## Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

**Collection:** White House Office of Records Management: Presidential Handwriting File, 1981-1989 (COPY SET)

Series: III: PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES

**Folder Title:** Folder 304 (07/19/1984-07/20/1984)

**Box:** 16

To see more digitized collections visit: https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit: <a href="https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories">https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories</a>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <a href="https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide">https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide</a>

National Archives Catalogue: <a href="https://catalog.archives.gov/">https://catalog.archives.gov/</a>

Last Updated: 02/09/2024

232261 SC SP903

## CARIBBEAN LEADERS CONFERENCE COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

IT IS A SPECIAL PLEASURE AND HONOR FOR ME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS GATHERING OF LEADERS FROM THE CARIBBEAN. YOU ARE AMONG OUR NEAREST NEIGHBORS AND CLOSEST FRIENDS.

OUR SOCIETIES, ECONOMIES, AND HISTORIES HAVE BEEN INTERTWINED FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS OF THE AMERICAS.

AS WE FACE THE FUTURE TOGETHER, I THINK
WE HAVE GOOD REASON TO BE CONFIDENT. FOUR
YEARS AGO, ECONOMIC PROSPECTS WERE BLEAK AND
THE FORCES OF TYRANNY WERE ON THE MOVE,
EMBOLDENED BY WHAT SEEMED TO BE A PARALYSIS
AMONG THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES OF THE
HEMISPHERE.

BUT, BY JOINING TOGETHER WITH COURAGE
AND DETERMINATION, WE'VE TURNED THAT
SITUATION AROUND. NOW THE TIDE OF THE
FUTURE IS A FREEDOM TIDE.

THE FREE PEOPLE OF THIS HEMISPHERE ARE UNITED AND SHARE A COMMON SENSE OF PURPOSE.

NOWHERE IS THAT MORE APPARENT THAN WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN DEMOCRACIES,—AS HAS BEEN SO EVIDENT IN OUR MEETING TODAY.

OVER THESE PAST 4 YEARS, WE'VE STRIVED TO ENCOURAGE DEMOCRACY ENHANCE THE ECONOMIC VITALITY OF THE REGION AND COOPERATE IN THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM. THESE ARE NOT SEPARATE GOALS, THEY ARE MUTUALLY REINFORCING.

PRESIDENT JORGE BLANCO POINTED THAT OUT
EARLIER THIS YEAR, WHEN HE OBSERVED,

. . . BREAD, HEALTH EDUCATION LIBERTY
DEMOCRACY AND PEACE ARE INDIVISIBLE AND
IRREPLACEABLE VALUES.

I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT DEMOCRATIC

GOVERNMENT IS THE BIRTHRIGHT OF EVERY

AMERICAN, ALL OF US FROM THE NORTH SLOPE OF

ALASKA TO THE TIP OF TIERRA DEL FUEGO.

AND MUCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE.

TODAY, 26 OF 33 INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES IN THE HEMISPHERE - COUNTRIES WITH 90 PERCENT OF THE HEMISPHERE'S POPULATION - ARE DEMOCRATIC OR IN TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY.

YOUR OWN DEMOCRACIES ARE AN EXAMPLE TO
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES EVERYWHERE. THAT'S NOT
TO SAY YOU DON'T FACE GREAT CHALLENGES.

THE WORLDWIDE RECESSION PROFOUNDLY AFFECTED
THE CARIBBEAN WITH MARKET PRICES FOR KEY
COMMODITIES YOU PRODUCE DROPPING EVEN AS THE
COSTS OF YOUR IMPORTS WERE RISING.

THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN HARD-PRESSED ECONOMICALLY BUT WE'VE DONE OUR BEST TO HELP AND PROVIDE HOPE -- AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO SO. THE UNITED STATES HAS A DEEP AND ABIDING INTEREST IN THE WELL-BEING OF ITS NEIGHBORS.

IN THESE LAST 3 YEARS, WE'VE BEGUN TO
PUT OUR OWN ECONOMIC HOUSE IN ORDER BY
CUTTING THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT SPENDING
AND REGULATIONS. WE ARE ENJOYING HIGH
GROWTH, DECLINING UNEMPLOYMENT, AND LOW
INFLATION, AND WE'VE BECOME ONCE AGAIN AN
ENGINE FOR WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC PROGRESS.
WE BELIEVE THE SECRET OF THAT SUCCESS IS
LOWER TAX RATES AND THAT'S A SECRET
EVERYONE CAN SHARE AND BENEFIT FROM.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE'VE INCREASED OUR AID TO THE REGION, AND HELPED STRENGTHEN THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND'S ABILITY TO ASSIST COUNTRIES WITH DEBT PROBLEMS.

BUT LET'S BE REALISTIC STOP-GAP MEASURES
WITH THE I.M.F. ARE MERELY THAT TEMPORARY
SOLUTIONS. THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION IS STRONG
AND STEADY GROWTH IN EVERY CARIBBEAN
COUNTRY.

OUR CARIBBEAN BASIN INITIATIVE NOW

GETTING UNDER WAY GIVES YOUR PEOPLE NEW

ACCESS TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST AND MOST

DYNAMIC MARKET. IT ENCOURAGES JOB-CREATING

BUSINESS INVESTMENT FOR GROWTH AND

PROSPERITY.

