEARTS. OUR WORK TO REFURBISH AND BEAUTIFY OUR NATIONAL PARKS, LIKE EVERYONE WHO HAS EVER SEEN THEM, WE VIEW OUR NATIONAL PARKS AS THE CROWN JEWELS OF THE AMERICAN LAND.

WHEN WE TOOK OFFICE, WE REVERSED THE 4-YEAR
DECLINE IN FUNDING FOR THEIR UPKEEP/AND
INAUGURATED A 5-YEAR, BILLION-DOLLAR EFFORT
TO GIVE OUR PARKS THE IMPROVEMENTS THEY SO
BADLY NEEDED. } AND I'M DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE -
THAT THIS VITAL PROGRAM HAS PROCEEDED SO
WELL THAT IT WILL BE FINISHED IN 1985/
A FULL YEAR AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

FROM INDEPENDENCE HALL IN PHILADELPHIA
TO THE REDWOOD FOREST IN CALIFORNIA/
OUR GREAT NATIONAL PARKS ARE AT LAST GETTING
THE TREATMENT THEY DESERVE. } AT MAMMOTH CAVE
NATIONAL PARK, OUR PARK RESTORATION AND
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM HAS FUNDED A UNIVERSE OF
REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS. } THROUGHOUT THE
PARK, FOR EXAMPLE, CAVE TRAILS AND FOOTPATHS
HAVE BEEN RE-WORKED TO KEEP THE CAVES
ACCESSIBLE TO THEIR MILLIONS OF VISITORS.

NO TREASURE MEANS MORE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAN THE STATUE OF LIBERTY / AND RIGHT NOW THAT GRAND OLD LADY IN NEW YORK HARBOR IS GETTING SPECIAL ATTENTION. / WITH HELP FROM LEE IACOCCA, THE CHAIRMAN OF CHRYSLER, AND HIS ADVISORY COMMISSION / WE'VE BEGUN AN EFFORT TO RAISE \$230 MILLION TO GIVE THE STATUE AND ELLIS ISLAND SOME SORELY-NEEDED REPAIRS. / ALREADY, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE CONTRIBUTED A SIZEABLE AMOUNT / AND SCHOOLCHILDREN ACROSS THE COUNTRY HAVE SENT DIMES AND NICKELS WORTH OVER \$1 MILLION. / THE REPAIRS WILL BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR MISS LIBERTY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ON THE FOURTH OF JULY 1986. / IT'S GOING TO BE QUITE A PARTY, AND I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT YOU'RE ALL INVITED.

JUST AS WE BELIEVE IN PRESERVING OUR
NATURAL HERITAGE / WE'RE COMMITTED TO PUTTING
IT TO THE BEST POSSIBLE USE FOR THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE. } TODAY, SOME 175 MILLION AMERICANS
OVER THE AGE OF TWELVE REGULARLY PARTICIPATE
IN OUTDOOR RECREATION / A SUBSTANTIAL
INCREASE OVER PAST DECADES. } AS MEMBERS OF
THE N.C.H.A., YOU WON'T BE SURPRISED TO HEAR
THAT SOME 46 MILLION AMERICANS ARE CAMPERS.
BUT PERHAPS YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT MORE THAN
50 MILLION ARE BOATERS / SOME 64 MILLION ARE
FISHERMEN, / AND ABOUT 100 MILLION ARE
SWIMMERS.

MAKE NO MISTAKE, THE AMERICAN LAND
BELONGS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND WE
INTEND TO KEEP IT OPEN FOR THE PEOPLE.

YOU MAY REMEMBER THAT, UNDER PAST
ADMINISTRATIONS / SOME DEALT WITH ENERGY
SHORTAGES BY ATTEMPTING TO RATION GAS AND
TRYING TO KEEP YOU FROM USING YOUR
RECREATIONAL VEHICLES OR "RV'S."

AT ONE POINT, THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY EVEN
PROPOSED A SUNDAY BAN ON MOTORBOATING.

OFFICIALS ADMITTED THE BAN WOULD HAVE LITTLE
EFFECT ON GAS SUPPLIES BUT THEY CLAIMED
THAT IT WOULD HAVE SYMBOLIC VALUE.

WELL, THEY WERE RIGHT ABOUT THAT MUCH.

THE PROPOSAL SYMBOLIZED A GOVERNMENT THAT
HAD GROWN ARROGANT AND INTRUSIVE A
GOVERNMENT THAT BELIEVED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
SHOULD BE KEPT AWAY FROM THEIR OWN LAKES,
RIVERS, AND PARKS.

FORGIVE ME, BUT OUR ADMINISTRATION
TAKES A DIFFERENT VIEW. WE BELIEVE THAT THE
ENVIRONMENT INCLUDES PEOPLE AND THAT THEY
NOW AND ALWAYS HAVE A RIGHT TO ENJOY THE
AMERICAN LAND. UNDER OUR ENERGY POLICY,
WE SHOULD NEVER AGAIN FACE A SEVERE SHORTAGE
OF GASOLINE. INDEED, WHEN WE DECONTROLLED
OIL PRICES, OIL SUPPLIES INCREASED
AND TODAY, THE PRICE OF GAS AT THE PUMP IS
ACTUALLY LOWER THAN IT WAS IN 1981.

BUT IF WE DO FACE A GAS SHORTAGE, THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL NEVER RESPOND BY TRYING TO KEEP THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FROM ENJOYING THE GREAT OUTDOORS.

