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(Rohrabacher/BE)
January 17, 1985
3:00 p.m.

SP922

PRESIDENTIAL TOAST: CONGRESSIONAL LUNCHEON
U.S. CAPITOL
MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1985

Senator Mathias, honorable Members of the House and Senate, distinguished guests. This has indeed been an historic day, and it's not over yet. We mark together the end of one term and the beginning of the next. I want each of you to know how grateful I am for all you've done, all the energy and personal commitment you mustered in these last 4 years to make our system work.

In the shifting of alliances of a free Government, we in this room have been intense allies on some issues, while disagreeing on others. I think the level of respect and the courtesy with which we've treated each other, speaks well of us and confirms the viability of this great democratic system which is now in our care.

There have been many inaugurations in my lifetime. I don't want to give away my age, but I remember when Calvin Coolidge was inaugurated, some 60 years ago. That's back when I was a Democrat.

President Coolidge, even though from the other party, was much loved and respected, ~~by my family and by the American people.~~ In his inaugural address he said, "Our Congress represents the people and the States. In all legislative affairs it is the natural collaborator with the President. In spite of all the criticism which often falls to its lot, I do not hesitate to say that there is no more independent and effective legislative body in the world. It is, and should be, jealous of its prerogative.

I welcome its cooperation, and expect to share with it not only the responsibility, but the credit, for our common effort to secure beneficial legislation."

I hope we can work together in that spirit. There is a plaque on my desk in the Oval Office that reads, "There's no limit to what a man can do, or where he can go, as long as he ~~is~~ ^{desent come} not afraid who gets the credit." I hope in the months and years to come, we can move ahead to meet the challenges of our day, thinking only of how much we can accomplish if we maintain our good will and cooperation.

I offer a toast to all of you here, and to the best Vice President this country has ever had -- George Bush . . . to the next 4 years! Let us make the best of them.

SEN. MATHIAS - HON. MEMBERS - HOUSE
* SEN. - DIST. GUESTS } THIS "BN. HISTORY"
DAY * "NOT OUR YET" } TOGETHER "MARK
"END" ONE TERM * "BEGINNING" NXT.
"WNT. ECH. "U" KNOW HOW GRATEFUL
"AM" ALL UVE DONE - ALL "ENERGY
* PERS. COMMITMENT U MUST'D "THS.
LST. 4 YRS. "MK. OUR SYSTEM WORK.
IN "SHIFTING" ALLIANCES "FR. GOVT.
WE "THS. RM. "BN. INTENSE ALLIES "SY.
ISSUES WIK. DISAGREING "OTHERS
"THINK "LEVL "RESPT * "COURTESY
WTH. WCH. "TRIED ECH. OTHER SPK & WL
"US * CONFIRM, "VIABILITY "THS. GOVT.
DEM. SYST. WCH. "NOW "OUR CARE
THR "BN. QUITE "FEW INACCS. "199
L.F.T.M. } I MISSO ABE LINCOLN BUT
"REMEMBER CAL. COOLIDGE'S - WS. DEM.

2
...TM. JEW THO...WS...OTHER PTY
...WS, MUCH LOVE & RESPECTED
...HS. INAUG. ADDR. SD: "OUR CONG. REPS.
"P. & STS. IN ALL LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS...
NAT. COLLABORATE... PRES. IN SPITE ALL
CRITICISM WCH. OFTEN FALLS... ITS LOT,
DO NOT HESITATE SAY THAT THR "NO MORE
INDEPENDENT & EFFECTIVE LEGIS. BODY... WORLD
IT IS & SHLD. BE JEALOUS... ITS PREROG.
"WLCM... COOP. & EXPECT... SHARE WITH IT
NOT ONLY... RESPONS. BUT... CREDIT... OUR
COMMON EFFORT... SECURE BENEFICIAL LEGIS.
"HOPE WE CN. WORK TOGETHER... THIS SPIRIT
... PLAQUE... DSK... O.O. ... "NO LIMIT..."
"DO-GO..." "HOPE... DAY... YRS... CN.
WE CN. MOVE AHEAD... MT... CHANGES.
"OUR DAY-THINKING ONLY... HOW
MUCH... CN. ACCOMPLISH IF... MAINTAIN

OUR GOOD WKC & COOP. 3

MAY " OFFR. " TOAST " ALL V. AR
o ...BST. V. P. " CO. ... EVR HD. -
GEO. BUSH — TO... NXT. 4 YRS.
LET US MK. ... BST. ... TAY.

28639755
INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF
PRESIDENT RONALD W. REAGAN SP100

JANUARY 21, 1985

SENATOR MATHIAS, CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER,
VICE PRESIDENT BUSH, SPEAKER O'NEILL,
SENATOR DOLE, REVEREND CLERGY, MEMBERS OF MY
FAMILY, AND MY FELLOW CITIZENS:

THERE ARE NO WORDS ADEQUATE TO EXPRESS
MY THANKS FOR THE GREAT HONOR YOU HAVE
BESTOWED ON ME. I WILL DO MY UTMOST TO BE
DESERVING OF YOUR TRUST.