AND IT IS BEING PUT INTO PLACE AT A TIME
WHEN A STRONG DOLLAR AND AN EXPANDING
AMERICAN ECONOMY CAN TRANSLATE INTO GREATER
DEMAND FOR YOUR PRODUCTS. THE C.B.I. IS
PART OF OUR BROADER, OVERALL ECONOMIC
STRATEGY TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC VITALITY AND
RAISE LIVING STANDARDS THROUGHOUT THE
CARIBBEAN.

WE CAN AND MUST WORK TOGETHER TO
IMPROVE THE WELL BEING OF OUR PEOPLE AND TO
ENSURE OUR SAFETY AS WELL. I'D LIKE TO TAKE
THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE MANY OF YOU
FOR YOUR COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP IN TURNING
BACK THE COMMUNIST POWER GRAB IN GRENADA
LAST FALL.

WE CAN BE PROUD THAT, THANKS TO THE UNITY AND DETERMINATION OF OUR DEMOCRACIES/WE SAVED THE PEOPLE OF THAT TROUBLED ISLAND/WE RESTORED THEIR FREEDOM/WE REVIVED THEIR HOPE IN THE FUTURE/AND WE PREVENTED DANGER AND TURMOIL FROM SPREADING BEYOND GRENADA'S SHORES. LET US ALWAYS REMEMBER THE CRUCIAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE LEGITIMATE USE OF FORCE FOR LIBERATION VERSUS TOTALITARIAN AGGRESSION FOR CONQUEST.

BUT, WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN GRENADA WAS NOT AN ISOLATED INCIDENT. THE SOVIET BLOC AND CUBA HAVE BEEN COMMITTING ENORMOUS RESOURCES TO UNDERMINING OUR LIBERTY AND INDEPENDENCE.

NOWHERE IS THIS THREAT MORE PRESSING THAN IN NICARAGUA A COUNTRY WHICH TODAY MARKS THE FIFTH YEAR OF SANDINISTA DICTATORSHIP.

THE SANDINISTA REV. (LIK. CASIROS REV.)

FACED WITH MOUNTING INTERNAL PRESSURES
AND DISILLUSIONMENT ABROAD, THE SANDINISTAS
HAVE ANNOUNCED AN ELECTION FOR NOVEMBER OF
THIS YEAR. WE WOULD WHOLEHEARTEDLY WELCOME
A GENUINE DEMOCRATIC ELECTION IN NICARAGUA.
BUT, NO PERSON COMMITTED TO DEMOCRACY WILL
BE TAKEN IN BY A SOVIET-STYLE SHAM ELECTION.

THE SITUATION IN NICARAGUA IS NOT PROMISING BUT IF THE SANDINISTAS WOULD KEEP THEIR ORIGINAL COMMITMENT — PERMIT FREE ELECTIONS RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS AND ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT NATION — CONFLICT IN THE REGION WOULD SUBSIDE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SUPPORT THOSE WHO ASPIRES TO LIVE IN A TRUE DEMOCRACY, FREE FROM COMMUNIST INTERFERENCE. IF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES DO NOT STAND TOGETHER, WE CERTAINLY WILL BE UNABLE TO STAND ALONE.

JUST A FEW YEARS AGO, TOTALITARIANISM
WAS ON THE RISE. BUT THERE'S A NEW SPIRIT

AMONG DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES. PRIME MINISTER
ADAMS DESCRIBED IT,—THERE IS A COMMUNITY OF
INTEREST AMONG DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES WHICH
CAN TRANSCEND ETHNICITY AND DIFFERENCES IN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THIS SPIRIT IS A
POWERFUL NEW FORCE FOR FREEDOM IN THE WORLD
TODAY.

WHAT WE DO TOGETHER, AS A FAMILY OF
FREE MEN AND WOMEN, WILL DETERMINE WHAT THE
FUTURE WILL BE LIKE FOR OUR CHILDREN. IF WE
ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO LIVE UP TO OUR SHARED
VALUES THE PROMISE OF FREEDOM AND
OPPORTUNITY OF THE NEW WORLD WILL, AT LONG
LAST, BE REALIZED. BY WORKING TOGETHER, THE
FREE PEOPLE OF THIS HEMISPHERE CAN MAKE
CERTAIN THAT THE NEXT CENTURY WILL INDEED BE
OUR CENTURY A DEMOCRATIC CENTURY.

I HAVE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED BEING WITH YOU TODAY. GOD BLESS YOU.

08/8

(Rohrabacher/BE) July 17, 1984 9:30 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CARIBBEAN LEADERS CONFERENCE COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA THURSDAY, JULY 19, 1984

It is a special pleasure and honor for me to participate in this gathering of leaders from the Caribbean. You are among our nearest neighbors and closest friends. Our societies, economies, and histories have been intertwined from the earliest days of the Americas.

As we face the future together, I think we have good reason to be confident. Four years ago, economic prospects were bleak and the forces of tyranny were on the move, emboldened by what seemed to be a paralysis among the democratic peoples of the hemisphere.

But, by joining together with courage and determination, we've turned that situation around. Now the tide of the future is a freedom tide. The free people of this hemisphere are united and share a common sense of purpose. Nowhere is that more apparent than with the United States and the Caribbean democracies, as has been so evident in our meeting today.

