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ABORTION

We must with calmness and resolve help the vast majority of our fellow Americans understand that the more than 1-1/2 million abortions performed in America in 1980 amount to a great moral evil, an assault on the sacredness of human life.

Remarks at Conservative Political Action
Conference Dinner

Washington, DC

2/26/82

A Senate committee hearing was held recently to determine, if we can, when life actually begins. And there was exhaustive testimony of experts presenting both views, and finally the result was declared inconclusive. They couldn't arrive at an answer. Well, in my view alone, they did arrive at an answer, an answer that justifies the proposed (human life) legislation. If it's true we don't know when the unborn becomes a human life, then we have to opt in favor that it is a human life until someone proves it isn't.

Remarks at the Centennial Meeting of the
Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus

Hartford, CT

8/3/82

And I just happen to believe that simple morality dictates that unless and until someone can prove the unborn human is not alive, we must give it the benefit of the doubt and assume it is. And thus, it should be entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Remarks at the Alfred M. Landon Lecture
Series on Public Issues

Manhattan, KS

9/9/82

ABORTION (con't)

I know there are many who sincerely believe that limiting the right of abortion violates the freedom of choice of the individual. But if the unborn child is a living entity, then there are two individuals, each with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. (Applause) Unless and until someone can prove the unborn is not alive, and all medical evidence indicates it is, then we must concede the benefit of the doubt to the unborn infant.

Remarks to the Conservative Political
Action Conference Dinner

Washington, DC

2/18/83

My Administration is dedicated to the preservation of America as a free land, and there is no cause more important for preserving that freedom than affirming the transcendent right to life of all human beings, the right without which no other rights have any meaning.

"Abortion and the Conscience of the
Nation"

First Appeared in: The Human Life Review
Spring 1983

Every legislator, every doctor, and every citizen needs to recognize that the real issue is whether to affirm and protect the sanctity of all human life, or to embrace a social ethic where some human lives are valued and others are not. As a nation, we must choose between the sanctity of life ethic and the "quality of life" ethic.

IBID

ABORTION (con't)

The real question today is not when human life begins, but, What is the value of human life? The abortionist who reassembles the arms and legs of a tiny baby to make sure all its parts have been torn from its mother's body can hardly doubt whether it is a human being. The real question for him and for all of us is whether that tiny human life has a God-given right to be protected by the law -- the same right we have.

IBID

I have often said that when we talk about abortion, we are talking about two lives -- the life of the mother and the life of the unborn child. Why else do we call a pregnant woman a mother? I have also said that anyone who doesn't feel sure whether we are talking about a second human life should clearly give life the benefit of the doubt. If you don't know whether a body is alive or dead, you would never bury it. I think this consideration itself should be enough for all of us to insist on protecting the unborn.

IBID

We are poorer not simply for lives not led and for contributions not made, but also for the erosion of our sense of the worth and dignity of every individual. To diminish the value of one category of human life is to diminish us all. Slavery, which treated Blacks as something less than human, to be bought and sold if convenient, cheapened human life and mocked our dedication to the freedom and equality of all men and women. Can we say that abortion -- which treats the unborn as something less than human, to be destroyed if convenient -- will be less corrosive to the values we hold dear?

National Sanctity of Human Life Day,
1984 Proclamation

1/13/84

ABORTION (con't)

This nation fought a terrible war so that black Americans would be guaranteed their God-given rights. Abraham Lincoln recognized we could not survive as a free land when some could decide whether others should be free or slaves. Well, today another question begs to be asked: How can we survive as a free Nation when some decide that others are not fit to live and should be done away with?

I believe that no challenge is more important to the character of America than restoring the right to life to all human beings. Without that right, no other rights have meaning.

Address to the National Religious
Broadcasters Convention

Washington, DC

1/30/84

Many who seek abortions do so in harrowing circumstances. Often, they suffer deep personal trauma. Just as tolerance means accepting that many in good faith hold views different from our own, it also means that no man or woman should sit in judgment on another. If we could rise above bitterness and reproach, if Americans could come together in a spirit of understanding and helping, then we could find positive solutions to the tragedy of abortion -- and this we must do.

Remarks at the National Association of
Evangelicals 42d Annual Convention

Columbus, OH

3/6/84

Each child about to be born is a unique, unrepeatable gift. Each child who escapes the tragedy of abortion is an immeasurable victory.

Remarks to Participants in the
1986 March for Life Rally

The Oval Office

1/22/86

ABORTION (con't)

Our positive stance on family and children is consistent with our heartfelt convictions on the issue of abortion. Here again, we're not just against an evil. We're not just antiabortion; we're prolife. Many who consider abortion the taking of human life understandably feel frustrated and perhaps a sense of helplessness in bringing about the legal changes that we all seek. Progress has been slow and painful, and all the while the taking of unborn lives continues. Well, while we keep up the pressure for a change of law, there is something that can be done. Those of us who oppose abortion can and should aggressively move forward with a positive adoption versus abortion campaign.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference Luncheon

Washington, DC

2/20/87

Many who turn to abortion do so in harrowing circumstances, and we must remind those who disagree with us, and sometimes even ourselves, that we do not seek to condemn, we do not seek to sit in judgment. Yes, we must take our stand without apology. Yet at the same time, it is our duty to rise above bitterness and reproach, to call upon all Americans to come together in a spirit of helping and understanding. For we know that in this great and good nation, positive solutions to the tragedy of abortion can be found.

Remarks at a White House Briefing with
Right-to-Life Advocates

Washington, DC

7/30/87

ABORTION (con't)

Our Nation cannot continue down the path of abortion, so radically at odds with our history, our heritage, and our concepts of justice. This sacred legacy, and the well-being and the future of our country, demand that protection of the innocents must be guaranteed and that the personhood of the unborn be declared and defended throughout our land.

National Sanctity of Human Life Day,
1988 Proclamation

1/15/88

AFGHANISTAN

The Soviet Union bears a grave responsibility for the continuing suffering of the Afghan people, the massive violations of human rights, and the international tension which has resulted from its unprovoked attack. The Soviet Union must understand that the world will not forget, as it has not forgotten the peoples of the other captive nations from Eastern Europe to Southwest Asia -- who have suffered from Soviet aggression.

Remarks on Signing Afghanistan Day Proclamation

The East Room

3/10/82

The way to end this tragic situation is based on the criteria advanced repeatedly by the United Nations: the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan; the restoration of Afghanistan's independence and its nonaligned status; self-determination for the Afghan people; and the return of the millions of Afghan refugees to their homes with safety, and honor. Until these goals are achieved, the Soviet Union will continue to pay a high price for its suppression of Afghanistan's freedom.

Statement on the Fifth Anniversary
of the Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan

12/26/84

Certainly the struggle in Afghanistan is of great strategic military importance. Yet the most important battle involves not guns, but the human spirit -- the longing to be free and the duty to help the oppressed. If the free world were to turn its back on Afghanistan, then, in a sense, the free world would become less free and less humane.

Radio Address to the Nation

Los Angeles, CA

12/28/85

AFGHANISTAN (con't)

Despite calculated destruction of crops, irrigation systems, and livestock, indiscriminate air and artillery bombardments of civilian areas, brutal reprisals against noncombatants, and other unspeakable atrocities, the Afghan people remain determined to defend their liberty. The resistance has in fact become more effective than ever.

Afghanistan Day 1986 Proclamation

3/21/86

The Afghan people did not invite the Soviets to bomb and burn their villages, to maim and orphan their children, to rewrite their history, and to spurn their religion and culture. They did not invite the Soviets to destroy their fields and lay waste to vast portions of their country.

Statement by the President on the Seventh
Anniversary of the Soviet Invasion of
Afghanistan

12/27/86

Some 5 million Afghans have fled the ravages of this Soviet war on their homeland and the oppression the Soviet Army has imposed. As many as 1 million Afghans have been killed. In destroying crops, factories, homes, schools, and mosques, the Soviet Union has sought to deprive its enemy -- the whole Afghan nation -- of the means to support and feed themselves, to sustain their culture and their faith, and thereby to bring them to their knees.

Statement by the President

Washington, DC

12/27/87

AFRICA

(A)s we continue to increase our shipments of food aid to those at risk in Africa, we also will continue to ensure that our aid does not provide a disincentive to increased local production that is critical to solving Africa's food problem in the long term. We are confident that, together with contributions from other donor nations, we now have the resources to combat the immediate crisis and that as a result further millions of lives will be saved.

Statement on Signing H.R. 1239 Into Law

4/5/85

We applaud the African nation's call for reform leading to greater reliance on their private sectors for economic growth. We believe that overcoming hunger and economic stagnation requires policies that encourage Africans' own productivity and initiatives; such a policy framework will make it easier for the rest of the world, including the United States, to help. The laws of economic incentives do not discriminate between developed and developing countries. They apply to all equally.

Remarks to the 41st General Assembly
of the United Nations

New York, NY

9/22/86

AIDS

(A)ll the vaccines and medications in the world won't change one basic truth: that prevention is better than cure. And that's particularly true of AIDS, for which right now there is no cure. This is where education comes in . . . The Federal role must be to give educators accurate information about the disease. Now, how that information is used must be up to schools and parents, not government. But let's be honest with ourselves. AIDS information cannot be what some call "value neutral." After all, when it comes to preventing AIDS, don't medicine and morality teach the same lessons?

Remarks at a Luncheon for Members of the
College of Physicians

Philadelphia, PA

4/1/87

Some time ago I heard the story of a man who received what turned out to be a transfusion of blood contaminated with the AIDS virus. He was infected and in turn his wife was infected. And within 2 years, they both had died. Well, I'm determined that we'll find a cure for AIDS. When the Carthaginian general Hannibal was preparing to cross the Alps and was told there was no way across, he said: "We'll find a way, or make one." And that's the kind of determination we all have about curing AIDS. We'll find a way, or make one.

IBID

Those of us in government can educate our citizens about the dangers. We can encourage safe behavior. We can test to determine how widespread the virus is. We can do any number of things. But only medical science can ever truly defeat AIDS.

Remarks to the American Foundation
for AIDS Research Awards Dinner

Washington, DC

5/31/87

AIDS (con't)

What our citizens must know is this: America faces a disease that is fatal and spreading and this calls for urgency, not panic. It calls for compassion, not blame. And it calls for understanding, not ignorance. (Applause) It's also important that America not reject those who have the disease, but care for them with dignity and kindness. (Applause) Final judgment is up to God; our part is to ease the suffering and to find a cure. This is a battle against disease, not against our fellow Americans.

IBID

Education is knowing how to adapt, to grow, to understand ourselves and the world around us. And values are how we guide ourselves through the decisions in life. How we behave sexually is one of those decisions. As Surgeon General Koop has pointed out, if children are taught their own worth, we can expect them to treat themselves and others with greater respect. And wherever you have self-respect and mutual respect, you don't have drug abuse and sexual promiscuity -- which, of course, are the two major causes of AIDS.

Remarks to the American Foundation
of AIDS Research Awards Dinner

Washington, DC

5/31/87

Both medicine and morality teach the same lesson about prevention of AIDS. The Surgeon General has told all Americans that the best way to prevent AIDS is to abstain from sexual activity until adulthood and then to restrict sex to a monogamous, faithful relationship. This advice and the advice to say no to drugs can, of course, prevent the spread of most AIDS cases. Millions already follow this wise and timeless counsel, and our Nation is the poorer for the lost contributions of those who, in rejecting it, have suffered great pain, sorrow, and even death.

1987 AIDS Awareness and Prevention Month
Proclamation

AIDS (con't)

Education is crucial for awareness and prevention of AIDS. Parents have the primary responsibility to help children see the beauty, goodness, and fulfillment of chastity before marriage and fidelity within it; know the blessings of stable family life; and say yes to life and no to drugs. Educational efforts should be locally determined and consistent with parental values. Educators can develop and relay accurate health information about AIDS without mandating a specific curriculum on this subject. Parents and educators should teach children not to engage in premarital sex or to use drugs, and should place sexuality in the context of marriage, fidelity, commitment, and maturity.

