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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Houston, Texas)

For Immediate Release

September 22, 1988

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO
EMPLOYEES AT NASA'S JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

Johnson Space Center
Houston, Texas

3:21 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you Jim and thank all of you very much. It's a great pleasure to be here at NASA's Johnson Space Center -- to be here with the men and women who are leading America upward in her climb to the stars. It's important to remember that it is not some impersonal technology that puts our astronauts in space. It's the dedication and expertise of thousands of men and women of vision, people like you who see no limits, only possibilities. (Applause.) The truth is, our space program doesn't invest in machines, it invests in people; and you don't only launch rockets, you launch dreams. (Applause.) This is the age of technology, but technology is only a tool. Ladies and gentlemen, you are the space program, and America is proud of you. (Applause.)

And soon the world will be watching as five brave Americans lift off from Earth on the Space Shuttle Discovery. (Applause.) America is going to space again -- and we're going there to stay. (Applause.) Commander "Rick" Hauck, Pilot Dick Covey, and Mission Specialists "Pinky" Nelson, Mike Lounge, and Dave Hilmer are space-age pioneers, but their spirit is rooted deep in our heritage. We're a nation born of pioneers and we'll always create our future on the frontier. Americans can live no other way.

Our early settlers knew great risks and made great sacrifices, but with their sacrifice, they moved the frontier forward and built a great nation. Neither can we stand still, nor be content; and we're not afraid. Ill fortune can slow us down, but it can't stop us. You can delay our long trek to greatness, but you cannot halt it. How better can we pay tribute to those who came before us than by continuing their quest for knowledge, their struggle against limits -- by continuing to push toward the far frontier?

And when we launch the Space Shuttle Discovery, even more than the thrust of Discovery's great engines, it will be the inspiring courage of our heroes and the hopes and dreams of every American that will lift the shuttle into the heavens. And may the hand of God bring it safely back to Earth. (Applause.)

And when the Discovery takes off, seven precious souls will soar beside it, the seven heroes of the Challenger. With their lives, they moved a nation; they summoned America to reach higher still, as they wrote man's destiny into the stars. We pledge ourselves to pursue their vision of mankind's infinite, limitless destiny.

And there's a place for everyone in this future. Technology does not leave people behind, it carries everyone along. I've seen throughout my life that as the technology advances it becomes easier to use, not harder, and the benefits become more universal. Today, our satellites make it possible to watch the

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Olympic games live from Seoul, Korea, to rescue downed fliers and shipwrecked sailors, to predict the path of hurricane Gilbert, and to monitor arms control agreements between the superpowers. And these are just the first moments of a great new era that we're entering.

I believe the American people today are casting their eyes toward space with greater eagerness and anticipation than ever before. An entire generation is rediscovering their interest in space, the interest they had as children when, in 1960's in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the lift-offs of Glenn and Shepard. And as for our young children, the children of the 1980's, well, I can tell from the letters they send me that they're ready to go -- and that the sky is not the limit.

A young author in Poland has written a book of fables in which he describes countries in terms of color. "The United States," he says, "is blue, like infinity. The possibilities are endless." Well, I would agree. And I would agree that for America the deepest blue infinity is found in the endless possibilities of space.

The commercial development of space will unleash a new age of entrepreneurship for companies large and small. There'll be new medicines, new materials, new products, and a communications revolution. The vibrance and creativity of the free market will plumb the full range of possibilities that lie ahead. The dramatic advances in technology mean that what today we can only dream of will be by tomorrow not only feasible, but inevitable.

You know, back in Washington, in the Oval Office, I have a sign with a simple, four-word message that I keep on my desk. And all of you embody that message. Those simple four words: "It CAN be done." (Applause.)

Can America develop an aerospace plane that will be able to take off from a runway and go into orbit, and then land on any corner of the globe in a couple of hours?

THE AUDIENCE: Yes!

THE PRESIDENT: It can be done.

Can we deliver a space shield to defend America, to protect people against nuclear missiles? It can be done.

THE AUDIENCE: Yes!

THE PRESIDENT: Can America have the space station Freedom orbiting the Earth in 10 years time?

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We are a nation that can achieve great dreams. Somewhere in America, there is alive today a small child who one day may be the first man or woman to ever set foot on the planet Mars or to inhabit a permanent base on the Moon. Let every child dream that he or she will be that person, that he or she may one day plant the Stars and Stripes on a distant planet. Yes, I say, it can be done.

And you and I know that we're the nation that must do it. Because in the next century, leadership on Earth will come to the nation that shows the greatest leadership in space.

It is mankind's manifest destiny to bring our humanity into space, to colonize this galaxy; and as a nation, we have the power to determine whether America will lead or will follow.

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I say that America must lead. (Applause.) The nation that has achieved the greatest human freedom on Earth must be the nation to create a humane future for mankind in space, and it can be none other.

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Mankind's journey into space, like every great voyage of discovery, will become part of our unending journey of liberation. In the limitless reaches of space, we will find liberation from tyranny, from scarcity, from ignorance, and from war. We'll find the means to protect this Earth and to nurture every human life, and to explore the universe. Let us go forward. This is our mission, this is our destiny.

One cold January day in 1986 I read part of a poem to a nation in grief. I want to leave you today with the rest of that poem -- because it's a poem about joy and about all the joyous endeavors. It is "High Flight," by John G. Magee, Jr., an American pilot who flew with the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II. It goes:

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
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Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds -- and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of -- wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air...

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
Where never lark, or even eagle, flew;
And, while with silent, lifting wings, trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

I thank you. God bless you all and God bless America. (Applause.)

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(KLUGMANN)

9/21/88

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

THANK YOU JIM. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH. IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE AT NASA'S JOHNSON SPACE CENTER WITH THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE LEADING AMERICA UPWARD IN HER CLIMB TO THE STARS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT IT IS NOT SOME IMPERSONAL TECHNOLOGY THAT PUTS OUR ASTRONAUTS IN SPACE. IT IS THE DEDICATION AND EXPERTISE OF THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN OF VISION, PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO SEE NO LIMITS, ONLY POSSIBILITIES. THE TRUTH IS, OUR SPACE PROGRAM DOESN'T INVEST IN MACHINES, IT INVESTS IN PEOPLE; AND YOU DON'T ONLY LAUNCH ROCKETS, YOU LAUNCH DREAMS. THIS IS THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY, BUT TECHNOLOGY IS ONLY A TOOL.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: YOU ARE THE SPACE PROGRAM, AND AMERICA IS PROUD OF YOU.