THIS IS THE 50TH TIME WE THE PEOPLE
HAVE CELEBRATED THIS HISTORIC OCCASION.
WHEN THE FIRST PRESIDENT, (GEORGE WASHINGTON,)
PLACED HIS HAND UPON THE BIBLE, HE STOOD
LESS THAN A SINGLE DAY'S JOURNEY BY
HORSEBACK FROM RAW, UNTAMED WILDERNESS.

THERE WERE 4 MILLION AMERICANS IN A
UNION OF 13 STATES. TODAY, WE ARE 60 TIMES
AS MANY IN A UNION OF 50 STATES.

WE HAVE LIGHTED THE WORLD WITH OUR
INVENTIONS / GONE TO THE AID OF ^{MAN KIND} ~~OUR FELLOW~~
~~CITIZENS OF THE WORLD~~ ^{IN THE WORLD THROWS CR} WHEREVER THEY ~~CRIED~~
~~OUT~~ FOR HELP / JOURNEYED TO THE MOON AND
SAFELY RETURNED.

SO MUCH HAS CHANGED. / AND YET, ² ~~HERE~~
~~AGAIN~~ WE STAND, TOGETHER AS CENTURIES AGO.

AND, ONCE AGAIN, AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT
(FREELY CHOSEN BY A SOVEREIGN PEOPLE) HAS
TAKEN THE OATH PRESCRIBED BY THE
CONSTITUTION THAT GUIDES US STILL.

THIS ALONE IS CAUSE FOR REJOICING, / BUT THERE
IS MORE.

WHEN I TOOK THIS OATH 4 YEARS AGO,
I DID SO IN A TIME OF ECONOMIC STRESS.

VOICES WERE RAISED SAYING WE HAD TO LOOK TO
OUR PAST FOR ~~THE~~ GREATNESS AND GLORY ~~THAT~~
~~HAD MARKED OUR TWO CENTURIES AS A NATION.~~

BUT WE, THE PRESENT-DAY AMERICANS, ARE NOT
GIVEN TO LOOKING BACKWARD. / IN THIS BLESSED
LAND, THERE IS ALWAYS A BETTER TOMORROW.

FOUR YEARS AGO, I SPOKE TO YOU OF A NEW BEGINNING AND WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THAT.

BUT IN ANOTHER SENSE, OUR NEW BEGINNING IS A CONTINUATION OF THAT BEGINNING CREATED TWO CENTURIES AGO; ~~THAT BREAK WITH THE PAST~~ WHEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY,

A PEOPLE SAID / GOVERNMENT IS NOT OUR MASTER ^{IT IS} BUT OUR SERVANT; ~~AND GOVERNMENT'S~~ ^{ITS} ONLY POWER ^{IS} ~~WILL BE~~ THAT WHICH WE THE PEOPLE ALLOW IT TO HAVE.

~~THAT SYSTM HAS~~
OUR BEDROCK PRINCIPLES HAVE NEVER

FAILED US. BUT, FOR A TIME, WE FAILED THE ~~SYSTM~~
PRINCIPLES. ~~OVER RECENT YEARS WE ASKED~~

THINGS OF THE ~~FEDERAL~~ GOVERNMENT THAT ~~IT~~ ^{GOVT.} WAS NOT EQUIPPED TO GIVE. WE YIELDED AUTHORITY

TO ^{FED.} GOVERNMENT THAT PROPERLY BELONGED TO ^{GOVTs. - OR TO THE PEOPLE} ~~STs. OR~~

TO LOCAL ~~OR STATE LEVELS OR IN THE HANDS OF THE~~
CITIZENRY. ~~WE ALLOWED TAXES AND INFLATION~~

TO ROB US OF OUR EARNINGS AND SAVINGS. AND —

WE WATCHED THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL MACHINE THAT
HAD MADE US THE MOST PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE ON
EARTH SLOW^{DOWN} AND THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED
~~NUMBER~~ INCREAS.

BY 1980, WE KNEW IT WAS ~~TIME TO EMBRACE~~
~~AGAIN THE GREAT PROMISE OF OUR AMERICAN~~
~~REVOLUTION~~ / TIME TO RENEW OUR FAITH /
~~TO DREAM HEROIC DREAMS~~ / TO STRIVE WITH ALL
OUR STRENGTH TOWARD THE ULTIMATE IN
INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, CONSISTENT WITH AN
ORDERLY SOCIETY.

WE BELIEVED THEN AND ^{NOW} ~~REPEAT TODAY~~ /
THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO GROWTH AND HUMAN
PROGRESS, WHEN MEN AND WOMEN ARE FREE TO
FOLLOW THEIR DREAMS. AND WE WERE RIGHT TO
BELIEVE. TAX RATES HAVE BEEN REDUCED,
INFLATION CUT DRAMATICALLY, AND MORE PEOPLE
ARE EMPLOYED TODAY THAN EVER IN OUR HISTORY.