IBID

We also need to remember that the battle against AIDS calls for calmness, compassion, and conviction -- calmness, to remember that fear is the enemy of just solutions; compassion, for all AIDS victims; and conviction, for the understanding and the willingness to combat this major public health threat effectively.

IBID

ALMIGHTY (con't)

Without God, there is no virtue, because there's no prompting of the conscience. Without God, we're mired in the material, that flat world that tells us only what the senses perceive. Without God, there is a coarsening of the society. And without God, democracy will not and cannot long endure. If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

Remarks at an Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast

Dallas, TX

8/23/84

(O)urs is also a pilgrimage, a pilgrimage toward those things we honor and love: human dignity, the hope of freedom for all peoples and for all nations. And I've always cherished the belief that all of history is such a pilgrimage and that our Maker, while never denying us free will, does over time guide us with a wise and provident hand, giving direction to history and slowly bringing good from evil -- leading us ever so slowly but ever so relentlessly and lovingly to a moment when the will of man and God are as one again.

Remarks to Members of the Royal Institute
of International Affairs

London, England

6/3/88

And so, if future generations do say of us that in our time peace came closer, that we did bring about new seasons of truth and justice, it will be cause of pride. But it shall be a cause of greater pride, still, if it is also said that we were wise enough to know the deliberations of great leaders and great bodies are but overture, that the truly majestic music, the music of freedom, of justice, and peace is the music made in forgetting self and seeking in silence the will of Him who made us.

Address Before the 43rd Session of the
United Nations General Assembly

New York, NY

9/26/88

AMERICA

It is impossible to capture in words the splendor of this vast continent which God has granted as our portion of His creation.

Presidential Nomination Acceptance Address --
Republican National Convention

Detroit, MI

7/17/80

Can we doubt that only a Divine Providence placed this land, this island of freedom, here as a refuge for all those people in the world who yearn to breathe free? Jews and Christians enduring persecution behind the Iron Curtain, the boat people of Southeast Asia, Cuba, and of Haiti, the victims of drought and famine in Africa, the freedom fighters in Afghanistan, and our own countrymen held in savage captivity.

IBID

A few years ago, someone figured out that if you could condense the entire history of life on Earth into a motion picture that would run for 24 hours a day, 365 days -- maybe on leap years we could have an intermission -- (Laughter) -- this idea that is the United States wouldn't appear on the screen until 3-1/2 seconds before midnight on December 31st. And in those 3-1/2 seconds not only would a new concept of society come into being, a golden hope for all mankind, but more than half the activity, economic activity in world history, would take place on this continent. Free to express their genius, individuals Americans, men and women, in 3-1/2 seconds, would perform such miracles of invention, construction, and production as the world had never seen.

Address at Commencement Exercises at the
University of Notre Dame

South Bend, IN

5/17/81

AMERICA (con't)

The very key to our success has been our ability, foremost among nations, to preserve our lasting values by making change work for us rather than against us.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC 1/25/83

This Administration is motivated by a political philosophy that sees the greatness of America in you, her people, and in your families, churches, neighborhoods, communities -- the institutions that foster and nourish values like concern for others and respect for the rule of law under God.

Remarks at the Annual Convention of the
National Association of Evangelicals

Orlando, FL 3/8/83

The promise of America, the character of our people, the thrust of our history, and the challenge of our future all point toward a higher mission: to build together a society of opportunity, a society that rewards excellence, bound by a body of laws nourished with the spirit of faith, equity, responsibility, and compassion. The streets of America would not be paved with gold; they would be paved with opportunity. Success would depend upon personal initiative and merit.

Remarks at the 105th Annual Meeting of the
American Bar Association

Atlanta, GA 8/1/83

AMERICA (con't)

In these last three years, we've made a new beginning, a dramatic and far-reaching step toward a much better tomorrow. Thank you for keeping the faith. Thank you all for your strength and support. I believe we've come too far, struggled too hard and accomplished too much to turn back now.

(Applause) With your help we can put strong wings on weary hearts. We can make America stronger, not just economically and militarily, but also morally and spiritually. We can make our beloved country the source of all the dreams and opportunities she was placed on this good earth to provide. We need only to believe in each other and in the God who has so blessed our land. (Applause)

Remarks to "Spirit of America" Rally

Atlanta, GA

1/26/84

We are a nation under God. I've always believed that this blessed that this blessed land was set apart in a special way, that some divine plan placed this great continent here between the oceans to be found by people from every corner of the Earth who had a special love for freedom and the courage to uproot themselves, leave homeland and friends, to come to a strange land. And coming here they created something new in all the history of mankind -- a land where man is not beholden to government, government is beholden to man.

IBID

Today, America stands taller in the world. At home we've made a fundamental change in direction -- away from bigger and bigger government, toward more power and incentives for people; away from confusion and failure, toward progress through commitment to the enduring values of western civilization; away from weakness and instability, toward peace through strength and a willingness to negotiate.

Radio Address to the Nation

London, England

6/9/84

AMERICA (con't)

Other countries see our entrepreneurial spirit and seek to emulate it. They see how a vigorous, free society allows man to move on and grow. They see how we're trying to make life better for man through scientific inquiry. They see us pushing into space. Other systems are locked on to the land, prisoners of a gravity of their own devising. America is a rocket, pushing upward and outward into space, into human history.

Message to the Nation Commemorating
Independence Day, 1984

7/4/84

(W)e must continue our forward strategy for freedom and speak up for human dignity whenever it's threatened. I preach no manifest destiny, but I do say we Americans cannot turn our backs on what history has asked of us. Keeping alive the hope of human freedom is America's mission, and we cannot shrink from the task or falter in the call to duty. In the past 4 years, we've offered renewed hope to millions of people in developing lands, and we're beginning to see them turn away from the East and toward political and economic systems based on personal freedom. So we must not be apologetic about our nation's commitment to freedom. We must present to the world an America that is not just militarily strong, but an America that is morally powerful; an America that has a creed, a cause, a vision of a future time when all people of the world will have the right to self-government and personal freedom.

Remarks at the 66th Annual Convention
of the American Legion

Salt Lake City, UT 9/4/84

America's future will always be great because our nation will always be strong. Our nation will be strong because our people will be free. And our people will be free because we will be united.

Remarks at a Reagan-Bush '84 Rally

Van Nuys, CA 11/5/84

AMERICA (con't)

History is a ribbon, always unfurling. History is a journey. And as we continue our journey, we think of those who traveled before us. We stand again at the steps of this symbol of our democracy -- well, we would have been standing at the steps if it hadn't gotten so cold. (Laughter) Now we're standing inside 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 unknowing air.

It is the American sound. It is hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent, and fair. That's our heritage, that's our song. We sing it still.

Inaugural Address

The Capitol Rotunda 1/21/85

New freedom in our lives has planted the rich seeds for future success:

For an America of wisdom that honors the family, knowing that if the family goes, so goes our civilization;

For an America of vision that sees tomorrow's dreams in the learning and hard work we do today;

For an America of courage whose service men and women, even as we meet, proudly stand watch on the frontiers of freedom;

For an America of compassion that opens its heart to those who cry out for help.

We have begun well. But it's only a beginning. We're not here to congratulate ourselves on what we have done but to challenge ourselves to finish what has not yet been done.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC 2/6/85

AMERICA (con't)

I have lived through a third of American history. I've seen war and depression, peace and prosperity. I've seen the great spirit of the American people build industries and transform the world. But all this time, I have never seen our land hold so much promise as it does today. We are strong as only a free people can be strong. There flows within each of us the heroic blood of pioneers and immigrants. And the greatest adventure men or women can want awaits us: the adventure of a new century. That century can bring untold wealth, peace, and happiness, not only to ourselves but to all mankind. We can lead the way. Our quest for excellence can become the entire world's

Remarks at a White House Briefing for
Business Leaders

The East Room

2/17/87

AMERICAN PEOPLE

The American people, the most generous on earth, who created the highest standard of living, are not going to accept the notion that we can only make a better world for others by moving backward ourselves. And those who believe we can have no business leading this nation.

Presidential Nomination Acceptance Address --
Republican National Convention

Detroit, MI

7/17/80

Everywhere, we've met thousands of Democrats, Independents, and Republicans from all economic conditions, walks of life, bound together in that community of shared values of family, work, neighborhood, peace, and freedom. They are concerned, yes; they're not frightened. They're disturbed, but not dismayed. They are the kind of men and women Tom Paine had in mind when he wrote, during the darkest days of the American Revolution, "We have it in our power to begin the world over again."

Nearly 150 years after Tom Paine wrote those words, an American President told the generation of the Great Depression that it had a "rendezvous with destiny." I believe this generation of Americans today also has a rendezvous with destiny.

IBID

We hear much of special interest groups. Well, our concern must be for a special interest group that has been too long neglected. It knows no sectional boundaries or ethnic and racial divisions, and it crosses political party lines. It is made up of men and women who raise our food, patrol our streets, man our mines and factories, teach our children, keep our homes, and heal us when we are sick -- professionals, industrialists, shop keepers, clerks, cabbies, and truck drivers. They are, in short, "We the people," this breed called Americans.

Inaugural Address

Washington, DC

1/20/81

AMERICAN PEOPLE (con't)

We have every right to dream heroic dreams. Those who say that we're in a time when there are no heroes, they just don't know where to look. You can see heroes every day going in and out of factory gates. Others, a handful in number, produce enough food to feed all of us and then the world beyond. You meet heroes across a counter. And they're on both sides of that counter. There are entrepreneurs with faith in themselves and faith in an idea who create new jobs, new wealth and opportunity. They're individuals and families whose taxes support the government and whose voluntary gifts support church, charity, culture, art, and education. Their patriotism is quiet but deep. Their values sustain our national life.

IBID

(A)long with our Founding Fathers, I've always believed that the intuitive wisdom of the people is far more dependable over the long run than the temporary insights or parochial pursuits of the Washington experts.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

10/4/86

What Washington too often doesn't understand, but I know you do, is that the source of our record-breaking expansion will not be found poring over the computer models and equations of high priced consulting firms but by peering into the American heart. And there you'll find optimism about the future, trust in the strength of ordinary people, and faith in the power of freedom. I learned about these in Iowa and Illinois. And like belief in God, love of family, and hope in the human soul, they have a power no instrument can measure and no computer model can predict, but I promise you, as long as I'm President, they're a force that Washington will not forget.

Remarks at a Luncheon Hosted by WOC Radio
and Quad-Cities Chamber of Commerce

Davenport, IA

7/14/88

APARTHEID

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 concerns and our 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.

Remarks at a Ceremony for the Signing of the
International Human Rights Day Proclamation

Washington, DC

12/10/84

We have been doing all we can to foster the development of a just society in South Africa, and will continue to do so. My Administration has on repeated occasions publicly condemned the system of apartheid as systematic racial discrimination that denies the black majority its inalienable rights. We have done so even more often in private discussions with officials of the South African Government. American policy is based on ensuring peaceful change in South Africa. Change is inevitable. The issue, in our view, is not whether apartheid is to be dismantled. but how and when. All men of good will want to see it replaced by a just society, not through a racial conflagration where the people could well exchange one oppressor for another.

Response to Questions Submitted by Foreign Press

12/6/85

APARTHEID (con't)

America's view of apartheid has been and remains clear. Apartheid is morally wrong and politically unacceptable. The United States cannot maintain cordial relations with a government whose power rests upon the denial of rights to a majority of its people based upon race.

Remarks to Members of the World Affairs
Council and the Foreign Policy Association

The East Room

7/22/86

ARMED FORCES

At Trophy Point I'm told there are links of a great chain that was forged and stretched across the Hudson to prevent the British fleet from penetrating further into the valley. Today you are that chain holding back an evil force that would extinguish the light we've been tending for 6,000 years.

Address at Commencement Exercises at
the United States Military Academy

West Point, NY

5/27/81

(W)e have put in place a defense program that redeems the neglect of the past decade. We have developed a realistic military strategy to deter threats to peace and to protect freedom if deterrence fails. Our Armed Forces are finally properly paid; after years of neglect are well trained and becoming better equipped and supplied. And the American uniform is once again worn with pride.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/25/84

When you see one of those young men or women out on the street in uniform, if you haven't done it already, give them a smile and maybe ask them where they're from and tell them maybe you're a little grateful for what they're doing. I have to tell you that nothing in this job has made me more proud than the young men and women who are representing our country in uniform. They have the highest level of intelligence and education of any who have ever represented our country in the past in uniform. They are the best trained. They have an esprit de corps that just won't stop.