Over these past 4 years, we've strived to encourage democracy, enhance the economic vitality of the region, and cooperate in the defense of freedom. These are not separate goals, they are mutually reinforcing. President Jorge Blanco pointed that out earlier this year, when he observed,

". . . bread, health, education, liberty, democracy, and peace are indivisible and irreplaceable values."

I firmly believe that democratic government is the birthright of every American, all of us from the North Slope of Alaska to the tip of Tierra del Fuego. And much progress has been made. Today, 26 of 33 independent countries in the hemisphere -- countries with 90 percent of the hemisphere's population -- are democratic or in transition to democracy.

Your own democracies are an example to developing countries everywhere. That's not to say you don't face great challenges. The worldwide recession profoundly affected the Caribbean, with market prices for key commodities you produce dropping even as the costs of your imports were rising. The United States has been hard-pressed economically, but we've done our best to help and provide hope -- and we'll continue to do so. The United States has a deep and abiding interest in the well-being of its neighbors.

In these last 3 years, we've begun to put our own economic house in order by cutting the growth of Government spending and regulations. We are enjoying high growth, declining unemployment, and low inflation, and we've become once again an engine for worldwide economic progress. We believe the secret of that success is lower tax rates, and that's a secret everyone can share and benefit from.

At the same time, we've increased our aid to the region, and helped strengthen the International Monetary Fund's ability to assist countries with debt problems. But let's be realistic:

Stop-gap measures with the I.M.F. are merely that -- temporary

solutions. The ultimate solution is strong and steady growth in every Caribbean country.

Our Caribbean Basin Initiative now beginning gives your people new access to the world's largest and most dynamic market. It encourages job-creating business investment for growth and prosperity. And it is being put into place at a time when a strong dollar and an expanding American economy can translate into greater demand for your products. The C.B.I. is part of our broader, overall economic strategy to improve economic vitality and raise living standards throughout the Caribbean.

We can and must work together to improve the well being of our people and to ensure our safety as well. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate many of you for your courage and leadership in turning back the communist power grab in Grenada last fall. We can be proud that, thanks to the unity and determination of our democracies, we saved the people of that troubled island, we restored their freedom, we revived their hope in the future, and we prevented danger and turmoil from spreading beyond Grenada's shores. Let us always remember the crucial distinction between the legitimate use of force for liberation and totalitarian aggression for conquest.

But, what was happening in Grenada was not an isolated incident. The Soviet bloc and Cuba have been committing enormous resources to undermining our liberty and independence.

Nowhere is this threat more pressing than in Nicaragua, a country which today marks the fifth year of Sandinista dictatorship. The Sandinista revolution, like Castro's

revolution, is a revolution betrayed. We should remember that in 1979 genuine democrats joined with the Sandinistas as part of the political agreement which led to the departure of Somoza.

On June 23, 1979, the O.A.S. called for replacing the Somoza government with a broadly representative government committed to holding genuinely democratic elections. Then, on July 12, 1979, the Sandinistas made these promises in writing to the O.A.S. They repeated this commitment to implement genuine democracy with their signed endorsement of the 21 Contadora objectives in September, 1983. Tragically, for the past 5 years, the Sandinistas have worked systematically to establish a dictatorship firmly allied with Cuba and the Soviet Union.

Faced with mounting internal pressures and disillusionment abroad, the Sandinistas have announced an election for November of this year. We would wholeheartedly welcome a genuine democratic election in Nicaragua. But, no person committed to democracy will be taken in by a Soviet-style sham election.

The situation in Nicaragua is not promising, but if the Sandinistas would keep their original commitment -- permit free elections, respect human rights, and establish an independent nation -- conflict in the region would subside.

In the meantime, we have a moral responsibility to support those who aspire to live in a true democracy, free from communist interference. If the democratic peoples do not stand together, we certainly will be unable to stand alone.

Just a few years ago, totalitarianism was on the rise. But there's a new spirit among democratic peoples. Prime Minister Adams described it, "There is a community of interest among democratic countries which can transcend ethnicity and differences in economic development." This spirit is a powerful new force for freedom in the world today.

What we do together, as a family of free men and women will determine what the future will be like for our children. If we are strong enough to live up to our shared values, the promise of freedom and opportunity of the New World will, at long last, be realized. By working together, the free people of this hemisphere can make certain that the next century will indeed be our century, a democratic century.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being with you today. God bless you.

(Rohrabacher/BE)
July 20, 1984
5:00 p.m.

23229556

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR FEMALE EXECUTIVES PROU

It's an honor for me to join you, the members and friends of the National Association for Female Executives. Nearly one-hundred-twenty-thousand strong, you make up an impressive national network, sharing information, experience, and encouragement. For 12 years, as was the purpose of your founder, Wendy Rue, you've been working to heighten women's awareness to the many opportunities available to them and open new doors.

Due to your efforts and those of like-minded individuals, much progress has been made. It is if I didn't take this opportunity to highlight some of the accomplishments of our Administration in this regard.

During the past 3-1/2 years, I have appointed women to more than 1,600 top Government positions, including the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court and three women in the Cabinet. As a matter of fact, one of the members of my staff is a member of N.A.F.E.(NAFFY) -- Mary Jo Jacobi, who is my chief liaison to the business community.