AND SOON THE WORLD WILL BE WATCHING AS FIVE BRAVE AMERICANS LIFT OFF FROM EARTH ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE DISCOVERY. AMERICA IS GOING TO SPACE AGAIN -- AND WE ARE GOING THERE TO STAY. COMMANDER "RICK" HAUCK, PILOT DICK COVEY, AND MISSION SPECIALISTS "PINKY" NELSON, MIKE LOUNGE, AND DAVE HILMERS ARE SPACE-AGE PIONEERS, BUT THEIR SPIRIT IS ROOTED DEEP IN OUR HERITAGE. WE ARE A NATION BORN OF PIONEERS, AND WE WILL ALWAYS CREATE OUR FUTURE ON THE FRONTIER; AMERICANS CAN LIVE NO OTHER WAY.

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BY CONTINUING THEIR QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE,
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OF DISCOVERY'S GREAT ENGINES, IT WILL
BE THE INSPIRING COURAGE OF OUR HEROES,
AND THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF EVERY AMERICAN,
THAT WILL LIFT THE SHUTTLE INTO THE HEAVENS.
AND MAY THE HAND OF GOD BRING IT SAFELY BACK
TO EARTH.

AND WHEN THE DISCOVERY TAKES OFF,
SEVEN PRECIOUS SOULS WILL SOAR BESIDE IT,
THE SEVEN HEROES OF THE CHALLENGER.
WITH THEIR LIVES, THEY MOVED A NATION,
THEY SUMMONED AMERICA TO REACH HIGHER STILL,
AS THEY WROTE MAN'S DESTINY INTO THE STARS.
THIS MISSION WILL BE DEDICATED TO THE CREW
OF THE CHALLENGER, AS WE PLEDGE OURSELVES
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INFINITE, LIMITLESS DESTINY.

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THE TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES IT BECOMES EASIER
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MORE UNIVERSAL.

TODAY, OUR SATELLITES MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO WATCH THE OLYMPIC GAMES LIVE FROM SEOUL, KOREA, TO RESCUE DOWNED FLIERS AND SHIPWRECKED SAILORS, TO PREDICT THE PATH OF HURRICANE GILBERT, AND TO MONITOR ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS. AND THESE ARE JUST THE FIRST MOMENTS OF A GREAT NEW ERA THAT WE ARE ENTERING.

I BELIEVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TODAY ARE CASTING THEIR EYES TOWARD SPACE WITH GREATER EAGERNESS AND ANTICIPATION THAN EVER BEFORE. AN ENTIRE GENERATION IS RE-DISCOVERING THEIR INTEREST IN SPACE, THE INTEREST THEY HAD AS CHILDREN WHEN IN THE 1960's IN GRADE SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT OUR COUNTRY, THEY WATCHED ON TELEVISION, TOGETHER, THE LIFT-OFFS OF GLENN AND SHEPARD.

AND AS FOR OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, THE CHILDREN OF THE 1980's, WELL, I CAN TELL FROM THE LETTERS THEY SEND ME THAT THEY'RE READY TO GO -- AND THAT THE SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT.

A YOUNG AUTHOR IN POLAND HAS WRITTEN A BOOK OF FABLES IN WHICH HE DESCRIBES COUNTRIES IN TERMS OF COLORS. "THE U.S.," HE SAYS, "IS BLUE, LIKE INFINITY. THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS." I WOULD AGREE, AND I WOULD ADD THAT FOR AMERICA THE DEEPEST BLUE INFINITY IS FOUND IN THE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES OF SPACE.

THE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE WILL UNLEASH A NEW AGE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR COMPANIES LARGE AND SMALL. THERE WILL BE NEW MEDICINES, NEW MATERIALS, NEW PRODUCTS, AND A COMMUNICATIONS REVOLUTION.

THE VIBRANCE AND CREATIVITY OF THE FREE
MARKET WILL PLUMB THE FULL RANGE
OF POSSIBILITIES THAT LIE AHEAD.

THE DRAMATIC ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY MEAN
THAT WHAT TODAY WE CAN ONLY DREAM OF WILL
BY TOMORROW BE NOT ONLY FEASIBLE,
BUT INEVITABLE.

YOU KNOW, BACK IN WASHINGTON,
IN THE OVAL OFFICE, I HAVE A SIGN WITH
A SIMPLE, FOUR WORD MESSAGE THAT I KEEP
ON MY DESK. AND ALL OF YOU EMBODY THAT
MESSAGE. THOSE SIMPLE FOUR WORDS: "IT CAN
BE DONE."

CAN AMERICA DEVELOP AN AEROSPACE PLANE
THAT WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE OFF FROM A RUNWAY
AND GO INTO ORBIT, AND THEN LAND ON ANY
CORNER OF THE GLOBE IN A COUPLE OF HOURS?
IT CAN BE DONE.

CAN WE DEVELOP A SPACE SHIELD TO DEFEND AMERICA, TO PROTECT PEOPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR MISSILES? IT CAN BE DONE.

CAN AMERICA HAVE THE SPACE STATION FREEDOM ORBITING THE EARTH IN 10-YEARS TIME? YES, ALL THESE THINGS CAN BE DONE.

WE ARE A NATION THAT CAN ACHIEVE GREAT DREAMS. SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA, THERE IS ALIVE TODAY A SMALL CHILD WHO ONE DAY MAY BE THE FIRST MAN OR WOMAN TO EVER SET FOOT ON THE PLANET MARS OR TO INHABIT A PERMANENT BASE ON THE MOON. LET EVERY CHILD DREAM THAT HE OR SHE WILL BE THAT PERSON, THAT HE OR SHE MAY ONE DAY PLANT THE STARS AND STRIPES ON A DISTANT PLANET. YES, I SAY, IT CAN BE DONE.

AND YOU AND I KNOW THAT WE ARE
THE NATION THAT MUST DO IT. BECAUSE
IN THE NEXT CENTURY, LEADERSHIP ON EARTH
WILL COME TO THE NATION THAT SHOWS
THE GREATEST LEADERSHIP IN SPACE.

