# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 6/10/87  
**ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:** 3:00 pm today

**SUBJECT:** PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESS CONFERENCE OPENING STATEMENT

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**REMARKS:** Please provide any comments directly to Tony Dolan by 3:00 this afternoon. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

Rhett Dawson  
Ext. 2702
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESS CONFERENCE OPENING STATEMENT
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1987
VENICE, ITALY

I'd like to begin by serving as a sort of unofficial spokesman for all of us who have been here this week. I'm sure we all agree our stay in Venice has been comfortable and productive, and I want to express our thanks to the Italian government and especially the people of this lovely and historic city. [We will miss Venice, but we also leave with warm memories of hospitality and friendship.]

Although this may come as a partial surprise to some, this has been a summit on economic issues. For all the attention certain international developments have received, I think important steps were taken in the economic sphere. The summit seven have established a new process for enhanced cooperation and coordination in pursuing our objectives for economic growth. Implicit in all of this is our common commitment to those principles that are a turning point in public policy. I refer here to our growing desire to seek economic growth and opportunity through less government and more personal freedom. And we have seen two direct applications of these principles at this summit. First, our resolve to work together against protectionist legislation, to fight the trade barriers and high tariffs that can only bring about a contraction of international markets and a slowing of economic growth. And second, we have taken further steps towards reducing government subsidization of agriculture.
This is something of a new area in these summits, and I think the progress we have made thus far in putting this matter on the table and reaching preliminary agreement is impressive.

Now let me add that in addition to these economic matters, we also had an opportunity to deal with two other pressing international issues.

First, I am pleased with the support our allies have shown for a united position in the Persian Gulf. Actually, a commitment to keeping the sea lanes open in that area is a vital strategic objective. As many of you know, America's allies have a very sizeable presence in the Gulf: Great Britain, for example, has nearly 18 percent of its Naval vessels there and has escorted more than 100 ships since the beginning of this year through the Straits; France, too, has a strong naval commitment there -- and all of our allies have reaffirmed their support for keeping the trade routes open, the oil flowing, and moving toward a negotiated resolution of the Iran-Iraq war.

As most of you also know, we are currently engaged in highly sensitive discussions with the Soviets that could lead to an historic arms reduction treaty on intermediate weapons. This matter has been discussed here in Venice, and Thursday and Friday, Secretary Shultz will be meeting with NATO foreign ministers in Reykjavik. I will be anxious to have his report about the views and recommendations of our allies.

So I am particularly grateful I had this opportunity in Venice not only to discuss these arms reductions efforts with our allies but to agree again on the importance of reminding the
Soviet Union of the progress that needs to be made in other arms negotiations, especially the reduction of strategic intercontinental nuclear weapons. So, too, it is absolutely essential that we continue to seek progress from the Soviets in the human rights area as well as regional conflicts, especially Afghanistan.

As we said in our statement, the new expressions of openness from the Soviets are welcomed but it's time to see if their actions are as forthcoming.

Now I'll take your questions.
PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES EVENT
VENICE, ITALY

THANK YOU, GIANNI. AND THANK YOU ALL. IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE TODAY AT THE FIRST ITALIAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES. YESTERDAY WE CONCLUDED THIS YEAR'S ECONOMIC SUMMIT. I LOOKED AROUND THAT TABLE AT THE LEADERS OF SOME OF THE WORLD'S GREAT DEMOCRACIES, AND I COULDN'T HELP THINKING HOW PRECIOUS OUR COMMON HERITAGE IS.

IT WAS A GREAT ITALIAN WHO SAID, "THE NATURAL RIGHTS OF PERSONALITY, FAMILY AND SOCIETY EXIST BEFORE THE STATE." THESE WORDS, SPOKEN BY AN ITALIAN, ARE AS AMERICAN AS THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE -- FOR THAT MATTER, AS BRITISH AS THE COMMON LAW, AS FRENCH AS THE WRITINGS OF MONTESQUIEU.
THEY COULD BE CALLED THE COMMON CREDO OF EVERY DEMOCRATIC NATION ACROSS THE EARTH.

YET, IF FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, AND THE RIGHTS OF MAN ARE TO BE PRESERVED THROUGH THE AGES, FREE MEN AND WOMEN MUST ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT GO WITH THEIR FREEDOMS. THIS IS WHY I WANTED TO TAKE SOME TIME OUT AFTER THE SUMMIT TO MEET WITH YOU -- BECAUSE AS BUSINESSMEN, AS CITIZENS, YOU HAVE BEEN LEADERS IN TAKING UP THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LIBERTY.