WE BELIEVE, IN SHORT, THAT YOU CAN BE A FRIEND OF THE PEOPLE AT THE SAME TIME THAT YOU'RE A FRIEND OF THE LAND. AND WE'RE CONVINCED THAT, WORKING THROUGH THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE HUMAN MIND CAN ENABLE OUR ECONOMY TO GROW, PROVIDING NEW JOBS FOR MILLIONS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENHANCING OUR PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCES. ON THESE PRINCIPLES WE HAVE BUILT OUR RECORD, AND ON THESE PRINCIPLES WE SHALL CONTINUE TO ACT AS LONG AS WE HOLD OFFICE.

THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO THE PSALMIST WROTE, "I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES UNTO THE HILLS, FROM WHENCE COMETH MY HELP."

THE AMERICAN WRITER AND NATURALIST,
HENRY DAVID THOREAU, WHOSE 167TH BIRTHDAY WE
CELEBRATE TODAY, EXPRESSED A SIMILAR BELIEF.

"IN WILDNESS," HE WROTE, "IS THE
PRESERVATION OF THE WORLD."

TODAY, IN THIS GREAT OPEN FIELD,
WE KNOW WHAT THOSE TWO WRITERS, THOUGH
SEPARATED BY THE CENTURIES, BOTH THOUGHT AND
FELT. HERE IN THE OPEN, CLOSE TO THE LAND,
WE FEEL REFRESHED AND FREE. HERE WE SEE
CLEARLY WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IN LIFE—
THE LIBERTY OUR COUNTRY OFFERS / THE LOVE OF
OUR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, AND HERE IT IS
THAT WE ARE GIVEN A STRONG SENSE OF THE
MAJESTY OF OUR CREATOR. I JUST HAVE TO
BELIEVE THAT WITH LOVE FOR OUR NATURAL
HERITAGE / AND A FIRM RESOLVE TO PRESERVE IT
WITH WISDOM AND CARE / WE CAN AND WILL GIVE
THE AMERICAN LAND TO OUR CHILDREN / NOT
IMPAIRED, BUT ENHANCED.

- 20 -

AND IN DOING THIS, WE WILL HONOR THE GREAT
AND LOVING GOD WHO GAVE THE LAND TO US.

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

#

1115

(Robinson/BE)
July 10, 1984
5:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL CAMPERS AND HIKERS
ASSOCIATION CAMPVENTION
BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY
THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1984

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Thank you and good afternoon. It's a great pleasure to be back in Kentucky. Warm greetings to Congressmen Natcher and Snyder. And may I say, I'm delighted to join all of you, members of the National Campers and Hikers Association, here in this beautiful setting. I've just come from Mammoth Cave National Park, and I want to give a special thanks to those who make it possible for us to enjoy Mammoth Cave and all our national parks -- our National Park Service. Many of you have used camping facilities maintained by the Park Service or hiked on trails the Park Service has blazed, so I know you'll want to join me now in giving the men and women of our Park Service a show of our heartfelt gratitude.

I'm told there are some 20,000 of you here today, from retired couples to young families with infant children -- an all-American gathering of people from every walk of life, firmly united in enjoyment of the great outdoors. For more than 20 years, your National Campers and Hikers Association has been helping people to enjoy the land -- and, in many cases, helping to preserve the beauty of the land itself. Ever since taking office, we have urged Americans to become active in voluntarism programs, and your conservation work provides an inspiring example. You maintain wildlife refuges, plant trees, and clean up streams, parks, and highways. You've raised funds to protect

endangered species like our Nation's symbol, the bald eagle. And, working with the Department of Agriculture, you've helped to control the spread of the gypsy moth, a blight on our woodlands.

There's another aspect of your association that I want to applaud: your support for the family. I've always believed that the American family is the foundation of our country's goodness and strength. Take away the sense of purpose that raising a family gives to men and women, take away the love, support, and training that children get from their parents, and all that we hold dear will be in jeopardy. Well, by promoting activities everyone from grandparents to toddlers can enjoy, you're keeping families together and keeping them strong -- and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Today I want to speak about a matter that concerns us all -- our efforts to protect our country's natural heritage. It was three-quarters of a century ago that a group of private citizens, naturalists, and explorers first brought to the Nation's attention a series of grave threats to our environment. They pointed to dwindling resources, unprotected wilderness areas, imperiled wildlife, and a public that was uninformed.

One of the central figures in this movement was Theodore Roosevelt, a great President, who for the first time outlined the legitimate role of the Federal Government in protecting our environment. "Of all the questions which can come before this Nation," he said, "there is none which compares in importance with the central task of leaving this land even a better land for our descendants than it was for us...." I know all of us take

pride in the measures set in motion by President Theodore Roosevelt and the environmental movement of his day.

In 1916 our National Park Service was created, and today it cares for 335 sites, with a total area roughly the same size as Austria and West Germany put together. Our parks include wonders like the desert majesty of the Grand Canyon and the icy beauty of Mount McKinley; and last year alone, they were enjoyed by some 254 million visitors.

In the years since the founding of our national parks, other landmark environmental legislation has been passed. The 1964 Wilderness Act called for areas to be set aside in wholly natural environments, lacking even roads. In 1973, Congress passed the Endangered Species Act, one of the most far-reaching laws anywhere in the world to prevent the extinction of plants and animals.

During the sixties and seventies, we became aware of a new threat -- pollution -- and in 1970 we created the Environmental Protection Agency. At the time some claimed that, despite the E.P.A., economic progress would bring in its wake more and more pollution. But advances in science and technology, born out of our system of free enterprise, combined with the work of the E.P.A. to prove just the opposite.