IT IS MANKIND'S MANIFEST DESTINY TO
BRING OUR HUMANITY INTO SPACE, TO COLONIZE
THIS GALAXY; AND AS A NATION, WE HAVE
THE POWER TO DETERMINE WHETHER AMERICA WILL
LEAD OR WILL FOLLOW.

I SAY THAT AMERICA MUST LEAD.
THE NATION THAT HAS ACHIEVED THE GREATEST
HUMAN FREEDOM ON EARTH MUST BE THE NATION
TO CREATE A HUMANE FUTURE FOR MANKIND
IN SPACE, AND IT CAN BE NONE OTHER.

IT IS ONLY IN A UNIVERSE WITHOUT LIMITS
THAT WE WILL FIND A CANVAS LARGE ENOUGH
FOR THE VASTNESS OF THE HUMAN IMAGINATION.

MANKIND'S JOURNEY INTO SPACE,
LIKE EVERY GREAT VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY,
WILL BECOME PART OF OUR UNENDING JOURNEY
OF LIBERATION: IN THE LIMITLESS
REACHES OF SPACE, WE WILL FIND LIBERATION
FROM TYRANNY, FROM SCARCITY, FROM IGNORANCE,
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LET US GO FORWARD. THIS IS OUR MISSION,
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ONE COLD JANUARY DAY IN 1986 I READ
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IT IS "HIGH FLIGHT," BY JOHN G. MAGEE, JR.,
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IT GOES:

OH! I HAVE SLIPPED THE SURLY BONDS OF EARTH
AND DANCED THE SKIES ON LAUGHTER-SILVERED
WINGS;

SUNWARD I'VE CLIMBED, AND JOINED THE
TUMBLING MIRTH
OF SUN-SPLIT CLOUDS -- AND DONE A HUNDRED
THINGS

YOU HAVE NOT DREAMED OF -- WHEELED AND
SOARED AND SWUNG
HIGH IN THE SUNLIT SILENCE. HOV'RING THERE,
I'VE CHASED THE SHOUTING WIND ALONG, AND
FLUNG

MY EAGER CRAFT THROUGH FOOTLESS HALLS OF
AIR...

- 12 -

UP, UP THE LONG, DELIRIOUS, BURNING BLUE
I'VE TOPPED THE WIND-SWEPT HEIGHTS WITH EASY
GRACE,
WHERE NEVER LARK, OR EVEN EAGLE, FLEW;
AND, WHILE WITH SILENT, LIFTING MIND I'VE
TROD
THE HIGH UNTRESPASSED SANCTITY OF SPACE
PUT OUT MY HAND, AND TOUCHED THE FACE OF
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THANK YOU ALL AND GOD BLESS YOU.
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AND AS FOR OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, THE CHILDREN OF THE 1980's, WELL, I CAN TELL FROM THE LETTERS THEY SEND ME THAT THEY'RE READY TO GO -- AND THAT THE SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT.

A YOUNG AUTHOR IN POLAND HAS WRITTEN A BOOK OF FABLES IN WHICH HE DESCRIBES COUNTRIES IN TERMS OF COLORS. "THE U.S.," HE SAYS, "IS BLUE, LIKE INFINITY. THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS." I WOULD AGREE, AND I WOULD ADD THAT FOR AMERICA THE DEEPEST BLUE INFINITY IS FOUND IN THE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES OF SPACE.

THE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF SPACE WILL UNLEASH A NEW AGE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR COMPANIES LARGE AND SMALL. THERE WILL BE NEW MEDICINES, NEW MATERIALS, NEW PRODUCTS, AND A COMMUNICATIONS REVOLUTION.

THE VIBRANCE AND CREATIVITY OF THE FREE MARKET WILL PLUMB THE FULL RANGE OF POSSIBILITIES THAT LIE AHEAD. THE DRAMATIC ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY MEAN THAT WHAT TODAY WE CAN ONLY DREAM OF WILL BY TOMORROW BE NOT ONLY FEASIBLE, BUT INEVITABLE.

YOU KNOW, BACK IN WASHINGTON, IN THE OVAL OFFICE, I HAVE A SIGN WITH A SIMPLE, FOUR WORD MESSAGE THAT I KEEP ON MY DESK. AND ALL OF YOU EMBODY THAT MESSAGE. THOSE SIMPLE FOUR WORDS: "IT CAN BE DONE."

CAN AMERICA DEVELOP AN AEROSPACE PLANE THAT WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE OFF FROM A RUNWAY AND GO INTO ORBIT, AND THEN LAND ON ANY CORNER OF THE GLOBE IN A COUPLE OF HOURS? IT CAN BE DONE.

CAN WE DEVELOP A SPACE SHIELD TO DEFEND AMERICA, TO PROTECT PEOPLE AGAINST NUCLEAR MISSILES? IT CAN BE DONE.

CAN AMERICA HAVE THE SPACE STATION FREEDOM ORBITING THE EARTH IN 10-YEARS TIME? YES, ALL THESE THINGS CAN BE DONE.

WE ARE A NATION THAT CAN ACHIEVE GREAT DREAMS. SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA, THERE IS ALIVE TODAY A SMALL CHILD WHO ONE DAY MAY BE THE FIRST MAN OR WOMAN TO EVER SET FOOT ON THE PLANET MARS OR TO INHABIT A PERMANENT BASE ON THE MOON. LET EVERY CHILD DREAM THAT HE OR SHE WILL BE THAT PERSON, THAT HE OR SHE MAY ONE DAY PLANT THE STARS AND STRIPES ON A DISTANT PLANET. YES, I SAY, IT CAN BE DONE.

AND YOU AND I KNOW THAT WE ARE
THE NATION THAT MUST DO IT. BECAUSE
IN THE NEXT CENTURY, LEADERSHIP ON EARTH
WILL COME TO THE NATION THAT SHOWS
THE GREATEST LEADERSHIP IN SPACE.

IT IS MANKIND'S MANIFEST DESTINY TO
BRING OUR HUMANITY INTO SPACE, TO COLONIZE
THIS GALAXY; AND AS A NATION, WE HAVE
THE POWER TO DETERMINE WHETHER AMERICA WILL
LEAD OR WILL FOLLOW.

