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Last Updated: 01/17/2025

(ROBINSON)

DECEMBER 2, 1984

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KENNEDY CENTER HONORS RECEPTION

GOOD EVENING. NANCY AND I ARE
DELIGHTED TO WELCOME YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE,
THE HOME THAT BELONGS TO YOU AND TO ALL
AMERICANS.

YOU KNOW, WHEN THIS GOOD OLD HOUSE WAS
BUILT / OUR COUNTRY WAS LITTLE MORE THAN A
THIN BAND OF TOWNS RUNNING ALONG THE EASTERN
SEABOARD / A PEOPLE CLINGING TO THE EDGE OF
A VAST AND UNTAMED CONTINENT. WHEN IT CAME
TO ART, DRAMA, AND MUSIC, AMERICANS LOOKED
BACK TO THE OLD COUNTRY / FROM WHERE MOST HAD
JUST COME.

BUT AS OUR NATION GREW / AND OUR PEOPLE
PUSHED WEST / PLOWING FIELDS, FELLING
FORESTS, AND BUILDING NEW CITIES AND TOWNS /
A NEW AND DISTINCTIVE CULTURE BEGAN TO
DEVELOP / A CULTURE AS FERTILE AS THIS NEW
LAND / AS BOLD AND CONFIDENT AS THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE.

IT TOOK ON THE TWANG OF THE FRONTIER FIDDLE/
THE JOY OF JAZZ/
THE EXCELLENCE OF THE NEW
AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS/
AND THE SPARKLE OF
HOLLYWOOD MOVIES.

TODAY OUR NATION HAS CROWNED HER
GREATNESS WITH GRACE/
AND WE GATHER THIS
EVENING TO HONOR FIVE ARTISTS WHO HAVE
HELPED HER TO DO SO.

LENA HORNE, WHEN YOU STARTED MAKING
MOVIES, A COLUMNIST WROTE/
LENA HORNE HAS
PUT...DIGNITY INTO DARING/
SHE HAS GIVEN
GLAMOUR MANNERS. HOLLYWOOD HAS NEVER BEFORE
SEEN SUCH A COMBINATION. NEITHER HAD THE
WORLD.

LENA, YOU GOT YOUR START AT THE AGE
OF 16 AS A CHORUS GIRL AT THE LEGENDARY
COTTON CLUB/
THEN BROKE ONTO THE BIG BAND
SCENE AS A SINGER WITH CHARLIE BARNET.
DURING THIS PERIOD, ONE OBSERVER REMARKED
THAT YOUR VOICE COULD THAW THE ICE IN A
CUSTOMER'S DRINK.

IN THE 1940's, YOU BECAME THE FIRST
BLACK WOMAN EVER TO BE SIGNED TO A LONG-TERM
HOLLYWOOD CONTRACT. YOU MADE UNFORGETTABLE
FILMS LIKE "CABIN IN THE SKY," AND AN
AMERICAN CLASSIC, "STORMY WEATHER."
YOU OFTEN HAD TO BATTLE PREJUDICE, BUT YOUR
WORK EXPANDED THE ROLES AVAILABLE TO BLACK
PERFORMERS.

DURING THE 1960's, YOU BECAME AN ARDENT
CHAMPION OF CIVIL RIGHTS, APPEARING IN
BENEFITS, JOINING PROTESTS, AND SPEAKING OUT
AGAIN AND AGAIN. THROUGH IT ALL, YOU PLAYED
A DIRECT AND VITAL ROLE IN THE CAUSE OF
JUSTICE.

TODAY, LENA, YOUR VOICE AND STYLE ARE
AS POWERFUL AND RENOWNED AS EVER.
YOUR RECENT SHOW, "LENA, THE LADY AND HER
MUSIC," WAS THE LONGEST RUNNING ONE-WOMAN
SHOW IN BROADWAY HISTORY.

AND YOU KNOW SOMETHING, LENA, AFTER
FIVE DECADES, WHEN YOU SING, OUR SPINES
STILL TINGLE /-- AND THE ICE STILL MELTS.

ARTHUR MILLER, YOU GREW UP IN HARLEM /
GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL / AND DECIDED TO
STUDY DRAMA AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

YOU WORKED FOR 2 YEARS --(INCLUDING A JOB AS
A SHIPPING CLERK IN A WAREHOUSE)-- TO SAVE
MONEY FOR YOUR TUITION. AFTER COLLEGE,

YOU WROTE RADIO DRAMAS FOR THE
C.B.S. COLUMBIA WORKSHOP AND N.B.C.'s
CAVALCADE OF AMERICA / SUPPORTING YOURSELF
BY WORKING AS A TRUCK DRIVER AND A
STEAMFITTER IN THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD.

YOUR FIRST BROADWAY EFFORT, "THE MAN
WHO HAD ALL THE LUCK," CLOSED AFTER
FOUR PERFORMANCES IN NOVEMBER 1944.

THAT DISAPPOINTMENT WOULD HAVE MADE MANY
YOUNG MEN GIVE UP, / NOT YOU.

IN 1947 YOU RETURNED TO BROADWAY WITH A PLAY
THAT NO ONE WHO SEES OR READS WILL EVER
FORGET, "ALL MY SONS."

TWO YEARS LATER, THE BROADWAY CURTAIN
ROSE ON A NEW ARTHUR MILLER DRAMA / ONE THAT
MANY CRITICS CONSIDER THE GREATEST AMERICAN
PLAY EVER WRITTEN / "DEATH OF A SALESMAN."

THAT PLAY RAN ON BROADWAY FOR
742 PERFORMANCES / WAS MADE INTO A MOTION
PICTURE / AND TODAY, MORE THAN THREE DECADES
LATER / IS STILL ENJOYING REVIVALS AROUND THE
WORLD.