WE ARE CREATING ~~A NEW AMERICA / A RISING~~
A NATION ONCE AGAIN VIBRANT, ROBUST, AND
ALIVE. BUT THE PROMISE OF OUR REVOLUTION
WAS MEANT FOR ALL PEOPLE FOR ALL FUTURE
TIME. THERE ARE MANY MOUNTAINS YET TO
CLIMB. WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL EVERY
AMERICAN ~~(FROM COUNTRYSIDE TO INNER CITY,)~~
ENJOYS THE FULLNESS OF FREEDOM, DIGNITY, AND
OPPORTUNITY ~~WHICH IS OUR BIRTHRIGHT AS~~
AS CITIZENS OF THIS GREAT REPUBLIC ~~THAT~~

IF WE MEET THIS CHALLENGE, THESE WILL
BE YEARS ~~OF AMERICAN RENEWAL~~

WHEN AMERICANS RESTORED THEIR
CONFIDENCE AND TRADITION OF PROGRESS; —

WHEN OUR VALUES OF FAITH, FAMILY, WORK
AND NEIGHBORHOOD WERE ~~REVIVED AND~~ RESTATED
FOR A MODERN AGE; —

WHEN OUR ECONOMY WAS FINALLY FREED FROM
GOVERNMENT'S GRIP, ~~AND THE AMERICAN EAGLE~~
~~SOARED TO NEW HEIGHTS;~~

WHEN WE MADE SINCERE EFFORTS AT
MEANINGFUL ARMS REDUCTION / AND ALSO, BY
REBUILDING OUR DEFENSES, / OUR ECONOMY / AND
DEVELOPING NEW TECHNOLOGIES / ~~STRENGTHENED~~
~~OUR POSITION AND~~ HELPED PRESERVE PEACE IN A
TROUBLED WORLD; /

~~AND, YES, THE YEARS~~ WHEN AMERICA
COURAGEOUSLY SUPPORTED THE STRUGGLE FOR
INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY / SELF-GOVERNMENT / AND
FREE ENTERPRISE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD / AND
TURNED THE TIDE OF HISTORY AWAY FROM
TOTALITARIAN DARKNESS AND INTO THE WARM
SUNLIGHT OF HUMAN FREEDOM.

MY FELLOW CITIZENS, OUR NATION IS
POISED FOR GREATNESS. / WE MUST DO WHAT WE
KNOW IS RIGHT, AND DO IT WITH ALL OUR MIGHT.
LET HISTORY SAY OF US, THESE WERE GOLDEN
YEARS / WHEN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WAS
REBORN / WHEN FREEDOM GAINED NEW LIFE / ~~WHEN~~
+ AMERICA REACHED FOR HER BEST.

OUR TWO-PARTY SYSTEM HAS SERVED US WELL
OVER THE YEARS, BUT NEVER BETTER THAN IN ~~THOSE~~
TIMES OF GREAT CHALLENGE, WHEN WE ~~CAME~~
TOGETHER NOT AS DEMOCRATS OR REPUBLICANS,
BUT AS AMERICANS UNITED IN ~~THIS~~ ^A COMMON
CAUSE.

TWO OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS, A BOSTON
LAWYER NAMED ADAMS, AND A VIRGINIA PLANTER
NAMED JEFFERSON, ~~BOTH~~ MEMBERS OF THAT
REMARKABLE GROUP WHO MET IN INDEPENDENCE
HALL AND DARED TO THINK THEY COULD START THE
WORLD OVER AGAIN, LEFT US AN IMPORTANT
LESSON. ^{BITTER} THEY HAD BECOME POLITICAL RIVALS ~~IN~~
~~THE GOVERNMENT THEY HELPED CREATE.~~

IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 1800,
~~THEY WERE BITTERLY ESTRANGED,~~ ^{OR RIVALRIES} ~~ONLY~~ YEARS
LATER WHEN BOTH WERE RETIRED, AND AGE HAD
SOFTENED THEIR ANGER, ~~BUT~~ THEY BEGAN TO
SPEAK TO EACH OTHER THROUGH LETTERS.

A BOND WAS REESTABLISHED BTWN. 2 WHO
HAD HELPED CREATE THE GOVT. OURS.

IN 1826, THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, / THEY BOTH DIED,
DIED ON THE SAME DAY, / WITHIN A FEW HOURS OF
EACH OTHER. / THE DAY WAS THE FOURTH OF JULY.

IN ONE OF THOSE LETTERS EXCHANGED IN
THE SUNSET OF THEIR LIVES, / JEFFERSON WROTE, /
"IT CARRIES ME BACK TO THE TIMES WHEN, BESET
WITH DIFFICULTIES AND DANGERS, / WE WERE
FELLOW LABORERS IN THE SAME CAUSE, /
STRUGGLING FOR WHAT IS MOST VALUABLE TO MAN, /
HIS RIGHT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT. / LABORING
ALWAYS AT THE SAME OAR, / WITH SOME WAVE EVER
AHEAD THREATENING TO OVERWHELM US, / AND YET
PASSING HARMLESS / . WE RODE THROUGH THE
STORM WITH HEART AND HAND."

WITH HEART AND HAND, LET US STAND AS
ONE TODAY, / ONE PEOPLE UNDER GOD DETERMINED
THAT OUR FUTURE SHALL BE WORTHY OF OUR PAST.
AS WE DO, WE MUST NOT REPEAT THE
WELL-INTENTIONED ERRORS OF OUR PAST.

WE MUST NEVER AGAIN ABUSE THE TRUST OF
WORKING MEN AND WOMEN, / BY SENDING THEIR
EARNINGS ON A FUTILE CHASE AFTER THE
SPIRALING DEMANDS OF A BLOATED FEDERAL
ESTABLISHMENT. / YOU ELECTED US IN 1980 TO
END THIS PRESCRIPTION FOR DISASTER. / I DO
NOT BELIEVE YOU RE-ELECTED US IN 1984 TO
REVERSE COURSE.

