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Last Updated: 01/17/2025

(Noonan/BE)
December 6, 1984
4:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PRESENTATION OF LLOYD'S OF LONDON
SILVER MEDAL TO SPACE SHUTTLE CREW
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1984

279950
MA

Welcome, all of you, to the White House.

It is a pleasure, today, to be the first American President to give this award.

The Lloyd's Silver Medal for extraordinary and meritorious effort in the rescuing and preserving of property has been awarded only five times since 1945. Today I am proud to give it to the five American astronauts of the shuttle "Discovery."

Joseph Allen, Frederick Hauck, David Walker, Dale Gardner, and Anna Fisher made history just 3 weeks ago when together they retrieved two satellites that had been floating, useless and out of orbit, for 9 months. The "Discovery" astronauts worked flawlessly and with great finesse; their salvage operation was, I think, a brilliant illustration of space as a work place -- and space as a place where real commercial possibilities exist. What they did up there not only saved two working satellites -- they saved the insurer what I am tempted to call a truly astronomical loss!

So I am happy to give this award today, and may I thank Lloyd's for their gracious British desire to recognize and reward the Yankee ingenuity of their American cousins.

And now I will give the awards. [Catch!]

WLCM. ALL U... W. H. J... PLSURE U
TODAY... BE... 1ST AM. PRES... "G.V." AWARD
"LLOYDS SLVR. MEDL... EXTRAORDINARY
& MERITORIOUS EFFRT IN... RESCUING
& PRESRVING "PROP. "BN. AWARDED ONLY
5 TMs. SINCE '45" TODAY... PROUD
"G.V. ... 5 AM. ASTRONAUTS... SHUTTLE
"DISCOVERY" JOSEPH ALLEN, (FREDRICK
HAUCK, DAVID WALKER, DALE GARDNER
& ANNA FISHER MD. H'IST. JUST 3 WKS
AGO... TOGETHR... RETREVD 2 SATELITES
"BN. FLOATING USELESS & OUT-OF-ORDER
"9 MOs. "DISCOVERY" ASTROS. WRK'D
FLAWLESSLY & "GRT. FINESSE" THR. SALV.
GP. WS. "THNK... BRILIANT ILLUSTRATN
"SPC. "WRK. PLC. — & SPC. "PLC.
WHR. RL. COMICAL POSSIBILITIES EXIST.

WHT. "DID UP THR. NOT ONLY 12

RONALD REAGAN

SVD. 2 WRKNG SATS - "SVD.
"ENSURER WHT. "TEMPTD" CALL
"TRULY ASTRONOMICAL LOSS.

SO "HAPPY" GV. "AWRD TODAY
& MAY "THNK. LLOYD "THR. GRACKUS
BRITISH DESIRE "RECOGNIZE &
REWARD "YNKEE INGENUITY" THR
AM. COUSINS } & NOW "GV. "

AWRDS - CATCH!

(ROBINSON)

DECEMBER 6, 1984

PHOTO WITH HEISMAN TROPHY WINNER
DOUG FLUTIE

279451Ca
MA

FIFTY YEARS AGO, JAY BERWANGER OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO WAS A POWERFUL
HALFBACK AND A HERO TO MILLIONS OF
FOOTBALL-LOVING AMERICANS, INCLUDING A
CERTAIN SPORTSCASTER NAMED RONALD REAGAN.
IN 1935, HE WON A NEW AWARD -- THE HEISMAN
TROPHY -- AND A GREAT AMERICAN TRADITION WAS
BORN.

THE LIST OF HEISMAN TROPHY WINNERS
READS LIKE AN HONOR ROLL. THERE WAS
NILE KINNICK OF IOWA, A BRILLIANT RUNNING
BACK AND A TRUE PATRIOT WHO GAVE HIS LIFE
DURING WORLD WAR II. THERE WERE THE GREAT
YOUNG MEN OF NOTRE DAME -- ANGELO BERTELLI,
JOHN LUJACK, AND OTHERS WHO KEPT ON GOING
OUT THERE FOR THE GIPPER.

IN RECENT YEARS, WE'VE SEEN PLAYERS SET NEW STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE -- CHAMPIONS LIKE EARL CAMPBELL, HERSCHEL WALKER, AND LAST YEAR'S TROPHY WINNER, MIKE [RO-ZEER].

AND THIS YEAR -- WELL, THIS YEAR THERE'S A YOUNG MAN WHO STANDS IN A CLASS BY HIMSELF: DOUG FLUTIE.

WHEN DOUG FLUTIE ARRIVED ON THE BOSTON COLLEGE CAMPUS IN 1981, HE WAS JUST A FOURTH-STRING QUARTERBACK.] SINCE THAT TIME, DOUG HAS PUT TOGETHER THE MOST PROLIFIC PASSING CAREER ANY MAJOR COLLEGE QUARTERBACK HAS EVER HAD.] HE'S GIVEN US FANS A HOST OF MOMENTS TO REMEMBER -- INCLUDING A PLAY DURING THE FINAL SECONDS OF THIS YEAR'S BOSTON COLLEGE - MIAMI GAME THAT WILL GO DOWN IN FOOTBALL HISTORY.

WITH THE SCORE OF MIAMI 45, B.C. 41 AND JUST SECONDS LEFT ON THE CLOCK, DOUG TOOK THE SNAP.

- 3 -

HE DROPPED BACK, AND WITH THE CLOCK AT ZERO
HE FIRED -- A SKY-HIGH 63-YARD PASS THAT
ARCHED INTO THE END ZONE, AND RIGHT INTO THE
HANDS OF BOSTON COLLEGE RECEIVER, GERARD
PHELAN. B.C. WON THE GAME. DOUG FLUTIE WON
OUR ETERNAL ADMIRATION.

FOR 50 YEARS, THE HEISMAN TROPHY HAS
STOOD FOR LOYALTY, COURAGE, TEAM WORK, AND A
CEASELESS STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE. DOUG
FLUTIE, IT'S AN AWARD THAT YOU RICHLY
DESERVE.

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD BLESS YOU.

#

(Rohrabacher/BE)
December 6, 1984
5:45 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: "CHRISTMAS IN WASHINGTON" CONCERT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1984

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SP918

Thank you. Nancy and I are very happy to be here to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Christmas is a time for miracles, the warmth of giving and fairy tales coming true. There's one such story I'd like to tell you about. It involves a youngster from Queens, New York, and his name is Danny LaBocchetta [Lah-bo-SETTA]. When Danny was a second-grader at Our Lady of Perpetual Help parochial school, his teacher heard of a national project to select a postage stamp commemorating the Christmas season. She asked Danny -- who was only seven at the time -- to enter the contest. And, with a little encouragement, Danny drew a smiling, rosy-cheeked Santa and handed it in. Afterwards -- well, he pretty much forgot about it. Danny knows there are a lot of things to think about when you're seven years old. X

Meanwhile, young people from all over the country submitted their drawings. Out of more than 500,000 entries, his picture was chosen for one of the official 1984 Christmas stamps. This is what it looks like.