Remarks at the Reagan-Bush Family
Festival Rally

Austin, TX

7/25/84

ARMED FORCES (con't)

The world today is a dangerous place; even in some regions, a savage place. The noble profession of arms, the profession so vital to the maintenance of justice and peace, has never been more demanding. And I want you to know that, since becoming President, nothing has moved me more deeply or given me more hope for America's future than seeing the way in which you, our men and women in uniform, perform your often difficult duties. Ladies and gentlemen of the Pacific Command, you do your nation proud.

Remarks on Arrival at Hickam AFB

Honolulu, HI

4/26/86

The new patriotism that's alive in our nation today is reflected in these young people joining our military services -- they're better educated, better trained and as highly motivated as any time in our history. These young Americans look to a future they know will be free as long as America remains strong and her people resolute.

Radio Address to the Nation

Arlington, VA

5/17/86

America's great because of men and women like you, men and women with big hearts and strong minds and with courage beyond the usual measure. You know, someone wisely said that a hero isn't really braver than anyone else -- he's just brave five minutes longer than anyone else. And it's because of you that America's future will be big, and strong, and generous, and full of hope and fighting spirit. It's because of you that we can be sure that America will be "Semper Fidelis" -- always faithful to her best hopes and highest ideals.

Remarks to Marine Corps Recruit Graduates

Parris Island, SC

6/4/86

ARMED FORCES (con't)

You represent the best of America and carry in your hearts the values that are the source of our liberty and our spiritual strength. This is reflected in the path of the service that you've chosen. We're a nation of free men and women, who use our God-given liberty to serve our country because we love her and all that she represents. It's our earnest prayer to serve America in peace. It is our solemn commitment to defend her in time of war.

Remarks at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy
Commencement Ceremony

New London, CT

5/18/88

ARTS (con't)

In recognizing those who create and those who make creation possible, we celebrate freedom. No one realizes the importance of freedom more than the artist, for only in the atmosphere of freedom can the arts flourish. Artists have to be brave; they live in the realm of idea and expression, and their ideas will often be provocative and unusual. Artists stretch the limits of understanding. They express ideas that are sometimes unpopular. In an atmosphere of liberty, artists and patrons are free to think the unthinkable and create the audacious; they are free to make both horrendous mistakes and glorious celebrations. Where there's liberty, art succeeds.

IBID

Why do we, as a free people, honor the arts? Well, the answer is both simple and profound. The arts and the humanities teach us who we are and what we can be. They lie at the very core of the culture of which we're a part, and they provide the foundation from which we may reach out to other cultures so that the great heritage that is ours may be enriched by, as well as itself enrich, other enduring traditions. We honor the arts not because we want monuments to our own civilization but because we are a free people. The arts are among our nation's finest creations and the reflection of freedom's light.

Remarks at a Luncheon for National Medal of
Arts Recipients

The East Room

6/18/87

In acting, poetry, and so many of the arts, you get inside a character, a place, and a moment. You come to know the character in that instant not as an abstraction, one of the people, one of the masses, but as a particular person -- yearning, hoping, fearing, loving -- a face, even what had once been a face, apart from all others; and you convey that knowledge. You describe it, you describe the face. Pretty soon, at least for me, it becomes harder and harder to force any member of humanity into a straightjacket, into some rigid form in which you all expect to fit. In acting, even as you

ARTS (con't)

develop an appreciation for what we call the dramatic, you become in a more intimate way less taken with superficial pomp and circumstance, more attentive to the core of the soul -- that part of each of us that God holds in the hollow of his hand and into which he breathes the breath of life.

Remarks at a Luncheon Hosted by Leaders of
the Cultural and Art Community

Moscow

5/31/88

BEIRUT BOMBING

We don't know yet who bears responsibility for this terrible deed. What we do know is that the terrorists who planned and carried out this cynical and cowardly attack have failed in their purpose. They mistakenly believe that if they're cruel enough and violent enough, they will weaken American resolve and deter us from our effort to help build a lasting and secure peace in the Middle East. If they think that they don't know too much about America. As a free people, we've never allowed intimidation to stop us from doing what we know to be right.

Radio Address to the Nation

The Oval Office 4/23/83

It is written, "Blessed be the peacemakers." And they truly were peacemakers. They knew the road they traveled was hard and fraught with peril. They walked that road with cool professionalism and a deep sense of purpose. They knew at firsthand how an afflicted mankind looks to us for help -- with faith in our strength, our sense of justice, and our decency. And that is the America that your loved ones exemplified. Let our monument to their memory be a preservation of that America.

Remarks at a Ceremony Honoring the Victims of the
Bombing of the United States Embassy in
Beirut, Lebanon

Andrews Air Force Base 4/23/83

Brave young men have been taken from us. Many others have been grievously wounded. Are we to tell them their sacrifice was wasted? They gave their lives in defense of our national security every bit as much as any man who ever died fighting in a war. We must not strip every ounce of meaning and purpose from their courageous sacrifice.

Address to the Nation on Events in Lebanon
and Grenada

The Oval Office 10/27/83

BERLIN WALL

The Berlin Wall is a dramatic example of the desperate and cruel extremes to which totalitarian regimes will go to deny their subjects contact with other Europeans. From the Baltic Sea to Southeastern Europe, a murderous barrier of minefields and barbed wire, manned by guards who shoot to kill, stands as a monument to the inhumanity of those who would make the individual the servant of the state.

Statement of the 20th Anniversary
of the Berlin Wall

8/13/81

From here I will go to Bonn, and then Berlin, where there stands a grim symbol of power untamed. The Berlin Wall, that dreadful gash across the city, is in its third decade. It is the fitting signature of the regime that built it.

Remarks to the British Parliament

London, England 6/8/82

It was one of Germany's greatest sons, Goethe, who said that "there is strong shadow where there is much light." In our times, Berlin, more than any other place in the world, is such a meeting place of light and shadow, tyranny and freedom. To be here is truly to stand on freedom's edge and in the shadow of a wall that has come to symbolize all that is darkest in the world today, to sense how shining and priceless and how much in need of constant vigilance and protection our legacy of liberty is.

Remarks to the People of Berlin

Cologne/Bonn Airport 6/11/82

BERLIN WALL (con't)

Standing before the Brandenburg Gate, every man is a German, separated from his fellow men. Every man is a Berliner, forced to look upon a scar.

Remarks at the Brandenburg Gate

West Berlin, Germany 6/12/87

No place on Earth can you see more clearly the contrast between the prison that is communism and the spirit of liberty that lives in all of humanity.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David 8/8/87

That Wall is both a scar across the city of Berlin and a symbol of the division of the German Nation and of Europe. As tentative breezes of openness begin to stir the societies in the East, the Wall now stands in stark contrast to the human struggle for freedom taking place in its shadow. There is no more dramatic proof of communism's failed dream than the Wall.

Statement on the 27th Anniversary
of the Berlin Wall

8/12/88

BLACK AMERICANS

Can the black teenager who faces a staggering unemployment rate feel that government policies are a success? Can the black wage earner who sees more and more of his take-home pay shrinking because of government taxes feel satisfied? Can black parents say, despite a massive influx of Federal aid that educational standards in our schools have improved appreciably? Can the women I saw on television recently -- whose family had been on welfare for three generations and who feared that her children might be the fourth -- can she believe that current government policies will save her children from such a fate?

We ask these tough questions, because we share your concerns about the future of the black community.

Remarks at the Annual Convention of the NAACP

Denver, CO

6/29/81

To a number of black Americans, the U.S. economy has been something of an underground railroad; it has spirited them away from poverty to middle-class prosperity and beyond. But too many blacks still remain behind.

IBID

Rebuilding America's economy is an absolute moral imperative if we're to avoid splitting this society in two with class against class. I do not intend to let America drift further toward economic segregation. We must change the economic direction of this country to bring more blacks into the mainstream, and we must do it now.

IBID

BLACK AMERICANS (con't)

For too long now, black Americans seem to have been written off by one party and taken for granted by the other. And for the vast majority of black Americans, that's been a strictly no-win situation. Changing it will require a commitment from all of us. So, tonight I want you to know that the Republican Party stands ready and willing to reach out to black Americans.

Remarks at the National Black Republican
Council Dinner

Washington, DC

9/15/82

You are a symbol that even in times of great adversity, men and women can work together and improve their lot. In a shameful period of American history, you offered hope and provided a vehicle for advancement to millions of Americans. Your story can serve to inspire all those who struggle to better themselves. And today, I'm proud that I've been given this opportunity to be a part of repaying you for all that you've done for America.

Remarks at a Meeting with Black College
and University Residents

The East Room

9/22/82

Black history in the United States has been a proving ground for America's ideals. The first great test of our political good faith came with the Civil War and the rooting out of slavery as an institution. The second came a century later, in the struggle for the recognition of the rights already won in principle -- the abolition of second-class citizenship.

National Afro-American History Month Message

2/1/86

BORK NOMINATION (con't)

Each of us owes a sacred debt to our ancestors, who established the rule of law in this Republic, and to the citizens of the future, to whom we entrust our nation's destiny. In a special way, this duty now falls upon the United States Senate as it nears a crossroad, a crossroad of conscience, as it prepares to decide on the confirmation of Robert Bork. Let us insist that the Senate not give in to noisy, strident pressures and that elected officials not be swayed by a deliberate campaign of disinformation and distortion.

White House Briefing on the Nomination
of Robert H. Bork

Washington, DC

9/30/87

Three choices are what this battle is all about: the choice between liberal judges who make up the law or sound judges who interpret the law; the choice between liberal judges whose decisions protect criminals or firm judges whose decisions protect the victims; the choice between liberal judges selected by the liberal special interests or distinguished judges selected to serve the people.

IBID

I can't help suspecting that it is the strength of Judge Bork's judicial analysis that has driven some to try to defeat the man after failing to defeat his ideas. It would be a sorry day for this country if fear of an idea well expressed were to deny the country the wisdom of that idea.

IBID

BORK NOMINATION (con't)

It is time to remove the special interests from the judicial selection process. It is time to stop those who are determined to politicize the judiciary and try to accomplish through the courts what they cannot accomplish through the legislature.

Statement by the President on the Nomination of
Robert H. Bork to be an Associate Justice of
the U.S. Supreme Court

10/9/87

It takes leadership from the Supreme Court to help shape the attitudes of the courts in our land and to make sure that principles of law are based on the Constitution. That is the standard to judge those who seek to serve on the courts: qualifications, not distortions; judicial temperament, not campaign disinformation.

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

10/14/87

I am saddened and disappointed that the Senate has bowed today to a campaign of political pressure and has turned down the nomination of Judge Robert Bork to the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Warren Burger said that he could not recall a more qualified nominee in the past 50 years. The highest court in our land will not enjoy the services of one of the finest men ever put forward for a place on its bench. Judge Bork will be vindicated in history.

Statement by the President

10/23/87

BUDGET

All over America, citizens are asking each other the same question: Why is this government incapable of doing what their families, municipalities, and State governments do as a matter of course -- spend within the limits of their revenues? Twenty-one unbalanced budgets in 22 years is proof that our Federal budgetary system needs fundamental reform. We must not and we will not, permit prospects for lasting economic recovery to be buried beneath an endless tide of red ink. Americans understand that the discipline of a balanced budget amendment is essential to stop squandering and overtaxing. And they're saying the time to pass the amendment is now.

Remarks to Reporters Regarding the Constitutional Amendment for a Balanced Federal Budget

The Rose Garden

7/12/82

I don't think you want us to balance the budget by weaseling out of the first decent tax program since John Kennedy's tax cut nearly 20 years ago, nor would you have us do it by compromising defenses and placing our country's security in peril. There is a better way. Balance the budget by bringing to heel a Federal establishment which has taken too much power from the states, too much liberty with the Constitution, and too much money from the people.