AT THE HEART OF OUR EFFORTS IS ONE IDEA
VINDICATED BY 25 STRAIGHT MONTHS OF ECONOMIC
GROWTH. / FREEDOM AND INCENTIVES UNLEASH THE
DRIVE AND ENTREPRENEURIAL GENIUS THAT ARE
THE CORE OF HUMAN PROGRESS. / WE HAVE BEGUN
TO INCREASE REWARDS FOR WORK / SAVINGS / AND
INVESTMENT. / REDUCE THE INCREASE IN THE COST
AND SIZE OF GOVERNMENT / AND ITS INTERFERENCE
IN PEOPLE'S LIVES.

RATHER THAN LIMIT OUR CHALLENGE TO
GROWTH / LET US CHALLENGE THE LIMITS OF
GROWTH.

WE MUST SIMPLIFY OUR TAX SYSTEM, MAKE IT
MORE FAIR, AND BRING TAX RATES DOWN FOR ALL
WHO WORK AND EARN. WE MUST THINK ANEW AND
MOVE WITH NEW BOLDNESS, SO EVERY AMERICAN
WHO SEEKS WORK CAN FIND WORK, SO THE LEAST
AMONG US HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE TO ACHIEVE THE
GREATEST THINGS ~~TO~~ TO BE HEROES WHO HEAL OUR
SICK, FEED THE HUNGRY, PROTECT PEACE AMONG
NATIONS, AND LEAVE THIS WORLD A BETTER
PLACE.

THE TIME HAS COME FOR A NEW AMERICAN
EMANCIPATION ~~AND~~ A GREAT NATIONAL DRIVE TO
TEAR DOWN ECONOMIC BARRIERS, AND LIBERATE THE
SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE IN THE MOST DISTRESSED
AREAS OF OUR COUNTRY. MY FRIENDS, TOGETHER
WE CAN DO THIS, AND DO IT WE MUST, SO HELP
ME GOD.

FROM NEW FREEDOM WILL SPRING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH, A MORE PRODUCTIVE, FULFILLED AND UNITED PEOPLE, AND A STRONGER AMERICA - AN AMERICA THAT WILL LEAD THE TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION, AND ALSO OPEN ITS MIND, HEART, AND SOUL, TO THE TREASURES OF LITERATURE, MUSIC AND POETRY, AND THE VALUES OF FAITH, COURAGE, AND LOVE.

A DYNAMIC ECONOMY, WITH MORE CITIZENS WORKING AND PAYING TAXES, WILL BE OUR STRONGEST TOOL TO BRING DOWN BUDGET DEFICITS. BUT AN ALMOST UNBROKEN 50 YEARS OF DEFICIT SPENDING HAS FINALLY BROUGHT US TO A TIME OF RECKONING.

WE HAVE COME TO A TURNING POINT, A MOMENT FOR HARD DECISIONS. I HAVE ASKED THE CABINET AND STAFF A QUESTION AND NOW I PUT THAT SAME QUESTION TO YOU. IF NOT US, WHO? IF NOT NOW, WHEN? ~~WE KNOW THE ANSWER.~~

IT MUST BE DONE NOW, BY ALL OF US GOING FORWARD WITH A PROGRAM AIMED AT REACHING A BALANCED BUDGET. WE CAN THEN BEGIN REDUCING THE NATIONAL DEBT.

I WILL SHORTLY SUBMIT A BUDGET TO THE CONGRESS AIMED AT FREEZING GOVERNMENT PROGRAM SPENDING FOR THE NEXT YEAR. BEYOND THAT WE MUST TAKE FURTHER STEPS TO PERMANENTLY CONTROL GOVERNMENT'S POWER TO TAX AND SPEND.

WE MUST ACT NOW TO PROTECT FUTURE GENERATIONS FROM GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO SPEND ITS CITIZENS' MONEY AND TAX THEM INTO SERVITUDE WHEN THE BILLS COME DUE. LET US MAKE IT UNCONSTITUTIONAL FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO SPEND MORE THAN IT TAKES IN.

WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED RETURNING TO THE PEOPLE AND TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS RESPONSIBILITIES BETTER HANDLED BY THEM.

THERE IS A PLACE FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
IN MATTERS OF SOCIAL COMPASSION. BUT OUR
FUNDAMENTAL GOALS MUST BE TO REDUCE
DEPENDENCY AND UPGRADE THE DIGNITY OF THOSE
WHO ARE INFIRM OR DISADVANTAGED. AND HERE,
A GROWING ECONOMY AND SUPPORT FROM FAMILY
AND COMMUNITY OFFER OUR BEST CHANCE FOR A
SOCIETY WHERE COMPASSION IS THE WAY OF LIFE,
WHERE THE OLD AND INFIRM ARE CARED FOR, THE
YOUNG AND, YES, THE UNBORN PROTECTED AND
THE UNFORTUNATE LOOKED AFTER AND MADE
SELF-SUFFICIENT.

THERE IS ANOTHER AREA WHERE THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT CAN PLAY A PART. AS AN OLDER
AMERICAN, I REMEMBER A TIME WHEN PEOPLE OF
DIFFERENT RACE, CREED, OR ETHNIC ORIGIN IN
OUR LAND FOUND HATRED AND PREJUDICE
INSTALLED IN SOCIAL CUSTOM AND LAW.