SINCE THAT BRILLIANT WORK, YOU HAVE
CONTINUED TO MAKE RICH CONTRIBUTIONS TO
AMERICAN LETTERS / WITH PLAYS LIKE
"THE CRUCIBLE" AND "A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE."

TODAY, ARTHUR MILLER, YOU ARE ONE OF
AMERICA'S MOST RENOWNED LIVING
PLAYWRIGHTS / AND YOU'RE STILL WRITING
STRONG.

{JAHN CAR-LOW MAY-NOT-TEE}, YOU WROTE
YOUR FIRST OPERA BACK IN ITALY AT THE AGE
OF 11. WHEN YOU WERE 13, YOUR MOTHER
ENROLLED YOU IN A CONSERVATORY IN MILAN/
AND IN 1928, WHEN YOU WERE 17/SHE TOOK YOU
TO THE CURTIS INSTITUTE OF MUSIC IN
PHILADELPHIA/ ARMED WITH A LETTER FROM THE
WIFE OF CONDUCTOR ARTURO TOSCANINI.

YEARS LATER, YOUR TEACHER AT THE CURTIS
INSTITUTE WOULD RECALL - AND I QUOTE:

"EARLY ON, I TOLD HIM, '{JAHN CAR-LOW}',
IF I AM TO TEACH YOU, WE MUST COME TO AN
AGREEMENT, YOU AND I. I PROMISE YOU THAT I
WILL BE UNCOMPROMISINGLY SEVERE. DO YOU
PROMISE TO PUT IN SOME VERY HARD WORK A.?'
WELL, {JAHN CAR-LOW} PROMISED, AND HE ABIDED
BY HIS AGREEMENT."

TODAY, MILLIONS ARE GRATEFUL THAT YOU
DID.

YOU HAVE GIVEN A GLORIOUS MEDIUM NEW LIFE
WITH SUCH OPERAS AS "THE CONSUL," "THE SAINT
OF BLEECKER STREET," AND ONE OF THE
BEST-LOVED OPERAS OF ALL TIME, THE CHRISTMAS
CLASSIC, "AMAH! AND THE NIGHT VISITORS."

(JAHN CAR-LOW MAY-NOT-TEE), YOU HAVE
ALWAYS KEPT YOUR ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP.

BUT YOU HAVE SPENT SO MANY YEARS AMONG US,
AND CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH TO OUR NATIONAL
LIFE / PERHAPS TONIGHT YOU'LL ALLOW US TO
CLAIM YOU AS AN HONORARY AMERICAN.

ISAAC STERN, YOU WERE BORN IN RUSSIA
AND MOVED TO SAN FRANCISCO WITH YOUR PARENTS
WHEN YOU WERE 1. YOUR MOTHER GAVE YOU PIANO
LESSONS / BUT AT 8 YOU WERE FASCINATED BY THE
SOUND OF A FRIEND PLAYING THE VIOLIN. AT 10
YOU BEGAN FORMAL TRAINING IN THE VIOLIN AT
THE SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY / YOUR STUDIES
PAID FOR BY A WOMAN WHO RECOGNIZED YOUR
PROMISE.

AS YOU PUT IT YEARS LATER, "I GOT MY BREAK
BECAUSE OF THE FAITH AND BELIEF PRIVATE
PEOPLE SHOWED IN MY WORK."

AT 11 YOU APPEARED WITH THE
SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, AT 17 YOU
DEBUTED IN NEW YORK, AND BY YOUR
MID-TWENTIES YOU WERE PERFORMING SOME
90 CONCERTS A YEAR. TODAY YOUR REPERTOIRE
RANGES FROM THE CLASSICS TO THE MODERNS,
AND ONE CRITIC HAS CALLED YOU, "THE ONLY
MAJOR VIOLINIST EXCLUSIVELY A PRODUCT OF
AMERICAN ENVIRONMENT AND TRAINING," AND
YOU'VE SPENT A LIFETIME SHOWING HOW THAT
AMERICAN ENVIRONMENT GLITTERS WITH ARTISTIC
EXCELLENCE.

DANNY KAYE, DURING ONE OF YOUR TOURS IN
ENGLAND, PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY EDEN
REMARKED, "GAD, SIR, THEY TREAT HIM AS IF HE
WERE A NATION!"

BORN IN BROOKLYN, YOU MADE YOUR ACTING
DEBUT AT AGE 5 f IN THE ROLE OF A
WATERMELON SEED. AT 13, YOU LEFT HOME TO
BECOME A CLOWNING BUSBOY ON THE BORSCHT.
CIRCUIT IN THE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS. IN YOUR
EARLY TWENTIES, YOU JOINED A TROOPE TOURING
THE ORIENT. YOUR RESOURCEFULNESS ON THAT
TOUR BECAME LEGENDARY. DURING A TYPHOON IN
OSAKA, FOR INSTANCE, YOU SAT ON THE EDGE OF
THE STAGE, SANG EVERY SONG YOU KNEW, AND
SPOTLIGHTED YOURSELF BY HOLDING A FLASHLIGHT
IN EACH HAND.

WHEN THAT TOUR WAS OVER, YOU PLAYED
NIGHTCLUBS IN LONDON AND THROUGHOUT THE
AMERICAN EAST. AT CAMP TAMIMENT IN
PENNSYLVANIA, YOU MET SYLVIA FINE, A PIANIST
AND COMPOSER. HER WITTY, SOPHISTICATED
SATIRE WAS PERFECTLY SUITED TO YOUR DELIVERY
AND LED TO A GREAT COLLABORATION.