[PRESIDENT HOLDS UP PRESENTATION COPY OF STAMP]

This Christmas millions of people all over the world will be seeing Danny's work, and he has come to Washington to join our Christmas celebration. Danny, would you please join us up here with these wonderful artists in our closing carol.

To Danny, and to everyone here -- a very Merry Christmas. Thank you and God bless you all.

NANCY & I ... VRY HAPPY ... HR ...
WSH. EVERYONE ... MERRY XMAS. XMAS
... TM ... MIRACLES - ... WARMTH ... GIVING
& FAIRY TALES CM. TRUE THRS ONE SCOT
STORY ... LK. TELLU ABT. IT INVOLVS
... YOUNGSTR ... QUEENs N.Y. - HS. NY.
... DANNY LABOCETTA. WHEN DANNY
... 2ND GRADR ... "OUR LADY" PERPETUAL
HLP. PAROCHIAL SCHOOL - HS. TCHR
HRD. ... NAT. PROJECT ... SELECT ... POSTAGE
STMP. COMMEMORATING ... XMAS SEASN.
SHE ASKED DANNY (WHO ... ONLY 7 ... TM.)
... ENTER ... CONTEST & WITH ... LITTLE
ENCOURAGMNT DANNY DREW ... SMILING
ROSY CHEEKD SANTA & HND ... IN. AFTERWRD
- WL ... PRETTY MUCH FORGOT ABT. IT.
DANNY KNOWS THRS ... LOT ... THNGS ... THINK. ABT.
WHEN UR 7 YRS. OLD.

MNWHL. Y. P. "ALL OUR" CO.
SUBMITTED THR. DRAWINGS OUT... MORE
"500,000 ENTRIES" PIC. "CHOSEN" ONE
"OFFICIAL 1984 XMAS STMP." THS."
WHT. "LOOKS LR." THS. XMAS MILS.
"P. ALL OUR" WRLD. "BE SEEING DANNY'S
WRK & HE "CM. "WASH. "JOIN OUR
XMAS CELEBRATN DANNY WLD. U PLS.
JOIN US UP HR. WTH. THS. WONARFUL
ARTIST IN OUR CLOSING CAROL.
TO DANNY & "EVERYONE HR. " VRY
MERRY XMAS THANK U & GOD BLESS
U ALL.

RONALD REAGAN

(DOLAN)

DECEMBER 10, 1984

SIGNING CEREMONY FOR BILL OF RIGHTS DAY
AND HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AND WEEK

28134235
H0009

THIS CEREMONY MARKS MORE THAN ANOTHER
EVENT ON THE WHITE HOUSE CALENDAR OR ANOTHER
WORTHY CAUSE ON THE NATIONAL AGENDA. } FOR IN
OBSERVING HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, WE REDEDICATE
OURSELVES TO THE CAUSE OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND
FREEDOM, A CAUSE THAT GOES TO THE HEART OF
OUR NATIONAL CHARACTER AND DEFINES OUR
NATIONAL PURPOSE.

SO TODAY WE DARE TO AFFIRM AGAIN THE
COMMITMENT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO THE
INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF ALL HUMAN BEINGS.

IN REAFFIRMING THE MORAL BELIEFS THAT BEGAN
OUR NATION, WE STRIVE TO MAKE THE UNITED
STATES WHAT WE PRAY TO GOD IT WILL ALWAYS
BE: A BEACON OF HOPE TO ALL THE PERSECUTED
AND OPPRESSED OF THE WORLD.

AND WE RESOLVE THAT AS A PEOPLE WE WILL
NEVER REST UNTIL THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY
AND SELF-GOVERNMENT ARE EXTENDED TO ALL THE
NATIONS OF THE EARTH.

TWO YEARS AGO IN LONDON, WHEN I CALLED
FOR A CRUSADE FOR FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS,
I NOTED THAT THESE IDEALS -- EMBODIED IN THE
RULE OF LAW UNDER GOD AND THE INSTITUTIONS
OF DEMOCRATIC SELF-GOVERNMENT -- WERE ON THE
MARCH. BECAUSE THESE IDEALS REPRESENT THE
OLDEST AND NOBLEST ASPIRATIONS OF THE HUMAN
SPIRIT, I SAID THEN THAT THIS POWER IS
IRRESISTIBLE WHEN COMPARED TO TOTALITARIAN
IDEOLOGIES THAT SEEK TO ROLL BACK MANKIND'S
MARCH TO FREEDOM.

- 3 -

TODAY I WANT TO TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF EVIDENCE THAT THIS DESIRE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION -- THIS RECOGNITION BY THE STATE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE -- IS NOWHERE STRONGER THAN CLOSE TO OUR OWN BORDERS IN THE LANDS OF LATIN AMERICA. IN CONTRAST TO ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO, TODAY MORE THAN 90 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN LIVE IN NATIONS EITHER DEMOCRATICALLY GOVERNED OR MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION.

WHILE WE ARE STILL DOING ALL THAT WE CAN TO PROMOTE DEMOCRATIC CHANGE IN NATIONS SUCH AS PARAGUAY AND CHILE, WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS, IN ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, PANAMA, PERU, AND MOST RECENTLY IN URUGUAY, MILITARY JUNTAS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY ELECTED CIVILIAN PRESIDENTS.

AND JUST LAST MONDAY, DEMOCRATIC VALUES TRIUMPHED AGAIN AS THE PEOPLE OF GRENADA FREELY ELECTED A NEW CIVILIAN PRIME MINISTER.

TODAY, ALL WHO CHERISH HUMAN RIGHTS AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM SALUTE THE PEOPLE OF THE AMERICAS FOR THEIR GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS.

AND WE PLEDGE TO OUR NEIGHBORS THE CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES AS THEY TRANSFORM OUR ENTIRE HEMISPHERE INTO A HAVEN FOR DEMOCRACY, PEACE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

IN OTHER NATIONS FARTHER FROM OUR SHORES, WE HAVE ALSO SEEN PROGRESS TOWARD REDUCING THE REPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOME STRENGTHENING OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

IN SOME OF THESE NATIONS, WHICH HAVE
AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENTS BUT FRIENDLY TIES
TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE COMMUNITY OF
DEMOCRATIC NATIONS, QUIET DIPLOMACY HAS
BROUGHT ABOUT HUMANE AND DEMOCRATIC CHANGE.

BUT WE KNOW THERE ARE OCCASIONS WHEN
QUIET DIPLOMACY IS NOT ENOUGH, WHEN WE MUST
REMIND THE LEADERS OF NATIONS WHO ARE
FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES THAT SUCH
FRIENDSHIP ALSO CARRIES RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
THEM AND FOR US. THAT IS WHY THE UNITED
STATES CALLS FOR ALL GOVERNMENTS TO ADVANCE
THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND WORK TOWARD A
SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT BASED ON THE CONSENT OF
THE GOVERNED.