I SAY THAT AMERICA MUST LEAD.
THE NATION THAT HAS ACHIEVED THE GREATEST
HUMAN FREEDOM ON EARTH MUST BE THE NATION
TO CREATE A HUMANE FUTURE FOR MANKIND
IN SPACE, AND IT CAN BE NONE OTHER.

IT IS ONLY IN A UNIVERSE WITHOUT LIMITS
THAT WE WILL FIND A CANVAS LARGE ENOUGH
FOR THE VASTNESS OF THE HUMAN IMAGINATION.

MANKIND'S JOURNEY INTO SPACE,
LIKE EVERY GREAT VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY,
WILL BECOME PART OF OUR UNENDING JOURNEY
OF LIBERATION: IN THE LIMITLESS
REACHES OF SPACE, WE WILL FIND LIBERATION
FROM TYRANNY, FROM SCARCITY, FROM IGNORANCE,
AND FROM WAR. WE WILL FIND THE MEANS
TO PROTECT THIS EARTH AND TO NURTURE EVERY
HUMAN LIFE, AND TO EXPLORE THE UNIVERSE.
LET US GO FORWARD. THIS IS OUR MISSION,
THIS IS OUR DESTINY.

ONE COLD JANUARY DAY IN 1986 I READ
PART OF A POEM TO A NATION IN GRIEF.
I WANT TO LEAVE YOU TODAY WITH THE REST
OF THAT POEM -- BECAUSE IT'S A POEM ABOUT
JOY, ABOUT ALL THE JOYOUS ENDEAVORS.
IT IS "HIGH FLIGHT," BY JOHN G. MAGEE, JR.,
AN AMERICAN PILOT WHO FLEW WITH THE ROYAL
CANADIAN AIR FORCE IN WORLD WAR II.

IT GOES:

OH! I HAVE SLIPPED THE SURLY BONDS OF EARTH
AND DANCED THE SKIES ON LAUGHTER-SILVERED
WINGS;

SUNWARD I'VE CLIMBED, AND JOINED THE
TUMBLING MIRTH
OF SUN-SPLIT CLOUDS -- AND DONE A HUNDRED
THINGS

YOU HAVE NOT DREAMED OF -- WHEELED AND
SOARED AND SWUNG
HIGH IN THE SUNLIT SILENCE. HOV'RING THERE,
I'VE CHASED THE SHOUTING WIND ALONG, AND
FLUNG

MY EAGER CRAFT THROUGH FOOTLESS HALLS OF
AIR...

- 12 -

UP, UP THE LONG, DELIRIOUS, BURNING BLUE
I'VE TOPPED THE WIND-SWEPT HEIGHTS WITH EASY
GRACE,
WHERE NEVER LARK, OR EVEN EAGLE, FLEW;
AND, WHILE WITH SILENT, LIFTING MIND I'VE
TROD
THE HIGH UNTRESPASSED SANCTITY OF SPACE
PUT OUT MY HAND, AND TOUCHED THE FACE OF
GOD.

THANK YOU ALL AND GOD BLESS YOU.
AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

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(Klugmann/ARD)
September 21, 1988
3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

Thank you Jim. Thank you all very much. It is a great pleasure to be here at NASA's Johnson Space Center with the men and women who are leading America upward in her climb to the stars. It is important to remember that it is not some impersonal technology that puts our astronauts in space. It is the dedication and expertise of thousands of men and women of vision, people like you who see no limits, only possibilities. The truth is, our space program doesn't invest in machines, it invests in people; and you don't only launch rockets, you launch dreams. This is the age of technology, but technology is only a tool. Ladies and gentlemen: You are the space program, and America is proud of you.

And soon
~~Next week~~, the world will be watching as five brave Americans lift off from Earth on the Space Shuttle Discovery.

America is going to space again -- and we are going there to stay. *Commander* "Rick" Hauck, *Pilot* Dick Covey, *and Mission Specialists* ~~Mission Specialist~~ "Pinky" Nelson, *Mission Specialist* Mike Lounge, and Dave Hilmers are space-age pioneers, but their spirit is rooted deep in our heritage. We are a Nation born of pioneers, and we will always create our future on the frontier; Americans can live no other way.

Our early settlers knew great risks and made great sacrifices, but with their sacrifice, they moved the frontier forward and built a great Nation. Neither can we stand still, nor be content; and we are not afraid. Ill fortune can slow us

down, but it cannot stop us. You can delay our long trek to greatness, but you cannot halt it. How better can we pay tribute to those who came before us than by continuing their quest for knowledge, their struggle against limits, by continuing to push toward the far frontier?

X
And when we launch the space shuttle Discovery,
Next week,

even more than the thrust of Discovery's great engines, it will be the inspiring courage of our heroes, and the hopes and dreams of every American, that will lift the shuttle into the heavens. And may the hand of God bring it safely back to Earth.

And when the Discovery takes off, seven precious souls will soar beside it, the seven heroes of the Challenger. With their lives, they moved a Nation, they summoned America to reach higher still, as they wrote man's destiny into the stars. We pledge ourselves to pursue their vision of mankind's infinite, limitless destiny.

X
And there is a place for everyone in this future. Technology does not leave people behind, it carries everyone along. I have seen throughout my life that as the technology advances it becomes easier to use, not harder, and the benefits become more universal. Today, our satellites make it possible to watch the Olympic games live from Seoul, Korea, ^{to} rescue downed fliers and shipwrecked sailors, to predict the path of hurricane Gilbert, and to monitor arms control agreements between the superpowers. And these are just the first moments of a great new era that we are entering.

I believe the American people today are casting their eyes toward space with greater eagerness and anticipation than ever before. An entire generation is re-discovering their interest in space, the interest they had as children when in the 1960's in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the lift-offs of Glenn and Shepard. And as for our young children, the children of the 1980's, well, I can tell from the letters they send me that they're ready to go -- and that the sky is not the limit.

X A young ^{author} ~~writer~~ in Poland has written a book of fables in which he describes countries in terms of colors. "The U.S.," he says, "is blue, like infinity. The possibilities are endless." I would agree, and I would add that for America the deepest blue infinity is found in the endless possibilities of space.