Despite a 60-percent increase in coal-fired electric generation capacity during the past 14 years, for example, power plant emissions today are lower than they were in 1970. During the decade 1970 to 1980, the number of miles travelled by cars and trucks increased by 36 percent. Yet at the same time, total

pollution emissions from motor vehicles actually dropped by nearly 20 percent. Over the same period, we've seen dramatic improvement in the quality of surface water throughout the country. Today, salmon and trout are returning to rivers and streams where they haven't been seen for generations.

America has built a proud record of achievement in protecting her natural heritage over the past three-quarters of a century. At the same time that our population was growing by leaps and bounds and we were building the most productive economy on Earth, we were protecting our lands and wildlife and working successfully to keep our air and water clean.

Sadly, though, in recent years, our environmental efforts began to lose some of their energy and direction. Indeed, by the time our Administration took office, the Federal Government had become negligent in its care of our natural heritage. Our parks had suffered funding declines for maintenance and were in disrepair. At Yellowstone National Park alone, there were health and safety hazards that would require millions of dollars to correct.

America's wetlands were in grave danger of disappearing. State plans to improve air and water had been allowed to pile up in an enormous backlog. And our ability to preserve endangered species had eroded, because the Government had failed to complete the necessary recovery plans -- plans long ago mandated by the Congress.

You remember that when we took office, we were left with the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and a weak and

vacillating foreign policy that had lost the respect of friend and foe alike. Yet, even while we moved to address these twin crises, we were determined to move quickly and effectively to deal with the Federal Government's lagging efforts to preserve our environment.

One of our most important efforts has involved hazardous wastes. Where wastes were mismanaged in the past, we have moved aggressively under the Superfund program. By the end of this year, the Environmental Protection Agency will have undertaken more than 400 actions to address immediate contamination threats. At hundreds of other national priority sites, long-term work is underway to remove wastes and eliminate contamination of valuable land and groundwater. And as I told the Congress in my state of the Union address, I am committed to seeking an extension of the Superfund law when it expires next year. Negligent handling of toxic wastes threatens the health of thousands of Americans. I pledge to you that we will take all necessary steps to protect the American people against the menace of hazardous wastes.

To combat water pollution, our Administration has established more stringent standards for 19 critical industries. To deal with the threat of lead poisoning, we have issued regulations that sharply reduce the amount of lead in gasoline. In controlling pesticides, we're handling more reviews of new chemicals in a shorter time; and we have moved against the dangerous pesticide ethylene dibromide, or EDB.

And as a first practical step to deal with acid rain, our Administration is authorizing extensive research. Indeed, during

the coming year, we will spend \$127 million on research. As this research produces answers, we'll put the information to work ~~to get acid rain under control~~. And we'll keep on working until we provide reliable protection for all our natural resources.

Each of us knows the thrill we get when we see an eagle in the mountains or a deer in the forest, and I'd like to tell you how we're trying to preserve the rich beauty and bounty of our lands and wildlife. We've added many miles to our National Trails System, and we've put scores of historic sites on the National Registry of National Landmarks. To expand our National Wild and Scenic River System, we've proposed adding 245 river miles of beautiful land. We have a proposal that will go a long way toward ending the drainage of our wetlands, and our Coastal Barriers Resources Act will protect large sections of our Gulf and Atlantic coasts, preserving more than 700 miles of dunes, beaches, and marshland.

To protect our wildlife, we've proposed a California Wildlife Sanctuary that will protect thousands of seals and sea birds. And we have completed the neglected recovery plans for more than 88 endangered species. Today, the California condor, the humpback whale, and many more magnificent creatures have a new chance to multiply and flourish -- and to be here to greet our great-grandchildren.

This brings me to a measure that I know is close to your hearts -- our work to refurbish and beautify our national parks. Like everyone who has ever seen them, we view our national parks as the crown jewels of the American land. When we took office,

we reversed the 4-year decline in funding for their upkeep and inaugurated a 5-year, billion-dollar effort to give our parks the improvements they so badly needed. And I'm delighted to announce that this vital program has proceeded so well that it will be finished in 1985, a full year ahead of schedule.

From Independence Hall in Philadelphia to the Redwood Forest in California, our great national parks are at last getting the treatment they deserve. At Mammoth Cave National Park, our Parks Restoration and Improvement Program has funded a universe of repairs and improvements. Throughout the park, for example, cave trails and footpaths have been re-worked to keep the caves accessible to their millions of visitors.

No national park means more to the American people than the Statue of Liberty, and right now that grand old lady in New York Harbor is getting special attention. With help from Lee Iacoca, the Chairman of Chrysler, we've begun an effort to raise \$230 million to give the Statue some sorely-needed repairs. Already, the American people have contributed a sizeable amount, and schoolchildren across the country have sent dimes and nickels worth \$1 million. The repairs will be completed in time for Miss Liberty's 100th anniversary on the Fourth of July 1986. It's going to be quite a party, and I want you to know that you're all invited.

Just as we believe in preserving our natural heritage, we're committed to putting it to the best possible use for the American people. Today, more than 175 million Americans over the age of twelve regularly participate in outdoor recreation -- a huge

increase over past decades. As members of the N.C.H.A., you won't be surprised to hear that more than 47 million Americans are campers. But perhaps you didn't know that more than 50 million are boaters, some 63 million are fishermen, and more than 100 million are swimmers.

Make no mistake, the American land belongs to the American people, and we intend to keep it open for the people. You may remember that, under past administrations, some dealt with energy shortages by attempting to ration gas and trying to keep you from using your recreational vehicles or "RV's." At one point, the Department of Energy even proposed a Sunday ban on motorboating. Officials admitted the ban would have little effect on gas supplies; but they claimed that it would have, quote, "symbolic value."