FROM OUR BEGINNINGS, REGARD FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS AND THE STEADY EXPANSION OF HUMAN
FREEDOM HAVE DEFINED THE AMERICAN
EXPERIENCE; THEY REMAIN TODAY THE MORAL CORE
OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

THE UNITED STATES HAS SAID ON MANY OCCASIONS THAT WE VIEW RACISM WITH REPUGNANCE. WE FEEL A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SPEAK OUT ON THIS MATTER; TO EMPHASIZE OUR CONCERN AND GRIEF OVER THE HUMAN AND SPIRITUAL COSTS OF APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA; TO CALL UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA TO REACH OUT TO ITS BLACK MAJORITY BY ENDING THE FORCED REMOVAL OF BLACKS FROM THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THE DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL AND LENGTHY IMPRISONMENT OF BLACK LEADERS. SUCH ACTION CAN COMFORT ONLY THOSE WHOSE VISION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S FUTURE IS ONE OF POLARIZATION, VIOLENCE, AND THE FINAL EXTINCTION OF ANY HOPE FOR PEACEFUL, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS RELEASED ELEVEN BLACK LEADERS, INCLUDING THE TOP LEADERS OF TWO OF THAT COUNTRY'S MOST IMPORTANT LABOR UNIONS.

BECAUSE WE CARE DEEPLY ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE FUTURE OF THAT NATION, WE ASK THAT THE CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGES OF RECENT YEARS BE BROADENED TO ADDRESS THE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL SOUTH AFRICANS.

PEACEFUL CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN AFRICA CAN COME ONLY WHEN BLACKS AND WHITES FIND A DURABLE BASIS TO LIVE TOGETHER, WHEN THEY ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE, A DIALOGUE SUSTAINED BY ADHERENCE TO DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND A BELIEF IN GOVERNMENTS BASED ON THE CONSENT OF THE

GOVERNED. WE URGE BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO MOVE TOWARD A MORE JUST SOCIETY.

WE PLEDGE HERE TODAY THAT AS SOUTH AFRICANS ADDRESS THE IMPERATIVES OF CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGE, THEY WILL HAVE THE UNSWERVING SUPPORT OF OUR GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE IN THIS EFFORT.

A FEW YEARS AGO, WHEN I SPOKE OF
TOTALITARIAN IDEOLOGIES AS THE GREATEST
THREAT TO PERSONAL FREEDOM IN THE WORLD
TODAY AND THE MOST PERSISTENT SOURCE OF
HUMAN SUFFERING IN OUR CENTURY, I ALSO
POINTED OUT THAT THE UNITED STATES TOO HAS
FACED EVILS LIKE RACISM, ANTI-SEMITISM,
AND OTHER FORMS OF INTOLERANCE AND DISREGARD

FOR HUMAN FREEDOM. SO WHILE WE WORK TO SEE
HUMAN RIGHTS EXTENDED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,
THIS OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY REMINDS
US OF OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSURE AGAINST
INJUSTICE AND INTOLERANCE IN OUR OWN LAND AS
WELL. TODAY I CALL ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

TO REAFFIRM IN OUR DAILY LIVES AND IN THE
WORKINGS OF OUR PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENTAL
INSTITUTIONS A COMMITMENT TO BROTHERHOOD AND
EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW.

BUT WE DO A SERIOUS DISSERVICE TO THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IF WE FORGET THAT, HOWEVER MISTAKEN AND WRONG, HOWEVER STUMBLING THE ACTIONS OF DEMOCRACIES IN SEEKING TO ACHIEVE THE IDEALS OF FREEDOM AND BROTHERHOOD, OUR PHILOSOPHY OF GOVERNMENT PERMITS US TO ACKNOWLEDGE, DEBATE, AND THEN CORRECT MISTAKES, INJUSTICES, AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

LET US ALWAYS REMEMBER THE CRITICAL MORAL DISTINCTION OF OUR TIME: THE CLEAR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PHILOSOPHY OF GOVERNMENT THAT ACKNOWLEDGES WRONGDOING AND INJUSTICE, AND ONE THAT REFUSES TO ADMIT TO SUCH INJUSTICES AND EVEN JUSTIFIES ITS OWN ASSAULTS ON INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY IN THE NAME OF A CHIMERIC UTOPIAN VISION.

SUCH BRUTAL AFFRONTS TO THE HUMAN CONSCIENCE
AS THE SYSTEMATIC SUPPRESSION OF INDIVIDUAL
LIBERTY IN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE DENIAL
OF RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION BY CHRISTIANS, JEWS,
AND MUSLIMS IN THAT COUNTRY ARE TRAGIC

EXAMPLES. } TODAY, FOR EXAMPLE, THE LARGEST
REMAINING JEWISH COMMUNITY IN EUROPE,
SOVIET JEWRY, IS AGAIN BEING EXPOSED TO A
SYSTEMATIC ANTI-SEMITIC CAMPAIGN.

OMINOUSLY, TEACHERS OF THE HEBREW LANGUAGE
HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, AND THEIR EFFORTS TO
PRESERVE THEIR CULTURE AND RELIGION TREATED
AS A CRIME.

SOVIET AUTHORITIES ARE CONTINUING TO
THREATEN MANY "REFUSENIKS" WITH CONFINEMENT
IN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS, EXPULSION FROM
THEIR JOBS, AND INTERNAL EXILE. } YET

THOUSANDS OF SOVIET JEWS HAVE APPLIED FOR
PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE. } WE HAVE, AND SHALL
CONTINUE TO INSIST, THAT THOSE WHO WISH TO
LEAVE BE ALLOWED TO DO SO.

- 11 -

OUR HEART ALSO GOES OUT TODAY TO AN
INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS WORKED SO HARD FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS PROGRESS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND
SUFFERED SO MUCH FOR HIS EFFORTS -- THE
NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATE, DR. ANDREI SAKHAROV.

NOTHING MORE CLEARLY ILLUSTRATES THE ABSENCE
OF WHAT OUR FOUNDING FATHERS CALLED A
"DECENT RESPECT TO THE OPINIONS OF MANKIND"
THAN THE CRUEL TREATMENT OF THIS GREAT
HUMANITARIAN.

THE SOVIET UNION ITSELF WOULD
DO MUCH TO REGAIN RESPECT WITHIN THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IF IT WOULD ALLOW
ACADEMICIAN SAKHAROV AND HIS WIFE,
YELENA BONNER, TO LIVE THE REST OF THEIR
LIVES IN DIGNITY IN A PLACE OF THEIR OWN
CHOOSING.

WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE THE
SAKHAROV'S SON-IN-LAW HERE WITH US TODAY.