AGAIN AND AGAIN OVER THE YEARS, ALL OF YOU HAVE VOLUNTEERED YOURSELVES AND YOUR CORPORATIONS TO CAUSES THAT HAVE HELPED MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR THE PEOPLE OF BOTH ITALY AND AMERICA AND TO PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD. WHEN YOU’VE SEEN A NEED TO BE FILLED, A JOB TO BE DONE, YOU HAVEN’T WAITED FOR GOVERNMENT TO LEAD THE WAY. YOU’VE SET OUT AND GOT THE WORK DONE YOURSELVES.
AND LET ME SAY THAT WE CAN SEE ALL AROUND US TESTIMONY TO THE STRENGTH HERE IN ITALY OF VOLUNTARISM AND OF PRIVATE GIVING -- OF WHAT WE IN AMERICA SOMETIMES CALL PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES. IT WAS A PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVE BY FIAT THAT RESTORED THIS MAGNIFICENT BUILDING, THE PALAZZO GRASSI. AND JUST DOWN THE GRAND CANAL ARE THE NOBLE HORSES OF ST. MARK'S BASILICA, WHICH, THROUGH AN INITIATIVE BY OLIVETTI, HAVE TOURED THE WORLD, SHOWING SOMETHING OF THE BEAUTY OF VENICE TO MANY WHO WILL NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME TO THIS GREAT CITY.

YES, IN COUNTRY AFTER COUNTRY, PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES ARE TEACHING CHILDREN, CARING FOR THE SICK, HELPING THE POOR BUILD BETTER LIVES FOR THEMSELVES, AND SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO CURE DISEASE.
WHETHER PEOPLE ARE IN SICKNESS, SORROW, OR IN NEED, PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES HAVE BEEN CREATED TO ANSWER THE CALL.

LAST NOVEMBER, IN PARIS, AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES, MEN AND WOMEN FROM SEVEN NATIONS SHOWED THAT YOURS IS AN INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT. YESTERDAY, IN MILAN, YOU CONTINUED THE WORK YOU BEGAN IN PARIS WITH A NEW EXCHANGE OF IDEAS.

IN THE MEANTIME, OF COURSE, I HAVE BEEN MEETING HERE IN VENICE WITH THE LEADERS OF THE SIX LEADING INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES. WE HAVE HELD PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECTS RANGING FROM EAST-WEST RELATIONS TO TERRORISM TO ECONOMIC POLICY AND FREE TRADE. THESE MEETINGS ARE IMPORTANT, AND HAVE RECEIVED, AS THEY SHOULD, A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION FROM THE PRESS,
AND YET I CAN'T HELP THINKING THAT ANY TRUE HISTORY OF OUR TIMES WILL SHOW THAT YOUR WORK AND THAT OF MILLIONS OF FREE MEN AND WOMEN ALL AROUND THE WORLD HAS DONE AS MUCH TO BUILD THE FUTURE OF OUR CIVILIZATION AS HAVE ALL THE STATESMEN IN ALL THE SUMMITS OVER THE YEARS.

HISTORY HAS SHOWN THAT GOVERNMENTS ALONE CANNOT POSSIBLY MEET THE CHALLENGES OF A GROWING WORLD. I BELIEVE THAT PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES WILL PROVIDE MANY SOLUTIONS TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

THEY ARE ALREADY GIVING US LASTING SYMBOLS OF THE FRIENDSHIPS BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES ON WHICH EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN PEACE AND PROSPERITY HAVE BEEN BUILT OVER THE LAST 40 YEARS.
IN THIS REGARD, I AM PLEASED TO COMMEND THE NATIONAL ITALIAN-AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN RESTORING A MAGNIFICENT GARDEN HERE IN VENICE. THIS "ITALIAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP GARDEN" WILL BE A LASTING REMINDER OF THIS MEETING IN VENICE.

AND JIM ROBINSON HAS JUST ANNOUNCED ANOTHER STEP IN ITALIAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP. THIS INNOVATIVE PROGRAM WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE RESTORATION OF OTHER ITALIAN NATIONAL TREASURES. IT IS A FINE EXAMPLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES AT WORK.

I WANT TO THANK ALL INVOLVED IN THESE PROJECTS, AS WELL AS THE MEMBERS OF MY BOARD OF ADVISORS ON PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES AND THEIR ITALIAN COUNTERPARTS, WHO HAVE MADE THIS CONFERENCE POSSIBLE.
BY SHOULDERING THE RESPONSIBILITIES
OF FREEDOM, YOU ARE HELPING TO PRESERVE
FREEDOM, TO PRESERVE THIS GREAT HOPE FOR
ALL MANKIND THAT OUR COUNTRIES REPRESENT.
AND THE VOICES THAT THANK YOU COME NOT JUST
FROM ITALY AND AMERICA, NOT JUST FROM
EUROPE, BUT FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.