IN 1940, YOUR CAREER SOARED WHEN YOU STOPPED
THE BROADWAY SHOW, "LADY IN THE DARK," BY
PERFORMING A NUMBER IN WHICH YOU REELED OFF
THE NAMES OF 50 RUSSIAN COMPOSERS IN

38 SECONDS. SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENED IN
1940. SYLVIA FINE BECAME MRS. DANNY KAYE.

SIGNED BY SAM GOLDWYN, YOU STARRED IN A
SUCCESSION OF HIT MOVIES, INCLUDING

"WONDER MAN;" "THE KID FROM BROOKLYN;"

"THE INSPECTOR GENERAL;" "THE SECRET LIFE OF
WALTER MITTY," IN WHICH YOU PLAYED NO FEWER

THAN SEVEN ROLES AND THE MUCH-LOVED "HANS
CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN."

FORGIVE ME DANNY, BUT
I CAN'T HELP WISHING I'D HAD ONE OR TWO OF
THOSE ROLES.

IN 1970 YOU RETURNED TO BROADWAY AS
NOAH IN RICHARD RODGER'S MUSICAL, "TWO BY

TWO." WHEN YOU INJURED YOUR LEG, YOU

DECIDED THAT THE SHOW MUST GO ON AND FOR

10-1/2 MONTHS YOU PERFORMED ON CRUTCHES

WHILE WEARING A PLASTER CAST.

IN THE 1950's DANNY, YOU TOOK ON A NEW
ROLE, / BECOMING AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE FOR
UNICEF / THE UNITED NATIONS' CHILDREN'S
ORGANIZATION. / SINCE THEN, YOU'VE MADE
SCORES OF TRIPS AROUND THE WORLD ON BEHALF
OF NEEDY CHILDREN, / AND APPEARED AT COUNTLESS
BENEFITS AS A GUEST SYMPHONY CONDUCTOR.

DANNY KAYE, COMEDIAN, ACTOR, SINGER,
AND CONDUCTOR, / YOU'VE BROUGHT AID TO
THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AND HELPED MILLIONS OF
ADULTS TO FEEL YOUNG AT HEART.

EACH OF THE ARTISTS WE HONOR TONIGHT
OVERCAME HARDSHIP, / AND EACH SUFFERED
SETBACKS AND FAILURES, / INDEED, ISAAC STERN
ONCE SAID THAT, AFTER HIS NEW YORK DEBUT,
"I...WAS CONVINCED THAT I DIDN'T KNOW MY
ELBOW FROM A-FLAT."

YET THEY WORKED LONG AND HARD, / FOLLOWED
THEIR DREAMS, / AND SUCCEEDED IN BRINGING
MUSIC, DRAMA, AND LAUGHTER INTO OUR LIVES.

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TONIGHT AS WE APPRECIATE THEIR WORK, LET US
TAKE COMFORT AND INSPIRATION FROM THEIR
LIVES.

LENA HORNE, ARTHUR MILLER,
[JAHN CAR-LOW MAY-NOT-TEE], ISAAC STERN,
AND DANNY KAYE: ON BEHALF OF ALL AMERICANS,
THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU.

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121
(Robinson/BE)
November 29, 1984
3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KENNEDY CENTER HONORS RECEPTION
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1984

Good evening. Nancy and I are delighted to welcome you to the White House, the home that belongs to you and to all Americans.

You know, when this good old house was built, our country was little more than a thin band of towns running along the eastern seaboard -- a people clinging to the edge of a vast and untamed continent. When it came to art, drama, and music, Americans looked ^{BACK} to the old country, from where most had just come.

But as our Nation grew, and our people pushed west, plowing fields, felling forests, and building new cities and towns, a new and distinctive culture began to develop -- a culture as fertile as this new land, as bold and confident as the American people. It took on the twang of the frontier fiddle, the joy of jazz, the excellence of the new American orchestras, and the sparkle of Hollywood movies.

Today our Nation has crowned her greatness with grace, and we gather this evening to honor five artists who have helped her to do so.

Lena Calhoun Horne, when you started making movies, a columnist wrote: Lena Horne "has put . . . dignity into daring; she has given glamour manners. Hollywood has never before seen such a combination." Neither had the world.

Lena, you got your start at the age of 16 as a chorus girl at the legendary Cotton Club, then broke onto the big band scene as a singer with Charlie Barnet. During this period, one observer remarked that your voice could "thaw the ice in a customer's drink."

In the 1940's, you became the first black woman ever to be signed to a long-term Hollywood contract. You made unforgettable films like "Cabin in the Sky," and an American classic, "Stormy Weather." You often had to battle prejudice, but your work expanded the roles available to black ^{PERFORMERS.} actors.

During the 1960's, you became an ardent champion of civil rights, appearing in benefits, joining protests, and speaking out again and again. Through it all, you played a direct and vital role in the cause of justice.

Today, Lena, your voice and style are as powerful and renowned as ever. For the past 10 years, your show, "Lena, the Lady and the Music," has been packing them in across the country. And you know something, Lena, after five decades, when you sing, our spines still tingle -- and the ice still melts.

Arthur Miller, you grew up in Harlem, graduated from high school, and decided to study drama at the University of Michigan. You worked for 2 years -- including a job as a shipping clerk in a warehouse -- to save money for your tuition. After college, you wrote radio dramas for the CBS Columbia Workshop and NBC's Cavalcade of America -- supporting yourself by working as a truck driver and a steamfitter in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Your first Broadway effort, "The Man Who Had All the Luck," opened during the first week of November 1944. It also closed during the first week of November 1944. That disappointment would have made many young men give up. Not you. In 1947 you returned to Broadway with a play that no one who sees or reads will ever forget, "All My Sons."

Two years later, the Broadway curtain rose on a new Arthur Miller drama, one that many critics consider the greatest American play ever written: "Death of a Salesman." That play ran on Broadway for 742 performances, was made into a motion picture, and today, more than three decades later, is still enjoying revivals around the world.

Since that brilliant work, you have continued to make rich contributions to American letters, with plays like "The Crucible" and "A View from the Bridge." Today, Arthur Miller, you are one of America's most renowned living playwrights -- and you're still writing strong.