Well, they were right about that much. The proposal symbolized a Government that had grown arrogant and intrusive, a Government that believed the American people should be kept away from their own lakes, rivers, and parks.

Forgive me, but our Administration takes a different view. We believe that the environment includes people, and that they, now and always, have a right to enjoy the American land. Under our energy policy, we should never again face a severe shortage of gasoline. Indeed, when we decontrolled oil prices, oil supplies increased; and today, the price of gas at the pump is actually lower than it was in 1981. But if we do face a gas shortage, this Administration will never respond by trying to keep the American people from enjoying the great outdoors.

We believe, in short, that you can be a friend of the people at the same time that you're a friend of the land. And we're convinced that, working through the wonders of science and technology, the human mind can enable our economy to grow, providing new jobs for millions, while at the same time enhancing our precious natural resources. On these principles we have built our record. And on these principles we shall continue to act as long as we hold office.

Three thousand years ago the psalmist wrote, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my salvation." The American writer and naturalist, Henry David Thoreau, whose 167th birthday we celebrate today, expressed a similar belief. "In wildness," he wrote, "is the preservation of the world."

Today, in this great open field, we know what those two writers, though separated by the centuries, both thought and felt. Here in the open, close to the land, we feel refreshed and free. Here we see clearly what is most important in life -- the liberty our country offers, the love of our families and friends. And here it is that we are given a strong sense of the majesty of our Creator. I just have to believe that with love for our natural heritage and a firm resolve to preserve it with wisdom and care, we can and will give the American land to our children, not impaired, but enhanced. And in doing this, we will honor the great and loving God who gave the land to us.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

(NOONAN)

JULY 13, 1984

LUNCH WITH ELECTED GOP WOMEN OFFICIALS

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WELL, GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO ALL
OF YOU. I'M DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU, AND

BEFORE I GET INTO MY REMARKS I HAVE TO SHARE
SOME NEWS WITH YOU, ~~BECAUSE IT'S TOO GOOD TO~~

~~WAIT~~ JUST CASE DIDN'T BRING & IF DID GOOD ENOUGH REPEAT

OUR GOAL FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IS A
STRONG, GROWTH ECONOMY WITH STABLE PRICES.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS LOOKS LIKE AMERICA HIT
THE JACKPOT. WE'VE MADE A TRIPLE PLAY.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN JUNE WAS UP.

RETAIL SALES IN JUNE WERE UP.

AND PRODUCER PRICES WERE UNCHANGED FOR
THE THIRD MONTH IN A ROW -- ZERO POINT ZERO.

WELL, IT'S GOOD TO SEE SO MANY OLD
FRIENDS, AND HAVE THE CHANCE TO MEET SOME

NEW ONES. AND TO BE JOINED BY TWO OF THE
MOST IMPORTANT WOMEN IN MY LIFE, NANCY AND

MAUREEN. I WANT TO BEGIN BY GIVING EACH OF
YOU MY HEARTFELT THANKS FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE

FOR THE REPUBLICAN CAUSE.

POLITICS IS OFTEN FUN, AND SOMETIMES
GLAMOROUS, BUT IN THE END IT'S THE HARD WORK
OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT MAKES IT POSSIBLE
FOR US TO PUT OUR BELIEFS INTO PRACTICE.

YOUR ROLE IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT
BECAUSE YOU DEMONSTRATE THE REPUBLICAN
COMMITMENT TO AMERICAN WOMEN. A COMMITMENT
THAT RUNS DEEP. SOME HAVE TRIED TO KEEP
THAT A SECRET. FIRST, THE GOP GAVE ITS
BACKING TO WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. THEN IT BECAME
THE FIRST TO ELECT A WOMAN TO THE UNITED
STATES CONGRESS AND THE FIRST TO ELECT WOMEN
TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE WHO WERE NOT
FIRST FILLING UNEXPIRED TERMS. TODAY, THE
TWO WOMEN IN THE SENATE, MY FRIENDS NANCY
KASSEBAUM AND PAULA HAWKINS, ARE
REPUBLICANS. AND WE HAVE NINE OUTSTANDING
REPUBLICAN WOMEN IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES. DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME
WE GAVE THEM SOME MORE COMPANY?

NOW ALL OF US ARE AWARE OF THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED YESTERDAY AMONG THE DEMOCRATS. THEY HAVE THEIR TICKET AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO CAMPAIGNING AGAINST IT ON THE ISSUES. AS I SAID YESTERDAY, THEIR CHOICE OF A VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE IS HISTORIC. WHY, IT'S RIGHT UP THERE WITH OUR PUTTING SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR ON THE SUPREME COURT.

SERIOUSLY, THE DAY I APPOINTED SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR TO BE THE FIRST WOMAN MEMBER OF THE SUPREME COURT WAS ONE OF THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF MY LIFE.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT FOOLISHNESS THAT IT'S THE OTHER MAJOR PARTY THAT REPRESENTS THE INTERESTS OF WOMEN? THE TRUTH IS, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY REPRESENTS THOSE INTERESTS BEST, AND IN A SERIOUS AND LONG-TERM MANNER. WE REPUBLICANS THINK WOMEN SHOULD CHANGE AMERICA.