- 12 -

THE SAKHAROVs ARE THE BEST KNOWN VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION, BUT THOUSANDS OF OTHER SOVIET CITIZENS, SUCH AS YURI ORLOV, OR ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY -- WHOSE WIFE AVITAL IS HERE WITH US TODAY -- SUFFER IN SOVIET PRISONS AND LABOR CAMPS FOR THE SOLE "CRIMES" OF EXPRESSING A PERSONAL OPINION, SEEKING TO EMIGRATE, OR OPENLY EXPRESSING THEIR LOVE OF GOD.

WE AMERICANS RECOGNIZE A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SPEAK FOR THE OPPRESSED WHEREVER THEY MAY BE. WE THINK HERE OF SPECIAL CASES LIKE THE PERSECUTION OF THE BAHAI RELIGIOUS MINORITY IN IRAN.

BUT WE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE A SPECIAL OBLIGATION
TO SPEAK FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER THE REPRESSION
OF TOTALITARIAN REGIMES, REGIMES THAT REFUSE
TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND CORRECT INJUSTICE, AND
THAT JUSTIFY ABSOLUTE STATE POWER, EVEN AS
THEY SEEK TO EXTEND THEIR CRUEL RULE TO

OTHER LANDS. SO WE CALL TODAY FOR ALL FREE
PEOPLES OF THE WORLD TO UNITE IN RESISTING,
AND BRINGING TO AN END, SUCH INTOLERABLE
PRACTICES AS: THE SUPPRESSION OF FREE TRADE
UNIONISM; THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE CHURCH
AND AGAINST POLITICAL FREEDOM IN NICARAGUA;
THE CONTINUING VIETNAMESE OCCUPATION OF
CAMBODIA; AND THE BARBARIC WAR WAGED BY
SOVIET TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN, A WAR WHICH
BEGAN 5 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH WITH THE SOVIET
INVASION OF THAT ONCE-NONALIGNED COUNTRY.

AS BUT ONE OF THE TRAGIC CONSEQUENCES OF
SOVIET ACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN, MORE THAN
ONE-THIRD OF THE PEOPLE OF THAT COUNTRY HAVE
FLED FROM THEIR HOMES AND SOUGHT REFUGE IN
INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL EXILE. FINALLY,
WE WELCOME THE RECENT STEPS TAKEN BY THE
POLISH GOVERNMENT. BUT WE URGE THAT THEY BE
FOLLOWED BY LASTING EFFORTS FOR GENUINE
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION THROUGH EFFECTIVE
DIALOGUE WITH THE POLISH PEOPLE.

SO TODAY WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED
STATES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER
FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE IN THE
WORLD, RE-DEDICATE OURSELVES TO THE CAUSE OF
HUMAN RIGHTS, TO THE CAUSE OF HUMAN FREEDOM
AND DEMOCRATIC SELF-RULE. WE RE-ASSERT OUR
BELIEF THAT SOMEDAY THE REPRESSION OF THE
HUMAN SPIRIT AND THE SPECIAL TRAGEDY OF
TOTALITARIAN RULE WILL BE ONLY A DISTANT
CHAPTER IN THE HUMAN PAST.

IN DOING SO, WE ARE DEEPLY AWARE OF OUR NATION'S LONG STRUGGLE TOWARD ACHIEVING THESE GOALS AND OUR OWN HERITAGE OF SEEKING TO PROMOTE THESE IDEALS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THOMAS JEFFERSON TOLD US, "THE MASS OF MANKIND HAS NOT BEEN BORN WITH SADDLES ON THEIR BACKS."

THE POET ARCHIBALD MACLEISH ONCE SAID: SOME SAY THE HOPE FOR "THE LIBERATION OF HUMANITY, THE FREEDOM OF MAN AND MIND, IS NOTHING BUT A DREAM. THEY ARE RIGHT. IT IS. IT IS THE AMERICAN DREAM."

ANOTHER GREAT AMERICAN LITERARY FIGURE, F. SCOTT FITZGERALD, SUGGESTED THAT AMERICA IS "A WILLINGNESS OF THE HEART." WE HAVE RECENTLY READ A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THIS NATION ABOUT WHOM, SOME SAY, THIS WILLINGNESS OF THE HEART NO LONGER EXISTS.

MY OWN EXPERIENCES WITH THIS GENERATION
SUGGEST THAT THE TRADITIONAL IDEALISM OF THE
YOUNG -- THEIR HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH GREAT
THINGS, THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE THE CAUSE
OF HUMANITY -- IS NOT ONLY INTACT BUT
STRONGER THAN EVER. } AND LIKE EVERY
GENERATION BEFORE IT, THIS GENERATION
HUNGERS FOR A CAUSE, FOR A MISSION THAT WILL
TAKE IT OUTSIDE ITSELF AND LET IT HELP LIFT
HUMANITY BEYOND THE MATERIAL AND THE
IMMEDIATE TO NEW HEIGHTS OF HUMAN AND
SPIRITUAL PROGRESS.

SO TODAY LET US CHALLENGE THESE YOUNG
AMERICANS TO MAKE OUR NATION AN EVEN BETTER
EXAMPLE OF WHAT SHE WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE:
CHAMPION OF THE OPPRESSED, DEFENDER OF ALL
WHO REACH FOR FREEDOM AND OF THE RIGHT OF
SELF-DETERMINATION.

LET US CHALLENGE YOUNG AMERICANS, EXCITED BY
TECHNOLOGICAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS, TO
ENSURE THAT THIS PROGRESS ENRICHES POLITICAL
FREEDOM AND HUMAN DIGNITY AS WELL. } HERE IS
A CHALLENGE WORTHY OF OUR YOUTH, OF THEIR
VISION, THEIR ENERGY, AND THEIR VIGOR. } LET
OUR YOUNGER GENERATION LEAD YOUNG PEOPLE
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD TO JOIN THE DEMOCRATIC
NATIONS IN PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND
SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THE CAUSE OF HUMAN
FREEDOM.

THERE IS IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS A STORY
OF GREAT LOSS, A STORY OF MAN ALIENATED FROM
HIS FELLOW MAN AND TURNING TO PERSECUTION
AND HATRED FOR OTHERS. } I BELIEVE THAT
HISTORY IS SLOWLY WORKING ITSELF BACK TO THE
RESTORATION OF BROTHERHOOD AND MUTUAL
RESPECT AMONG ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE EARTH.

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TODAY, WE REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO THIS
VISION AND MISSION. WE DO SO MINDFUL THAT
HUMAN MIGHT AND WILL ALONE CANNOT ACHIEVE
THIS GOAL, AWARE THAT OUR ULTIMATE SUCCESS
WILL BE DETERMINED BY OUR FAITH IN THE POWER
OF PRAYER, IN THE PROMISES OF HIM WHO MADE
US AND EVEN NOW GUIDES US IN OUR QUEST FOR
HUMAN DIGNITY AND FREEDOM.