Gian Carlo Menotti [Jahn CAR-low may-NOT-tee], you wrote your first opera back in Italy at the age of 11. When you were 13, your mother enrolled you in a conservatory in Milan; and in 1928, when you were 17, she took you to the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, armed with a letter from the wife of conductor Arturo Toscanini. Years later, your teacher at the Curtis Institute would recall -- and I quote:

"Early on, I told him, 'Gian Carlo [Jahn CAR-low], if I am to teach you, we must come to an agreement, you and I. I promise you that I will be uncompromisingly severe. Do you promise to put in some very hard work ...?' Well, Gian

Carlo [Jahn CAR-low) promised, and he abided by his agreement."

Today, millions are grateful that you did. You have given a glorious medium new life with such operas as "The Consul," "The Saint of Bleecker Street," and one of the best-loved operas of all time, the Christmas classic, "Amahl and the Night Visitors."

Gian Carlo Menotti [Jahn CAR-low may-NOT-tee], you have always kept your Italian citizenship. But you have spent so many years among us, and contributed so much to our national life -- perhaps tonight you'll allow us to claim you as an honorary American.

Isaac Stern, you were born in Russia and moved to San Francisco with your parents when you were 1. Your mother gave you piano lessons, but at 8 you were fascinated by the sound of a friend playing the violin. At 10 you began formal training in the violin at the San Francisco Conservatory, your studies paid for by a woman who recognized your promise. As you put it years later, "I got my break because of the faith and belief private people showed in my work."

At 11 you appeared with the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, at 17 you debuted in New York, and by your mid-twenties you were performing some 90 concerts a year. Today your repertoire ranges from the Baroque to the moderns, you average one concert every 3 days, you serve as a member of the National Arts Council, and you help innumerable young musicians. Isaac Stern, one critic has called you, "the only major violinist exclusively a product of American environment and training," and

you've spent a lifetime showing how that American environment glitters with artistic excellence.

Danny Kaye, during one of your tours in England, Prime Minister Anthony Eden remarked, "Gad, sir, they treat him as if he were a nation!"

Born in Brooklyn, you made your acting debut at age 5 -- in the role of a watermelon seed. At 13, you left home to become a clowning busboy on the Borscht Circuit in the Catskill Mountains. In your early twenties, you joined a troope touring the Orient. Your resourcefulness on that tour became legendary. During a typhoon in Osaka, for instance, you sat on the edge of the stage, sang every song you knew, and spotlighted yourself by holding a flashlight in each hand.

When that tour was over, you played nightclubs in London and throughout the American East. At Camp Tamiment in Pennsylvania, you met Sylvia Fine, a pianist and composer. Her witty, sophisticated satire was perfectly suited to your delivery and led to a great collaboration. In 1940, your career soared when you stopped the Broadway show, "Lady in the Dark," by performing a number in which you reeled off the names of 54 Russian composers in 38 seconds. Something else happened in 1940. Sylvia Fine became Mrs. Danny Kaye.

Signed by Sam Goldwin, you starred in a succession of hit movies, including "Wonderman;" "Kid from Brooklyn;" "The Inspector General;" "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," in which you played no fewer than seven roles; and the much-loved "Hans

Christian Anderson." Forgive me Danny, but I can't help wishing I'd had one or two of those roles.

In 1970 you returned to Broadway as Noah in Richard Rodger's musical, "Two by Two." When you injured your leg, you decided that the show must go on, and for 7 months you performed on crutches while wearing a plaster cast.

In 1955, Danny, you took on a new role, becoming Ambassador-at-large for UNICEF, the United Nations' children's organization. Since then, you've made scores of trips around the world on behalf of needy children, and appeared at countless benefits as a guest symphony conductor.

Danny Kaye, comedian, actor, singer, and conductor, you've brought aid to thousands of children and helped millions of adults to feel young at heart.

Each of the artists we honor tonight overcame hardship, and each suffered setbacks and failures. Indeed, Isaac Stern once said that, after his New York debut, "I . . . [was] convinced that I didn't know my elbow from A-flat."

Yet they worked long and hard, followed their dreams, and succeeded in bringing music, drama, and laughter into our lives. Tonight as we appreciate their work, let us take comfort and inspiration from their lives.

Lena Horne, Arthur Miller, Gian Carlo Menotti
[Jahn CAR-low may-NOT-tee], Isaac Stern, and Danny Kaye: On behalf of all Americans, thank you, and God bless you.

(ROHRABACHER)

DECEMBER 4, 1984

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STATE DINNER TOAST FOR
PRESIDENT JAMIE LUSINCHI OF VENEZUELA

GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME TO THE WHITE
HOUSE. THIS HAS BEEN A SPECIAL TIME FOR US.
TODAY WE'VE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE
VIEWS AND GET TO KNOW PRESIDENT LUSINCHI, /AN
INDIVIDUAL WHOSE STRENGTH OF CONVICTION AND
PERSONAL BRAVERY HELPED GIVE BIRTH TO
DEMOCRACY IN HIS COUNTRY. TONIGHT WE HONOR
YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, /FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE /-
FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING / AND FOR THE KIND OF
MAN YOU ARE.

IN THIS BEAUTIFUL SETTING, THE HARD
SACRIFICES OF OUR OWN FOUNDING FATHERS SEEM
SO LONG AGO. YET ALL OF WHAT WE HAVE HAS
BEEN BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION THEY LAID.

PRESIDENT LUSINCHI REMEMBERS WELL
VENEZUELA'S FIGHT FOR POLITICAL FREEDOM. HE
WAS PART OF IT. AS A YOUNG MAN, HE
COMMITTED HIMSELF TO THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY.