Remarks at the Kickoff Rally for the Balanced Budget Amendment

Washington, DC

7/19/82

I've said before on occasion that balancing the budget is like protecting your virtue. You just have to learn to say "no."
(Laughter)

Remarks at a Rally in Support of the Proposed Constitutional Amendment for a Balanced Federal Budget

Washington, DC

7/19/82

BUDGET (con't)

Unfortunately, hardly anyone could honestly call Federal budgets wise, careful, or fair. Is it fair to ask one small business to help subsidize its competitors? Is it fair to ask workers in the private economy to pay for civil service pensions that are much more generous than the retirement benefits they receive? Is it fair to ask low-income families to help pay for the college education of children from families with incomes as high as \$100,000 a year? Is it fair to ask taxpayers to help pay billions for export subsidies to a handful of America's biggest corporations?

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

4/24/85

Our administration remains ready to work with Congress in fashioning this budget, in particular to consider any budget proposal that meets the three basic requirements of a strong national defense, a shrinking Federal deficit, and no tax increase. But I have to be frank: If the big spenders want a fight on the budget, they'd better strap on their helmets and shoulder pads. In this fourth and final quarter, I'm determined to go out there and win one for the American people and, yes -- and one for the Gipper.

Radio Address to the Nation

The Map Room

1/20/87

CAMPAIGN ISSUES

Their government sees people only as members of groups; ours serves all the people of America as individuals. Theirs lives in the past, seeking to apply the old and failed policies to an era that has passed them by. Ours learns from the past and strives to change by boldly charting a new course for the future. Theirs lives by promises, the bigger, the better. We offer proven, workable answers.

Remarks Accepting the Presidential Nomination
at the 1984 Republican National Convention

Dallas, TX

8/23/84

(O)ur opponents have a very different vision for your future. Where we look at a problem and see opportunity, they look at opportunity and see a problem. We believe in knowing when opportunity knocks; they seem determined to knock opportunity. We work to increase your take-home pay; they're working overtime to tax it away. Despite their good intentions, I don't believe they place enough faith in people.

Address to the Nation on Election Eve

The Oval Office

11/5/84

So, this is the choice in '86: legislative finagling or leadership; high taxes and overspending or balanced budgets and economic growth; a weak, isolationist America in a world held hostage by pro-Soviet tyrants and Third World despots or a strong, secure America that accepts its destiny as leader of the free world. We've built the foundations of a future full of hope, an American future of unparalleled achievement and prosperity.

Remarks at the Annual Republican Senate/House
Fundraising Dinner

Washington, DC

5/21/86

CAMPAIGN (con't)

It's time to talk issues; to use the dreaded "L" word; to say the policies of our opposition and the congressional leadership of his party are liberal, liberal, liberal. The choice before the American people this year is just as clear as it was in 1980 and 1984: a choice between, on the one hand, the policies of limited government, economic growth, a strong defense, and a firm foreign policy and, on the other hand, policies of tax and spend, economic stagnation, international weakness and accommodation, and always, always, always, blame America first.

Remarks at the Welcoming Rally at the
Republican National Convention

New Orleans, LA

8/14/88

I said in New Orleans that the convention our liberal opponents held in Atlanta was the biggest masquerade since last year's Mardi Gras. (Laughter) Our opponents adopted our rhetoric and our slogans, but every word was like a mask which hid the liberal face of their agenda. When they said opportunity, they meant subsidies. When they said reducing the deficit, they meant raising taxes. When they said strong defense, they meant cutting defense spending. And that's why I've just got to believe that when the American people say election day, they'll mean "We want George Bush."

Remarks at a Presidential Campaign Rally
for George Bush

Los Angeles, CA

8/24/88

CANADA

Now, with our other friends, (the United Kingdom and Canada) must embark with great spirit and commitment on the path toward unity and strength. On this side of the Atlantic, we must stand together for the integrity of our hemisphere, for the inviolability of its nations, for its defense against imported terrorism, and for the rights of all our citizens to be free from the provocations triggered from outside our sphere for malevolent purposes. Across the oceans, we stand together against the unacceptable Soviet invasion into Afghanistan and against continued Soviet adventurism across the Earth. And toward the oppressed and dispirited people of all nations, we stand together as friends ready to extend a helping hand.

Remarks at the President Before a
Joint Session of the Parliament in Ottawa

The House of Commons Chamber

3/11/81

This is my first trip outside the United States since I was sworn into a second term. Four years ago, I took my first trip as President -- and then, too, I came to Canada. And this is not a coincidence. For the United States there is no more important relationship than our tie with Canada. We are each other's most important economic partner. We each play an important role in world affairs. We share a responsibility for the protection of the continent that we peacefully share. We have a joint stake in its environment. And we are partners in space and in the he technologies of the future.

Remarks at Arrival Ceremony

Quebec City, Canada 3/17/85

CANADA (con't)

(The United States and Canada) cooperate in the defense of North America and are partners in the NATO alliance. We share a tradition of democracy and political stability and a firm commitment to economic growth. We're not only friends and neighbors, we're cousins.

Radio Address to the Nation

The Oval Office 1/4/86

CARIBBEAN BASIN

In the face of outside threats, security for the countries of the Caribbean and Central American area is not an end in itself, but a means to an end. It is a means toward building representative and responsive institutions, toward strengthening pluralism and free private institutions -- churches, free trade unions, and an independent press. It is a means to nurturing the basic human rights freedom's foes would stamp out. In the Caribbean we above all seek to protect those values and principles that shape the proud heritage of this hemisphere.

Remarks to the Organization of American States

Washington, DC

2/24/82

The events of the last several years dramatize two different futures which are possible for the Caribbean area; either the establishment or restoration of moderate constitutional governments with economic growth and improved living standards, or further expansion of political violence from the extreme left and the extreme right resulting in the imposition of dictatorships and inevitably more economic decline and human suffering.

IBID

Let our friends and our adversaries understand that we will do whatever is prudent and necessary to insure the peace and security of the Caribbean area. In the face of outside threats, security for the countries of the Caribbean and Central American area is not an end in itself, but a means to an end. It is a means toward building representative and responsive institutions, toward strengthening pluralism and free private institutions -- churches, free trade unions, and an independent press. It is a means to nurturing the basic human rights freedom's foes would stamp out.

IBID

CENTRAL AMERICA

Are democracies required to remain passive while threats to their security and prosperity accumulate? Must we just accept the destabilization of an entire region from the Panama Canal to Mexico on our southern border? Must we sit by, while independent nations of this hemisphere are integrated into the most aggressive empire the modern world has seen?

Remarks in an Address to a Joint Session
of Congress

Washington, DC

4/27/83

The national security of all the Americas is at stake in Central America. If we cannot defend ourselves there, we cannot expect to prevail elsewhere. Our credibility would collapse, our alliances would crumble and the safety of our homeland would be put at jeopardy. We have a vital interest, a moral duty, and solemn responsibility. This is not a partisan issue. It is a question of our meeting our moral responsibility to ourselves, our friends, and our posterity. It is a duty that falls to all of us -- the President, the Congress, and the people. We must perform it together. Who among us would wish to bear the responsibility for failing to meet our shared obligation?

IBID

There may be an argument for doing too much and, perhaps, an argument for doing nothing. But there is no valid argument for doing too little. Well, I opt for doing enough -- enough to protect our own security and enough to improve the lives of our neighbors so that they can vote with ballots instead of bullets.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

1/14/84

CENTRAL AMERICA (con't)

It's up to all of us, the Administration, you as citizens, and your representatives in the Congress. The people of Central America can succeed if we provide the assistance I have proposed. We Americans should be proud of what we are trying to do in Central America, and proud of what, together with our friends, we can do in Central America -- to support democracy, human rights, and economic growth, while preserving peace so close to home. Let us show the world that we want no hostile, Communist colonies here in the Americas: South, Central or North.

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

5/9/84

The simple questions are: Will we support freedom in this hemisphere or not? Will we defend our vital interests in this hemisphere or not? Will we stop the spread of communism in this hemisphere or not? Will we act while there is still time?

IBID

There are those in this country who would yield to the temptation to do nothing. They are the new isolationists, very much like the isolationists of the late 1930's who knew what was happening in Europe, but chose not to face the terrible challenge history had given them. They preferred a policy of wishful thinking, that if they only gave up one more country, allowed just one more international transgression, and surely sooner or later the aggressor's appetite would be satisfied. Well, they didn't stop the aggressors; they emboldened them. They didn't prevent war; they assured it.

IBID

CENTRAL AMERICA (con't)

A key Soviet objective has long been to turn Central America into a beachhead for subversion. By tying us down in this hemisphere, by penetrating our vital sea lanes, and crippling our ability to meet our commitments worldwide, the Soviets will find it much easier to intimidate other nations and to expand their empire.

I know many well-intentioned people would rather not accept these facts. But we who have the responsibility for governing cannot afford to be ostriches with our heads in the sand.

Radio Address to the Nation

The Oval Office 3/30/85

My fellow citizens, Members of the House, let us not take the path of least resistance in Central America again. Let us keep faith with these brave people struggling for their freedom. Give them, give me, your support; and together, let us send this message to the world: that America is still a beacon of hope, still a light unto the nations. A light that casts its glow across the land and our continent and even back across the centuries -- keeping faith with a dream of long ago.

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office 6/24/86

A Soviet base on the American mainland is a pistol pointed at the heart of the Americas.

Remarks at the Annual Washington Conference of
the Veterans of Foreign Wars

Washington, DC 3/7/88

CHALLENGER

For the families of the seven, we cannot bear, as you do, the full impact of this tragedy. But we feel the loss, and we're thinking about you so very much. Your loved ones were daring and brave, and they had that special grace, that special spirit that says, "Give me a challenge and I'll meet it with joy." They had a hunger to explore the universe and discover its truths. They wished to serve, and they did. They served all of us.

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

1/28/86

And I want to say something to the schoolchildren of America who were watching the live coverage of the shuttle's takeoff. I know it is hard to understand, but sometimes painful things like this happen. It's all part of the process of exploration and discovery. It's all part of taking a chance and expanding man's horizons. The future doesn't belong to the faint-hearted; it belongs to the brave. The CHALLENGER crew was pulling us into the future, and we'll continue to follow them.

IBID

The crew of the space shuttle CHALLENGER honored us by the manner in which they lived their lives. We will never forget them, nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waved goodbye and "slipped the surly bonds of earth" to "touch the face of God."

IBID

CHALLENGER (con't)

Dick, Mike, Judy, El, Ron, Greg, and Christa -- your families and your country mourn your passing. We bid you goodbye; we will never forget you. For those who knew you well and loved you, the pain will be deep and enduring. A nation, too, will long feel the loss of her seven sons and daughters, her seven good friends. We can find consolation only in faith, for we know in our hearts that you who flew so high and so proud now make your home beyond the stars, safe in God's promise of eternal life.

Remarks at the Memorial Service for the
Crew of the Space Shuttle CHALLENGER

The Johnson Space Center
Houston, TX 1/31/86

This has been a difficult passage for America, but we will go on just as the crew of the space shuttle Challenger would have wanted us to. We'll use every ounce of American skill, ingenuity, and gumption; and we'll work twice as hard and be twice as vigilant. We'll simply do what has to be done to make our space program safe and reliable and a renewed source of pride to our nation.

America has a claim to state on the future. We've suffered a tragedy and a setback, but we'll forge ahead, wiser this time, and undaunted -- as the spirit of the Challenger and her seven heroes.

Remarks on Receiving the Presidential Commission's
Report Regarding the Space Shuttle Challenger
Accident

The Rose Garden 6/9/86

CIA

Contrary to a distorted image that emerged during the last decade, there is no inherent conflict between the intelligence community and the rights of our citizens. Indeed, the purpose of the intelligence community is the protection of our people.

Statement on United States Intelligence Activities

12/4/81

This is no to say mistakes were never made and that vigilance against abuse is unnecessary. But an approach that emphasizes suspicion and mistrust of our own intelligence efforts can undermine this Nation's ability to confront the increasing challenge of espionage and terrorism. This is particularly true in a world in which our adversaries pay no heed to the concerns for individual rights and freedoms that are so important to Americans and their government. As we move into the 1980's, we need to free ourselves from the negative attitudes of the past and look to meeting the needs of the country.