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(Dolan/BE)

December 7, 1984

3:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR BILL OF RIGHTS DAY
AND HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AND WEEK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1984

This ceremony marks more than another event on the White House calendar or another worthy cause on the national agenda. For in observing Human Rights Day, we rededicate ourselves to the cause of human dignity and freedom, a cause that goes to the heart of our national character and defines our national purpose.

So today we dare to affirm again the commitment of the American people to the inalienable rights of all human beings. In reaffirming the moral beliefs that began our Nation, we strive to make the United States what we pray to God it will always be: a beacon of hope to all the persecuted and oppressed of the world. And we resolve that as a people we will never rest until the blessings of liberty and self-government are extended to all the nations of the Earth.

Two years ago in London, when I called for a crusade for freedom and human rights, I noted that these ideals -- embodied in the rule of law under God and the institutions of democratic self-government -- were on the march everywhere in the world. Because these ideas represent the oldest and noblest aspirations of the human spirit, I said then that this power is irresistible and will sweep aside a totalitarian ideology that seeks to roll back mankind's march to freedom.

Today I want to take special note of evidence that this desire for self-determination -- this recognition by the state of the inalienable rights of men and women everywhere -- is nowhere

stronger than close to our own borders in the lands of Latin America. In contrast to only a few years ago, today more than 90 percent of the people in Latin America and the Caribbean live in nations either democratically governed or moving in that direction. Over the last 5 years, in Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Peru, and most recently in Uruguay, military juntas have been replaced by elected civilian presidents. And just last Monday, democratic values triumphed again as the people of Grenada freely elected a new civilian prime minister.

Today, all who cherish human rights and individual freedom salute the people of the Americas for their great achievements. And we pledge to our neighbors the continued support and assistance of the United States as they transform our entire hemisphere into a haven for democracy, peace, and human rights.

In other nations farther from our shores, we have also seen progress toward reducing the repression of human rights and some strengthening of democratic institutions. In some of these nations, which have authoritarian governments but friendly ties to the United States and the community of democratic nations, quiet diplomacy has brought about humane and democratic change.

But we know there are occasions when quiet diplomacy is not enough, when we must remind the leaders of nations who are friendly to the United States that such friendship also carries responsibilities for them and for us.

From our beginnings, regard for human rights and the steady expansion of human freedom have defined the American experience; they remain today the moral core of our foreign policy.

The United States has said on many occasions that we view racial discrimination with repugnance. We feel a moral responsibility to speak out on this matter; to emphasize our concern and grief over the human and spiritual costs of apartheid in South Africa; to call upon the government of South Africa to reach out to its black majority by ending the forced removal of blacks from their communities and the detention without trial and lengthy imprisonment of black leaders. Such action can comfort only those whose vision of South Africa's future is one of polarization, violence, and the final extinction of any hope for peaceful, democratic self-rule. At the same time, we note with satisfaction that the South African government has released eleven black leaders, including the top leaders of two of that country's most important labor unions.

Because we care deeply about the people of South Africa and the future of that nation, we ask that the time table for democratic development be accelerated and that the constructive changes of recent years be broadened to include all South Africans. Peaceful change in South Africa and throughout southern Africa can come only when blacks and whites seek harmony with each other, when they establish an effective dialogue, a dialogue sustained by adherence to democratic values and a belief in governments based on the consent of the governed. We urge both the government and the people of South Africa to move

prudently but speedily towards a more just society; and we pledge the unswerving support of the American people in this effort.

The policy of apartheid in South Africa is of special concern to Americans because of our own national experience with the tragedy of racism. A few years ago, when I spoke of totalitarian ideologies as the greatest danger to personal freedom in the world today and the most lethal instrument of human suffering in our century, I also pointed out that the United States too has a legacy of evils like racism, anti-Semitism, and other forms of intolerance and disregard for human life. So while we work to see human rights extended throughout the world, this observance of Human Rights Day reminds us of our responsibility to overcome injustice and intolerance in our own land as well. Today I call on the American people to reaffirm in our daily lives and in the workings of our private and governmental institutions a commitment to brotherhood and equal justice under the law.

But we do a serious disservice to the cause of human rights if we forget that, however mistaken and wrong, however stumbling the actions of democracies in seeking to achieve the ideals of freedom and brotherhood, our philosophy of government permits us to acknowledge, debate, and then correct mistakes, injustices, and violations of human rights.

Let us always remember the critical moral distinction of our time: the clear difference between a philosophy of government that acknowledges wrongdoing and injustice, and one that refuses to admit to such injustices and even justifies its own assaults

on individual liberty in the name of a coercive utopian vision. Such brutal affronts to the human conscience as the systematic suppression of democratic political activity in the Soviet Union and the denial of religious expression by Christians, Jews, and Muslims in that country are tragic examples. Today, for example, the largest remaining Jewish community in Europe, Soviet Jewry, is again being exposed to a systematic anti-Semitic campaign. In the Soviet media, Zionism is equated with Nazism, and the leaders of a democratic Israel are portrayed as Hitler's heirs. Furthermore, teachers of the Hebrew language have been arrested.

Nor can those Soviet Jews bearing the brunt of repression leave the country and settle elsewhere. The granting of permission for emigration has almost stopped. This year, perhaps fewer than 1,000 Jews will leave the Soviet Union, less than 2 percent of the peak total of 51,000 in 1979. Soviet authorities are continuing to threaten many "refuseniks" with confinement in psychiatric hospitals, expulsion from their jobs, and internal exile. Yet thousands of Soviet Jews have applied for permission to emigrate. We have, and shall continue to insist, that those who wish to leave be allowed to do so.

Our heart also goes out today to an individual who has worked so hard for human rights progress in the Soviet Union and suffered so much for his efforts -- the Nobel Prize Laureate, Dr. Andrei Sakharov. Nothing more clearly illustrates the absence of what our Founding Fathers called a "decent respect to the opinions of mankind" than the cruel treatment of this great humanitarian. The Soviet Union itself would do much to regain

respect within the international community if it would allow academician Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner, to live the rest of their lives in dignity in a place of their own choosing.

The Sakharovs are the best known victims of human rights violations in the Soviet Union but thousands of other Soviet citizens, such as Yuri Orlov, or Anatoly Shcharansky -- whose wife Avital is here with us today -- suffer in Soviet prisons and labor camps for the sole "crimes" of expressing a personal opinion, seeking to emigrate, or openly expressing their love of God.

We Americans recognize a special responsibility to speak for the oppressed wherever they may be. We think here of special cases like the persecution of the Bahai religious minority in Iran. But we also acknowledge a special obligation to speak for those who suffer the repression of totalitarian regimes, regimes that refuse to acknowledge and correct injustice, and that justify absolute state power, even as they seek to extend their cruel rule to other lands. So we call today for all the peoples of the world to unite in resisting, and bringing to an end, such intolerable practices as: the suppression of free trade unionism, particularly in Poland; the campaign against the Church and against political freedom in Nicaragua; the continuing Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia; and the barbaric war waged by Soviet troops in Afghanistan, a war which began 5 years ago this month with the Soviet invasion of that once-nonaligned country. As but one of the tragic consequences of Soviet actions in

Afghanistan, almost half the people of that country have fled from their homes and sought refuge in internal or external exile.