# # #
Thank you, Gianni. And thank you all. It's a pleasure to be here today at the first Italian-American Conference on Private Sector Initiatives. Yesterday we concluded this year's Economic Summit. I looked around that table at the leaders of some of the world's great democracies, and I couldn't help thinking how precious our common heritage is.

It was a great Italian who said, "the natural rights of personality, family and society exist before the State." These words, spoken by an Italian, are as American as the Declaration of Independence -- for that matter, as British as the Common Law, as French as the writings of Montesquieu. They could be called the common credo of every democratic nation across the Earth.

Yet, if freedom, democracy, and the rights of man are to be preserved through the ages, free men and women must accept the responsibilities that go with their freedoms. This is why I wanted to take some time out after the Summit to meet with you -- because as businessmen, as citizens, you have been leaders in taking up the responsibilities of liberty.

Again and again over the years, all of you have volunteered yourselves and your corporations to causes that have helped make life better for the people of both Italy and America and to people all over the world. When you've seen a need to be filled, a job to be done, you haven't waited for government to lead the way. You've set out and got the work done yourselves.
And let me say that we can see all around us testimony to the strength here in Italy of voluntarism and of private giving -- of what we in America sometimes call private sector initiatives. It was a private sector initiative by Fiat that restored this magnificent building, the Palazzo Grassi. And just down the Grand Canal are the noble horses of St. Mark's Basilica, which, through an initiative by Olivetti, have toured the world, showing something of the beauty of Venice to many who will not have the opportunity to come to this great city.

Yes, in country after country, private sector initiatives are teaching children, caring for the sick, helping the poor build better lives for themselves, and searching for ways to cure disease. Whether people are in sickness, sorrow, or in need, private sector initiatives have been created to answer the call.

Last November, in Paris, at the International Conference on Private Sector Initiatives, men and women from seven nations showed that yours is an international movement. Yesterday, in Milan, you continued the work you began in Paris with a new exchange of ideas.

In the meantime, of course, I have been meeting here in Venice with the leaders of the six leading industrial democracies. We have held productive discussions on subjects ranging from East-West relations to terrorism to economic policy and free trade. These meetings are important, and have received, as they should, a great deal of attention from the press. And yet I can't help thinking that any true history of our times will show that your work and that of millions of free men and women
all around the world has done as much to build the future of our civilization as have all the statesmen in all the summits over the years.

History has shown that governments alone cannot possibly meet the challenges of a growing world. I believe that private sector initiatives will provide many solutions to the challenges of the 21st century.

They are already giving us lasting symbols of the friendships between democratic peoples and countries on which European and American peace and prosperity have been built over the last 40 years. In this regard, I am pleased to commend the National Italian-American Foundation for their efforts in restoring a magnificent 18th-century garden here in Venice. This "Italian-American Friendship Garden" will be a lasting reminder of this meeting in Venice.

And Jim Robinson has just announced another step in Italian-American friendship. This innovative program will contribute to the restoration of other Italian national treasures. It is a fine example of private sector initiatives at work.

I want to thank all involved in these projects, as well as the members of my Board of Advisors on Private Sector Initiatives and their Italian counterparts, who have made this Conference possible. By shouldering the responsibilities of freedom, you are helping to preserve freedom, to preserve this great hope for all mankind that our countries represent. And the voices that
thank you come not just from Italy and America, not just from Europe, but from throughout the world.

Thank you and God bless you.
MEMORANDUM FOR THOMAS GRISCOM

FROM: COLIN L. POWELL

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Private Sector Initiatives Event, Venice, Italy

Attached at Tab A are NSC recommended changes to the Presidential remarks on the private sector initiatives event to be held in Venice, Italy. As you may know, the Italians were adamant that we drop this event because of the potential that it could be portrayed as interference in their election campaign. They agreed to go along with the event, but asked us to keep it low key, certainly non-political. Our changes reflect our concern for Italian sensitivities.

Attachment
Tab A - NSC Recommended Changes

Tom,
My comments are in black. As President has already seen and made his comments, please have corrections (those with red/ok) made and initial note of expansion.

6/13
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES EVENT
VENICE, ITALY
THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1987

Thank you, and thank you all. It's a pleasure to be here today. When we concluded this year's Economic Summit. I looked around that table at the leaders of six of the world's great democracies, and I couldn't help thinking how precious our common heritage is.