The commercial development of space will unleash a new age of entrepreneurship for companies large and small. There will be new medicines, new materials, new products, and a communications revolution. The vibrance and creativity of the free market will plumb the full range of possibilities that lie ahead. The dramatic advances in technology mean that what today we can only dream of will by tomorrow be not only feasible, but inevitable.

You know, back in Washington, in the Oval Office, I have a sign with a simple, four word message that I keep on my desk. And all of you embody that message. Those simple four words: "It CAN be done."

X
Can America develop an aerospace plane that will be able to take off from a runway and go into orbit, and then land on any ^{corner of} ~~point on~~ the globe in a couple of hours? It can be done.

Can we develop a space shield to defend America, to protect people against nuclear missiles? It can be done.

X
Can America have the space station Freedom orbiting the Earth in 10-years time? ^{Yes} All these things can be done.

We are a Nation that can achieve great dreams. Somewhere in America, there is alive today a small child who one day may be the first man or woman to ever set foot on the planet Mars or to inhabit a permanent base on the Moon. Let every child dream that he or she will be that person, that he or she may one day plant the Stars and Stripes on a distant planet. Yes, I say, it can be done.

And you and I know that we are the Nation that must do it. Because in the next century, leadership on Earth will come to the Nation that shows the greatest leadership in space.

It is mankind's manifest destiny to bring our humanity into space, to colonize this galaxy; and as a Nation, we have the power to determine whether America will lead or will follow.

I say that America must lead. The Nation that has achieved the greatest human freedom on Earth must be the Nation to create a humane future for mankind in space, and it can be none other.

It is only in a universe without limits that we will find a canvas large enough for the vastness of the human imagination.

Mankind's journey into space, like every great voyage of discovery, will become part of our unending journey of

Mark's

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(Klugmann/ARD)
September 20, 1988
7:00 p.m. RR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

Thank you, Jim.

~~Thank you.~~ Thank you all very much. It is a great pleasure to be here at NASA's Johnson Space Center with the men and women who are leading America upward in her climb to the stars. It is important to remember that it is not some impersonal technology that puts our astronauts in space. It is the dedication and expertise of thousands of men and women of vision, people like you who see no limits, only possibilities. The ^{truth} fact is, our space program doesn't invest in machines, it invests in people; and you don't ^{only} launch rockets, you launch dreams. This is the age of technology, but technology is only a tool. Ladies and gentlemen: You are the space program, and America is proud of you.

Next week, the world will be watching as five brave Americans lift off from Earth on the Space Shuttle Discovery. America is going to space again -- and we are going there to stay. "Rick" Hauck, Dick Covey, "Pinky" Nelson, Mike Lounge, and Dave Hilmer are space-age pioneers, but their spirit is rooted deep in our heritage. We are a Nation born of pioneers, and we will always create our future on the frontier; Americans can live no other way.

Our early settlers knew great risks and made great sacrifices, but with their sacrifice, they moved the frontier forward and built a great Nation. Neither can we stand still, nor be content; and we are not afraid. Ill fortune can slow us

down, but it cannot stop us. You can delay our long trek to greatness, but you cannot halt it. How better can we pay tribute to those who came before us then by continuing their quest for knowledge, their struggle against limits, by continuing to push toward the far frontier?

Next week, even more than the thrust of Discovery's great engines, it will be the inspiring courage of our heroes, and the hopes and dreams of every American, that will lift the shuttle into the heavens. And may the hand of God bring it safely back to Earth.

X ~~Next Thursday~~ ^{And} when the Discovery takes off, seven precious souls will soar beside it, the seven heroes of the Challenger.

With their lives, they moved a Nation, they summoned America to reach higher still, as they wrote man's destiny into the stars.

(This mission will be ~~dedicated~~ ^{commemorated} ^{stet} to the crew of the Challenger,) as we pledge ourselves to pursue their vision of mankind's infinite, limitless destiny. skidman

And there is a place for everyone in this future.

Technology does not leave people behind, it carries everyone along. I have seen throughout my life that as the technology advances it becomes easier to use, not harder, and the benefits become more universal. Today, our satellites make it possible to watch the Olympic games live from Seoul, Korea, to predict the path of hurricane Gilbert, and to monitor arms control agreements between the superpowers. And these are just the first moments of a great new era that we are entering.

I believe the American people today are casting their eyes toward space with greater eagerness and anticipation than ever before. An entire generation is re-discovering their interest in space, the interest they had as children when in the 1960's in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the lift-offs of Glenn and Shepard. And as for our young children, the children of the 1980's, well, I can tell from the letters they send me that they're ready to go -- and that the sky is not the limit.

A young writer in Poland has written a book of fables in which he describes countries in terms of colors. "The U.S.," he says, "is blue, like infinity. The possibilities are endless." I would agree, and I would add that for America the deepest blue infinity is found in the endless possibilities of space.

The commercial development of space will unleash a new age of entrepreneurship for companies large and small. There will be new medicines, new materials, new products, and a communications revolution. The vibrance and creativity of the free market will plumb the full range of possibilities that lie ahead. The dramatic advances in technology mean that what today we can only dream of will by tomorrow be not only feasible, but inevitable.

You know, back in Washington, in the Oval Office, I have a plaque with a simple, four word message that I keep on my desk. And all of you embody that message. Those simple four words: "It CAN be done."

Can America develop a Space Plane that will be able to fly from our country to any point on the globe in a couple of hours? It can be done.

Can we develop a space shield to defend America, to protect people against nuclear missiles? It can be done.

Can America have the space station Freedom orbiting the Earth in 10-years time? All these things can be done.

We are a Nation that can achieve great dreams.
~~And we can do even more.~~ Somewhere in America, there is alive today a small child who one day may be the first man or woman to ever set foot on the planet Mars or to inhabit a permanent base on the Moon. Let every child dream that he or she will be that person, that he or she may one day plant the Stars and Stripes on a distant planet. Yes, I say, it can be done.

And you and I know that we are the Nation that must do it. Because in the next century, leadership on Earth will come to the Nation that shows the greatest leadership in space.

It is mankind's manifest destiny to bring our humanity into space, to colonize this galaxy; and as a Nation, we have the power to determine whether America will lead or will follow.