IBID

Most Americans realize that intelligence is a good and necessary profession to which high caliber men and women dedicate their lives. We respect them for their honorable and often perilous service to our nation and the cause of freedom. For all our technological advances, the gathering of information and its analysis depend finally on human judgment; and good judgment depends on the experience, integrity, and professionalism of those who serve us in the intelligence community.

IBID

CIA (con't)

An intelligence agency cannot operate effectively unless its necessary secrets are maintained even in this, the most open and free country on Earth. We cannot expect you or your informants to endanger life and work because of carelessness, sensationalism, or unnecessary exposure to risk. Hostile intelligence activities conducted in this country and directed at U.S. interests abroad threaten not only our legitimate secrets and our technological advantages but also our privacy and, ultimately, our freedom. To the danger of espionage is added active measures designed to subvert and deceive, to disinform the public opinion upon which our democracies are built.

Remarks at Groundbreaking Ceremonies for an
Addition to the CIA Headquarters Complex

New Langley, VA

5/24/84

CIVIL RIGHTS

Our nation's long journey towards civil rights for all our citizens -- once a source of discord, now a source of pride -- must continue with no backsliding or slowing down. We must and shall see that those basic laws that guarantee equal rights are preserved and, when necessary, strengthened.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/26/82

There are some, raised in an era when "States rights" was a cover phrase for racism, who are fearful that returning power to the States will result in discrimination. For the record, this administration will not support any legislation returning programs to States that undermines the Federal Government's continuing role of protecting the civil rights of all Americans. The new federalism is not meant to be and will not be permitted to be a step backward in our Nation's commitment to civil rights.

Remarks at the Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisor's Town Meeting

Los Angeles, CA

3/3/82

Equal treatment and equality before the law -- these are the foundations on which a just and free society is built. But there are some today who, in the name of equality, would have us practice discrimination. They have turned our civil rights laws on their head, claiming they mean exactly the opposite of what they say. These people tell us that the Government should enforce discrimination in favor of some groups through hiring quotas, under which people get or lose particular jobs or promotions solely because of their race or sex. Some bluntly assert that our civil rights laws only apply to special groups and were never intended to protect every American.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

6/15/85

CIVIL RIGHTS (con't)

I think it's fair to say that we've come a long way in the pursuit of racial fairness in our country. We have a lot to be proud of, but nothing to be complacent about; we still have a way to go. We're committed to a society in which all men and women have equal opportunities to succeed, and so we oppose the use of quotas.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David, MD

1/18/86

The fight for genuine equality of opportunity goes on. It still continues for many Americans today, yet let us not ignore the strides that have been made and the great strides that are being made toward ending discrimination and bigotry in our towns and communities, in our government, and most important, in our own hearts.

Remarks on Signing the Martin Luther King, Jr.,
Day Proclamation

The Roosevelt Room

1/12/88

COMMUNISM

The years ahead are great ones for this country, for the cause of freedom and the spread of civilization. The West won't contain communism, it will transcend communism. It won't bother to dismiss or denounce it, it will dismiss it as some bizarre chapter in human history whose last pages are even now being written.

Address at Commencement Exercises at the
University of Notre Dame

South Bend, IN

5/17/81

During my lifetime, I have seen the rise of fascism and communism. Both philosophies glorify the arbitrary power of the state. These ideologies held, at first, a certain fascination for some intellectuals. But both theories fail. Both deny those God-given liberties that are the inalienable right of each person on this planet; indeed they deny the existence of God. Because of this fundamental flaw, fascism has already been destroyed, and the bankruptcy of communism has been laid bare for all to see -- a system that is efficient in producing machines of war but cannot feel its people.

New Year's Day Remarks to the People
of Foreign Nations

(Filmed for Broadcast) 1/1/82

The record is clear. Nowhere in its whole sordid history have the promises of communism been redeemed. Everywhere it has exploited and aggravated temporary economic suffering to seize power and then to institutionalize economic deprivation and suppress human rights.

Address Before the Permanent Council of the
Organization of American States

Washington, DC

2/24/82

COMMUNISM (con't)

I believe that Communism is another sad, bizarre chapter in human history whose last pages even now are being written. I believe this because the source of our strength in the quest for human freedom is not material but spiritual. And because it knows no limitation, it must terrify and ultimately triumph over those who would enslave their fellow man.

Remarks at the Annual Convention of the
National Association of Evangelicals

Orlando, FL

3/8/83

You know, they say there are only two places where communism works: in heaven where they don't need it -- (laughter) -- and in hell where they've already got it. (Laughter)
(Applause)

Remarks to the Cuban Independence Day Celebration

Miami, FL

5/20/83

When men try to live in a world without God, it's only too easy for them to forget the rights that God bestows -- too easy to suppress freedom of speech, to build walls to keep their countrymen in, to jail dissidents, and to put great thinkers in mental wards. We will deal with the Communist world as we must with a great power: by negotiating with it, from strength and in good faith.

National Association of Evangelicals
42d Annual Convention

Columbus, OH

3/6/84

But (F)or the sake of our security and for the sake of our freedom, let us understand the nature of the single greatest challenge to human rights in the world today: It's the

COMMUNISM (con't)

challenge of one system that puts itself above God, that demands control over people's lives, and that defines its very existence by the relentless drive to conquer more and more lands. And that system is today Communist totalitarianism.

Remarks on Signing Captive Nations Week,
1984 Proclamation

The East Room

7/16/84

I ask you one question: Have you ever in your reading of history heard of a Communist regime that just couldn't wait to negotiate itself into a democracy? I'm afraid it's a little like a skunk negotiating itself into a rose; it doesn't happen a lot. (Laughter)

Remarks at a White House Briefing
for Private Sector Supporters

Washington, DC

3/14/86

CONGRESS

There were also pessimistic predictions about the relationship between our administration and this Congress. It was said we could never work together. Well, those predictions were wrong. The record is clear, and I believe that history will remember this as an era of American renewal, remember this Administration as an Administration of change, and remember this Congress as a Congress of destiny.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/26/82

And (I) believe that America is moving forward again, and it's not because of any magic in Washington. The only magicians are on the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue -- sleight-of-hand artists who have a way of taking your tax dollars and making them disappear. (Laughter)

Remarks at a White House Luncheon for
Republican Women Officials

The State Dining Room

2/17/84

Some people say it's time for a change. Well, I agree. For 52 of the last 56 years, the House of Representatives has been in the hands of the other party. Forty-six of those 56 years, the other party has controlled both Houses of the Congress. Now, I've heard a lot in this campaign from the other side about the evils of deficit spending, and I'm responsible. Well, Congress is the only one in government that can spend a dime. The President can't spend any. Congress makes the budget. You bet it's time for a change.

Remarks at a Fundraiser for
Representative Robert J. Lagomarsino

Santa Barbara, CA

8/27/88

CONSERVATISM

For whatever history does finally say about our cause, it must say: The conservative movement in 20th century America held fast through hard and difficult years to its vision of the truth. And history must also say that our victory, when it was achieved, was not so much a victory of politics as it was a victory of ideas, not so much a victory for any one man or party as it was a victory for a set of principles -- principles that were protected and nourished by a few unselfish Americans through many grim and heartbreaking defeats.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference Dinner

Washington, DC

3/20/81

We can stop the drain on the economy by the public sector. We can restore our national prosperity. We can replace the overregulated society with the creative society. We can appoint to the bench distinguished judges who understand the first responsibility of any legal system is to punish the guilty and protect the innocent. We can restore to their rightful place in our national consciousness the values of family, work, neighborhood, and religion. And, finally, we can see to it that the nations of the world clearly understand America's intentions and respect for resolve.

Now we have the opportunity -- yes, and the necessity -- to prove that the American promise is equal to the task of redressing our grievances and equal to the challenge of inventing a great tomorrow.

IBID

CONSERVATISM (con't)

The dialog and the deeds of the past few decades are not sufficient to the day in which we live. They cannot keep the promise of tomorrow. The encrusted bureaucracies and the engrained procedures which have developed of late respond neither to the minority or the majority. We've come to a turning point. We have a decision to make. Will we continue with yesterday's agenda and yesterday's failures, or will we reassert our ideals and our standards, will we reaffirm our faith, and renew our purpose? This is a time for choosing.

IBID

The difference between the path toward greater freedom or bigger government is the difference between success and failure; between opportunity and coercion; between faith in a glorious future and fear of mediocrity and despair; between respecting people as adults, each with a spark of greatness, and treating them as helpless children to be forever dependent; between a drab, materialistic world where Big Brother rules by promises to special interest groups, and a world of adventure where everyday people set their sights on impossible dreams, distant stars, and the Kingdom of God. We have the true message of hope for America.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference's 11th Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

3/2/84

The new conservatives made anew the connection between economic justice and economic growth. Growth in the economy would not only create jobs and paychecks, they said; it would enhance familial stability and encourage a healthy optimism about the future. Lower those tax rates, they said, and let the economy become the engine of our dreams. Pull back regulations, and encourage free and open competition. Let the men and women of the marketplace decide what they want.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference's 12th Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

3/1/85

CONSERVATISM (con't)

(P)erhaps the greatest triumph of modern conservatism has been to stop allowing the left to put the average American on the moral defensive.

IBID

The old taboos and superstitions of liberalism have collapsed and all but blown away, to be replaced by a robust and enlightened conservatism, a conservatism that brings with it economic prosperity, personal opportunity, and a shining hope that someday all the peoples of the world -- from Afghanistan to Nicaragua to Poland and, yes, to Angola -- will know the blessings of liberty and live in the light of freedom.
(Applause)

Remarks at Conservative Political Action
Conference Dinner

Washington, DC 1/31/86

No longer can it be said that conservatives are just anti-Communist. We are, and proudly so, but we are also the keepers fo the flame of liberty. And as such, we believe that America should be a source of support, both moral and material, for all those on God's Earth who struggle for freedom. Our cause is their cause whether it be in Nicaragua, Afghanistan, or Angola.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference Luncheon

Washington, DC 2/20/87

Modern conservatism is an active, not a reactive philosophy. It's not just in opposition to those vices that debase character and community, but affirms values that are at the heart of civilization.

IBID

CONSERVATISM (con't)

Our record is not just the longest peacetime expansion in history but an economic and social revolution of hope based on work, incentives, growth, and opportunity: a revolution of compassion that led to private sector initiatives and a 77-percent increase in charitable giving; a revolution that at a critical moment in world history reclaimed and restored the American dream.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/25/88

CONSTITUTION

(The United States') Constitution was not written to protect the government from its people. It was written to protect the people from their government. I've told on several occasions, you know, there are a lot of constitutions in the world -- haven't read all of them, but have read a lot of them -- and what is the great difference that makes ours so unique? In most all of those other constitutions, it says, we, the government, permit the people the following things -- they can do this or that. Ours says, we, the people, permit the government to do the following things, and no others.

Remarks at a Rally in Support of the Proposed
Constitutional Amendment for a Balanced
Federal Budget

Washington, DC

7/19/82

The Constitution provides a framework for our continuous striving to make a better America. It provides the basic balance between each branch of government, limits the power of that government, and guarantees to each of us as citizens our most basic rights. The Constitution, however, is only the outline of our system of government. It is through each individual citizen living out the ideals of the Constitution that we reach for a full expression of those ideals.

Citizenship Day and Constitution Week,
1986 Proclamation

Washington, DC

8/29/83

It is truly a marvel that a group of people assembled from a small population could develop a document capable of grading the course of this Nation through nearly 200 years of growth to become the greatest on earth. The wisdom and foresight of the architects of the Constitution is manifest in the fact that this dynamic document has required so few amendments over the 198 years of its existence, and has remained a powerful governing tool throughout.