It was a great Prime Minister of the late 40's and early 50's, Alcide de Gasperi, who said, "the natural rights of personality, family and society exist before the State." These words, spoken by an Italian, are as American as the Declaration of Independence -- for that matter, as British as the Common Law, as French as the writings of Montesquieu. They could be called the common credo of every democratic nation across the Earth.

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And let me say that we can see all around us testimony to the strength here in Italy of voluntarism and of private giving -- of what we in America sometimes call private sector initiatives. It was a private sector initiative by Fiat that restored this magnificent building, the Palazzo Grassi. And just down the Grand Canal are the noble horses of St. Mark's Basilica, which a private sector initiative by Olivetti has done so much to restore the world, showing something of the beauty of Venice to millions who come to this great city.

Last November, in Paris, at the International Conference on Private Sector Initiatives, men and women from seven nations showed that yours is an international movement. Yesterday, in Milan, you continued the work you began in Paris with a new exchange of ideas.

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History has shown that governments alone cannot possibly meet the challenges of a growing world. With governments treating more problems than they solve, around the world, people are seeing that government is not the answer. I believe that private
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And I'm told another reminder of Italian-American friendship has been announced today. The American Express Company will begin a unique program to contribute to the restoration of other Italian national treasures.

I want to thank all involved in these projects, as well as everyone who has made this Conference possible.

You know, someone once said that the way to tell the difference between the Communist world and the free world was by "the gate test." When you open the gates, which way do people go -- in or out? Well, we know they go from East to West -- Communist to free. By shouldering the responsibilities of freedom, you are helping preserve freedom, to preserve this great hope for all mankind that our countries represent. And the voices that thank you come not just from Italy and America, not just from Europe, but from throughout the world.

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# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 06/02/87  
**ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY:**  
**SUBJECT:** PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES EVENT  
VENICE, ITALY  
(06/02 6:00 p.m. draft)

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| DAWSON | DOLAN |  |
| DONATELLI |  |  |

**REMARKS:**

The Attached has been forwarded to the President.

**RESPONSE:**

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Ext. 2702
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 06/01/87 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2:00 p.m. Tuesday 06/02

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES EVENT
VENICE, ITALY
(06/01 5:30 p.m. draft)

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REMARKS:

Please provide any comments/recommendations to Tony Dolan by 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 2nd, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Rhett Dawson
Ext. 2702
Thank you, __________. And thank you all. It's a pleasure to be here today. Last night we concluded this year's Economic Summit. I looked around that table at the leaders of six of the world's great democracies, and I couldn't help thinking how precious our common heritage is.

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Thank you and God bless you.
REMARKS AT BRANDENBURG GATE
BERLIN, GERMANY

CHANCELLOR KOHL, GOVERNING MAYOR
DIEPGEN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: TWENTY-FOUR YEARS AGO, PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY VISITED BERLIN, SPEAKING TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY AND THE WORLD AT THE CITY HALL. SINCE THEN, TWO OTHER PRESIDENTS HAVE COME, EACH IN HIS TURN, TO BERLIN. TODAY I MYSELF MAKE MY SECOND VISIT TO YOUR CITY.

WE COME TO BERLIN, WE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS, BECAUSE IT IS OUR DUTY TO SPEAK, IN THIS PLACE, OF FREEDOM. BUT I MUST CONFESS, WE ARE DRAWN HERE BY OTHER THINGS AS WELL: BY THE FEELING OF HISTORY IN THIS CITY, MORE THAN 500 YEARS OLDER THAN OUR OWN NATION. BY THE BEAUTY OF THE GRUNEWALD AND THE TIERGARTEN. MOST OF ALL, BY YOUR COURAGE AND DETERMINATION.
PERHAPS THE COMPOSER PAUL LINCKE UNDERSTOOD SOMETHING ABOUT AMERICAN PRESIDENTS. YOU SEE, LIKE SO MANY PRESIDENTS BEFORE ME, I COME HERE TODAY BECAUSE WHEREVER I GO, WHATEVER I DO:

("ISH HOB KNOCK I-NEN COFFER IN BER-LEEN.")

OUR GATHERING TODAY IS BEING BROADCAST THROUGHOUT WESTERN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA. I UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS BEING SEEN AND HEARD AS WELL IN THE EAST.