So today we the people of the United States, in conjunction with other freedom-loving people everywhere in the world, rededicate ourselves to the cause of human rights, to the cause of human freedom and democratic self-rule. We reassert our belief that someday the repression of the human spirit and the special tragedy of totalitarian rule will be only a distant chapter in the human past.

In doing so, we are deeply aware of our Nation's long struggle toward achieving these goals and our own heritage of seeking to promote these ideals throughout the world.

Thomas Jefferson told us, "The mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs." The poet Archibald MacLeish once said: Some say the hope for "the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind, is nothing but a dream. They are right. It is. It is the American dream."

Another great American literary figure, F. Scott Fitzgerald, suggested that America is "a willingness of the heart." We have recently read a great deal about the young people of this Nation about whom, some say, this willingness of the heart no longer exists. My own experiences with this generation suggest that the traditional idealism of the young -- their hope to accomplish great things, their willingness to serve the cause of humanity -- is not only intact but stronger than ever. And like every generation before it, this generation hungers for a cause, for a mission that will take it outside itself and let it help lift

humanity beyond the material and the immediate to new heights of human and spiritual progress.

So today let us challenge these young Americans to make our Nation an even better example of what she was always meant to be: champion of the oppressed, defender of all who reach for freedom and of the right of self-determination. Let us challenge young Americans, excited by technological and material progress, to ensure that this progress enriches political freedom and human dignity as well. Here is a challenge worthy of our youth, of their vision, their energy, and their vigor. Let our younger generation lead young people throughout the world to join the democratic nations in promoting human rights and self-government and the Cause of human freedom.

There is in the Book of Genesis a story of great loss, a story of man alienated from his fellow man and turning to persecution and hatred for others. I believe that history is slowly working itself back to the restoration of brotherhood and mutual respect among all the peoples of the Earth.

Today, we rededicate ourselves to this vision and mission. We do so mindful that human might and will alone cannot achieve this goal, aware that our ultimate success will be determined by our faith in the power of prayer, in the promises of Him who made us and even now guides us in our quest for human dignity and freedom.

(ROBINSON)

DECEMBER 10, 1984

PSI CITATION CEREMONY

257231SC
MA

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

YOU KNOW, WHEN THIS GRAND BUILDING WAS BUILT, VOLUNTEER EFFORT WAS AN EVERYDAY PART OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE. FARMERS WOULD TRAVEL MILES TO HELP OUT AT A BARN-RAISING, FOOD WAS DISTRIBUTED TO THE NEEDY BY CHURCHES AND VOLUNTEER GROUPS, AND WHEN SOMEONE FELL ILL, HE WOULD MORE THAN LIKELY BE CARED FOR BY HIS NEIGHBORS. FOR DECADES, THIS SHINING TRADITION OF VOLUNTARISM HELPED TO GIVE LIFE IN AMERICA A SENSE OF SECURITY AND WARMTH.

YET IN RECENT YEARS, WE MUST ADMIT, THE FOCUS ON VOLUNTEER EFFORTS BEGAN TO FADE.

TOO MANY BEGAN EXPECTING BIG GOVERNMENT TO PERFORM TASKS THAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE MORE EFFICIENTLY --(AND WITH GREATER HUMANITY)-- BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR. IN MANY CASES, BILLIONS OF DOLLARS WERE SPENT ON GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS THAT FAILED TO DO ANY LASTING GOOD.

S.S. FUNERAL
- 2 -

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SAW WHAT WAS HAPPENING, AND WHEN GEORGE BUSH AND I WERE ELECTED, THEY GAVE US A MANDATE: / END THE WASTE. WHEREVER POSSIBLE, SHIFT THE FOCUS AWAY FROM THE SLOW-MOVING LABORS OF THE BUREAUCRATS BACK TO THE CARING AND EFFICIENT EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES. ←

OUR ADMINISTRATION HAS WORKED HARD TO DO JUST THAT. / REPEATEDLY, I'VE TRIED TO USE THIS BULLY PULPIT TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEER EFFORTS / AND THROUGHOUT GOVERNMENT, WE'VE URGED THE FORMATION OF PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. / ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT STEPS WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OUR WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES, HEADED BY OUR FINE DIRECTOR, JIM COYNE, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES ADVISORY COUNCIL / A COUNCIL MADE UP OF PRIVATE CITIZENS DEDICATED TO ENCOURAGING VOLUNTEER EFFORTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND THEIR
CHAIRMAN, BOB GALVIN OF MOTOROLA, ARE WITH
US TODAY, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR
YOUR OUTSTANDING WORK.

OVER THE PAST 4 YEARS, ALL THESE
EFFORTS HAVE HAD A POWERFUL EFFECT. BETWEEN
1980 AND 1983, FOR EXAMPLE, TOTAL GIVING IN
OUR COUNTRY ROSE BY 35 PERCENT TO A RECORD
\$64.9 BILLION. THAT NUMBER HAPPENS TO BE
GREATER THAN THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT OF
OVER HALF OF THE WORLD'S COUNTRIES. LAST
YEAR ALONE, THE UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN
COLLECTED ALMOST \$2 BILLION, MAKING 1983 THE
BEST YEAR FOR THAT CAMPAIGN IN ALMOST THREE
DECADES. AND LAST YEAR WAS THE THIRD
CONSECUTIVE YEAR THAT THE INCREASE IN GIVING
WAS HIGHER THAN THE INFLATION RATE.

AND AS BOB GALVIN AND HIS FELLOW MEMBERS CAN TELL US, THE PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES ADVISORY COUNCIL HAS FOUND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE READY AND EAGER TO LEND A HAND. THE COUNCIL HAS BEEN ABLE TO CREATE OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS LIKE PARTNERSHIPS IN EDUCATION, UNDER WHICH NEARLY 16,000 AMERICAN SCHOOLS HAVE FORMED PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM, WHICH LAST SUMMER PROVIDED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THEIR FIRST EMPLOYMENT, AND A DYNAMIC INITIATIVE IN GRENADA, UNDER WHICH MORE THAN \$1.5 MILLION HAVE BEEN COMMITTED IN GRENADA BY PRIVATE AMERICAN CONCERNS SINCE THE PEOPLE OF THAT ISLAND WERE SET FREE.

OVER THE PAST 4 YEARS, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE GAINED NEW CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES AND A NEW OPTIMISM ABOUT OUR NATION'S FUTURE.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE'VE REKINDLED AN OLD
EMBER OF OPENNESS AND GENEROSITY, AND NOW WE
AMERICANS ARE GIVING OUR TIME, MONEY, AND
SKILLS TO GOOD CAUSES WITH RENEWED JOY AND
DEDICATION. TODAY, IT'S OUR PRIVILEGE TO
HIGHLIGHT TWO INITIATIVES THAT WILL HELP TO
CARRY THE SPIRIT OF AMERICAN VOLUNTARISM
EVEN FURTHER.