Citizenship Day and Constitution Week,
1985 Proclamation

9/16/85

CONSTITUTION (con't)

Our written Constitution has been in existence for 200 years, longer than that of any other nation in the world. Although our Nation has grown from 13 isolated agricultural States to an industrialized society of 240 million people, the text of the Constitution provides today, as it did in 1787, a blueprint for a functioning republic with well-considered and workable guidelines for democratic self-government. Its endurance is a tribute not only to the wisdom of the authors of that great document, but to all the citizens who, in our courts and legislatures, have fought to uphold its vital guarantees. It is also a testament to a two-hundred-year-old tradition of freedom through voluntary adherence to the rule of law. Because of the vigilance of the American people, we continue to be a country governed by law, rather than by force or the whim of a few self-proclaimed leaders.

Law Day, U.S.A. 1986 Proclamation

4/16/86

The United States Constitution is the impassioned and inspired vehicle by which we travel through history. It grew out of the most fundamental inspiration of our existence: that we are here to serve Him by living free -- that living free releases in us the noblest of impulses and the best of our abilities. That we would use these gifts for good and generous purposes and would secure them not just for ourselves, and for our children, but for all mankind.
(Applause)

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/27/87

(W)e must always remember that our Constitution is to be celebrated not for being old, but for being young -- young with the same energy, spirit, and promise that filled each eventful day in Philadelphia's statehouse. We will be guided tonight by their acts, and we will be guided forever by their words.

IBID

CONSTITUTION (con't)

The United States Constitution is the impassioned and inspired vehicle by which we travel through history. It grew out of the most fundamental inspiration of our existence; that we are here to serve Him by living free -- that living free releases in us the noblest of impulses and the best of our abilities; that we would use these gifts for good and generous purposes and would secure them not just for ourselves, and for our children, but for all mankind.

IBID

No, it wasn't the absence of problems that won the day in 1787. It wasn't the absence of division and difficulty; it was the presence of something higher -- the vision of democratic government founded upon those self-evident truths that still resounded in Independence Hall. It was that ideal, proclaimed so proudly in this hall a decade earlier, that enabled them to rise above politics and self-interest, to transcend their differences and together create this document, this Constitution that would profoundly and forever alter not just these United States but the world.

Remarks at the "We the People" Celebration Marking
the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution

Philadelphia, PA

9/17/87

If our Constitution has endured, through times perilous as well as prosperous, it has not been simply as a plan of government, no matter how ingenious or inspired that might be. This document that we honor today has always been something more to us, filled with a deeper feeling than one of simple adoration -- a feeling, one might say, more of reverence.

IBID

CONSTITUTION (con't)

Yes, some law professors and judges said the courts should save the country from the Constitution. We said it was time to save the Constitution from them.

Remarks at the Annual Convention of the
Federalist Society for Law and
Public Policy Studies

Washington, DC

9/9/88

CONTRAS

The true heroes of the Nicaraguan struggle, non-communist, democracy-loving revolutionaries, saw their revolution betrayed and took up arms against the betrayer. These men and women are today the democratic resistance fighters some call the Contras. We should call them "freedom fighters."

Radio Address to the Nation

Rancho del Cielo, CA 2/16/85

What I want to do today is simply address some of the questions that people have about the freedom fighters, the so-called "contras." A lot of people who support the "contras" never call them "contras," by the way, because "contra" is short for counterrevolutionary. And counterrevolutionary used to mean pro-Somoza; it was a Sandinista insult. By the way I see it, Somoza has been gone a long time. The revolution that toppled him then became a Communist cup, and so the "contras," so-called, are against it. So, I guess in a way they are counterrevolutionary, and God bless them for being that way.

And I guess that makes them "contras" and so it makes me a "contra," too. I bet you're glad I cleared that all up for you. (Laughter)

Remarks at a White House Briefing
for Private Sector Supporters

Washington, DC 3/14/86

By the thousands, men and women have moved into the countryside and taken up arms. Indeed, today these democratic resistance forces number some 20,000 -- four times the number of troops the Sandinistas had in the field when they themselves seized power. In full knowledge, the members of the resistance have chosen to separate themselves from their

CONTRAS (con't)

(W)hat stands between the Sandinistas and their stated intentions, what stands in the way of a Soviet base camp in Central America, are the Nicaraguan freedom fighters. It's clear that it's the freedom fighters, and only the freedom fighters, that have brought the Sandinistas to the negotiating table and have wrung from them the limited reforms they've made. Without the freedom fighters, the hope of democracy in Nicaragua would be lost.

Remarks to Civic Leaders at a White House
Briefing on Aid to the Nicaraguan
Democratic Resistance

The East Room

1/20/88

CONTRAS (con't)

families and homes, to live in conditions of immense hardship, often with scant water and food, and to expose themselves to the dangers of battle. They fight to liberate their country from a regime that is loyal only to Communist powers. They fight for freedom.

Remarks at the Center for Strategic and
International Studies Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

6/9/86

The young men and women of the democratic resistance fight inside Nicaragua today in grueling mountain and jungle warfare. They confront a Soviet-equipped army, trained and led by Cuban officers. They face murderous helicopter gunships without any means of defense. And still they volunteer. And still their numbers grow. Who among us would tell these brave young men and women: "Your dream is dead: your democratic revolution is over; you will never live in the free Nicaragua you fought so hard to build.

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

6/24/86

(D)espite almost universal acknowledgment of the brutal, totalitarian, and subversive intentions of the Sandinista regime, the renewal of aid to the freedom fighters is still a debated question. But I think there's increasing recognition that the freedom fighters are the only ones who stand between the Sandinistas and their expansionistic aims, that they are the major obstacle to preventing all of Central America from being engulfed in the Communists' "revolutionary fire," that the freedom fighters are the only ones who offer the hope of freedom to the people of Nicaragua and a chance for a stable and long-lasting peace in Latin America. They're worthy of our support.

Remarks at the 100th Annual Convention of the
American Newspaper Publishers

Ellis Island, NY

5/3/87

CRIME

We must understand that basic moral principles lie at the heart of our criminal justice system, that our system of law acts as the collective moral voice of society. There's nothing wrong with these values, nor should we be hesitant or feel guilty about (punishing) those who violate the elementary rules of civilized existence. Theft is not a form of political or cultural expression; it is theft, and it is wrong. Murder is not forbidden as a matter of subjective opinion; it is objectively evil, and we must prohibit it. And no one but the thief and murderer benefits when we we think and act otherwise.

Remarks at the Annual Meeting of the
International Association of
Chiefs of Police

New Orleans, LA

9/28/81

(The problem of crime) demands that we seek transformation of our legal system, which overly protects the rights of criminals while it leaves society and the innocent victims of crime without justice.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/26/82

This administration has moved in its appointments to the Federal bench and in its legislative proposals for bail and parole reform to assist in the battle against the lawless. But we must always remember that our legal system does not need reform so much as it needs transformation. And this cannot occur at just the Federal level. It can really occur only when society as a whole acknowledges principles that lie at the heart of modern conservatism. Right and wrong matters, individuals are responsible for their actions. Society has a right to be protected from those who prey on the innocent.

Remarks at the Conservative Political
Action Conference Dinner

Washington, DC

2/26/82

CRIME (con't)

The rule of law is fundamental to the preservation of the democratic principles and ideals that law-abiding Americans cherish. Our commitment to criminal justice goes far deeper than our desire to punish the guilty or to deter those considering a lawless course. We must never forget that our laws represent the collective moral voice of a free society -- a voice that articulates our shared beliefs about the rules of civilized behavior, and reflects our basic precept that men and women should be treated as free individuals, responsible for the consequences of their actions. When we countenance the suffering of innocent victims of crime, we thus threaten to undermine the faith of our citizens in a legal system that lies at the heart of much that is unique and precious about our Nation itself.

Crime Victims Week, 1982 Proclamation

4/14/82

This is the justification for the offensive on organized criminal enterprises that I've outlined today. It comes down in the end to a simple question we must ask ourselves: What kind of people are we if we continue to tolerate in our midst an invisible, lawless empire? Can we honestly say that America is a land with justice for all if we do not now exert every effort to eliminate this confederation of professional criminals, this dark, evil enemy within?

You know the answer to that question. The American people want the mob and its associates brought to justice and their power broken -- not out of a sense of vengeance, but out of a sense of justice; not just from an obligation to punish the guilty but from an even stronger obligation to protect the innocent; not simply for the sake of legalities but for the sake of the law that is the protection of liberty?

Remarks Announcing Federal Initiatives Against
Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime

Washington, DC

10/14/82

CRIME (con't)

For too many years, the scales of justice -- the very hallmark of our free society -- have been out of balance. Too often innocent victims of crime turn to their government for protection and support only to find that the criminal justice system seems unable to achieve tow of its fundamental purposes -- protecting those who obey the law and punishing those who break it. Victims and their families must bear the physical, financial, and emotional impact of the crime. It is unjust and inexcusable when they are ignored or mistreated by this system. Victims called fro help, and they needed our assistance. Frequently, their pleas have been unheard and their needs have gone unattended.

Crime Victims Week, 1983 Proclamation

4/8/83

The crime epidemic threat has spread throughout our country and it's no uncontrollable disease, much less an irreversible tide. Nor is it some inevitable sociological phenomenon traceable to urbanization or modern society. It is, instead, and in large measure, a cumulative result of too much emphasis on the protection of the rights of the accused and too little concern for our government's responsibility to protect the lives, homes, and rights of our law-abiding citizens. We should be proud that our criminal justice system protects the constitutional rights of the accused; but over the past few years that system has allowed the safeguards protecting the rights of the innocent to be torn away. This has so complicated the system, clogged our courts, reduced the chances of conviction -- as well as the level of punishment once a criminal is convicted -- that the criminal element now calculates that crime really does pay.

Remarks of the President at Ceremony for
Observance of National Crime Victims Week

The Rose Garden

4/18/83

CRIME (con't)

Of all the changes in the past 20 years, none has more threatened our sense of national well-being than the explosion of violent crime. One does not have to have been attacked to be a victim. The woman who must run to her car after shopping at night is a victim; the couple draping their door with locks and chains are victims; as is the tired, decent cleaning woman who can't ride a subway home without being afraid.

We do not seek to violate rights of defendants. But shouldn't we feel more compassion for victims of crime than for those who commit crime?

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

2/6/85

Those who have experienced the pain, the loss, the sense of violation and frustration that accompany crime know that defeating it requires more than tougher laws and surer punishments -- though tougher and surer they are. Truly effective law enforcement demands our reliance on one of our great historical strengths as a Nation: the willingness of our people to band freely together, in local communities, in defense of lives, homes, and property.

National Neighborhood Crime Watch Day,
1988 Proclamation

8/9/88

CRITICS

In fairness, I'll admit our critics are worried sick about the future of the economy. They're worried it might keep getting better and better. (Laughter)

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference's 11th Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

3/2/84

The critics were wrong on inflation, wrong on interest rates, wrong on the recovery, and I believe they'll be wrong on the deficit, too, if the Congress will get spending under control. If optimism were a national disease, they'd be immune for life. (Laughter) Isn't it time that we've said no to those who keep saying no to America?

IBID

(F)our years after our efforts began, there are small voices in the night, sounding the call to go back -- to go back to the days of drift, the days of torpor, timidity, and taxes.

Remarks to Reagan-Bush Rally

St. Louis, MO

11/4/84

CUBA

About 10 million people still live in Cuba, as compared to about 1 million Cuban Americans, people with the same traditions and cultural heritage; yet the Cubans in the United States with only one-tenth the number produce almost two times the wealth of those they left behind. So don't let anyone fool you, what's happening in Cuba is not a failure of the Cuban people, it's a failure of Fidel Castro and of Communism. (Applause)

Remarks to the Cuban Independence Day Celebration

Miami, FL

5/20/83

Where is Cuba heading? If it were heading toward greater welfare and freedom for (the Cuban) people, that would be wonderful. But we know prisoners of conscience convicted for their political activities have been languishing in Cuban prisons, deprived of all freedom for nearly a quarter of a century. Never in the proud history of (that) country have so many been imprisoned for so long for so-called crimes of political dissent as during these last 25 years. Others convicted of political crimes this year can expect to be in prison well into the 21st Century if the present system in Cuba survives that long.

Radio Address to the Cuban People

The White House

1/5/84

Cuba, after nearly 25 years of so-called revolution, is an economic basket case. It cannot supply even its own needs without massive and costly Soviet subsidies. Like a roving wolf, Castro's Cuba looks to its peace-loving neighbors with hungry eyes and sharp teeth.