THAT'S WHY WE HAVE AMBASSADOR JEANE
KIRKPATRICK AS OUR ELOQUENT AND COURAGEOUS
VOICE AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND SHE IS
CHANGING AMERICA; AS ARE ELIZABETH DOLE AT
TRANSPORTATION, AND MARGARET HECKLER AT THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

AND AS ARE KATHERINE ORTEGA, THE TREASURER
OF THE UNITED STATES; AND MARTHA SEGER AT
THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

THERE'S CAROL DINKINS AT THE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT; ANN DORE MCLAUGHLIN AT THE
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, WHO BRIEFED ME FOR
MY TRIP TO THE CHESAPEAKE BAY ON TUESDAY;
PATRICIA GOLDMAN AT THE NATIONAL
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD; FAITH RYAN
WHITTLESEY AND MARGARET TUTWILER HERE AT THE
WHITE HOUSE.

AND SO MANY OTHERS LIKE LENORA COLE
ALEXANDER AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR —
MARY JARRATT AT AGRICULTURE — DONNA TUTTLE
AT THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT — BARBARA
MCCONNELL AT THE C.A.B. — AND NANCY HARVEY
STEORTS AT THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY
COMMISSION.

ALL ARE CHANGING AMERICA, AND THEY ARE
CHANGING IT FOR THE BETTER.

NOW, I KNOW THAT HE WHO LIVES BY THE
CRYSTAL BALL SOMETIMES WINDS UP EATING
GLASS — BUT I HAVE SAID THIS BEFORE AND
I'LL SAY IT AGAIN: THERE IS GOING TO BE A
WOMAN PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES ONE OF
THESE DAYS...AND SHE IS GOING TO BE A
REPUBLICAN. WHY? BECAUSE WE HAVE THE GREAT
TALENT. THE WOMEN WHO HAVE ADVANCED IN OUR
PARTY -- AND WHO ARE COMING UP THROUGH THE
RANKS TODAY -- ARE DOING IT BY MERIT.
AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, RECOGNIZING THIS,
WILL SUPPORT SUCH A WOMAN WHEN SHE RUNS.

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN
CHOSE MARGARET THATCHER AS THEIR LEADER NOT
BECAUSE SHE WAS A WOMAN BUT BECAUSE SHE WAS
THE BEST PERSON FOR THE JOB. THERE WAS NO
TOKENISM OR CYNICAL "SYMBOLISM," SHE BECAME
LEADER OF HER PARTY -- AND PRIME MINISTER OF
GREAT BRITAIN -- BECAUSE SHE WAS JUDGED BY
HER PEERS TO BE A SUPERIOR LEADER. AND THAT
IS HOW THE FIRST REPUBLICAN WOMAN PRESIDENT
WILL DO IT.

LOOK AROUND YOU AT THE GREAT TALENT IN
THIS ROOM.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN THIS PARTY
IS JUST MORE EVIDENCE OF THE GROWING FACT
THAT, INCREASINGLY, THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS
THE PARTY OF IDEAS. WE'RE THE NEW THING IN
POLITICS THESE DAYS.

WE ARE TAKING CREATIVE STEPS TO FREE UP THE ECONOMY — WE HAVE THE NEW AND VITAL ECONOMIC IDEAS — WE'RE TAKING A NEW LOOK AT THE FAMILY AND ITS PIVOTAL PLACE IN SOCIETY — WE ARE THE ONES WITH FRESH NEW INSIGHTS ON TAX STRUCTURE; AND WE ARE THE ONES WITH THE COURAGE, CONVICTION, AND TRUE COMPASSION TO INCREASE PERSONAL INCENTIVES FOR EVERY WORKING AMERICAN. OUR PARTY FAIRLY CRACKLES WITH IDEAS AND DYNAMISM, WITH THE BUSTLE OF PIONEERS LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE AND TRYING TO MAKE IT BETTER THAN THE PRESENT.

THE PAST 3-1/2 YEARS -- HAVE YOU NOTICED? -- WE HAVE, ALL OF US, TOGETHER, CHANGED OUR COUNTRY. WE HAVE LED THE WAY IN HELPING THE PUBLIC UNDERSTAND THAT THE GREAT CONTENTION BETWEEN THE FREE WORLD AND THE TOTALITARIANS IS THE PREEMINENT STRUGGLE OF OUR TIME.

WE HAVE LED THE WAY IN HELPING OUR COUNTRY APPRECIATE ANEW THE FACT THAT ECONOMIC JUSTICE COMES FROM ECONOMIC FREEDOM -- AND THAT BIG GOVERNMENT DOES NOT LIBERATE MEN AND WOMEN, IT HOLDS THEM DOWN. WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED IS THE MOST EXCITING DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT SINCE THE NEW DEAL.

AND ALL OF YOU IN THIS ROOM ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NEW REVOLUTION.

YOU ARE THE INCREDIBLE TALENT THAT IS LIGHTING OUR PARTY WITH TREMENDOUS ENERGY.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS THE PARTY OF THE FUTURE, AND IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO REACH OUT TO ALL THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY— TO GO TO THE UNION HALLS AND THE FIRE STATIONS AND THE STREET CORNERS AND GET THE WORD OUT AND LET PEOPLE KNOW THAT THE PARTY WITH A VISION WANTS THEIR SUPPORT, NEEDS THEIR SUPPORT, AND DESERVES THEIR SUPPORT.

IT ALL COMES DOWN TO YOU. SCORES OF GIFTED REPUBLICAN WOMEN LIKE YOU ARE SERVING IN PUBLIC OFFICE OUTSIDE WASHINGTON. IN THE 23 STATE PRIMARIES THAT HAVE BEEN HELD THIS YEAR TO SELECT CANDIDATES FOR STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICES, IN ADDITION TO INCUMBENTS, OUR PARTY FIELDLED OVER 200 WOMEN. AND MORE THAN 150 OF YOU CAME OUT OF YOUR PRIMARIES VICTORIOUS.