I say that America must lead. The Nation that has achieved the greatest human freedom on Earth must be the Nation to create a humane future for mankind in space, and it can be none other.

It is only in a universe without limits that we will find a canvas large enough for the vastness of the human imagination.

Mankind's journey into space, like every great voyage of discovery, will become part of our unending journey of liberation: In the limitless reaches of space, we will find

liberation from tyranny, from scarcity, from ignorance, and from war. We will find the means to protect this Earth and to nurture every human life, and to explore the universe. Let us go forward. This is our mission, this is our destiny.

[One cold January day in 1986 I read part of a poem to a Nation in grief. I want to leave you today with the rest of that poem -- because it's a poem about joy, about all the joyous endeavors. It is "High Flight," by John G. Magee, Jr., an American pilot who flew with the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II. It goes:]

[Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings,
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds, and done a hundred things
you have not dreamed of --
Wheeled and soared and swung
high in the sunlit silence.
Hovering there I've chased the shouting wind along,
and flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
where never lark or even eagle flew --
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
the high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.]

Thank you all and God bless you. And God bless America.

(Klugmann/ARD)

September 20, 1988

5:30 ~~1:30~~ p.m.

MASTER

→ please add the 3 changes circled in blue.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

Thank you. Thank you all very much. It is a great pleasure to be here at NASA's Johnson Space Center with the men and women who are leading America upward in her climb to the stars. It is important to remember that it is not some impersonal technology that puts our astronauts in space. It is the dedication and expertise of thousands of men and women of vision, people like you who see no limits, only possibilities. The fact is, our space program doesn't invest in machines, it invests in people; and you don't launch rockets, you launch dreams. This is the age of technology, but technology is only a tool. Ladies and gentlemen: You are the space program, and America is proud of you.

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Our early settlers knew great risks and made great sacrifices, but with their sacrifice, they moved the frontier forward and built a great Nation. Neither can we stand still, nor be content; and we are not afraid. Ill fortune can slow us

X down, but it cannot stop us. You can delay our long trek to greatness, but you cannot halt it. How better can we pay tribute to those who came before us than by continuing their quest for knowledge, their struggle against limits, by continuing to push toward the far frontier?

Next week, even more than the thrust of Discovery's great engines, it will be the inspiring courage of our heroes, and the hopes and dreams of every American, that will lift the shuttle into the heavens. And may the hand of God bring it safely back to Earth.

Next Thursday, when the Discovery takes off, seven precious souls will soar beside it, the seven heroes of the Challenger. With their lives, they moved a Nation, they summoned America to reach higher still, as they wrote man's destiny into the stars. This mission will be dedicated to the crew of the Challenger, as we pledge ourselves to pursue their vision of mankind's infinite, limitless destiny.

X And there is a place for everyone in this future. Technology does not leave people behind, it carries everyone along. I have seen throughout my life that as the technology advances it become^S easier to use, not harder, and the benefits become more universal. Today, our satellites make it possible to watch the Olympic games live from Seoul, Korea, ^{rescue and downed} to predict the path of hurricane Gilbert, and to monitor arms control agreements between the superpowers. And these are just the first moments of a great new era that we are entering.

These are the moments that we are living

I believe the American people today are casting their eyes toward space with greater eagerness and anticipation than ever before. An entire generation is re-discovering their interest in space, the interest they had as children when in the 1960's in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the liftoffs of Glenn and Shepard. And ^{as for} our young children, the children of the 1980's, well, I can tell from the letters they send me that they're ready to go -- and that the sky is not the limit.

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The dramatic advances in technology mean that what today we can only dream of will by tomorrow be not only feasible, but inevitable.

You know, back in Washington, in the Oval Office, I have a ^{sign} plaque with a simple, four word message that I keep on my desk.

And all of you embody that message. Those simple four words:

"It CAN be done."

Can America develop ^{Aero} a Space Plane that will be able to ^{Take off} ~~fly~~ ^{a runway and go into orbit, and then land on} from our country to any point on the globe in a couple of hours? It can be done.

Can we develop a space shield to defend America, to protect people against nuclear missiles? It can be done.

Can America have ^{the} a space station ^{Freedom} orbiting the Earth in 10-years time? All these things can be done.

And we can do even more. Somewhere in America, there is alive today a small child who one day may be the first man or woman to ever set foot on the planet Mars or to inhabit a permanent base on the Moon. Let every child dream that he or she will be that person, that he or she may one day plant the Stars and Stripes on a distant planet. Yes, I say, it can be done.

And you and I know that we are the Nation that must do it. Because in the next century, leadership on Earth will come to the Nation that shows the greatest leadership in space.

It is mankind's manifest destiny to bring our humanity into space, to colonize this galaxy; and as a Nation, we have the power to determine whether America will lead or will follow.

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of sun-split clouds, and done a hundred things
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X Wheeled and soared and swung
high in the sunlit silence.

Hovering there I've chased the shouting wind along,
and flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.

Up, up the long, delirious burning blue

I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
where never lark or even eagle flew --

And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
the high untrespassed sanctity of space

Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

Thank you all and God bless you. And God bless America.

Master

(Klugmann/ARD)
September 19, 1988
8:00 p.m. SS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

Thank you. Thank you all very much. It is a great pleasure to be here at NASA's Johnson Space Center with the men and women who are leading America upward in her climb to the stars. It is important to remember that it is not some impersonal technology that puts our astronauts in space. It is the dedication and expertise of thousands of men and women of vision, people like you who see no limits, only possibilities. The fact is, our space program doesn't invest in machines, it invests in people; and you don't launch rockets, you launch dreams. This is the age of technology, but technology is only a tool. Ladies and gentlemen: You are the space program, and America ^{is} proud of you.

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X
In ^{Next} one week, the world will be watching as five brave Americans lift off from Earth on the Space Shuttle Discovery. America is going to space again, and we are going there to stay, because that's where we belong. Pioneers like ^{"Kid"} Fred Hauck, Dick Covey, ^{"Pinkie"} George Nelson, ^{Mike} John Lounge, and Dave Hilmer are ^{space-age pioneers} men of the space age, but what they represent is a spirit ^{their} whose roots are deep in our heritage. We are a Nation born of pioneers, and we will always create our future on the frontier; Americans can live no other way.