Remarks During a Meeting with
Cuban American Leaders

The East Room

3/19/84

CUBA (con't)

Only 90 miles of ocean separate the island of Cuba from the United States, but between our governments is an unbridgeable gulf -- the gulf between freedom and tyranny, between respect for human rights and the rejection of individual freedom. "Within the revolution, everything," Castro has proclaimed, "Against the revolution, nothing." Well, "nothing" has meant no freedom of speech, assembly, religion, or economic activity. "Nothing" has increasingly meant a Cuba dependent on Subsidies from the Soviet Union to keep its unworkable communist economy from complete ruin.

Remarks During Cuban Independence Day Ceremony

The Roosevelt Room

5/20/88

D-DAY

The Rangers looked up and saw the enemy soldiers -- the edge of the cliffs shooting down at them with machine guns and throwing grenades. And the American Rangers began to climb. They shot rope ladders over the face of these cliffs and began to pull themselves up. When one Ranger fell, another would take his place. When one rope was cut, a Ranger would grab another and begin his climb again. They climbed, shot back, and held their footing. Soon, one by one, the Rangers pulled themselves over the top, and in seizing the firm land at the top of these cliffs, they began to seize back the continent of Europe.

Remarks to Veterans at Pointe du Hoc

Normandy, France

6/6/84

These are the boys of Pointe du Hoc. These are the men who took the cliffs. These are the champions who helped free a continent. These are the heroes who helped end a war.

IBID

Forty summers have passed since the battle that you fought here. You were young the day you took these cliffs; some of you were hardly more than boys, with the deepest joys of life before you. Yet, you risked everything here. Why? Why did you do it? What impelled you to put aside the instinct for self-preservation and risk your lives to take these cliffs? What inspired all the men of the armies that met here? We look at you, and somehow we know the answer. It was faith and belief; it was loyalty and love.

IBID

D-DAY (con't)

The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge -- and pray God we have not lost it -- that there is a profound, moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. You were here to liberate, not to conquer, and so you and those others did not doubt your cause. And you were right not to doubt.

IBID

The Americans who fought here that morning knew word of the invasion was spreading through the darkness back home. They fought -- or felt in their hearts, though they couldn't know in fact, that in Georgia they were filling the churches at 4 a.m., in Kansas they were kneeling on their porches and praying, and in Philadelphia they were ringing the Liberty Bell.

Something else helped the men of D-day: their rockhard belief that Providence would have a great hand in the events that would unfold here; that God was an ally in this great cause.

IBID

DEFENSE

Above all we must realize that no arsenal or no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. It is a weapon that we as Americans do have. Let that be understood by those who practice terrorism and prey upon their neighbors.

Inaugural Address

Washington, DC

1/20/81

In 1980 we had planes that couldn't fly, ships that couldn't sail, and troops that couldn't wait to get into civilian clothes. Our major weapons programs were being eliminated or delayed, and America was falling behind. But in Washington, the leadership lectured us on our inordinate fear of communism. Well, the savage Soviet attack against the unarmed Korean airliner is a reminder. We live in a dangerous world with cruel people who reject our ideals and who disregard individual rights and the value of human life. It is my duty as President, and all of our duties as citizens, to keep this nation's defenses second to none so America can remain strong, free, and at peace.

Remarks at Teleconference with Republican
Northeast Regional Leadership Conference

Diplomatic Reception Room 9/12/83

History shows us what works and doesn't work. Unilateral restraint and good will does not provide similar reactions from the Soviet Union, and it doesn't product genuine arms control. But history does teach that when the United States has the resolve to remain strong and united, when we stand up for what we believe in, and when we speak out forthrightly about the world as it is, then positive results can be

DEFENSE (con't)

achieved. Weakness does not offer the chance for success; strength does. And that strength is based on military capability, strong alliances, a willingness to speak the truth and to state our hope that someday all people of the world will enjoy the right to self-government and personal freedom.

Remarks at the Heritage Foundation Dinner

Washington, DC

10/3/83

History doesn't offer many crystal clear lessons for those who manage our nation's affairs, but there are a few. And one of them surely is a lesson that weakness on the part of those who cherish freedom inevitably brings a threat to that freedom. Tyrants are tempted. With the best intentions, we have tried turning our swords into plowshares, hoping that others will follow. Well, our days of weakness are over. Our military forces are back on their feet and standing tall.

Remarks at the Congressional Medal of Honor
Society's Annual Convention

New York, NY

12/12/83

In the coming campaign, Republicans should have no hesitation about bringing the issue of peace and security to the American people. There are many patriotic Democrats who will join us in supporting our efforts to rebuild country's defenses, and we must reach out to them. They know that wearing love beads and touting our sincerity will not make for a safer world. Peace through strength is not a slogan, it's a fact of life. Four wars in my lifetime, and none of them came about because the United States was too strong.

Remarks at the "Salute to Victory" Dinner

New York, NY

3/6/84

DEFENSE (con't)

Granted, it's easy to support a strong defense. It's much harder to support a strong defense budget. And granted, it's easy to call for arms agreements. It's more difficult to support patient, firm, fair negotiations with those who want to see how much we will compromise with ourselves first.

Remarks at the Georgetown University Center
for International and Strategic Studies
National Leadership Forum

Washington, DC

4/6/84

Defense spending accounts for less than 30 percent of our budget today -- far less than 20 years ago. We've cut our planned defense buildup 3 years in a row and cut it again this year -- and all this while our adversaries have raced ahead with the greatest military buildup in the history of man.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

2/2/85

There is also a crowd in Washington who, as usual, is suggesting that the easy way to reduce deficit spending is to slash the defense budget. Well, we are still making up for the folly of a decade ago when our defensive strength was permitted to erode. When we got to Washington on any given day half our military planes could not fly for lack of spare parts or fuel. Half our Naval vessels could not leave port for lack of either crew or spare parts. We must never permit that to happen again. Strength is the greatest guarantor of peace, and keeping our country secure and at peace is the highest responsibility of the Federal government.

Remarks at Fundraiser for Former Governor
Christopher "Kit" Bond

St. Louis, MO

2/12/86

DEFENSE (con't)

This decade opened with a weakened national defense, totalitarian expansionism, and growing regional conflicts. All of these trends, as we move toward the close of the eighties, are being reversed. I just returned from Moscow after signing the first nuclear arms treaty in history that reduces nuclear missiles. There's a Soviet pullout underway in Afghanistan. We see progress in settling regional conflicts, such as Cambodia and Angola and even in the Iran-Iraq war. Because of our military presence and strong stand in the Persian Gulf, there is hope of a settlement. We're also cautiously hopeful about democratic reform within the Eastern bloc itself. American prestige and power have been restored. We've dampened aggression and promoted peace. And we've come to an even greater realization of how much our renewed military strength has meant to all of us.

Remarks Announcing the Veto of the
National Defense Authorization Act

Washington, DC

8/3/88

DEFICIT

But great as our tax burden is, it has not kept pace with public spending. For decades we have piled deficit upon deficit, mortgaging our future and our children's future for the temporary convenience of the present. To continue this long trend is to guarantee tremendous social, cultural, political, and economic upheavals.

Inaugural Address

Washington, DC

1/20/81

Now, it's economic nonsense to say that lowering the tax rates will add to our deficits. We've been having tax increases -- the most recent, the biggest in our history, as I said -- but we're also running the biggest deficits, because government doesn't get the money it needs. Government will always find needs for the money it gets.

Remarks at the Luncheon of the Central City
and California Taxpayer's Associations

Los Angeles, CA

6/25/81

Yes, the deficit is too big, and I'm not about to use a magic pencil and merely create a balanced budget or a lower deficit on paper as has been done in the past. The budget we've proposed is a line drawn in the dirt. Those who are serious about reducing the deficit will cross it and work with us on our proposals or their alternative. Those who are not sincere in their concern about the deficit will stay on the other side and simply continue their theatrics. The American people are tired of theatrics; they want action. And let me tell you, they know the difference.

Address Before a Joint Session of the
Iowa State Legislature

Des Moines, IA

2/9/82

DEFICIT (con't)

We didn't get that trillion-dollar debt because you are not taxed enough. We got that debt because government has spent too much.

Remarks at the Kickoff Rally for the Balanced
Budget Amendment

Washington, DC

7/19/82

Contrary to the drumbeat we've been hearing for the last few months, the deficits we face are not rooted in defense spending . . . Nor is the deficit, as some would have it, rooted in tax cuts . . . The fact is, our deficits come from the uncontrolled growth of the budget for domestic spending.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/25/83

Some Democrats believe that you, the taxpayers, caused the deficit because you pay too little taxes. Well, that's hogwash. We don't have deficits because you're undertaxed. We have deficits because Congress overspends. It's time Congress cut the Federal budget and left your family budgets alone.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

9/20/86

DEMOCRACY

Democracy cannot be imposed from outside and it frequently evolves only after patient, incremental steps. It must be the product of free institutions -- churches, labor unions, independent judiciary, and the press -- and its life-giving rejuvenating process is a citizen placing his vote in a ballot box....

Remarks at a White House Luncheon for Delegates to
the Conference on Free Elections

The East Room

11/4/82

Democracy may not be perfect, but the brave people who risk death for freedom are not fleeing from democracy -- they're fleeing to democracy from communism.

Remarks at a Ceremony Marking the 25th Annual
Observance of Captive Nations Week

Washington, DC

7/19/83

We can and should be proud of our message of democracy. Democracies respect individual liberties and human rights. They respect freedom of expression, political participation, and peaceful cooperation. Governments which serve their citizens encourage spiritual and economic vitality. And we will not be shy in offering this message of hope.

Remarks at a White House Ceremony
Inaugurating the National Endowment
for Democracy

Washington, DC

12/16/83

DEMOCRACY (con't)

(T)he democracies have their own serious injustices to deal with their own serious injustices to deal with. But this should not prevent us from making the crucial moral distinctions between pluralist systems which acknowledge their own wrongs and shortcomings and systems that excuse their defects in the name of totalitarian ideology.

Remarks to Students and Faculty
at Eureka College

Eureka, IL

2/6/84

(S)ome things are worth dying for. One's country is worth dying for, and democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man.

Remarks to Veterans at Pointe du Hoc

Normandy, France

6/6/84

Democracy is far from perfect. But democracy does not wage war on its neighbors; it doesn't build walls to keep its people in; and it doesn't organize armies of secret police to spy on them and keep them quiet. Democracy reflects all the mistakes, all the frailties, but also all the deepest hopes and dreams of the human spirit. And democracy rests upon a noble principle that has and always will make tyrants tremble: Government derives its legitimacy from the consent of the governed.

Remarks on Signing Captive Nations Week,
1984 Proclamation

The East Room

7/16/84

DEMOCRACY (con't)

Democracy has its own moral imperatives, as you well know. But it also has advantages that are profoundly practical. Democratic states do not find it easy to declare and carry out war. Democratic states are not by their nature militaristic. Democracies are traditionally reluctant to spend a great deal of money on arms. Democratic states have built-in controls on aggressive, expansionist behavior, because democratic states must first marshal wide popular support before they move.

Remarks at Dinner for Nicaraguan Refugee Fund

Washington, DC

4/16/85

As we seek to encourage democracy, we must remember that each country must struggle for democracy within its own culture. Emerging democracies have special problems and require special help. Those nations whose democratic institutions are newly emerged and whose confidence in the process is not yet deeply rooted need our help. They should have an established community of their peers, other democratic countries to whom they can turn for support or just advice.

Address to a Special Session of the European
Parliament

Strasbourg, France

5/8/85

The drive for national freedom and popular rule takes different forms in different countries, for each nation is the authentic product of a unique history and culture. In one case, a people's resistance may spring from deep religious belief; in another, from the bonds of ethnic or tribal solidarity; in yet another, from the grievances of colonial rule, or from the failure of an alien ideology to contribute to national progress. Our traditions and the traditions of those

DEMOCRACY (con't)

whom we help can hardly be identical. And their programs will not always match our own experience and preferences. This is to be expected. The real question is: can our policy -- of active American support -- increase the likelihood of democratic outcomes? I believe it can.