THERE IS NO STORY MORE HEARTENING IN OUR HISTORY/
THAN THE PROGRESS WE'VE MADE TOWARD THE "BROTHERHOOD OF MAN" THAT GOD INTENDED FOR US. /
LET US RESOLVE THERE WILL BE NO TURNING BACK OR HESITATION ON THE ROAD TO AN AMERICA RICH IN DIGNITY AND ABUNDANT WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OUR CITIZENS.

LET US RESOLVE THAT WE THE PEOPLE WILL BUILD AN AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY SOCIETY, IN WHICH ALL OF US / WHITE AND BLACK / RICH AND POOR / YOUNG AND OLD / WILL GO FORWARD TOGETHER, ARM IN ARM. /
AGAIN, LET US REMEMBER THAT, THOUGH OUR HERITAGE IS ONE OF BLOOD LINES FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE EARTH, /
WE ARE ALL AMERICANS PLEDGED TO CARRY ON THIS LAST, BEST HOPE OF MAN ON EARTH.

I HAVE SPOKEN OF OUR DOMESTIC GOALS /
AND THE LIMITATIONS WE SHOULD PUT ON OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

LET ME TURN NOW TO A TASK THAT IS, ABOVE ALL, THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT ~~FOR~~ THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLE.

TODAY, WE UTTER NO PRAYER MORE FERVENTLY THAN THE ANCIENT PRAYER FOR PEACE ON EARTH. YET HISTORY HAS SHOWN THAT PEACE DOES NOT COME / NOR WILL OUR FREEDOM BE PRESERVED / BY GOOD WILL ALONE. THERE ARE THOSE IN THE WORLD WHO SCORN OUR VISION OF HUMAN DIGNITY AND FREEDOM. ONE NATION, (THE SOVIET UNION) HAS CONDUCTED THE GREATEST MILITARY BUILD-UP IN THE HISTORY OF MAN / — BUILDING ARSENALS OF AWESOME, OFFENSIVE WEAPONS.

WE HAVE MADE PROGRESS IN RESTORING OUR DEFENSE CAPABILITY. BUT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE. THERE MUST BE NO WAVERING BY US, / NOR ANY DOUBTS BY OTHERS / THAT AMERICA WILL MEET HER RESPONSIBILITIES TO REMAIN FREE, SECURE, AND AT PEACE.

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY SAFELY AND
LEGITIMATELY TO REDUCE THE COST OF NATIONAL
SECURITY / AND THAT IS TO REDUCE THE NEED FOR
IT. THIS WE ARE TRYING TO DO IN

NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. WE ARE
NOT JUST DISCUSSING LIMITS ON ANY FURTHER
INCREASE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. WE SEEK,

INSTEAD, TO REDUCE THEIR ^{NUCLEAR} ~~NUCLEAR~~ FOR THE SAKE OF
EACH CHILD IN EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE.

WE SEEK, ONE DAY THE TOTAL ELIMINATION OF ALL
NUCLEAR WEAPONS. FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

FOR DECADES, WE AND THE SOVIETS HAVE
LIVED UNDER THE THREAT OF MUTUAL ASSURED
DESTRUCTION. IF EITHER RESORTED TO THE USE
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS / THE OTHER COULD
RETALIATE, AND DESTROY THE OTHER. IS THERE
EITHER LOGIC OR MORALITY IN BELIEVING THAT,
IF ONE SIDE THREATENS TO KILL TENS OF
MILLIONS OF OUR PEOPLE / OUR ONLY RECOURSE IS
TO THREATEN ^{KILLING} TENS OF MILLIONS OF THEIRS?

WE SEEK ANOTHER WAY -- A FAR BETTER
WAY. I HAVE APPROVED A RESEARCH PROGRAM TO ^{FIND}
~~SEE IF~~ ^{IF "CN"} A SECURITY SHIELD CAN BE DEVELOPED
THAT WILL DESTROY NUCLEAR MISSILES BEFORE
THEY REACH THEIR TARGET. ~~SUCH A SHIELD~~
~~IT~~ WOULD NOT KILL PEOPLE, ~~IT~~ ^{WLD} DESTROY WEAPONS.
IT WOULD NOT MILITARIZE SPACE, ~~IT~~ ^{WLD} HELP
DEMILITARIZE THE ARSENALS OF EARTH. ~~SUCH A~~ ^{WAY TO}
~~SHIELD~~ COULD RENDER NUCLEAR WEAPONS
OBSOLETE. ~~SO~~, WE WILL MEET WITH THE SOVIETS
HOPING ~~THAT~~ WE CAN AGREE ON A FORMULA FOR
RIDDING THE WORLD OF THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR
DESTRUCTION.

~~AND AS~~ WE STRIVE FOR PEACE AND
SECURITY, ~~WE ARE~~ HEARTENED BY THE CHANGES
ALL AROUND US. SINCE THE TURN OF THE
CENTURY, THE NUMBER OF DEMOCRACIES IN THE
WORLD HAS GROWN FOUR-FOLD. ~~TODAY~~, HUMAN
FREEDOM IS ON THE MARCH, AND NOWHERE MORE SO
THAN IN OUR OWN HEMISPHERE.