NOW I KNOW YOU'RE HAVING BRIEFINGS ALL DAY BUT IF YOU'LL ALLOW ME, I'D LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO GIVE YOU AN OVERVIEW OF SOME OTHER THINGS WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO DO. I MAY BE PLOWING SOME GROUND THAT'S BEEN PLOWED ALREADY BUT THERE ARE SOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WE'RE WORKING ON THAT DIRECTLY AFFECT WOMEN IN AMERICA.

ON THE LEGISLATIVE FRONT, WE'VE MADE PROPOSALS TO REALLY TOUGHEN CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT:

TO IMPROVE STATE COLLECTION OF CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS AND REQUIRE THE ADOPTION OF PROVEN AND EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT TECHNIQUES. BILLS CONTAINING THESE MEASURES HAVE PASSED BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE, AND WE HOPE THEY WILL EMERGE FROM A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

IN PENSION REFORM, WE HAVE PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO INCREASE PROTECTION FOR WIDOWED AND DIVORCED SPOUSES AND TO HELP WOMEN EARN THEIR OWN PENSION CREDITS. THAT BILL IS ALSO WELL ON ITS WAY TO ENACTMENT.

TAX EQUITY FOR WOMEN IS ANOTHER VITAL FIELD. MANY OF OUR TAX EQUITY PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT, WHICH I EXPECT TO SIGN VERY SOON.

THE CONGRESS, FOR EXAMPLE, ADOPTED OUR PROPOSAL TO PERMIT CONTRIBUTIONS TO NON-PROFIT DEPENDENT CARE ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS DAYCARE CENTERS, TO BE TREATED AS TAX EXEMPT.

WE ARE MORE THAN DISAPPOINTED THAT THE CONGRESS DROPPED OUR PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE SPOUSAL I.R.A. LIMIT FROM \$2,250 TO \$4,000 -- BUT WE'LL KEEP ON PUSHING FOR THAT PROPOSAL.

THESE, AS WELL AS OTHER MEASURES THAT HAVE BEEN PASSED, REPRESENT A SIGNIFICANT ADVANCE FOR AMERICAN WOMEN. BUT THERE'S ONE ACHIEVEMENT THAT HAS DONE MORE TO GIVE AMERICAN WOMEN OPPORTUNITY AND INDEPENDENCE THAN ALL THE OTHERS COMBINED. IT'S CALLED ECONOMIC EXPANSION.

WHEN I TOOK THE OATH OF OFFICE, INFLATION WAS IN DOUBLE DIGITS, THE PRIME INTEREST RATE HAD HIT ITS HIGHEST PEAK SINCE THE CIVIL WAR, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH HAD JUST ABOUT DISAPPEARED.

THE ECONOMIC CRISIS STRUCK WOMEN ESPECIALLY HARD. MOST ELDERLY AMERICANS LIVING ON FIXED INCOMES ARE WOMEN, AND THEIR PURCHASING POWER WAS EATEN UP BY INFLATION.

WOMEN SAW JOBS BECOME MORE AND MORE SCARCE,
AND A 12.4-PERCENT INFLATION RATE MADE
BUYING GROCERIES AND PAYING BILLS A
NIGHTMARE. THE THOUSANDS OF WOMEN WHO
WANTED TO START THEIR OWN BUSINESSES SAW A
21-1/2-PERCENT PRIME INTEREST RATE SLAM THE
DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY.

WE MADE THE ECONOMY PRIORITY NUMBER
ONE, REDUCED THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL
SPENDING, ELIMINATED NEEDLESS REGULATION,
REDUCED PERSONAL INCOME TAX RATES, AND WE
PASSED AN HISTORIC REFORM CALLED TAX
INDEXING THAT MEANS THE GOVERNMENT CAN NEVER
AGAIN USE INFLATION TO PROFIT AT YOUR
EXPENSE. WE REDUCED THE MARRIAGE TAX
PENALTY, ALMOST DOUBLED THE MAXIMUM CHILD
CARE CREDIT, INCREASED THE LIMITS FOR I.R.A.
AND KEOGH CONTRIBUTIONS, AND ELIMINATED
ESTATE TAXES ON FAMILY FARMS AND BUSINESSES
FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES. AND OUR GREATEST
TRIUMPH IS IN THE AREA OF EMPLOYMENT.

RIGHT NOW, MORE PEOPLE ARE EMPLOYED IN THE UNITED STATES THAN AT ANY TIME IN OUR HISTORY. AND WE HAVE BEATEN BACK UNEMPLOYMENT TO 7.0 PERCENT.

TODAY FROM MAINE TO CALIFORNIA A POWERFUL ECONOMIC EXPANSION IS TAKING PLACE. INFLATION HAS PLUMMETED BY MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS SINCE WE TOOK OFFICE, TO 3.6 PERCENT FOR THE LAST 3-MONTH PERIOD.

AND AS I MENTIONED, THE PRODUCER PRICE INDEX IN JUNE WAS ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING AS UNCHANGED, THE THIRD MONTH IN A ROW — AND 2.2 PERCENT FOR THE LAST 12 MONTHS —

AND RETAIL SALES ARE UP. THE AMERICAN WORKER'S REAL WAGES ARE RISING. INVESTMENT BY U.S. BUSINESSES IN NEW PLANTS AND EQUIPMENT HAS RISEN AT ITS FASTEST RATE FOR ANY RECOVERY IN THE PAST 30 YEARS.

WE REPUBLICANS HAVE MORE THAN A GOOD RECORD. TOGETHER WE HAVE CHANGED -- AND WILL CONTINUE TO CHANGE -- OUR COUNTRY.