HE WAS ARRESTED AND TORTURED BY THE
DICTATORSHIP. MR. PRESIDENT, I'M TOLD THE
BEATINGS LEFT WELTS ON YOUR BACK SIMILAR TO
THE STRIPES OF A TIGER. WELL YOU HAD THE
SPIRIT OF A TIGER, AND YOU NEVER GAVE UP
YOUR IDEALS. VENEZUELA IS FREE TODAY,
BECAUSE IT HAS PEOPLE OF SUCH CHARACTER.

LAST YEAR, YOU CELEBRATED 25 YEARS OF
CONTINUOUS DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN
VENEZUELA. COMMEMORATING THAT, YOU SAID,
WE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT DEMOCRACY AND
LIBERTY GO TOGETHER -- INEXTRICABLY
TOGETHER. IT WAS FITTING THAT LAST YEAR
WAS ALSO THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH
OF SIMON BOLIVAR, A VENEZUELAN WHOSE
STRUGGLE GAVE INDEPENDENCE TO THE
HEMISPHERE. TODAY, YOU CARRY ON THE WORK OF
THIS TRULY ALL-AMERICAN HERO.

AND WHEN WE SAY AMERICAN, WE MEAN EVERY ONE
OF US FROM THE NORTH SLOPE OF ALASKA TO THE
TIP OF TIERRA DEL FUEGO. *-All " AM,.*

I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU,
PRESIDENT LUSINCHI, FOR WHAT YOUR COUNTRY IS
DOING FOR THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY IN THIS
HEMISPHERE. YOUR SUPPORT DURING THE GRENADA
CRISIS WAS MOST APPRECIATED. YOUR EFFORTS
IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ARE OF
GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM
THERE. YOUR PERSONAL GUIDANCE TO ME IN THE
YEARS AHEAD WILL BE AS INVALUABLE AS IT WAS
TODAY. WE ARE PROUD TO STAND WITH YOU AND
TO HAVE YOU AND YOUR COUNTRYMEN AS OUR
FRIENDS.

PRESIDENT LUSINCHI, YOU REPRESENT IN SO
MANY WAYS THE DEEP TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO
PEOPLES.

TODAY, INSTEAD OF "WELCOME," WE SHOULD HAVE SAID, "WELCOME BACK," FOR YOU LIVED WITH US DURING YOUR TIME OF EXILE/ STUDYING MEDICINE AND WORKING IN BELLEVUE HOSPITAL IN NEW YORK.

AS A POLITICAL FIGURE, YOU'VE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE FREEDOM AND PROGRESS OF YOUR PEOPLE. AS A PHYSICIAN, YOU UNDERSTAND HUMAN SUFFERING. THIS UNDERSTANDING IS REFLECTED IN THE ENERGETIC COMMITMENT YOU'VE MADE TO BATTLING THE FLOW OF NARCOTICS THROUGH VENEZUELA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE DRUG-ABUSE PROBLEM IS SOMETHING NANCY AND I FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT. NANCY HAS SPENT MANY HOURS HERE TRYING TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF DRUG ADDICTION, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE. FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO STOP ILLEGAL DRUGS BEFORE THEY REACH OUR SHORE, YOU HAVE OUR PERSONAL THANKS.

- 5 -

AMERICANS KNOW THERE IS A SPECIAL
SPIRIT IN VENEZUELA. THAT SPIRIT IS HARD TO
MISS WHEN YOU HAVE TONY ARMAS HITTING
TOWERING HOME RUNS LIKE THEY WERE THE
EASIEST THING TO DO. WELL, THE FREE PEOPLE
OF VENEZUELA AND THE UNITED STATES ARE ON
THE SAME TEAM. AND WE'RE UP TO BAT. SO, IN
KEEPING WITH THE LESSONS TONY ARMAS HAS BEEN
TEACHING US, LET'S SET OUR SIGHTS HIGH, WORK
AS A TEAM, AND ASSURE DEMOCRACY AND
IMPROVING ECONOMIC WELL-BEING FOR ALL THE
PEOPLE OF THE AMERICAS.

WILL YOU ALL JOIN ME NOW IN A TOAST TO
PRESIDENT LUSINCHI, THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA,
AND THINGS WE CAN AND WILL ACCOMPLISH
TOGETHER.

#

Ch. 8 - House of the Lord

Father Bill Loring
Conductor - Church of Christ

(Rohrabacher/BE)
December 3, 1984
5:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: STATE DINNER TOAST FOR
PRESIDENT JAIME LUSINCHI OF VENEZUELA
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1984

Good evening and welcome to the White House. This has been a special time for us. Today we've had the opportunity to exchange views and get to know President Lusinchi, an individual whose strength of conviction and personal bravery helped give birth to democracy in his country. Tonight we honor you, Mr. President, for what you have done, for what you are doing, and for the kind of man you are.

In this beautiful setting, the hard sacrifices of our own founding fathers seem so long ago. Yet all of what we have has been built on the foundation they laid.

President Lusinchi remembers well Venezuela's fight for political freedom. He was part of it. As a young man, he committed himself to the cause of democracy. He was arrested and tortured by the dictatorship. Mr. President, I'm told the beatings ~~were so bad they~~ left welts on your back similar to the stripes of a tiger. ^{WELL} But you had the spirit of a tiger, ~~as well~~, and you never gave up your ideals. Venezuela is free today, because it has people of such character.

Last year, you celebrated 25 years of continuous democratic government in Venezuela. Commemorating that, you said, "We have discovered that democracy and liberty go together -- inextricably together." It was fitting that last year was also the 200th anniversary of the birth of Simon Bolivar, a Venezuelan whose

struggle gave independence to the hemisphere. Today, you carry on the work of this truly all-American hero. And when we say American, we mean every one of us from the North Slope of Alaska to the tip of Tierra del Fuego.