Our early settlers ^{knew great risks and} made great sacrifices, but with their sacrifice, they moved the frontier forward and built a great Nation. ^{Neither can we} Just like our ancestors, we cannot stand still, we are ^{not} content; and we are not afraid. ^{How better can we} We pay tribute to those who

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came before us ^{then} by continuing their quest for knowledge, their struggle against limits, by continuing to ~~sacrifice~~ and push toward the far frontier?

Next week, even more than the thrust of Discovery's great engines, it will be the inspiring courage of our heroes, and the hopes and dreams of every American, that will lift the shuttle into the heavens, ^{may the Lord of God} and bring it safely back to Earth.

Y
~~And~~ next Thursday, when the Discovery takes off, seven precious souls will soar beside it, the seven heroes of the Challenger. With their lives, they moved a Nation, they summoned America to reach higher still, as they wrote man's destiny into the stars. This mission will be dedicated to the crew of the Challenger, as we pledge ourselves to pursue their vision of ^{man kind's} ~~man's~~ infinite, limitless destiny.

And there is a place for everyone in this future. Technology does not leave people behind, it carries everyone along. I have seen throughout my life that as the technology advances it become easier to use, not harder, and the benefits become more universal. Today, our satellites make it possible to watch the Olympic games live from Seoul, Korea, to predict the path of hurricane Gilbert, and to ^{monitor} ~~verify~~ arms control agreements between the superpowers. And these are just the first moments of a great new era that ^{we are} ~~man kind~~ is entering.

(B) generations
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Can we develop a space shield to defend America, to protect people against nuclear missiles? It can be done.

Can America have a space station orbiting the earth in 10 years time? All these things can be done.

And we can do even more. Somewhere in America, there is alive today a small child who one day ^{may} ~~will~~ be the first man or woman to ever set foot on the planet Mars. Let every child dream that he or she will be ^{that} the person ^{that he or she may one day} who plants the Stars and Stripes on ^{that} ~~that~~ distant planet. Yes, I say, it can be done.

or to inhabit a permanent base on the Moon.

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It is only in a universe without limits, that we will find a canvass large enough for the vastness of the human imagination.

^{mankind's}
~~Man's~~ journey into space, like every great voyage of discovery, will become part of ^{our} ~~mankind's~~ unending journey of liberation: In the limitless reaches of space, ^{we} ~~man~~ will find ~~his~~ liberation from tyranny, from scarcity, from ignorance, and from war. We will find the means to protect this Earth and to nurture every human life, and to explore the universe. Let us go forward. This is our mission, this is our destiny. Thank you all and God bless you. And God bless America.

↓
Addition
of poem

2014



I believe the American people today are casting their eyes toward space with greater eagerness and anticipation than ever before. An entire generation is re-discovering their interest in space, the interest they had as children when in the 1960s in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the liftoffs of Glenn and Shepard. And our young children, the children of the 1980s, well, I can tell from the letters they send me that they're ready to go -- and that the sky is not the limit.

((Hello, good to be here))

((Reference to where we are))

((Reference to the shuttle astronauts who are, presumably, on the dias/stage -- some biographical reference to each that says, implicitly, 'I know who you are, I feel a personal connection with you'. This to demonstrate the President's engagement in the drama and also to raise the astronaut's celebrity quotient, which ought to be raised just about now.))

I have come here because I wanted to, frankly, shake your hands and wish you well and tell you we're all behind you.

I am moved, as many Americans are, (and I hope you know it), by the journey you are about to make. The liftoff of the Space Shuttle next Thursday marks a brave new beginning for the space program. And more.

It marks our commitment to space, our commitment to pushing out beyond the boundaries of man and discovering, making progress, breaking through -- or, as the test pilots used to say with a kind of poetic succinctness, 'pushing the edge of the envelope.'

And it marks our continued devotion to a tradition -- an American tradition that says ~~ill fortune~~ ^{at} can slow us down but it cannot stop us, ~~off~~. You can ~~delay~~ our long trek to greatness, but you cannot halt it. When the ships that took our forefathers to the new world foundered, more ships followed, and the new world was gained. When a covered wagon

Insert
A

broke up crossing the great rivers more wagons followed, and made it across, and the west was won. When a settlement was hit by hostile forces from tornadoes to indians wars, more settlers followed, and built a new town, and America was invented. So, you see, when a spacecraft exploded in the air a new spacecraft followed -- a new Shuttle is born --and soon it will break away from earth to continue its historic work in space.

America today is turning.
~~I believe I detect~~ in our country a renewed interest in space. ~~I believe that~~ our young adults are rediscovering their interest in it, the interest they had as children when, in the 1960's in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the liftoffs of Glenn and Shepard and ~~Gus Grissom~~. But I can also tell from my mail and from what I see and read that OUR children, the children of the 80's, are more interested than ever.

And the reason space continues to have such a hold on the national imagination is that space is the future -- space is the place where the future will be born. Space -- and its manned and unmanned probes and platforms, its journeys, its communities. Space, and the experiments that can be performed there, the scientific work, the medicines that can be made in zero gravity. The peaceful exploration of space. Once it was a dream; now it's the next generation's great work. And ours.

And so we have much to do. There is so much ahead of us. And next week the journey continues.

And may I say that as you leave you are not alone. You have the hopes of your countrymen with you, of course. And the hopes of a new generation of schoolchildren gathered near a tv set, together again, watching a graceful arcing moment of their country's history.

And you carry with you some powerful memories -- of a young woman named Christa McAuliffe, who wanted to teach children -- and whose life became a lesson in the meaning of courage...

of a mission commander named Dick Scobee who _____
((something distinctive -- sorry, but I forget. If you call up the memorial speech given at the service for the Challenger crew I believe you'll find biographical information. You can end this with one sentence on the 3 final Challenger members, as in 'And ____, ____, and ____, who joined the quest because they wanted so much advance human knowledge, etc.))

Added at the end

One cold January day in 1986 I read part of a poem to a nation in grief. I want to leave you today with the rest of that poem -- because it's a poem about joy, about all the joyous endeavors.

It is "High Flight", by John G. Magee, Jr., an American pilot who flew with the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II.

It goes,

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings,
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds, and done a hundred things
you have not dreamed of --
Wheeled and soared and swung
high in the sunlit silence.
Hovering there I've chased the shouting wind along,
and flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
where never lark or even eagle flew --
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
the high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.