- 14 -

WE KNOW THAT OUR NATION'S BEST DAYS ARE
STILL AHEAD OF US. WE CAN BUILD A COUNTRY
WHERE ALL WOMEN AND MEN HAVE THE CHANCE TO
GO FORWARD JUST AS FAR AS THEIR DREAMS AND
TALENTS WILL TAKE THEM -- AN OPEN SOCIETY
LED BY THE PARTY OF NEW IDEAS. IT'S ALL
VERY EXCITING, AND WE'RE DOING IT, ALL OF
US, TOGETHER -- AND IF WE SUCCEED IN GETTING
THE WORD OUT ABOUT WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE'RE
ACCOMPLISHING, THEN I FEEL SURE THE NATION
WILL FOLLOW US.

THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

#

Sorry - but I wanted to shorten the remarks a little.

The President has ~~some~~

(Noonan/BE)
July 12, 1984
3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: LUNCH WITH ELECTED GOP WOMEN OFFICIALS
FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1984

Good afternoon and welcome. It's good to see so many old friends, and have the chance to meet some new ones. And ~~it's~~ ~~always a pleasure for me~~ to be joined by two of the most important women in my life, Nancy and Maureen.

I want to begin by giving each of you ^{MY} ~~high praise and~~ heartfelt thanks for all you've done for the Republican cause. Politics is often fun, and sometimes glamorous, but in the end it's the ~~sheer unrelenting~~ hard work of people like you that makes it possible for us to put our beliefs into practice.

The ~~role you play~~ ^{YOUR ROLE} is especially important because you demonstrate the Republican commitment to American women ^A ~~And~~ ~~that~~ ^{THAT} commitment runs deep. Some ~~people~~ have tried to keep that a secret. First, the GOP gave its backing to women's suffrage. Then ~~our party~~ ^{IT} became the first to elect a woman to the United States Congress. ~~After that, our party became~~ ^{AND} the first to elect women to the United States Senate who were not first filling unexpired terms. Today, the two women in the Senate, my friends Nancy Kassebaum and Paula Hawkins, are Republicans. ^{AND WE} ~~We also~~ have nine outstanding Republican women in the House of Representatives. ~~I think you'll agree with me that~~ ^{DONT U THINK LES} it's time we gave them some more company.

And the day I appointed Sandra Day O'Connor to be the first woman member of the Supreme Court was one of the happiest days of my life.

~~BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT FOOLISHNESS~~

~~Now, some people claim~~ that it's the other major party that represents the interests of women? ~~But~~ The truth is ~~is~~ the Republican Party ~~that best~~ ^{BEST} represents those interests, and in a serious and long-term manner.

~~We Republicans know that the advancement of women in our party is crucial to our future.~~

~~The truth is,~~ We Republicans think women should change America. That's why we have Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick as our eloquent and courageous voice at the United Nations, ~~Believe me,~~ ^{AND} she is changing America ^{AS ARE} Elizabeth Dole at Transportation, and Margaret Heckler at the Department of Health and Human Services. ~~--- they are changing America, too. So~~ ^{AND AS} are Katherine Ortega, the Treasurer of the United States; and Martha Seger at the Federal Reserve Board.

There's Carol Dinkins at the Justice Department; Ann Dore McLaughlin at the Department of Interior, who briefed me for my trip to the Chesapeake Bay on Tuesday; Patricia Goldman at the National Transportation Safety Board; Faith Ryan Whittlesey and Margaret Tutwiler here at the White House; and so many others like Lenora Cole Alexander at the Department of Labor -- Mary Jarratt at Agriculture -- Donna Tuttle at the Commerce Department -- Barbara McConnell at the C.A.B. -- and Nancy Harvey Steorts at the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

All ~~those women~~ ^{AND} are changing America, ~~let us say it with pride~~ -- they are changing ^{IT} ~~America~~ for the better.

~~And I've got a prediction for you.~~ Now, I know that he who lives by the crystal ball sometimes winds up eating glass -- but

I have said this before and I'll say it again: There is going to be a woman President of the United States ~~some time in the near future~~ ^{ONE OF THESE DAYS} . . . and she is going to be a Republican. Why? Because we have the great talent. The women who have advanced in our party -- and who are coming up through the ranks today -- are doing it by merit. And the American people, recognizing this, will support ~~the Republican woman who~~ ^{SUCH A} runs ^{WHEN SHE}.

~~In this, we Republicans are like~~ The Conservative Party of Great Britain. ~~They~~ chose Margaret Thatcher as their leader not because she was a woman but because she was the ~~very best~~ ^{PERSON FOR} ~~the~~ ^{THE JOB.} party had. ~~She did not win her office through~~ ^{THERE WAS NO} tokenism or empty, ~~even~~ cynical "symbolism." She became leader of her party -- and Prime Minister of Great Britain -- because she was judged by her peers to be a superior leader. And that is how the first ~~woman~~ ~~President~~ -- ~~that first~~ Republican woman President -- will do it.

Look around you ~~Some of that~~ ^{AT THE} great talent ~~is~~ in this room.

The advancement of women in this party is just more evidence of the growing fact -- ~~a fact that at this point is hard to ignore~~ -- that increasingly, the Republican Party is the party of ideas. We're the new thing in politics these days. We are ~~the~~ ~~ones~~ taking creative steps to free up the economy -- we have the new and vital economic ideas -- we're taking a new look at the family and its pivotal place in society -- we are the ones with fresh new insights on tax structure; and we are the ones with the courage, conviction, and true compassion to increase personal incentives for every working American. Our party fairly crackles

with ideas and dynamism, with the bustle of pioneers looking into the future and trying to make it better than the present.