FIRST, NATIONAL CARE AND SHARE DAY,
DECEMBER 15TH. ON THIS DATE, AMERICANS FROM
MAINE TO CALIFORNIA WILL CONTRIBUTE FOOD TO
BE SHARED WITH THOSE IN NEED. GROUPS
RANGING FROM THE SALVATION ARMY TO THE
GROCERY MANUFACTURERS OF AMERICA HAVE
GENEROUSLY AGREED TO TAKE PART, AND I
UNDERSTAND THAT IN THOUSANDS OF GROCERY
STORES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, COLLECTION
CENTERS WILL BE SET UP FOR SHOPPERS WHO WANT
TO MAKE DONATIONS.

I SIGNED THE PROCLAMATION NAMING THIS DATE
IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON NATIONAL CARE AND
SHARE DAY SO THAT WE COULD HELP TO MAKE THIS
PART OF THE YEAR TRULY A TIME OF GOODWILL
TOWARD ALL, AND I URGE EVERY AMERICAN TO
PARTICIPATE.

MAY I ADD ONE PERSONAL THOUGHT:/
IN LIGHT OF THE TRAGEDY IN ETHIOPIA, LAST
WEEK I SIGNED AN ORDER RELEASING
300,000 TONS OF WHEAT TO THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES OF AFRICA AND SOUTH ASIA. I KNOW
THAT PRIVATE AMERICAN EFFORTS HAVE ALREADY
DONE MUCH TO HELP NEEDY PEOPLE AROUND THE
WORLD --(ESPECIALLY IN ETHIOPIA)-- AND I
WOULD HOPE THAT, ON NATIONAL CARE AND SHARE
DAY, AMERICANS WOULD ONCE AGAIN REMEMBER
THOSE NATIONS LESS FORTUNATE THAN OUR OWN.

SECOND, WE'RE HERE TO KICK OFF A MAJOR
NEW AWARDS INITIATIVE /- CALLED THE
PRESIDENT'S CITATION PROGRAM FOR PRIVATE
SECTOR INITIATIVES.

BUSINESSES AND ASSOCIATIONS ON MY ADVISORY COUNCIL WILL BE ABLE TO FLY THE NEW "C-FLAG," AND LET THE WORLD KNOW OF THE PROGRAM'S MOTTO: ✓ "WE CAN, WE CARE." NOW, EVERYBODY FROM CHICAGO KNOWS THAT "C" STANDS FOR THE CUBS, BUT IN THIS CASE IT STANDS FOR SOMETHING ELSE -- COMMITMENT.

OFTEN, WHEN WE DISCUSS VOLUNTARISM WE CONCENTRATE ON THE EFFORTS OF INDIVIDUALS, / BUT EACH YEAR BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS SHOW JUST AS MUCH OF THAT MAGICAL QUALITY -- COMMITMENT /-- DONATING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND THOUSANDS OF HOURS.

THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, FOR EXAMPLE, IS ASSEMBLING "TECHNET," / A NETWORK OF FUNDING AND PERSONNEL THAT HELPS TO HARNESS NEW TECHNOLOGY ON BEHALF OF THE DISABLED.

SAFEWAY STORES, INC., HAS LONG BEEN INVOLVED
IN VOLUNTEER EFFORTS, /FROM SUPPORT FOR
EASTER SEALS TO TAKING A MAJOR HAND IN
PROMOTING THE COMING NATIONAL CARE AND SHARE
DAY /AND HELPING LAUNCH THE YOUNG ASTRONAUT
PROGRAM. } G.T.E. HAS SPONSORED THE GIFT
PROGRAM /- THAT'S "GROWTH INITIATIVE FOR
TEACHERS" /- TO HELP TRAIN MATH AND SCIENCE
TEACHERS, /AND D.C. COMICS, INC., HAS
PRODUCED COMIC BOOKS THAT TEACH CHILDREN THE
DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE.

PERMIT ME TO GIVE YOU ONE MORE
EXAMPLE /- ONE THAT'S ESPECIALLY CLOSE TO MY
HEART. } SOME MONTHS AGO, I DEVOTED MY
SATURDAY RADIO TALK TO THE PROBLEM OF
MISSING CHILDREN. } IT SO HAPPENED THAT
JIM KERRIGAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAILWAYS BUS
COMPANY, HEARD THAT TALK, AND ON THE
FOLLOWING MONDAY CALLED THE WHITE HOUSE TO
SAY THAT TRAILWAYS WOULD LIKE TO HELP.

WORKING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, TRAILWAYS PUT TOGETHER A PROGRAM WHERE, / ONCE A MISSING CHILD WAS IDENTIFIED BY LOCAL POLICE / THE YOUNGSTER COULD RIDE HOME ON A TRAILWAYS BUS FOR FREE.

PERHAPS YOU'RE WONDERING HOW MUCH TIME PASSED BETWEEN JIM'S PHONE CALL AND THE FIRST CHILD'S RIDE ON A TRAILWAYS BUS? / TEN DAYS.] YOU KNOW, I CAN'T HELP THINKING HOW LONG IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN /-- AND HOW MANY MILLIONS OF TAXPAYERS' DOLLARS WOULD HAVE BEEN SPENT /-- IF THE PROGRAM HAD BEEN PUT TOGETHER BY A FEDERAL AGENCY.

AGAIN AND AGAIN, AMERICA'S BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS HAVE SHOWN THIS OUTSTANDING LEVEL OF COMMITMENT / AND THE "C-FLAG," MODELED ON THE FAMOUS "E" FLAG OF WORLD WAR II / HAS BEEN DESIGNED FOR THEM.

ACROSS THE COUNTRY, BUSINESSES AND ASSOCIATIONS WITH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS WILL BE URGED TO REGISTER THEM WITH OUR PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES DATANET.

WHEN THE PROJECTS ARE REGISTERED, THE BUSINESSES AND ASSOCIATIONS WILL BE ABLE TO FLY "C-FLAGS" WITH PRIDE.

OF THE COMPANIES THAT QUALIFY FOR "C-FLAGS," EACH YEAR 100 WITH OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS WILL BE SELECTED FOR PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS.

AND OF THESE, EACH YEAR 30 WILL RECEIVE A PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL.

THESE CITATIONS AND MEDALS WILL BECOME SOUGHT AFTER, SPURRING BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS ON TO EVEN GREATER EFFORTS, AND AS MORE AND MORE "C-FLAGS" SNAP IN THE WIND ACROSS OUR LAND, ALL AMERICANS WILL BE REMINDED OF THE VITAL ROLE OUR PRIVATE SECTOR PLAYS IN HELPING SO MANY.