The poet did not survive the war, but more pilot officers followed, and the war was won. And now you follow the Challenger crew, and God bless you -- as you slip the surly bonds of earth and fling your craft through footless halls of air...

God bless you.

See you after touchdown. ((Is that the name for when the shuttle lands?? Or am I making the mistake New Jerseyans make when, at the theatre, at a revival of, say, 'The Threepenny Opera', they refer to the intermission as halftime.))

Mark

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 20, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MARK KLUGMANN⁴²
SPEECHWRITER TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Speech at Johnson Space Center

A suggestion was made to return to the Challenger Speech in the closing of this speech. There is also the concern, however, that standing beside the five members of the Discovery crew, the repetition of "to slip the surly bonds of earth... to touch the face of God" may seem inappropriate or possibly morbid. Not sure whether to go with the poem or not.

No I think the poem should be
left in.
RK

(Klugmann/ARD)
September 20, 1988
7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

Thank you. Thank you all very much. It is a great pleasure to be here at NASA's Johnson Space Center with the men and women who are leading America upward in her climb to the stars. It is important to remember that it is not some impersonal technology that puts our astronauts in space. It is the dedication and expertise of thousands of men and women of vision, people like you who see no limits, only possibilities. The fact is, our space program doesn't invest in machines, it invests in people; and you don't launch rockets, you launch dreams. This is the age of technology, but technology is only a tool. Ladies and gentlemen: You are the space program, and America is proud of you.

Next week, the world will be watching as five brave Americans lift off from Earth on the Space Shuttle Discovery. America is going to space again -- and we are going there to stay. "Rick" Hauck, Dick Covey, "Pinky" Nelson, Mike Lounge, and Dave Hilmers are space-age pioneers, but their spirit is rooted deep in our heritage. We are a Nation born of pioneers, and we will always create our future on the frontier; Americans can live no other way.

Our early settlers knew great risks and made great sacrifices, but with their sacrifice, they moved the frontier forward and built a great Nation. Neither can we stand still, nor be content, and we are not afraid. Ill fortune can slow us

down, but it cannot stop us. You can delay our long trek to greatness, but you cannot halt it. How better can we pay tribute to those who came before us then by continuing their quest for knowledge, their struggle against limits, by continuing to push toward the far frontier?

Next week, even more than the thrust of Discovery's great engines, it will be the inspiring courage of our heroes, and the hopes and dreams of every American, that will lift the shuttle into the heavens. And may the hand of God bring it safely back to Earth.

Next Thursday, when the Discovery takes off, seven precious souls will soar beside it, the seven heroes of the Challenger. With their lives, they moved a Nation, they summoned America to reach higher still, as they wrote man's destiny into the stars. This mission will be dedicated to the crew of the Challenger, as we pledge ourselves to pursue their vision of mankind's infinite, limitless destiny.

And there is a place for everyone in this future. Technology does not leave people behind, it carries everyone along. I have seen throughout my life that as the technology advances it becomes easier to use, not harder, and the benefits become more universal. Today, our satellites make it possible to watch the Olympic games live from Seoul, Korea, to predict the path of hurricane Gilbert, and to monitor arms control agreements between the superpowers. And these are just the first moments of a great new era that we are entering.

I believe the American people today are casting their eyes toward space with greater eagerness and anticipation than ever before. An entire generation is re-discovering their interest in space, the interest they had as children when in the 1960's in grade schools throughout our country, they watched on television, together, the lift-offs of Glenn and Shepard. And as for our young children, the children of the 1980's, well, I can tell from the letters they send me that they're ready to go -- and that the sky is not the limit.

A young writer in Poland has written a book of fables in which he describes countries in terms of colors. "The U.S.," he says, "is blue, like infinity. The possibilities are endless." I would agree, and I would add that for America the deepest blue infinity is found in the endless possibilities of space.

The commercial development of space will unleash a new age of entrepreneurship for companies large and small. There will be new medicines, new materials, new products, and a communications revolution. The vibrance and creativity of the free market will plumb the full range of possibilities that lie ahead. The dramatic advances in technology mean that what today we can only dream of will by tomorrow be not only feasible, but inevitable.

You know, back in Washington, in the Oval Office, I have a plaque with a simple, four word message that I keep on my desk. And all of you embody that message. Those simple four words: "It CAN be done."

Can America develop a Space Plane that will be able to fly from our country to any point on the globe in a couple of hours? It can be done.

Can we develop a space shield to defend America, to protect people against nuclear missiles? It can be done.

Can America have the space station Freedom orbiting the Earth in 10-years time? All these things can be done.

And we can do even more. Somewhere in America, there is alive today a small child who one day may be the first man or woman to ever set foot on the planet Mars or to inhabit a permanent base on the Moon. Let every child dream that he or she will be that person, that he or she may one day plant the Stars and Stripes on a distant planet. Yes, I say, it can be done.

And you and I know that we are the Nation that must do it. Because in the next century, leadership on Earth will come to the Nation that shows the greatest leadership in space.

It is mankind's manifest destiny to bring our humanity into space, to colonize this galaxy; and as a Nation, we have the power to determine whether America will lead or will follow.

I say that America must lead. The Nation that has achieved the greatest human freedom on Earth must be the Nation to create a humane future for mankind in space, and it can be none other.

It is only in a universe without limits that we will find a canvas large enough for the vastness of the human imagination.

Mankind's journey into space, like every great voyage of discovery, will become part of our unending journey of liberation: In the limitless reaches of space, we will find

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And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
the high untrespassed sanctity of space
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.]

Thank you all and God bless you. And God bless America.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/21/88 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: -----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS. JOHNSON SPACE CENTER -HOUSTON, TX

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HOOLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DUBERSTEIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	KRANOWITZ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
POWELL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MASENG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MILLER - OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OGLESBY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RISQUE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BAUER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RYAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CRIPPEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPRINKEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CULVAHOUSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TUCK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DAWSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TUTTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DONATELLI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dolan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	GRAHAM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HOBBS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

*President's
changes
att'd*

Rhett Dawson
Ext. 2702

(Klugmann/ARD)
September 20, 1988
7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: JOHNSON SPACE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1988

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