The full weight of the Government of the United States is behind equal opportunity for women. Our Administration has moved to amend, or eliminate, statutes and regulations that discriminate on the basis of sex, and has encouraged the States to do likewise.

And I'm delighted to say that 42 States have already begun reviews of their laws and procedures, and more than half of our

States are already amending their laws to ensure equal treatment for women.

In individual cases, the Department of Justice has been hard at work to fight discrimination. The Department has filed the first seven suits in its history to enforce the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978. And one of those suits involved the rights of some 9,000 women. Just last year, the Justice Department won a record-breaking \$2.75 million discrimination case dealing with the rights of 685 women and blacks. In the Hishon case, which dealt with sexual discrimination by a law firm, the Justice Department helped bring about a landmark Supreme Court decision for the women of America.

Let there be no doubt -- this Administration considers discrimination based on sex just as great an evil as discrimination based on religion or race, and we will continue to prosecute cases of sex discrimination to the fullest extent of the law.

In other areas of particular interest to women, we've strengthened the Federal child support enforcement system and we're working hard toward new legislation that will further improve collection of child support for both welfare and non-welfare families.

Our Administration has greatly reduced the income tax marriage penalty. We've eliminated the estate tax levied on a surviving spouse, giving significant benefits to those with family firms and small businesses where women have long been hard-working partners. And we've expanded participation in

I.R.A. accounts, helping women whether they work at home or in paid jobs.

We're also working with the Congress to pass historic legislation that will reform inequities that women suffer in some private pension plans. All of this is in recognition of women's increasing role in America's economic life.

I've always believed the most important thing for the well-being of all Americans is a strong economy: and that requires growth-oriented taxing, spending, and regulating policies.

In the past 3-1/2 years, we've managed to reinvigorate a stagnant economy and substantially reduce what was a murderous rate of inflation. Today, virtually every economic indicator is positive. This means more and more opportunity for you, and for all Americans.

When I look at America, I see our basic industry making stirring gains, and new industries gathering strength. I see America leading the world in a technological revolution that's putting men and women into space and adding years to life on Earth. I see a country of self-reliant people, serving as a force for peace among nations. And I see women who are holding families together, entering the workforce, starting new enterprises, and managing large corporations, and doing it all with courage and confidence.

America is back, and I know that women are playing a vital part in leading our Nation into the future.

## Page 4

I want to thank you for letting me join you, via video tape, for your convention. I hope you are having a productive and enjoyable gathering. God bless you.

## CEREMONY FOR APOLLO ASTRONAUTS

232277 SC

NEIL ARMSTRONG, BUZZ ALDRIN,
MIKE COLLINS, JIM BEGGS, ALL OUR APOLLO
ASTRONAUTS, THE MEN AND WOMEN OF NASA HERE
AND THOSE WATCHING FROM NASA LOCATIONS
AROUND THE COUNTRY, OUR FRIENDS OUT AT THE
SPACE PAVILION AT THE WORLD'S FAIR IN
NEW ORLEANS, AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:
IT'S A REAL PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE
WHITE HOUSE. AS I LOOK AROUND, I CAN'T HELP
THINKING THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN SO MANY STARS
IN ONE PLACE SINCE I WAS ON THE BACK LOT OF
WARNER BROTHERS.

WE CELEBRATE TODAY A UNIQUE MOMENT IN
THE HISTORY OF MANKIND -- EAGLE'S TOUCHDOWN
NEAR THE SOUTHWESTERN SHORE OF THE SEA OF
TRANQUILITY. BUT IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT
15 YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE WE FIRST HEARD
NEIL ARMSTRONG'S INSPIRING WORDS.

I KNOW IT'S BEEN THAT LONG, BUT WHY DON'T ANY OF YOU LOOK ANY OLDER?

TODAY'S CELEBRATION ALSO BRINGS BACK A VERY FOND MEMORY. IN AUGUST 1969, AFTER A LONG QUARANTINE, THE WHITE HOUSE HONORED THE APOLLO 11 CREW WITH A DINNER IN CALIFORNIA. AS GOVERNOR, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE THE PRESIDENT, AND I REMEMBER LOOKING OUT AT OUR DINNER GUESTS --AMBASSADORS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM 83 COUNTRIES, 44 STATE GOVERNORS, 50 MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS, 14 MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, AND THE LEADERSHIP OF NASA -- AND THINKING THAT THE MEN AND WOMEN OF NASA CHANGED FOREVER OUR CONCEPT OF THE UNIVERSE AND OUR RELATION TO IT. NO LONGER COULD THERE BE ANY MISTAKE ABOUT THE COMMON HERITAGE AND COMMON DESTINY OF ALL PEOPLE.

THE APOLLO PROGRAM WAS A NOBLE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MIND, HEART, AND SPIRIT -- AND THE MOST AMBITIOUS AND COMPLEX PROGRAM EVER UNDERTAKEN IN PEACETIME. THE LUNAR LANDINGS WERE A DAZZLING TRIUMPH OF EXPLORATION. THE MAYFLOWER DID SAIL ON. GUS GRISSOM, ED WHITE, AND ROGER CHAFFEE OPENED THE TRAIL AND WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THEIR TRAGIC SACRIFICE. BUT THE PROGRAM WENT ON AND 12 AMERICANS LANDED ON THE MOON. | BY THE END OF THE APOLLO PROGRAM, THE COLUMBIA, THE ENDEAVOUR, THE AMERICA, AND THE OTHER COMMAND MODULES HAD RETURNED 27 APOLLO ASTRONAUTS SAFELY FROM THE MOON AND ITS VICINITY. AND, OH HOW OUR ASTRONAUTS, WITH THEIR QUIET CONFIDENCE, SUPERB PROFESSIONALISM, AND INNER STRENGTH, LIFTED OUR SPIRITS AND FEELINGS OF GOOD WILL.