I'd like to thank you, President Lusinchí, for what your country is doing for the cause of democracy in this hemisphere. Your support during the Grenada crisis was most appreciated. Your efforts in Central America and the Caribbean are of great importance to the future of freedom there. Your personal guidance to me in the years ahead will be as invaluable as it was today. We are proud to stand with you and to have you and your countrymen as our friends.

President Lusinchí, you represent in so many ways the deep ties between our two people. Today, instead of "welcome," we should have said, "welcome back," for you lived with us during your time of exile, studying medicine and working in Bellevue Hospital in New York.

As a political figure, you've been concerned about the freedom and progress of your people. As a physician, you understand human suffering. This understanding is reflected in the energetic commitment you've made to battling the flow of narcotics through Venezuela and the Caribbean region. As you are aware, the drug-abuse problem is something Nancy and I feel strongly about. Nancy has spent many hours here trying to help the victims of drug addiction, especially young people. For your efforts to stop illegal drugs before they reach our shore, you have our personal thanks.

Americans know there is a special spirit in Venezuela. That spirit is hard to miss when you have Tony Armas hitting towering home runs like they were the easiest thing to do. Well, the free people of Venezuela and the United States are on the same team. And we're up to bat. So, in keeping with the lessons Tony Armas has been teaching us, let's set our sights high, work as a team, and assure democracy and improving economic well-being for all the people of the Americas.

Will you all join me now in a toast to President Lusinchi, the people of Venezuela, and things we can and will accomplish together.

(ROHRABACHER)

DECEMBER 4, 1984

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ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT JAIME LUSINCHI
OF VENEZUELA

IT IS AN HONOR TODAY TO WELCOME THE
LEADER OF ONE OF THIS HEMISPHERE'S SHINING
EXAMPLES OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY, PRESIDENT
(HY-MAY) LUSINCHI OF VENEZUELA. PRESIDENT
LUSINCHI IS A MAN DEDICATED TO THOSE
PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY HELD DEAR BY THE
PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS A
PLEASURE FOR US TO HAVE AS OUR GUEST AN
INDIVIDUAL WHO PLAYED SUCH AN IMPORTANT ROLE
BUILDING FREEDOM IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, AND WHO
NOW, AS A SPOKESMAN FOR HIS PEOPLE, IS SUCH
A FORCE FOR GOOD IN THIS HEMISPHERE.

VENEZUELANS DO NOT TAKE FREEDOM FOR
GRANTED. IT WAS JUST A GENERATION AGO WHEN
PRESIDENT LUSINCHI AND OTHER BRAVE
VENEZUELANS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF A GREAT
STATESMAN AND DEMOCRAT, ROMULO BETANCOURT,
THREW OFF DICTATORSHIP AND BEGAN LAYING THE
FOUNDATION FOR STABLE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

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THEIR STRUGGLE WAS NOT DISSIMILAR TO THAT
GOING ON IN CENTRAL AMERICA TODAY.

THE FLEDGLING VENEZUELAN DEMOCRACY WAS
IMMEDIATELY PUT TO THE TEST BY
CUBAN-SUPPORTED GUERRILLAS AND TERRORISTS
WHO WOULD HAVE TURNED VENEZUELA INTO A
MARXIST-LENINIST DICTATORSHIP.

MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR TRIUMPH IN THIS 10-YEAR
STRUGGLE, AND THE SUBSEQUENT SUCCESS OF
FREEDOM IN YOUR COUNTRY, SHOULD SERVE AS A
MODEL FOR TODAY -- THE VENEZUELAN MODEL, IF
YOU WILL.

GRANTING AMNESTY TO THOSE GUERRILLAS
WILLING TO PUT DOWN THEIR WEAPONS AND
PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS,
VENEZUELA'S LEADERS HELD FIRM TO THE
PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AND
INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, AND NEVER GAVE IN TO THE
ARMED MARXIST-LENINIST MINORITY.

THE PEACE, LIBERTY, AND SECURITY ENJOYED IN
YOUR COUNTRY TODAY IS A RESULT OF THAT VALOR
AND DETERMINATION.

NOTHING LESS SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED
FROM THE HEIRS OF THE GREAT LIBERATOR, SIMON
BOLIVAR. HE ONCE SAID OF VENEZUELA, "BY
ESTABLISHING A DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC...SHE HAS
DECLARED FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN AND FREEDOM
OF ACTION, THOUGHT, SPEECH, AND PRESS.
THESE EMINENTLY LIBERAL ACTS...WILL NEVER
CEASE TO BE ADMIRED."

VENEZUELANS, WHO UNDERSTAND THAT
DEMOCRACY IS A PATH TO PEACE AND PROGRESS,
CAN BE PROUD THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT IS
STANDING SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER WITH THE
FORCES OF DEMOCRACY IN CENTRAL AMERICA
TODAY.

ALL FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE SHOULD REJOICE THAT EL SALVADOR AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, LIKE VENEZUELA BEFORE, ARE MAINTAINING OR ESTABLISHING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS, DESPITE CHALLENGES OF SOVIET-BLOC SPONSORED SUBVERSION.

THE EXCEPTION TO THIS TREND IN CENTRAL AMERICA IS NICARAGUA, WHERE A RULING CLIQUE OF SANDINISTAS, ALLIED WITH CUBAN AND SOVIET DICTATORS, HAVE BETRAYED THEIR CITIZENS.