TO THOSE LISTENING THROUGHOUT EASTERN EUROPE, I EXTEND MY WARMEST GREETINGS AND THE GOODWILL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. TO THOSE LISTENING IN EAST BERLIN, A SPECIAL WORD. ALTHOUGH I CANNOT BE WITH YOU, I ADDRESS MY REMARKS TO YOU JUST AS SURELY AS TO THOSE STANDING HERE BEFORE ME.
FOR I JOIN YOU AS I JOIN YOUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN THE WEST IN THIS FIRM, THIS UNALTERABLE BELIEF: (S GIPPT NOR ŠNE BER-LEEN.)

BEHIND ME STANDS A WALL THAT ENCIRCLES THE FREE SECTORS OF THIS CITY, PART OF A VAST SYSTEM OF BARRIERS THAT DIVIDES THE ENTIRE CONTINENT OF EUROPE. FROM THE BALTIC SOUTH, THOSE BARRIERS CUT ACROSS GERMANY IN A GASH OF BARBED WIRE, CONCRETE, DOG RUNS, AND GUARD TOWERS. FARTHER SOUTH, THERE MAY BE NO VISIBLE, NO OBVIOUS WALL, BUT THERE REMAIN ARMED GUARDS AND CHECKPOINTS ALL THE SAME -- STILL A RESTRICTION ON THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL, STILL AN INSTRUMENT TO IMPOSE UPON ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN THE WILL OF A TOTALITARIAN STATE.
YET IT IS HERE IN BERLIN WHERE THE WALL EMERGES MOST CLEARLY; HERE, CUTTING ACROSS YOUR CITY, WHERE THE NEWS PHOTO AND THE TELEVISION SCREEN HAVE IMPRINTED THIS BRUTAL DIVISION OF A CONTINENT UPON THE MIND OF THE WORLD, STANDING BEFORE THE BRANDENBURG GATE, EVERY MAN IS A GERMAN, SEPARATED FROM HIS FELLOW MEN. EVERY MAN IS A BERLINER, FORCED TO LOOK UPON A SCAR.

PRESIDENT (FUN VITES-ECKER) HAS SAID: THE GERMAN QUESTION IS OPEN AS LONG AS THE BRANDENBURG GATE IS CLOSED. TODAY I SAY: AS LONG AS THIS GATE IS CLOSED, AS LONG AS THIS SCAR OF A WALL IS PERMITTED TO STAND, IT IS NOT THE GERMAN QUESTION ALONE THAT REMAINS OPEN, BUT THE QUESTION OF FREEDOM FOR ALL MANKIND.

YET I DO NOT COME HERE TO LAMENT. FOR I FIND IN BERLIN A MESSAGE OF HOPE -- EVEN, IN THE SHADOW OF THIS WALL, A MESSAGE OF TRIUMPH.
IN THIS SEASON OF SPRING IN 1945, THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN EMERGED FROM THEIR AIR-RAID SHELTERS TO FIND DEVASTATION. THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY, THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES REACHED OUT TO HELP; AND IN 1947, SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE MARSHALL ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF WHAT WOULD BECOME KNOWN AS THE MARSHALL PLAN. SPEAKING PRECISELY 40 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH, HE SAID: "OUR POLICY IS DIRECTED NOT AGAINST ANY COUNTRY OR DOCTRINE BUT AGAINST HUNGER, POVERTY, DESPERATION, AND CHAOS."

IN THE REICHSTAG A FEW MOMENTS AGO, I SAW A DISPLAY COMMENORATING THIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN. I WAS STRUCK BY THE SIGN ON A BURNT-OUT, GUTTED STRUCTURE THAT WAS BEING REBUILT. I UNDERSTAND THAT BERLINERS OF MY OWN GENERATION CAN REMEMBER SEEING SIGNS LIKE IT DOTTED THROUGHOUT THE WESTERN SECTORS OF THE CITY.
THE SIGN READ SIMPLY: "THE MARSHALL PLAN IS HELPING HERE. TO STRENGTHEN THE FREE WORLD."

A STRONG, FREE WORLD -- IN THE WEST, THAT DREAM BECAME REAL. JAPAN ROSE FROM RUIN TO BECOME AN ECONOMIC GIANT. ITALY, FRANCE, BELGIUM -- VIRTUALLY EVERY NATION IN WESTERN EUROPE SAW POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REBIRTH. THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WAS FOUNDED.