FREEDOM IS ONE OF THE DEEPEST AND NOBLEST
ASPIRATIONS OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT. PEOPLE
WORLDWIDE HUNGER FOR THE RIGHT OF
SELF-DETERMINATION, FOR THOSE INALIENABLE
RIGHTS THAT MAKE FOR HUMAN DIGNITY AND
PROGRESS.

AMERICA MUST REMAIN FREEDOM'S
STAUNCHEST FRIEND, FOR FREEDOM IS OUR BEST
ALLY, AND THE WORLD'S ONLY HOPE TO CONQUER
POVERTY AND PRESERVE PEACE. EVERY BLOW WE
INFLECT AGAINST POVERTY WILL BE A BLOW
AGAINST ITS DARK ALLIES OF OPPRESSION AND
WAR. EVERY VICTORY FOR HUMAN FREEDOM WILL
BE A VICTORY FOR WORLD PEACE.

SO WE GO FORWARD TODAY, A NATION STILL
MIGHTY IN ITS YOUTH AND POWERFUL IN ITS
PURPOSE. WITH OUR ALLIANCES STRENGTHENED,
WITH OUR ECONOMY LEADING THE WORLD TO A NEW
AGE OF ECONOMIC EXPANSION, WE LOOK TO A
FUTURE RICH IN POSSIBILITIES.

ALL THIS BECAUSE WE WORKED AND ACTED
TOGETHER/ NOT AS MEMBERS OF POLITICAL
PARTIES/ BUT AS AMERICANS.

MY FRIENDS, WE LIVE IN A WORLD LIT BY
LIGHTNING. } SO MUCH IS CHANGING AND WILL
CHANGE/ BUT SO MUCH ENDURES, AND TRANSCENDS
TIME.

HISTORY IS A RIBBON, ALWAYS UNFURLING/ }
HISTORY IS A JOURNEY. } AND AS WE CONTINUE
OUR JOURNEY WE THINK OF THOSE WHO TRAVELLED
IT BEFORE US. } WE STAND AGAIN AT THE STEPS
OF THIS SYMBOL OF OUR DEMOCRACY/ AND WE SEE
AND HEAR AGAIN THE ECHOES OF OUR PAST.

A GENERAL FALLS TO HIS KNEES IN THE
HARD SNOW OF VALLEY FORGE/ A LONELY
PRESIDENT PACES THE DARKENED HALLS/ AND
PONDERS HIS STRUGGLE TO PRESERVE THE UNION/
THE MEN OF THE ALAMO CALL OUT ENCOURAGEMENT
TO EACH OTHER/ A SETTLER PUSHES WEST AND
SINGS A SONG, AND THE SONG ECHOES OUT
FOREVER AND FILLS THE UNKNOWNING AIR.

IT IS THE AMERICAN SOUND, HOPEFUL,
BIG-HEARTED, IDEALISTIC, -- DARING, DECENT,
AND FAIR, THAT IS OUR HERITAGE, THAT IS OUR
SONG. WE SING IT STILL, FOR ALL OUR
PROBLEMS, OUR DIFFERENCES, WE ARE TOGETHER
AS OF OLD, ~~AS~~ WE RAISE OUR VOICES TO THE GOD
WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF THIS MOST TENDER MUSIC.
AND MAY HE CONTINUE TO HOLD US CLOSE AS WE
FILL THE WORLD WITH OUR SOUND, IN UNITY,
AFFECTION, AND LOVE. ONE PEOPLE UNDER GOD,
DEDICATED TO THE DREAM OF FREEDOM HE HAS
PLACED IN THE HUMAN HEART, CALLED UPON NOW
TO PASS THAT DREAM ON TO A WAITING AND
HOPEFUL WORLD.

GOD BLESS YOU AND MAY GOD BLESS
AMERICA.

#

1005 JAN 16 PM 12 48

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 16, 1985

*Just fine
RR*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BEN ELLIOTT *Ben*
SUBJECT: Inaugural Address

This revised draft comes to you incorporating comments from an extensive review by Messrs. Baker, Meese, Wirthlin, and Svahn.

There was a shared feeling that the address needs to be more visionary and theme-oriented, with greater emphasis on confidence and hope in a future of growth and opportunity. Your specific policy requests backed up by an abundance of facts and figures will be excellent and effective within the framework of the State of the Union Address. But the Inaugural should galvanize and inspire, not explain and defend.

Also, Mr. Wirthlin, in particular, feels very strongly that "shining city on a hill," has already been used to its best effect many times. We have substituted an ending that we believe pulls together the themes of democracy and daring that unite us still.

This draft is slightly longer than your original, but shorter than your Inaugural Address of 1981.

Thank you.

(RR)
January 16, 1985
Noon

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: INAUGURAL
MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1985

Senator Mathias, Reverend Clergy, Chief Justice Burger, Vice President Bush, Senator Dole, Speaker O'Neill, members of my family, and my fellow citizens:

There are no words adequate to express my thanks for the great honor you have bestowed on me. I will do my utmost to be deserving of your trust.

This is the 50th time an American President has taken the oath of office. When the first President, George Washington, placed his hand upon the Bible, the Capitol was less than a single day's journey by horseback from raw, untamed wilderness.