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TO THOSE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIRST
COMPANIES TO RECEIVE "C-FLAGS," MY HEARTFELT
CONGRATULATIONS. YOU'RE HELPING TO SHOW
THAT WHILE UNCLE SAM IS BACK AND STANDING
TALL, HE KNOWS HOW TO BEND OVER AND LEND A
HELPING HAND.

AND NOW I'D LIKE TO UNVEIL THE FIRST
"C-FLAG" AND PRESENT IT TO PETER UEBERROTH
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN THE OLYMPICS, A
PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVE OF UNPARALLELED
SUCCESS, AND ON BEHALF OF ALL THE BUSINESSES
WHICH MADE THE OLYMPICS POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU, GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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WILLARD SCOTT
NBC-WTHR.
for - Peter.

The President has seen _____

(Robinson/BE)

December 7, 1984

3:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: PSI CITATION CEREMONY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1984

Good morning and welcome to the White House.

You know, when this grand old home was built, volunteer effort was an everyday part of our national life. Farmers would travel miles to help out at a barn-raising; food was distributed to the needy by churches and volunteer groups; and when someone fell ill, he would more than likely be cared for by his neighbors. For decades, this shining tradition of voluntarism helped to give life in America a sense of security and warmth.

Yet in recent years, we must admit, the focus on volunteer efforts began to fade. Too many began expecting big Government to perform tasks that could have been done more efficiently -- and with greater humanity -- by the private sector. In many cases, billions of dollars were spent on Government programs that failed to do any lasting good.

The American people saw what was happening, and when George Bush and I were elected, they gave us a mandate: End the waste. Wherever possible, shift the focus away from the slow-moving labors of the bureaucrats back to the caring and efficient efforts of the people themselves.

Our Administration has worked hard to do just that. Repeatedly, I've tried to use this bully pulpit to stress the importance of volunteer efforts; and throughout Government, we've urged the formation of partnerships between the public and private sectors. One of our most important steps was the

establishment of our White House Office for Private Sector Initiatives, headed by our fine director, Jim Coyne, and the Private Sector Initiatives Council -- a council made up of private citizens dedicated to encouraging volunteer efforts across the country. The members of the Council and their Chairman, Bob Galvin of Motorola, are with us today, and I want to thank you all for your outstanding work.

Over the past 4 years, all these efforts have had a powerful effect. Between 1980 and 1983, for example, private donations in our country rose by over 11 percent to a record \$53.8 billion. That number happens to be greater than the budgets of two-thirds of the world's countries. Last year alone, the United Way Campaign collected almost \$2 billion, making 1983 the best year for that Campaign in almost three decades. And last year was the third consecutive year that the increase in giving was higher than the inflation rate.

And as Bob Galvin and his fellow members can tell us, the Private Sector Initiatives Council has found the American people ready and eager to lend a hand. The Council has been able to create outstanding programs like Partnerships in Education, under which nearly 16,000 American schools have formed partnerships with businesses and professional organizations; the Summer Jobs Program, which last summer provided 500,000 young people with their first employment; and a dynamic initiative in Grenada, under which more than \$2 million have been invested in Grenada by private American concerns since the people of that island were set free.

Over the past 4 years, the American people have gained new confidence in themselves and a new optimism about our Nation's future. At the same time, we've rekindled an old ember of openness and generosity, and now we Americans are giving our time, money, and skills to good causes with renewed joy and dedication. Today, it's our privilege to highlight two initiatives that will help to carry the spirit of American voluntarism even further.

First, National Care and Share Day, December 15th. On this date, Americans from Maine to California will contribute food to be shared with those in need. Groups ranging from the Salvation Army to the American Frozen Food Association have generously agreed to take part, and I understand that in thousands of grocery stores across the country, collection centers will be set up for shoppers who want to make donations. I signed the proclamation naming this date in the holiday season National Care and Share Day so that we could help to make this part of the year truly a time of goodwill toward all, and I urge every American to participate.

May I add one personal thought: In light of the tragedy in Ethiopia, last week I signed an order releasing 300,000 metric tons of wheat to the developing countries of Africa and South Asia. I know that private American efforts have already done much to help needy people around the world -- especially in Ethiopia -- and I would hope that, on National Care and Share Day, Americans would once again remember those nations less fortunate than our own.

Second, we're here to kick off a major new awards initiative -- called the President's Citation Program for Private Sector Initiatives. Businesses and associations on my advisory council will be able to fly the new "C-Flag," and let the world know of the program's motto: "We can, we care." Now, everybody from Chicago knows that "C" stands for the Cubs, but in this case it stands for something else -- commitment.

Often, when we discuss voluntarism we concentrate on the efforts of individuals, but each year businesses and professional associations show just as much of that magical quality -- commitment -- donating millions of dollars and thousands of hours. The Boeing Corporation, for example, has assembled "Technet," a network of funding and personnel that helps to harness new technology on behalf of the disabled -- literally helping the lame to walk, the deaf to hear, and the blind to see. Safeway Stores, Inc. has long been involved in volunteer efforts, from support for Easter Seals to taking a major hand in promoting the coming National Care and Share Day and helping launch the Young Astronaut Program. G.T.E. has sponsored the GIFT program -- that's Growth Initiative for Teachers -- to help train math and science teachers, and the D.C. Comics Company has produced comic books that teach children the dangers of drug abuse.

Permit me to give you one more example -- one that's especially close to my heart. Some months ago, I devoted my Saturday radio talk to the problem of missing children. It so happened that Jim Kerrigan, Chairman of the Trailways bus

company, heard that talk, and on the following Monday called the White House to say that Trailways would like to help. Working with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Trailways put together a program where, once a missing child was identified by local police, the youngster could ride home on a Trailways bus for free.

Perhaps you're wondering how much time passed between Jim's phone call and the first child's ride on a Trailways bus? Ten days. You know, I can't help thinking how long it would have taken -- and how many millions of taxpayers' dollars would have been spent -- if the program had been put together by a Federal agency.

Again and again, America's businesses and professional associations have shown this outstanding level of commitment, and the "C-Flag," modeled on the famous "E" flag of World War II, has been designed for them.

Across the country, businesses and associations with community involvement projects will be urged to register them with our Private Sector Initiatives DataNet. When the projects are registered, the businesses and associations will be able to fly "C-Flags" with pride. Of the companies that qualify for "C-Flags," each year 100 with outstanding programs will be selected for Presidential citations. And of these, each year 30 will receive a Presidential medal. These citations and medals will become sought after, spurring businesses and professional associations on to even greater efforts, and as more and more "C-Flags" snap in the wind across our land, all Americans will be

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reminded of the vital role our private sector plays in helping so many.

To the representatives of the first 150 companies to receive "C-Flags," my heartfelt congratulations. You're helping to show that while Uncle Sam is back and standing tall, he knows how to bend over and lend a helping hand.

And now I'd like to unveil the first "C-Flag" and present it to Peter Ueberroth for his leadership in the Olympics, a private sector initiative of unparalleled success.

Thank you, God bless you all.