IN WEST GERMANY AND HERE IN BERLIN, THERE TOOK PLACE AN ECONOMIC MIRACLE, THE ADENAUER, ERHARD, REUTER, AND OTHER LEADERS UNDERSTOOD THE PRACTICAL IMPORTANCE OF LIBERTY -- THAT JUST AS TRUTH CAN FLOURISH ONLY WHEN THE JOURNALIST IS GIVEN FREEDOM OF SPEECH, SO PROSPERITY CAN COME ABOUT ONLY WHEN THE FARMER AND BUSINESSMAN ENJOY ECONOMIC FREEDOM.
THE GERMAN LEADERS REDUCED TARIFFS, EXPANDED
FREE TRADE, LOWERED TAXES. FROM 1950 TO
1960 ALONE, THE STANDARD OF LIVING IN WEST
GERMANY AND BERLIN DOUBLED.

WHERE FOUR DECADES AGO THERE WAS
RUBBLE, TODAY IN WEST BERLIN THERE IS THE
GREATEST INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT OF ANY CITY IN
GERMANY; BUSY OFFICE BLOCKS; FINE HOMES AND
APARTMENTS; PROUD AVENUES AND THE SPREADING
LAWNS OF PARKLAND. WHERE A CITY'S CULTURE
SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, TODAY THERE
ARE TWO GREAT UNIVERSITIES, ORCHESTRAS AND
AN OPERA, COUNTLESS THEATERS AND MUSEUMS.
WHERE THERE WAS WANT, TODAY THERE IS
ABUNDANCE -- FOOD, CLOTHING, AUTOMOBILES;
THE WONDERFUL GOODS OF THE (KOO-DAMN.)

FROM DEVASTATION -- FROM UTTER RUIN --
YOU BERLINERS HAVE IN FREEDOM REBUILT A CITY
THAT ONCE AGAIN RANKS AS ONE OF THE GREATEST
ON EARTH.

IN THE 1950's, KHRUSHCHEV PREDICTED: "WE WILL BURY YOU," BUT IN THE WEST TODAY, WE SEE A FREE WORLD THAT HAS ACHIEVED A LEVEL OF PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING UNPRECEDENTED IN ALL HUMAN HISTORY. IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD, WE SEE FAILURE, TECHNOLOGICAL BACKWARDNESS, DECLINING STANDARDS OF HEALTH, EVEN WANT OF THE MOST BASIC KIND -- TOO LITTLE FOOD. EVEN TODAY, THE SOVIET UNION STILL CANNOT FEED ITSELF.

AFTER THESE FOUR DECADES, THEN, THERE STANDS BEFORE THE ENTIRE WORLD ONE GREAT AND INESCAPABLE CONCLUSION. FREEDOM LEADS TO PROSPERITY. FREEDOM REPLACES THE ANCIENT HATREDS AMONG THE NATIONS WITH COMITY AND PEACE.
FREEDOM IS THE VICTOR.
NOW THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES MAY IN A
LIMITED WAY BE COMING TO UNDERSTAND THE
IMPORTANCE OF FREEDOM. WE HEAR MUCH FROM
MOSCOW ABOUT A NEW POLICY OF REFORM AND
OPENNESS. SOME POLITICAL PRISONERS HAVE BEEN RELEASED. CERTAIN FOREIGN NEWS
BROADCASTS ARE NO LONGER BEING JAMMED.
SOME ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES HAVE BEEN
PERMITTED TO OPERATE WITH GREATER FREEDOM FROM STATE CONTROL.
ARE THESE THE BEGINNINGS OF PROFOUND CHANGES IN THE SOVIET STATE? OR ARE THEY
TOKEN GESTURES, INTENDED TO RAISE FALSE HOPES IN THE WEST OR TO STRENGTHEN THE
SOVIET SYSTEM WITHOUT CHANGING IT?
WE WELCOME CHANGE AND OPENNESS, FOR WE BELIEVE FREEDOM AND SECURITY GO TOGETHER --
THAT THE ADVANCE OF HUMAN LIBERTY CAN ONLY STRENGTHEN THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE.
THERE IS ONE SIGN THE SOVIETS CAN MAKE THAT WOULD BE UNMISTAKABLE, THAT WOULD ADVANCE DRAMATICALLY THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND PEACE.

GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV, IF YOU SEEK PEACE -- IF YOU SEEK PROSPERITY FOR THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE -- IF YOU SEEK LIBERALIZATION: COME HERE, TO THIS GATE.

MR. GORBACHEV, OPEN THIS GATE.

MR. GORBACHEV, TEAR DOWN THIS WALL.

I UNDERSTAND THE FEAR OF WAR AND THE PAIN OF DIVISION THAT AFFLICT THIS CONTINENT -- AND I PLEDGE TO YOU MY COUNTRY'S EFFORTS TO HELP OVERCOME THESE BURDENS. TO BE SURE, WE IN THE WEST MUST RESIST SOVIET EXPANSION, SO WE MUST MAINTAIN DEFENSES OF UNASSAILABLE STRENGTH, YET WE SEEK PEACE, SO WE MUST STRIVE TO REDUCE ARMS ON BOTH SIDES.