APOLLO ENRICHED OUR INTELLECTUAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE AND AWAKENED US TO MANKIND'S BOUNDLESS HORIZON. WE CARRIED A NEW SENSE OF PRIDE AND BECAME MORE CONFIDENT THAT WE'VE ONLY SEEN THE BEGINNING OF WHAT A FREE AND COURAGEOUS PEOPLE CAN DO.

AND, OF COURSE, THE APOLLO PROGRAM WAS
A SUPREME TEST OF TECHNOLOGY, ALWAYS AT AND
OFTEN BEYOND THE CUTTING EDGE. NEVER BEFORE
HAD THE REQUIREMENTS OF RELIABILITY,
ACCURACY, AND EFFICIENCY BEEN AS DEMANDING.
NEVER BEFORE HAD THE QUALITY ASSURANCE
TESTING FOR EACH OF THE THOUSANDS AND
THOUSANDS OF COMPONENTS BEEN AS RELENTLESS.

AND OUR DEVELOPERS AND INVENTORS
RESPONDED WITH UNPRECEDENTED CREATIVITY.

OUR FINEST MINDS IN GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY,
AND UNIVERSITIES ALL PULLED TOGETHER,
AND ONE SPARKLING TECHNICAL INNOVATION
FOLLOWED ANOTHER.

AND ALL THE WHILE, OUR SPACE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING SERVED THE DOWN-TO-EARTH NEEDS OF OUR OWN PEOPLE, AND PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.

THE APOLLO PROJECT SPAWNED COMMUNICATIONS, WEATHER, NAVIGATION, AND EARTH RESOURCE SATELLITES AND MANY NEW INDUSTRIES LIKE SOLID STATE ELECTRONICS, MEDICAL ELECTRONICS, AND COMPUTER SCIENCES. IT OPENED THE DOOR TO EXCITING SCIENTIFIC AND COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES, OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THE PROGRAMMABLE HEART PACEMAKER WHICH USES TECHNOLOGY FIRST DEVELOPED TO SEND CODED INSTRUCTIONS TO ORBITING SATELLITES. CORDLESS HOME APPLIANCES AND SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS GREW OUT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR APOLLO'S LUNAR EXPERIMENTS. | EVEN THE FABRIC ROOF OF PONTIAC, MICHIGAN'S SILVERDOME --THE HOME OF THE DETROIT LIONS -- WAS MADE FROM THE PRODUCT DEVELOPED FOR NASA'S SPACE SUIT.

THE ERA OF APOLLO HELPED US BUILD A
TECHNOLOGICAL BASE SECOND TO NONE.
BUT WE'VE ONLY TOUCHED THE EDGE OF
POSSIBILITIES IN SPACE. THE APOLLO
EXPERIENCE WAS ONLY A BEGINNING FOR AMERICA.

THE WORLD'S FIRST TRUE SPACE TRANSPORTATION

SYSTEM — AND ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE

AMERICAN SPIRIT. THE SPACE SHUTTLE OPENED A

NEW ERA TO PURSUE THE MANY SCIENTIFIC,

EDUCATIONAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND COMMERCIAL

OPPORTUNITIES OF SPACE. AS LONG AS WE

CHALLENGE OUR IMAGINATION AND AIM HIGH,

THERE'S NO END TO THE POTENTIAL OF SPACE.

THERE'S NEVER A TIME WHEN WE CAN STOP MOVING FORWARD, WHEN WE CAN STOP DREAMING.

AND SO THIS PAST JANUARY, IN MY STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, I CHALLENGED OUR NATION TO DEVELOP A PERMANENTLY-MANNED SPACE STATION, AND TO DO SO WITHIN A DECADE.

AND I'M VERY PLEASED THAT THE CONGRESS HAS AUTHORIZED FUNDS ENABLING NASA TO TAKE THE FIRST STEPS IN THE DESIGN OF AMERICA'S SPACE STATION.

THE FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON SHOWED US
THAT AMERICA'S FUTURE CAN BE DETERMINED BY
OUR DREAMS AND OUR VISIONS. THE SHUTTLE AND
OUR SPACE STATION WILL HELP MAKE THOSE
DREAMS COME TRUE. OUR FREEDOM AND
WELL-BEING ARE TIED TO NEW ACHIEVEMENTS AND
PUSHING BACK NEW FRONTIERS. WE WILL PUSH
BACK THOSE FRONTIERS, AND OPEN NEW DOORS TO
DISCOVERY, OPPORTUNITY, AND PROGRESS.
I ALSO SAID IN THAT STATE OF THE UNION
ADDRESS THAT WE WOULD SOON IMPLEMENT
INITIATIVES TO HELP PROMOTE PRIVATE SECTOR
INVESTMENT IN SPACE. WE ARE NOW EMBARKING
ON THAT COURSE.

WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN TO ENSURE
INDUSTRY HAS ROUTINE ACCESS TO SPACE AND A
SUITABLE, RELIABLE PLACE TO WORK THERE.

AND WE WILL DO THIS WITHOUT NEEDLESS
REGULATORY CONSTRAINTS. ELEVEN SUCCESSFUL
SHUTTLE FLIGHTS MEAN THAT WE ARE ON THE
VERGE OF A SPACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM THAT
CAN DEPENDABLY SUPPORT SPACE INDUSTRIES.
AND THE BENEFITS OUR PEOPLE CAN RECEIVE FROM
THE COMMERCIAL USE OF SPACE LITERALLY DAZZLE
THE IMAGINATION.

TOGETHER, WE CAN PRODUCE RARE
MEDICINES WITH THE POTENTIAL OF SAVING
THOUSANDS OF LIVES AND HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS
OF DOLLARS; WE CAN MANUFACTURE SUPERCHIPS
THAT IMPROVE OUR COMPETITIVE POSITION IN THE
WORLD COMPUTER MARKET; WE CAN BUILD SPACE
OBSERVATORIES ENABLING SCIENTISTS TO SEE OUT
TO THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE; AND WE CAN
PRODUCE SPECIAL ALLOYS AND BIOLOGICAL
MATERIALS THAT BENEFIT GREATLY FROM A
ZERO-GRAVITY ENVIRONMENT.

BY ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE OF SPACE, WE WILL CARRY FORWARD THE SAME COURAGE AND INDOMITABLE SPIRIT THAT MADE US A GREAT NATION, AND THAT CARRIED OUR APOLLO ASTRONAUTS TO THE MOON.

AS YOU KNOW, DR. GEORGE LOW - THE GUIDING LIGHT BEHIND THE APOLLO PROGRAM --PASSED AWAY EARLIER THIS WEEK, DR. LOW BEGAN HIS CAREER AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST AND PROGRESSED TO KEY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS IN THE MANNED SPACE FLIGHT PROGRAM, INCLUDING MANAGER OF THE APOLLO SPACECRAFT PROGRAM. HE PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN ALL THE APOLLO MISSIONS AND DIRECTED THE APOLLO 11 FLIGHT. DR. LOW ALSO SERVED AS DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR AND ACTING ADMINISTRATOR OF NASA, AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE PLANNING OF THE SHUTTLE PROGRAM. FOR THE PAST 8 YEARS, DR. LOW CONTINUED HIS LIFE-LONG EFFORTS TO BUILD A BETTER TOMORROW WHILE SERVING AS PRESIDENT OF RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR WHAT GEORGE LOW HAS DONE AND THE IDEALS HE STOOD FOR, AND WE WILL MISS HIM VERY MUCH. I KNOW YOU JOIN NANCY AND ME IN EXTENDING HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE LOW FAMILY.

BUT, I'M SURE GEORGE LOW WOULD BE
PLEASED THAT WE ARE HONORING OUR
ACHIEVEMENTS AND THE PROMISE OF SPACE WITH A
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING TODAY AS "SPACE
EXPLORATION DAY." LET US USE THIS OCCASION
AS A COMMITMENT TO OUR FUTURE, TO THE BEST
OF AMERICA. LET IT BE A REMINDER OF
AMERICA'S SPIRIT OF EXPLORATION, OUR DESIRE
TO CROSS NEW HORIZONS, AND TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT OURSELVES AND THE WORLD AROUND US.
AND NOW I WILL SIGN THE PROCLAMATION.
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

(NOONAN)

N) JULY 20, 1984/10:00 AM NATIONAL POW-MIA RECOGNITION DAY

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, WELCOME.

WE ARE HERE TODAY TO RECOGNIZE, AND HONOR, A SMALL BUT VERY SPECIAL GROUP OF AMERICANS — OUR FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR, AND THOSE WHO ARE STILL MISSING.

FOUR TIMES IN THIS CENTURY, WE HAVE
BEEN FORCED, PAINFULLY AND RELUCTANTLY, TO
SEND OUR MEN AND WOMEN TO FIGHT IN WAR ON
FOREIGN SHORES. SOME OF THEM MADE THE
SUPREME SACRIFICE OF THEIR LIVES. SOME
OTHERS MADE SACRIFICES IN MANY WAYS EQUALLY
GRAVE: THEY WERE IMPRISONED BY THE ENEMY.
THEIR INCARCERATION OFTEN INCLUDED BEATINGS
AND TORTURE, STARVATION AND ALL FORMS OF
EMOTIONAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE. IT ALSO
ENTAILED THE TERRIBLE LONELINESS OF LIVING
THROUGH LOST YEARS, OF SEEING THE DAYS TICK
AWAY WITHOUT FRIENDS, WITHOUT LOVED ONES,
WITHOUT FAMILY AND COMMUNITY.

WHAT HAS SUSTAINED SUCH MEN AND WOMEN IN THEIR ISOLATION? WHAT KEPT THEM GOING WHEN FAITH WANED, AS IT MUST HAVE, AND QUESTIONS BEGAN TO HAUNT AND DOUBTS BEGAN TO ACCUMULATE? WE HEAR THE STORIES OF THE RETURNED PRISONERS OF WORLD WAR II, AND KOREA, AND VIETNAM, AND WE MARVEL AT HOW THEY KEPT GOING.