DESPITE THEIR ASSURANCES IN 1979 TO THE PEOPLE OF NICARAGUA AND TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES THAT THEY WOULD HOLD GENUINELY DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS, THEY HAVE TO THE CONTRARY PERSECUTED THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION PARTIES, TRADE UNIONS, AND CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

INSTEAD OF FREE ELECTIONS, THEY CHOSE TO HOLD A COMMUNIST-STYLE SHAM ELECTION -- ORDERLY IN FORM, BUT WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION BECAUSE SANDINISTA-CONTROLLED GANGS OF THUGS BEAT DOWN FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND ASSEMBLY, WIPING OUT ANY CHANCE FOR GENUINE POLITICAL COMPETITION. } PRESIDENT LUSINCHI, I HOPE YOU WILL WORK WITH ME TO ENSURE THAT THE PLEDGES OF FREE ELECTIONS AND REAL DEMOCRACY MADE TO THE O.A.S. AND TO THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE ARE CARRIED OUT.

VENEZUELA HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE A LEADING FORCE IN THE CONTADORA PROCESS, WHICH SEEKS PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA BASED ON DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. } WE APPLAUD YOUR EFFORTS. } THE UNITED STATES PLACES GREAT IMPORTANCE ON ALL 21 OBJECTIVES OF THE CONTADORA PROCESS, WHICH INCLUDE TRULY DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS AS ORIGINALLY PROMISED BY THE SANDINISTAS.

THE CONTADORA OBJECTIVES, IF PUT INTO PRACTICE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH EFFECTIVE VERIFICATION, OFFER THE BEST HOPE FOR PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES ARE DESIGNED TO ATTAIN THESE OBJECTIVES.

TWO DECADES AGO, THE FOUNDER OF MODERN VENEZUELAN DEMOCRACY, PRESIDENT ROMULO BETANCOURT, VISITED HERE AND SAID, "...IF THE UNITED STATES AND MY COUNTRY AND LATIN AMERICA CAN WORK TOGETHER FOR DEMOCRACY, WE CAN INCREASE AND IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR ALL OUR PEOPLE VERY RAPIDLY."

HIS WORDS RANG TRUE. IN TWO DECADES, GREAT THINGS HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY THE FREE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA. THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE HAPPY TO HAVE PLAYED A SMALL ROLE, OFFERING A HELPING HAND TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE BECOME CLOSE FRIENDS.

VENEZUELA, IN TURN, HAS ASSISTED THOSE WORKING TO BETTER THEMSELVES IN THE CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICA, MAKING SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WELL-BEING OF OTHERS THROUGH THE SAN JOSE ACCORD.

OUR RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST AND COOPERATION IS GOOD FOR OUR OWN PEOPLES AND BENEFITS THE ENTIRE HEMISPHERE. IT IS SOMETHING TO BE CHERISHED AND WE DO NOT TAKE IT FOR GRANTED.

I'M SURE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU ARE ALSO PLEASED BY THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN GRENADA. YESTERDAY'S ELECTION MARKED THE FIRST TIME A MARXIST-LENINIST DICTATORSHIP HAS BEEN SUCCEEDED BY A GOVERNMENT THAT RECEIVES ITS AUTHORITY FROM FREE ELECTIONS. CONGRATULATIONS ARE DUE THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA.

MR. PRESIDENT, WE ARE KEENLY AWARE THAT VENEZUELA IS NOW GOING THROUGH A PERIOD OF ECONOMIC READJUSTMENT.

WE SUPPORT THE RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS YOU ARE MAKING TO PUT YOUR COUNTRY BACK ON THE TRACK TO STRONG ECONOMIC GROWTH.

WE, TOO, HAVE UNDERTAKEN SOME FUNDAMENTAL REFORMS IN RECENT YEARS, AND MORE WILL BE FORTHCOMING. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT STRONG ECONOMIC GROWTH IS THE FOUNDATION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE, THE KEY BEING GREATER INCENTIVES, OPPORTUNITY, AND FREEDOM FOR EVERY PERSON. EACH YEAR, IN EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE, EVIDENCE CONTINUES TO BUILD. TODAY, NO OBJECTIVE OBSERVER CAN DENY THAT INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, NOT GOVERNMENT CONTROL, IS THE STRONGEST SPARK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN PROGRESS.

PRESIDENT LUSINCHI, YOU HAVE THE CONFIDENCE OF YOUR PEOPLE AND YOU HAVE OUR CONFIDENCE AS WELL. YOU ALSO HAVE OUR ADMIRATION. IT IS A PLEASURE TO GREET YOU ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES. WELCOME.

DECEMBER 5, 1984

2:00 P.M.

CEREMONY ANNOUNCING RELIEF FOR
AFRICAN FAMINE VICTIMS

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I AM HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE UNITED STATES IS TAKING ADDITIONAL ACTIONS TODAY TO PROVIDE INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF THE TERRIBLE DROUGHT WHICH AFFECTS MAJOR PARTS OF AFRICA.

300,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT FROM OUR GOVERNMENT RESERVE IS BEING MADE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FOR EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAMS.

IN ADDITION, \$50 MILLION FROM OTHER ACCOUNTS IS BEING TRANSFERRED FOR EMERGENCY FOOD USE.

FINALLY, ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS ARE UNDER REVIEW AND, IF NECESSARY, WE WILL SEEK ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM THE CONGRESS.

THESE ACTIONS ARE IN ADDITION TO UNPRECEDENTED AMERICAN EFFORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY FOR MANY MONTHS. DURING THE LAST FISCAL YEAR, WE PROVIDED 500,000 TONS OF EMERGENCY FOOD TO AFRICA.

THIS \$170 MILLION GRANT WAS MORE THAN IN ANY PREVIOUS YEAR. ON JULY 10TH OF THIS YEAR, I ANNOUNCED A 5-POINT INITIATIVE TO SPEED UP U.S. DELIVERY OF EMERGENCY FOOD AID, AND IN THE PAST 2 MONTHS, WE SURPASSED ALL OF LAST YEAR'S LEVELS: 600,000 TONS OF FOOD, WITH A VALUE OF MORE THAN \$250 MILLION.

THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA CONTINUE TO BE IN DESPERATE NEED, AND THE COST IN HUMAN LIVES IS TERRIBLE. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO UPHOLD OUR HUMANITARIAN TRADITION. WHILE OUR EMERGENCY AID SEEKS TO HELP REMEDY TODAY'S SUFFERING, OUR REGULAR PROGRAMS OF DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TO ELIMINATE THE ROOT CAUSE OF FAMINE. THESE PROGRAMS WILL HELP AFRICA GROW MORE FOOD IN THE YEARS TO COME.

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BEYOND ANY GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAM,
HOWEVER, I WANT TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE
OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT WHICH THE AFRICAN
CRISIS HAS PRODUCED IN THE PRIVATE
COMMUNITY. ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS CARE,
CATHOLIC RELIEF, LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE,
AFRICARE, THE RED CROSS, THE INTERNATIONAL
RESCUE COMMITTEE, SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND,
AND MANY OTHERS HAVE PROVIDED THE MANPOWER
ON THE GROUND WHICH HAS PERMITTED PROGRAMS
TO REACH THOSE MOST NEEDING ASSISTANCE.
THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT OF MILLIONS OF
CARING INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN ABSOLUTELY
STUNNING AND ARE ESSENTIAL. THIS IS AMERICA
AT ITS VERY BEST.

WE IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND THOSE IN THE
PRIVATE SECTOR, RECOGNIZE THAT MUCH MORE
NEEDS TO BE DONE, AND IN THE WEEKS AND
MONTHS AHEAD, WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE
TO ASSIST IN THIS IMPORTANT, LIFESAVING WORK.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.

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(NSC/BE)

DECEMBER 5, 1984

MEETING WITH CORPORATE LEADERS
ON ENDING WORLD HUNGER

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WELL, LET ME FIRST SAY HOW GLAD WE ARE
TO SEE YOU ALL HERE. I KNOW WHAT BUSY
SCHEDULES YOU HAVE, SO WE CERTAINLY
APPRECIATE YOU TAKING THESE 2 DAYS TO COME
TO WASHINGTON TO BE BRIEFED ON THE DESPERATE
SITUATION OF WORLD HUNGER.

ALL OF US SHARE A DEEP INTEREST IN
RESOLVING THIS TRAGIC CRISIS -- ONE SO
STAGGERING IT ECLIPSES ALL OTHERS. WE ARE
GIVING IT OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY AND WILL
CONTINUE TO DO SO.

OUR ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY PROVIDED
AN UNPRECEDENTED LEVEL OF EMERGENCY FOOD
AID. A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF FOOD HAS BEEN
DELIVERED TO ETHIOPIA AND OTHER SUFFERING
COUNTRIES, AND MUCH MORE IS ON THE WAY.

JUST AN HOUR AGO WE ANNOUNCED TWO MORE STEPS: THE RELEASE OF 300,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT FROM THE U.S. WHEAT RESERVE, AND THE GRANTING OF AN ADDITIONAL \$50 MILLION IN FOOD AID TO BE MADE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY TO THOSE AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN GREATEST NEED.

BUT, SOLVING THIS CRISIS IS BEYOND THE EFFORTS OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ALONE. ENDING WORLD HUNGER WILL REQUIRE A COMBINED EFFORT OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS IN PRODUCTIVE COUNTRIES LIKE OUR OWN. IT WILL ALSO REQUIRE FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THOSE COUNTRIES SUFFERING FROM FAMINE -- A NEW PATH LEADING AWAY FROM GOVERNMENT REGIMENTATION AND TOWARD GREATER FREEDOM AND INCENTIVES FOR INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS TO PRODUCE MORE.

I CALLED AT THE BEGINNING OF MY ADMINISTRATION FOR A "NEW PARTNERSHIP" BETWEEN OUR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS.

WELL, THIS IS AN EMERGENCY SITUATION WHERE
WE MUST PUT SUCH A PARTNERSHIP TO WORK
IMMEDIATELY.

I KNOW SOME COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN
DEEPLY INVOLVED AND, I'M TOLD THEY RECEIVED
AWARDS LAST NIGHT FOR THEIR WORK. BUT I'VE
COME TO MAKE A DIRECT APPEAL TO ALL OF YOU.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. WE NEED YOUR TIME,
YOUR EXPERTISE AND -- YES -- YOUR CAPITAL
INVESTMENT. WE NEED ALL THIS IN HELPING TO
ALLEVIATE THE SHORT-TERM CRISIS. AND WE
NEED IT EVEN MORE IN ADDRESSING THE
LONG-TERM PROBLEM, AS THIS IS INDEED A
LONG-TERM DILEMMA.

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THERE ARE MANY AREAS WHERE YOU CAN HELP TO BRING ABOUT NEEDED CHANGE: BUILDING THE REQUIRED INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE AFFECTED COUNTRIES -- SUCH AS IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION FROM PORT TO INTERIOR, BRINGING SORELY NEEDED MANAGEMENT SKILLS TO THESE DEVELOPING ECONOMIES, ENHANCING THEIR FOOD PRODUCTION AND FOOD PROCESSING SECTORS, AND, BY YOUR SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS PRACTICES, HELPING TO ENCOURAGE THE NECESSARY LONG-TERM ECONOMIC REFORMS. IN THE END, AFTER ALL, IT WILL TAKE A FREER ECONOMY IN THOSE COUNTRIES TO MEET THESE GRAVE HUMAN PROBLEMS.

WE FACE A TREMENDOUS CHALLENGE.

I THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY, AND FOR GIVING US YOUR PLEDGE TO HELP ALL YOU CAN. WHEN AMERICANS STAND TOGETHER AND WORK TOGETHER, THAT'S WHEN MIRACLES BEGIN TO HAPPEN. SO LET'S ROLL UP OUR SLEEVES AND GET OUR JOB DONE.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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