BUT THROUGH IT ALL, THE ALLIANCE HELD FIRM, AND I INVITE THOSE WHO PROTESTED THEN -- I INVITE THOSE WHO PROTEST TODAY -- TO MARK THIS FACT: BECAUSE WE REMAINED STRONG, THE SOVIETS CAME BACK TO THE TABLE.
BECAUSE WE REMAINED STRONG, TODAY WE HAVE WITHIN REACH THE POSSIBILITY, NOT MERELY OF LIMITING THE GROWTH OF ARMS, BUT OF ELIMINATING, FOR THE FIRST TIME, AN ENTIRE CLASS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

AS I SPEAK, NATO MINISTERS ARE MEETING IN ICELAND TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF OUR PROPOSALS FOR ELIMINATING THESE WEAPONS. AT THE TALKS IN GENEVA, WE HAVE ALSO PROPOSED DEEP CUTS IN STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE WEAPONS. AND THE WESTERN ALLIES HAVE LIKewise MADE FAR-REACHING PROPOSALS TO REDUCE THE DANGER OF CONVENTIONAL WAR, AND TO PLACE A TOTAL BAN ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS.

WHILE WE PURSUE THESE ARMS REDUCTIONS, I PLEDGE TO YOU THAT WE WILL MAINTAIN THE CAPACITY TO DETER SOVIET AGGRESSION AT ANY LEVEL AT WHICH IT MIGHT OCCUR.
AND IN COOPERATION WITH MANY OF OUR ALLIES, THE UNITED STATES IS PURSUING THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE -- RESEARCH TO BASE DETERRENCE NOT ON THE THREAT OF OFFENSIVE RETALIATION, BUT ON DEFENSES THAT TRULY DEFEND; ON SYSTEMS, IN SHORT, THAT WILL NOT TARGET POPULATIONS BUT SHIELD THEM.

BY THESE MEANS WE SEEK TO INCREASE THE SAFETY OF EUROPE AND ALL THE WORLD, BUT WE MUST REMEMBER A CRUCIAL FACT: EAST AND WEST DO NOT MISTRUST EACH OTHER BECAUSE WE ARE ARMED. WE ARE ARMED BECAUSE WE MISTRUST EACH OTHER. AND OUR DIFFERENCES ARE NOT ABOUT WEAPONS, BUT ABOUT LIBERTY. WHEN PRESIDENT KENNEDY SPOKE AT THE CITY HALL THOSE 24 YEARS AGO, FREEDOM WAS ENCIRCLED, BERLIN WAS UNDER SIEGE. TODAY, DESPITE ALL THE PRESSURES UPON THIS CITY, BERLIN STANDS SECURE IN ITS LIBERTY, AND FREEDOM ITSELF IS TRANSFORMING THE GLOBE.
IN THE PHILIPPINES, IN SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA, DEMOCRACY HAS BEEN GIVEN A REBIRTH. THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC, FREE MARKETS ARE WORKING MIRACLE AFTER MIRACLE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. IN THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS, A TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION IS TAKING PLACE -- A REVOLUTION MARKED BY RAPID, DRAMATIC ADVANCES IN COMPUTERS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

IN EUROPE, ONLY ONE NATION AND THOSE IT CONTROLS REFUSE TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF FREEDOM. YET IN THIS AGE OF REDOUBLED ECONOMIC GROWTH, OF INFORMATION AND INNOVATION, THE SOVIET UNION FACES A CHOICE. IT MUST MAKE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES, OR IT WILL BECOME OBSOLETE.

TODAY THUS REPRESENTS A MOMENT OF HOPE. WE IN THE WEST STAND READY TO COOPERATE WITH THE EAST TO PROMOTE TRUE OPENNESS -- TO BREAK DOWN THE BARRIERS THAT SEPARATE PEOPLE, TO CREATE A SAFER, FREER WORLD.
AND SURELY THERE IS NO BETTER PLACE THAN BERLIN, THE MEETINGPLACE OF EAST AND WEST, TO MAKE A START.


TO OPEN BERLIN STILL FURTHER TO ALL EUROPE, EAST AND WEST, LET US EXPAND THE VITAL AIR ACCESS TO THIS CITY, FINDING WAYS OF MAKING COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE TO BERLIN MORE CONVENIENT, MORE COMFORTABLE, AND MORE ECONOMICAL. WE LOOK TO THE DAY WHEN WEST BERLIN CAN BECOME ONE OF THE CHIEF AVIATION HUBS IN ALL CENTRAL EUROPE.