I RECALL THAT, WHEN MANY OF OUR PRISONERS RETURNED FROM VIETNAM 11 YEARS AGO, A NUMBER OF THEM SAID THERE WERE THREE THINGS THAT HELPED THEM SURVIVE CAPTIVITY AND RETURN WITH HONOR: FAITH IN GOD, FAITH IN THEIR FELLOW PRISONERS, AND FAITH IN THEIR COUNTRY. BY FAITH THEY DID NOT MEAN ONLY LOVE — THOUGH THEY DEMONSTRATED THAT IN ABUNDANCE. THEY MEANT A HEARTFELT BELIEF THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE ABANDONED, THAT WE AT HOME WOULD MOVE MOUNTAINS TO RETURN THEM SAFELY TO US AFTER THE WAR.

OUR PRISONERS OF WAR HAVE BEEN —
AND ARE — THE BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE.
THEY KEPT A TRUSTING HEART, THEY RETAINED
THEIR SPIRIT AND THEIR WILL, THEY KEPT THE
FAITH. THEY TRUSTED US, AND THAT TRUST DID
US GREAT HONOR.

AMONG US HERE TODAY ARE SOME AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR. MAY I SAY THAT YOU ARE — AS THE GREAT ALWAYS ARE — MORE THAN THE SUM TOTAL OF YOURSELVES. YOU ARE A TESTAMENT TO THE STRENGTH AND CHARACTER OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE — YOU ARE A SYMBOL OF OUR SPIRIT — YOU ARE AN EXPRESSION OF AMERICAN TRUST.

YOUR HEROISM IS AS OLD AS WAR ITSELF — AS OLD AS NAMES LIKE ANDERSONVILLE, AND LOS BANOS, AND CAMP 5, AND THE HANOI HILTON.

MOST OF THOSE PLACES ARE GONE NOW, OR EMPTY. BUT THE SILENCE LEFT IN THEIR PLACE SURELY ECHOES WITH THE QUIET, UNHEARD VALOR OF THOSE WHO SUFFERED THERE AND CLUNG TO THE BELIEF THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT AND THEIR LOVED ONES WOULD BE SEMPER FI. ALWAYS FAITHFUL.

WE HONOR YOU, AND THAT HONOR IS UNENDING.

THERE ARE OTHERS TO WHOM WE MUST BE SEMPER FI — THOSE WHO ARE STILL MISSING, THE MEN WHO WENT ACROSS THE SEA, WHO NEVER RETURNED, AND WHOSE FATE IS UNKNOWN.

ALSO WITH US TODAY ARE SOME OF THE
RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THOSE STILL MISSING
FROM KOREA AND VIETNAM. THEY, TOO, HAVE
SHOWN MORE THAN THEIR SHARE OF HEROISM,
HOLDING THE STANDARD FOR THOSE WHO WENT AWAY
AND ARE NOT YET RETURNED TO US, INSISTING
THAT THE WORLD REMEMBER AND RESPOND, ASKING
ALL OF US TO HELP THEM IN THEIR GREAT
EFFORT, NEVER GIVING UP OR ABANDONING HOPE.

OUR ADMINISTRATION INHERITED THE
CHALLENGE OF ACCOUNTING FOR THE MISSING IN
JANUARY OF 1981 — TWO DECADES AFTER THE
FIRST MAN WAS PLACED ON THE MISSING LIST IN
VIETNAM, AND ALMOST THREE DECADES AFTER THE
ARMISTICE IN KOREA. THERE HAD BEEN MANY
OBSTACLES AND EXCUSES IN THAT TIME AS TO WHY
PROGRESS COULD NOT BE MADE. WE FOUND,
3 YEARS AGO, THAT THE GREATEST OBSTACLE WE
FACED — AND WOULD CONTINUE TO FACE —
WAS THE PASSAGE OF TIME.

DESPITE THE DAUNTING SPECTER OF

31 YEARS SINCE THE END OF THE KOREAN WAR, WE
HAVE PRESSED THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA
FOR AN ACCOUNTING. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO

SO. BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE HAVE
RECEIVED SOME VALUABLE INFORMATION FROM SOME
DEDICATED VETERANS OF THAT WAR ON POSSIBLE
GRAVE LOCATIONS OF SOME OF THEIR FELLOW
SOLDIERS. WE ARE ACTING ON THIS
INFORMATION.

IF IT IS CONFIRMED, WE WILL RETURN THEIR REMAINS TO THEIR HOMES AND TO THEIR LOVED ONES.

WE ARE IN REGULAR DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF LAOS - AND, THROUGH RECIPROCAL ACTIONS, THAT GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO HAVE GAINED A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE TO US OF THE P.O.W.-M.I.A. ISSUE. WE IN TURN HAVE GAINED A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR FEELINGS AND PROBLEMS. THIS PROCESS HAS LED US TO DISCUSSIONS OF JOINT CRASH SITE SEARCHES. IN THIS REGARD, I WANT TO PASS ON SOME GOOD NEWS TO YOU. LATE LAST NIGHT, WE WERE INFORMED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LAOS OF OFFICIAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO EXCAVATION OF A U.S. CRASH SITE. \ WE ARE WORKING OUT THE DETAILS NOW. \ WE WELCOME THIS COOPERATIVE GESTURE.