The past 3-1/2 years -- have you noticed? -- we have, all of us, together, changed our country. We have led the way in helping the public understand that the great contention between the free world and the totalitarians is the preeminent struggle of our time. We have led the way in helping our country appreciate anew the fact that economic justice comes from economic freedom -- and that big Government does not liberate men and women ~~In fact, the sheer weight of~~ it holds them down.

~~We are leading the way and establishing ourselves as the party of new ideas. It has only just begun, but already what~~

WHAT we've accomplished is the most exciting domestic political development since the New Deal.

And ~~you~~ all of you in this room ~~you~~ are an integral part of the new revolution. You are the incredible talent that is lighting our party with tremendous energy. ~~This talent can be seen across the board -- from the brilliant Republicans in the House and Senate -- to all the thinkers and doers and writers who have replenished the right, from Midge Dechter to Arthur Laffer to Jeane Kirkpatrick -- and there are many more.~~ Have you noticed, by the way, that it is some of the conservative columnists whose work these days bristles with ideas and brilliant invective?

~~Well, I think you get my point:~~ The Republican Party is the party of the future, and it's up to all of us to reach out to all the people in this country -- to go to the union halls and the fire stations and the street corners and get the word out and let

people know that the party with a vision wants their support, needs their support, and deserves their support.

It all comes down to you. ~~There are~~ Scores of gifted Republican women ~~who~~, like you, are serving in public office outside Washington. ~~Recently Maureen gave me some very impressive figures about Republican women candidates.~~ In the 23 State primaries that have been held this year to select candidates for State and Federal offices in addition to incumbents ~~the Grand Old~~ ^{OUR} Party fielded over 200 women. And more than 150 of you came out of your primaries victorious.

~~The Republican Party is working to reshape America's destiny. And this includes everyone who takes part, from those running for a position on a town council to those holding national office.~~

Now I know you're having briefings all day but if you'll allow me, I'd like to take a moment to give you an overview of some other things we've been trying to do. I may be plowing some ground that's been plowed already but there are some specific proposals we're working on that directly affect women in America. ~~and I want to talk about them.~~

On the legislative front, we've made proposals to really toughen child support enforcement; ~~These proposals would~~ ^{to} improve State collection of child support payments and require the adoption of proven and effective enforcement techniques. Bills containing these measures have passed both the House and Senate, and we hope they will emerge from a conference committee within the next few weeks.

In pension reform, we have proposed legislation to increase protection for widowed and divorced spouses and to help women earn their own pension credits. That bill is also well on its way to enactment.

Tax equity for women is another vital field. Many of our tax equity proposals are contained in the deficit reduction act, which I ~~will~~ ^{EXPECT TO} sign very soon. The Congress, for example, adopted our proposal to permit contributions to non-profit dependent care organizations, such as daycare centers, to be treated as tax exempt. ~~Of course, we're~~ ^{WE ARE} more than disappointed that the Congress dropped our proposal to raise the spousal I.R.A. limit from \$2,250 to \$4,000 -- but ~~to assure you today we are determined~~ ^{WE'LL} ~~to~~ keep on pushing for that proposal.

These measures ~~I mentioned~~, as well as others that have been passed, represent a significant advance for American women. But there's one achievement that has done more to give American women opportunity and independence than all the others combined. It's called economic expansion.

~~The month that I stood on the steps of the Capitol to take~~
~~the oath of office, inflation was in double digits, the prime~~
~~interest rate had hit its highest peak since the Civil War, and~~
~~economic growth had just about disappeared.~~
WHEN I took

The economic crisis struck women especially hard. Most elderly Americans living on fixed incomes are women, and ~~they~~ ~~found~~ their purchasing power ^{WAS} eaten up by inflation. Women saw jobs become more and more scarce, and ~~they saw~~ a 12.4-percent inflation rate make buying groceries and paying bills a

nightmare. The thousands of women who wanted to start their own businesses saw a 21-1/2-percent prime interest rate slam ~~shut~~ the doors of opportunity.

~~When we took office,~~ We made the economy priority number one, ~~we~~ reduced the growth of Federal spending -- ~~we~~ eliminated needless regulation -- ~~we~~ reduced personal income taxes ~~+~~ ~~we~~ passed an historic reform called tax indexing, ~~a reform~~ that means the Government can never again use inflation to profit at your expense. We reduced the marriage tax penalty, almost doubled the maximum child care credit, increased the limits for I.R.A. and Keogh contributions and eliminated estate taxes on family farms and businesses for surviving spouses. And our greatest triumph is in the area of employment. Right now, ~~and I speak,~~ more people are employed in the United States than at any time in our history. And we have beaten back unemployment to 7.0 percent.

Today from Maine to California a powerful economic expansion is taking place. Inflation has plummeted by more than two-thirds since we took office, to 3.6 percent for the last 3-month period. *And as you've probably been told the Producer Price Index was announced this* Retail sales are up. The American worker's real wages are rising. Investment by U.S. businesses in new plants and equipment has risen at its fastest rate for any recovery in the past 30 years.

We Republicans have more than a good record. Together we have changed -- and will continue to change -- our country. We know that our Nation's best days are still ahead of us. We can build a country where all women and men have the chance to go

increasing as 2.1% for the 3rd quarter last 12 months.

forward just as far as their dreams and talents will take them -- an open society led by the party of new ideas. It's all very exciting, and we're doing it, all of us, together -- and if we succeed in getting the word out about what we are and what we're accomplishing, then I feel sure the Nation will follow us.

Thank you, and God bless you all.