WITH OUR FRENCH AND BRITISH PARTNERS, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO HELP BRING INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS TO BERLIN. IT WOULD BE ONLY FITTING FOR BERLIN TO SERVE AS THE SITE OF UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS, OR WORLD CONFERENCES ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ARMS CONTROL OR OTHER ISSUES THAT CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.
THERE IS NO BETTER WAY TO ESTABLISH HOPE FOR THE FUTURE THAN TO ENLIGHTEN YOUNG MINDS, AND WE WOULD BE HONORED TO SPONSOR SUMMER YOUTH EXCHANGES, CULTURAL EVENTS, AND OTHER PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG BERLINERS FROM THE EAST. OUR FRENCH AND BRITISH FRIENDS, I AM CERTAIN, WILL DO THE SAME. AND IT IS MY HOPE THAT AN AUTHORITY CAN BE FOUND IN EAST BERLIN TO SPONSOR VISITS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WESTERN SECTORS.

ONE FINAL PROPOSAL -- ONE CLOSE TO MY HEART. SPORT REPRESENTS A SOURCE OF ENJOYMENT AND ENNOBLEMENT, AND YOU MAY HAVE NOTED THAT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA -- SOUTH KOREA -- HAS OFFERED TO PERMIT CERTAIN EVENTS OF THE 1988 OLYMPICS TO TAKE PLACE IN THE NORTH. INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS OF ALL KINDS COULD TAKE PLACE IN BOTH PARTS OF THIS CITY.
AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD THE OPENNESS OF THIS CITY -- THAN TO OFFER IN SOME FUTURE YEAR TO HOLD THE OLYMPIC GAMES HERE IN BERLIN, EAST AND WEST?

IN THESE FOUR DECADES, AS I HAVE SAID, YOU BERLINERS HAVE REBUILT A GREAT CITY. YOU HAVE DONE SO IN SPITE OF THREATS: THE SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO IMPOSE THE EAST-MARK, THE BLOCKADE. TODAY THE CITY THRIVES IN SPITE OF THE CHALLENGES IMPLICIT IN THE VERY PRESENCE OF THIS WALL.

WHAT KEEPS YOU HERE?

CERTAINLY THERE IS A GREAT DEAL TO BE SAID FOR YOUR FORTITUDE, FOR YOUR DEFIANT COURAGE. BUT I BELIEVE THAT THERE IS SOMETHING DEEPER, SOMETHING THAT INVOLVES BERLIN's WHOLE LOOK AND FEEL AND WAY OF LIFE. NOT MERE SENTIMENT -- NO ONE COULD LIVE LONG IN BERLIN WITHOUT BEING COMPLETELY DISABUSED OF ILLUSIONS.
SOMETHING INSTEAD THAT HAS SEEN THE DIFFICULTIES OF LIFE IN BERLIN BUT CHOSE TO ACCEPT THEM, THAT CONTINUES TO BUILD THIS GOOD AND PROUD CITY IN CONTRAST TO A SURROUNDING TOTALITARIAN PRESENCE THAT REFUSES TO RELEASE HUMAN ENERGIES OR ASPIRATIONS. SOMETHING THAT SPEAKS WITH A POWERFUL VOICE OF AFFIRMATION -- THAT SAYS YES TO THIS CITY, YES TO THE FUTURE, YES TO FREEDOM, IN A WORD, I WOULD SUBMIT THAT WHAT KEEPS YOU IN BERLIN IS LOVE -- LOVE BOTH PROFOUND AND ABIDING.

Perhaps this gets to the root of the matter, to the most fundamental distinction of all between East and West. The totalitariian world produces backwardness because it does such violence to the spirit, thwarting the human impulse to create, to enjoy, to worship.
AS I LOOKED OUT A MOMENT AGO FROM THE REICHSTAG -- THAT EMBODIMENT OF GERMAN UNITY -- I NOTICED WORDS CRUDELY SPRAY-PAINTED UPON THE WALL -- PERHAPS BY A YOUNG BERLINER -- WORDS THAT ANSWER THE GERMAN QUESTION. "THIS WALL WILL FALL. BELIEFS BECOME REALITY."

YES, ACROSS EUROPE, THIS WALL WILL FALL. FOR IT CANNOT WITHSTAND FAITH. IT CANNOT WITHSTAND TRUTH. THE WALL CANNOT WITHSTAND FREEDOM. THANK YOU. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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