IN VIETNAM, THE GOVERNMENT TURNED OVER
THE REMAINS OF SEVERAL MORE U.S. SERVICEMEN
3 DAYS AGO. THE VIETNAMESE ALSO OFFERED TO
RESUME TECHNICAL LEVEL MEETINGS IN AUGUST.
WE APPRECIATE THESE ACTIONS. WE LOOK
FORWARD TO AN ACCELERATION OF THE PROCESS—
AN ACCELERATION THAT WAS PLEDGED TO OUR
DELEGATION THAT TRAVELED TO HANOI IN
FEBRUARY. ANN GRIFFITHS HELPED TO ARRANGE
THOSE NEGOTIATIONS. AND ANN, WE APPRECIATE
YOUR HELP, AND ALL YOU HAVE GIVEN TO THIS
PROCESS.

AGO TODAY, ON JULY 20, 1954, THE GENEVA
ACCORDS WERE SIGNED. IT WAS HOPED THAT THE
TRUCE AGREEMENT WOULD BRING PEACE TO THE
VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. INSTEAD, THEY HAVE BEEN
AT WAR EVER SINCE, AND THOSE WARS HAVE
CAUSED UNTOLD HUMAN SUFFERING. TODAY
VIETNAM CONTINUES TO FIGHT IN KAMPUCHEA, AND
ON ITS NORTHERN BORDERS.

NEARLY 10 YEARS AFTER THE END OF HOSTILITIES, THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM STILL HAVE MAJOR DIFFERENCES. BUT WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT VIETNAM HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD COOPERATE ON THE P.O.W.-M.I.A. ISSUE AS A SEPARATE HUMANITARIAN MATTER. \ PEACEFUL COOPERATION, NEGOTIATION WITH ITS NEIGHBORS ON KAMPUCHEA, AND RESOLUTION OF THE P.O.W.-M.I.A. ISSUE PROVIDE THE KEY FOR ENDING VIETNAM'S ISOLATION. NORMAL RELATIONS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CAN BRING AN END TO THE LONG SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM. I BELIEVE IT TO BE IN VIETNAM'S OWN INTEREST TO CHOOSE THIS PATH. IT IS A DECISION WE WOULD TRULY WELCOME.

I AM MINDFUL THAT I STAND HERE BEFORE THE FAMILIES OF MANY OF THE MISSING.

I AM MINDFUL THAT YOU GAVE YOUR SONS AND HUSBANDS AND FATHERS INTO THE CARE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT WHEN THEY LEFT TO FIGHT FOR OUR NATION. YOU KNEW THEY MIGHT DIE IN BATTLE — BUT YOU HAD AND WILL ALWAYS HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO EXPECT THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ABANDON THOSE WHO FAILED TO RETURN.

IN THIS YOU, TOO, SHOWED TRUST.

AND I TELL YOU AGAIN THAT YOUR TRUST WILL

NOT BE IN VAIN.

FOR MANY YEARS YOU STOOD ALONE IN YOUR QUEST FOR ANSWERS. BUT TODAY YOU ARE NOT ALONE. AND I TELL YOU FROM MY HEART, YOU WILL NEVER BE ALONE AGAIN. ACROSS THE NATION THIS WEEK, HUNDREDS OF CEREMONIES ARE TAKING PLACE IN AN OUTPOURING OF CONCERN AND UNDERSTANDING AND SOLIDARITY.

BALLOONS ARE BEING RELEASED ACROSS THE COUNTRY, A PRAYER MINISTRY IS ONGOING, AND THE SMALL BLACK AND WHITE FLAG YOU SEE OVER THIS HOUSE FLIES PROUDLY. ALL OF THIS IS GOOD, AND FITTING.

IN JANUARY OF LAST YEAR, I SAID TO YOU
THAT WE MUST FULFILL OUR OBLIGATIONS AS A
MATTER OF HIGHEST NATIONAL PRIORITY.
MUCH HAS HAPPENED SINCE THEN TO GIVE US SOME

HOPE OF PROGRESS. IT IS AGONIZINGLY SLOW FOR YOU, AND FOR US, BUT WE MUST NOT LOSE FAITH IN EACH OTHER BECAUSE OF LACK OF ACTION FROM THE OTHER SIDE.

TWO MONTHS AGO, I RECEIVED THE REMAINS OF THE UNKNOWN SERVICEMAN OF VIETNAM.

AND I SAID TO ALL OF THE NATION — AND, MOST ESPECIALLY, TO ALL OF YOU — THAT WE WRITE NO LAST CHAPTERS, WE CLOSE NO BOOKS, WE PUT AWAY NO FINAL MEMORIES UNTIL YOUR QUESTIONS ARE ANSWERED.

YOUR HUSBANDS, FATHERS, SONS AND BROTHERS DID THEIR DUTY BY THIS NATION; THIS NATION WILL DO ITS DUTY BY THEM.

TODAY WE STAND TOGETHER, AND SOON WE WILL LOOK UP AND SEE, AS A SYMBOL OF OUR LONGING, A "MISSING MAN" FLYOVER. TODAY I PLEDGE: WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL THAT FORMATION IS COMPLETE.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS.

# # #