There were 4 million Americans in a confederation of 13 States. Today, we are 60 times as many in a Union of 50 States. We have lighted the world with our inventions, gone to the aid of our fellow humans wherever in the world they cried out for help, journeyed to the Moon and safely returned.

When I took this oath 4 years ago, I did so in a time of economic stress. Voices were raised saying we had to look to our past for the greatness and glory that had marked our two centuries as a Nation. But we, the present-day Americans, are not given to looking backward. In this blessed land, there is always a better tomorrow.

Four years ago, I spoke to you of a new beginning and we have accomplished that. But in another sense, our new beginning is just a continuation of that beginning created two centuries ago; that break with the past when, for the first time in

history, a people said, Government is not our master but our servant; and Government's only power will be that which we the people allow it to have.

Our bedrock principles have never failed us. But, for a time, we failed those principles. Over recent years we asked things of Government that Government was not equipped to give. We yielded authority to Government that properly belonged at local or State government levels or in the hands of the citizenry. We allowed taxes and inflation to rob us of our earnings and savings. We watched the great industrial machine that had made us the most productive people on Earth slow and saw the number of unemployed mount.

By 1980, we knew it was time to embrace again the great promise of our revolution; time to renew our faith; to dream heroic dreams; to strive with all our strength toward the ultimate in individual freedom, consistent with an orderly society.

We believed then and we repeat today: There are no limits to growth and human progress, except those barriers Government puts in our way. And we were right to believe. Tax rates have been reduced, inflation brought under control, and more people are employed today than ever in our history.

We are creating a new America, a rising Nation that is, once again, vibrant, robust, and alive. But the great promise of our revolution was meant for all people for all future time. And there are many mountains yet to climb. We cannot and will not rest until every American, from countryside to inner city, enjoys

the fullness of freedom, dignity, and opportunity which is our birthright as citizens of this great Republic.

If we meet this challenge, these will be the years when Americans restored their confidence and rescued their time-honored tradition of progress;

When our traditional values of faith, family, work and neighborhood were revived and restated for a modern age;

When our economy was finally freed from Government's grip, and the American eagle soared to new heights;

When we made sincere efforts at arms reduction, but also, by rebuilding our defenses and our economy, and developing new technologies, strengthened our position and helped preserve peace in a troubled world;

And, when America courageously supported the struggle for individual liberty, self-government, and free enterprise throughout the world, and turned the tide of history away from totalitarian darkness and into the warm sunlight of human freedom.

My fellow citizens, our Nation is poised for greatness. We must do what we know is right, and do it with all our might. Let history say of us, these were golden years when the American revolution was reborn, when freedom gained new life, when America reached for her best.

Our two-party system has served us well over the years, but never better than when in times of great challenge -- we come together not as Democrats or Republicans, but as Americans united in this common cause.

Two of our Founding Fathers, a Boston lawyer named Adams and a Virginia planter named Jefferson, both members of that remarkable group who met in Carpenters Hall and dared to think they could start the world over again, left us an important lesson. They had become political rivals in the Government they had helped create.

In the presidential campaign and election of 1800, they were bitterly estranged. Only years later when both were retired did they begin to speak to each other through letters when age had softened their anger.

In 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, they both died, died on the same day, within a few hours of each other. The day was the Fourth of July.

In one of those letters exchanged in the sunset of their lives, Jefferson wrote, "It carries me back to the times when, beset with difficulties and dangers, we were fellow laborers in the same cause, struggling for what is most valuable to man, his right of self government. Laboring always at the same oar, with some wave ever ahead threatening to overwhelm us, and yet passing harmless -- we rode through the storm with heart and hand."

With heart and hand, let us stand as one today: One people under God determined that our future shall be worthy of our past. As we do, we must never forget the well-intentioned mistakes of our past. We must never again abuse the trust of our working men and women, by sending their earnings on a futile chase after the spiraling demands of a Federal establishment. You elected us in

1980 to end this prescription for disaster. I do not believe you re-elected us in 1984 to reverse course.

At the heart of our program is one idea vindicated by 24 straight months of economic growth: Incentives unleash the drive and entrepreneurial genius of free men and women. We have begun to increase rewards for work, savings and investment, reduce the increase in the cost and size of Government, and lower the amount of regulatory interference in the people's lives.

But rather than limit our challenge to growth, let us challenge the limits of growth. We must simplify our tax system, make it more fair and bring personal tax rates down for all who work and earn. We must think anew and move with new boldness, so every American who seeks to work can find work; so the least among us has an equal chance to achieve the greatest things -- to be heroes who heal the sick, feed the hungry, protect peace among nations, and leave this world a better place.

The time has come for a new American Emancipation -- a great national drive to break down economic barriers, and liberate the spirit of enterprise in the most distressed areas of our country. My friends, together we can do this, and do it we must, so help me God.

From new freedom will spring new opportunities for growth, a more productive, fulfilled and united people, and a stronger America -- an America that can lead the technological revolution, but also open its mind, heart, and soul to treasures of literature, music and poetry, and values of faith, courage, and love.

With a dynamic economy, with more citizens employed and paying taxes, we will have our strongest tool to bring down budget deficits. But an almost unbroken 50 years of deficit spending has finally brought us to a time of reckoning.

We have come to a turning point, a moment for hard decisions. I have asked the Cabinet and Staff a question and now I put that same question to you. If not us, who? If not now, when? We know the answer. It must be done now, by all of us going forward with a program aimed at reaching a date certain when the budget will be balanced. We can then begin reducing the national debt.

I will shortly submit a budget to the Congress aimed at freezing overall spending in 1986 at the 1985 level. Beyond that we must take further steps to permanently control Government's power to tax and spend.

We must act now to protect future generations from Government's desire to spend its citizens' money and tax them into servitude when the bills come due. Let us make it unconstitutional for the Federal Government to spend more than it takes in.

We have already started returning to the people and to State and local governments responsibilities better handled by them. There is a place for the Federal Government in matters of social compassion, but our highest goal must be to reduce dependency and upgrade the dignity of those who are infirm or disadvantaged. And here, a growing economy, along with support from the family and community, offer our best chance for a society where

compassion is the way of life, where the old and infirm are cared for, the young and, yes, the unborn protected, and the unfortunate looked after and made self-sufficient.

There is another area where the Federal Government can play a part. As an older American, I remember a time when people of different race, creed, or ethnic origin in our land found hatred and prejudice installed in social custom and, yes, even in law. There is no story more heartening in our history than the progress we've made toward the "brotherhood of man" that God intended for us. Let us resolve there will be no turning back or even hesitation on the road to an America rich in dignity and abundant with opportunity for all our citizens.

Let us resolve that we the people will build an American Opportunity Society, in which all of us -- white and black, rich and poor, young and old -- go forward together, arm in arm. Again, let us remember that, though our heritage is one of blood lines from every corner of the Earth, we are all Americans pledged to carry on this last, best hope of man on Earth.

I've talked of our domestic goals, and the limitations we should put on our national Government. Let me turn now to a task that is, above all, the primary responsibility of national Government -- the safety and security of our people.

Today, we utter no prayer more fervently than the ancient prayer for peace on Earth. Yet history has shown that peace does not come, nor will our freedom be preserved, by good will alone. There are those in the world who disdain our vision of human dignity and freedom. One nation, the Soviet Union, has conducted

the greatest military build-up in the history of man, building arsenals of awesome, offensive weapons.

We have made progress in restoring our defense capability. But much remains to be done. There must be no wavering by us, and no doubting by others, that America will meet her responsibilities to remain free, secure, and at peace.

There is only one way to safely and legitimately reduce the cost of national security, and that is to reduce the need for it. This we are trying to do in negotiations with the Soviet Union. We are not just discussing limits on any further increase of nuclear weapons. We seek, instead, a reduction of the number of such weapons. For the sake of each child born today, and in the year 2,000, we seek the total elimination of nuclear weapons from the face of the Earth.

For decades, we and the Soviets have had a policy of mutual assured destruction; if either resorted to nuclear weapons, the other could retaliate, and destroy the other. This mutual threat has played a part in 40 years of peace, but there is a great immorality in an agreement that if one side kills tens of millions of our people, our only recourse is to kill tens of millions of theirs.

We seek another way -- a far better way. I have approved a research program to see if a defensive security shield can be developed that will destroy nuclear missiles before they reach their target. Such a shield would not kill people, it would destroy weapons. Such a shield could render nuclear weapons obsolete. So, we will meet with the Soviets hoping that we can

agree on a formula for ridding the world of the threat of nuclear destruction.

And as we strive for peace and security, we are heartened by the changes all around us. Since the turn of the century, the number of democracies in the world has grown five-fold, and today, human freedom is on the march. It is one of the deepest and noblest aspirations of the human spirit. People worldwide hunger for the right of self-determination, for those inalienable rights that make for human dignity and progress.

There are 3 billion human beings in third world countries. Their average per capita income is less than \$600 a year. Some suggest the answer to this problem is a simple transfer of wealth. That isn't good enough. Let us ask others to join us in a practical program of aid, trade, and technical assistance to encourage economic development through incentives and free markets, so they can climb out of poverty on their own.

America must remain freedom's staunchest friend, for freedom is our best ally, and the world's only hope, to conquer poverty and preserve peace. Every blow we inflict against poverty will be a blow against its dark allies of oppression and war. Every victory for human freedom will be a victory for world peace.

So we go forward today, our alliances strengthened, and our economy leading the world into a new age of economic expansion, with unlimited possibilities for the future. All this because we worked and acted together, not as members of political parties, but as Americans.

My friends, we live in a world lit by lightning. So much is changing and will change, but so much endures, and transcends time.

History is a ribbon, always unfurling; history is a journey. And as we continue our journey we think of those who travelled it before us.

We stand again at the steps of this symbol of our democracy, and we see and hear again the echoes of our past.

A General falls to his knees in the snow of Valley Forge; a lonely President walks the halls, and leads a terrible war to preserve the Union and wipe out the shame of slavery; the men of the Alamo join in prayer; a settler pushes west and sings a song, and the song echoes out forever and fills the unknowing air.

It is the American sound: hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic -- daring, decent, and fair. That is our heritage, that is our song. We sing it still. For all our problems, our differences, we are together as of old, as we raise our voices to the God who is the Author of this most tender music. And may He continue to hold us close as we fill the world with our sound -- in unity, affection, and love. One people under God, dedicated to the dream of freedom He has placed in the human heart, called upon now to pass that dream on to a waiting and hopeful world.

God bless you and may God bless America.