From the Report Entitled "Freedom, Regional
Security, and Global Peace"

Transmitted to Congress 3/14/86

Democracy is less a system of government than it is a system to keep government limited, unintrusive; a system of constraints on power to keep politics and government secondary to the important things in life, the true sources of value found only in family and faith.

Remarks to the Students and Faculty of Moscow State
University

5/31/88

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Spendthrifts who mangled America with the nightmare of double-digit inflation, record interest rates, unfair tax increased, too much regulation, credit controls, farm embargoes, gas lines, no-growth at home, weakness abroad, and phony excuses about "malaise" are the last people who should be giving sermonettes about fairness and compassion.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference's 11th Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

3/2/84

Their failures were not caused by erratic weather patterns -- (Laughter) -- unusual rotations of the Moon -- (Laughter) -- or by the personality of my predecessor. (Laughter) They were caused by misguided policies and misunderstanding human nature. Believe me, you cannot create a desert, hand a person a cup of water, and call that compassion. You cannot pour billions of dollars into make-work jobs while destroying the economy that supports them and call that opportunity. And you cannot build up years of dependence on government and dare call that hope.

IBID

It's ironic, isn't it, that just as countries around the world are adopting the same progrowth policies our administration put in place so many in the Democratic Party want to go in the opposite direction.

Radio Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

7/16/88

DEMOCRATIC PARTY (con't)

We Republicans love our bandwagon, but all that other party's got is "A Streetcar Named Desire." (Laughter)

Remarks at the Welcoming Rally at the
Republican National Convention

New Orleans, LA

8/14/88

Yes, I would say to rank and file Democrats, a once proud party of hope and affirmation has become dominated at the top by strident liberalism and negativism. The party of "yes" has become the party of "no" -- no to holding the line on taxes, no to spending cuts, no to the line-item veto, no to the balanced budget amendment, no to the death penalty, no to tough-minded judges, no to enterprise zones, no to the school prayer amendment, no to the right to life, no to adequate defense spending, no to a strategic defense system that protects America from nuclear missiles -- Central America -- no to help those for fighting for -- keep Central America safe from communism, no to liberating Grenada, no to a policy in the Persian Gulf that's help ending war in that region, no to a negotiating stance that has brought us the first nuclear arms reduction treaty in history, no to the foreign policy of strength and purpose that has told the truth about communism and helped bring the first signs of change to the Soviet Union in seven decades. And I would also say to those rank and file Democrats: In all these ways, the liberal leadership of your party has been saying no to you, and now it's time for you to start saying no to them.

IBID

A party that once stood for the broad interests of America's working men and women has become a party fixated on the narrow agenda of the liberal elites and special interest groups.

IBID

DEMOCRATIC PARTY (con't)

It was a party where Harry Truman committed a strong and resolute America to preserving freedom. F.D.R. had run on a platform of eliminating useless boards and commissions and returning autonomy and authority to local governments and to the States. That party changed, and it will never be the same. They left me; I didn't leave them.

Remarks at the Republican National Convention

New Orleans, LA

8/15/88

(I)n 1988 we're seeing this kind of covert liberalism at the national level and to an extraordinary degree. When challenged to say where they stand on the issues, their response is: Ideas don't matter, policies don't matter, ideology doesn't matter. For them, winning this election is all that matters, no matter what they have to say, or not say, to do it. In some ways, I can hardly blame them. If they told the truth, their campaign slogan would have to be: Malaise -- we did it before, and we can do it again.
(Laughter)

Remarks at a Fundraising Luncheon for
Senator Pete Wilson

Irvine, CA

8/23/88

DRUGS

No longer do we think of drugs as a harmless phase of adolescence. No longer do we think of so-called hard drugs as bad and so-called soft drugs as being acceptable. Research tells us that there are no such categories, that the phrase "responsible use" does not apply to drug experimentation by America's youth. And as far as the recreational use of drugs is concerned, I've never in my life heard a more self-serving euphemism by those who support drug use. There is nothing recreational about those children whose lives have been lost, whose minds have been ruined. If that's somebody's idea of recreation, it's pretty sick. Too often we've fallen into the trap of using nice, easy, pleasant, liberal language about drugs. Well, language will not sugar-coat overdoses, suicides, and ruined lives.

Remarks on Signing the National Drug Abuse
Education Week, 1983 Proclamation

The East Room

11/1/83

The first thing we did was take down the surrender flag and raise the battle flag. Together we beefed up our enforcement arm, and today more arrests are being made and more narcotics are being seized than ever before. Today, there's also more communication and effective coordination between the levels of government and departments and agencies than many believed was possible. We are, indeed, trying to do everything government can do to combat drug traffickers.

Remarks on Signing the Just Say No to Drugs
Week Proclamation

The Roosevelt Room

5/20/86

Nancy was, and still is, the motivational force behind the "Just Say No" movement. It all started in an elementary school in Oakland, California, during the summer of 1984. She was talking to a class about drug abuse, and out of her discussion with the youngsters came the idea of "Just Say No" clubs. And from that very day the idea snowballed.

DRUGS (Con't)

Because of these grassroots efforts, all of us, inside government and out, are seeing a change of attitude about drug abuse. Public awareness has increased dramatically in the past several years, and our children are more aware of the dangers of drugs now than ever before. By educating our children about the dangers of drugs, we're going to dry up the drug market and kick the dope peddlers right out of this country. Every time Nancy and I meet this country's wonderful young people, we feel more confident that we are going to win this battle.

IBID

To our country's young people, I say: We're so proud of each of you who has rejected drugs and also those of you who have overcome drug problems. Your courage and commitment have not gone unnoticed. You have a special place in our hearts.

IBID

In this crusade, let us not forget who we are. Drug abuse is a repudiation of everything America is. The destructiveness and human wreckage mock our heritage.

Address to the Nation

The White House Residence 9/14/86

We can show our love by teaching our children to just say no to drugs, by teaching them to choose life, by helping them to live in the world God made, not in an artificial drug-induced world of false hopes and permanent darkness, of imaginary freedom, but absolute slavery. America's liberty was purchased with the blood of heroes. Our release from the bondage of illegal drug use is being won at the same dear

DRUGS (con't)

price, The battle is ultimately over what America is and what America will be. At our founding, we were promised the pursuit of happiness, not the myth of endless ecstasy from a vial of white poison.

Remarks at a White House Ceremony Honoring Law
Enforcement Officers Slain in the Fight Against
Drugs

Washington, D.C.

4/19/88

The demand for excellence is a booster to the all-important self-esteem that kids must have to sustain hard work and resist the temptations to sloth or self-indulgence that the world and the devil place in their path. It's the best preventative against the scourge of drugs that I can think of, because if you give children a sense of the past and the future, they won't be so tempted to obliterate the present with drugs.

Remarks at the Elementary School
Recognition Program

Washington, DC

9/15/88

DRUNKEN DRIVING

During this short ceremony at least one person will be killed by a drunk driver. I'm afraid to think who it may be. All of us have heard the tragic stories about the young mother with her new baby, the grandmother out with her grandchildren, or the father and son going to Little League practice killed by a drunken driver.

Americans are outraged that such slaughter of the innocent can take place on our highways.

Remarks on Signing an Executive Order Regarding the Presidential Commission on Drunk Driving

The Rose Garden 4/14/82

For too many years, people have approached the problem of drunken driving as an unavoidable disaster like hurricanes or floods. We've learned that's not the case. We've learned we're not helpless. Action can be taken when the people are concerned enough and the people are not only concerned now, they're made. They want the slaughter on the highways to stop. They want those who threaten their public safety to be held accountable for their actions.

Remarks at the National Drunk and Drugged Driving Week Event

The Roosevelt Room 12/13/82

A drunk or drugged person behind the wheel of an automobile isn't a driver; he or she is a machine for destruction. The American people have paid the bills, seen the damage, and felt the heartache, and I think they're saying, "Enough."

Remarks on Signing the National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week, Proclamation

Washington, DC 12/13/83

ECONOMY

The economic ills we suffer have come upon us over several decades. They will not go away in days, weeks, or months, but they will go away. They will go away because we as Americans have the capacity now, as we have had in the past, to do whatever needs to be done to preserve this last and greatest bastion of freedom.

Inaugural Address

Washington, DC

1/20/81

(T)his Administration's objective will be a healthy, vigorous, growing economy that provides equal opportunities for all Americans with no barriers born of bigotry or discrimination. Putting America back to work means putting all Americans back to work. Ending inflation means freeing all Americans from the terror of runaway living costs. All must share in the productive work of this "new beginning," and all must share in the bounty of a revived economy. With the idealism and fair play which are the core of our system and our strength, we can have a strong and prosperous America at peace with itself and the world.

IBID

The substance and prosperity of our nation is built by wages brought home from the factories and the mills, the farms, the shops. They are the services provided in 10,000 corners of America; the interest on the thrift of our people and the returns for their risk-taking. The production of America is the possession of those who build, serve, create, and produce.

Address Before a Joint Session of the Congress

Washington, DC

2/18/81

ECONOMY (con't)

(B)ecause our economic problems are deeply rooted and will not respond to quick political fixes, we must stick to our carefully integrated plan for recovery. That plan is based on four commonsense fundamentals: continued reduction of the growth in Federal spending; preserving the individual and business tax reductions that will stimulate saving and investment; removing unnecessary Federal regulations to spark productivity; and maintaining a healthy dollar and a stable monetary policy, the latter a responsibility of the Federal Reserve System.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/26/82

I am confident the economic program we've put into operation will protect the needy while it triggers a recovery that will benefit all Americans. It will stimulate the economy, result in increased savings, and provide capital for expansion, mortgages for home building, and jobs for the unemployed.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/26/82

The overwhelming majority of Americans, especially those 99 million who are working, are beginning to see some real hope. Inflation has been cut more than in half, interest rates are heading down, and there are other signs that we're heading toward a good recovery. We still have a long way to go, but together we've pulled America back from the brink of disaster. We're better off today than we were.

The President's News Conference

The East Room

9/28/82

ECONOMY (con't)

(Our critics) say our economy is on its knees. Well, do you know something: If our economy is on its knees, that's a big improvement, because 2 years ago it was flat on its back.

Remarks at a State Republican Party Rally

Raleigh, NC

10/26/82

(J)ust 2 years after we set our policies in place, our Nation has one big program to help every American man, woman, and child. It's called economic recovery. And you can tell it's working because, as I've said several times already, they don't call it Reaganomics anymore. (Laughter)

Remarks at the Reagan-Bush Campaign Reunion

Washington, DC

11/3/83

More people are on the job than ever before in our history. From solid growth in housing to new frontiers in high technology, from a healthy recovery in real wages to a big improvement in productivity, and from record increases in venture capital to new highs in the stock market, America is moving forward, getting stronger, and confounding everyone who said it can't be done. Well, like the Little Engine That Could, it is being done.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

1/21/84

(E)conomic opportunities can only flourish if the values at the foundation of our society and freedom remain strong and secure.

Remarks at the Conservative Political Action
Conference's 11th Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

3/2/84

ECONOMY (con't)

This month of October marks the 59th straight month in our economic expansion, and as of November, we'll have broken all U.S. records for the longest peacetime expansion in history.

Remarks at a Forum Sponsored by the Department of
Labor

Washington, D.C.

10/23/87

I spoke of the economy of the future, but it's forming right now in the minds and imaginations of entrepreneurs around the globe. It's taking shape in businesses, large and small; in factories and universities; in research and development centers. Powered by an explosion of technological invention and linked by a global network of investment and communications, it is transforming our lives so fast that the so-called conventional wisdom can barely keep up.

Remarks to Members of the City Club

Cleveland, Ohio

1/11/88

And now, over the years, there's been a lot said about the so-called Reagan luck. Well, being of Irish extraction, sometimes I'm inclined to believe such things. However, I can assure all of you that the great economic expansion our country has enjoyed has had more to do with low tax rates, deregulation, and responsible Federal policies than with leprechauns. In fact, the only people who still seem to believe in tooth fairies and leprechauns are those who've tried to tell us that if we only raised taxes the budget deficit will disappear.

Remarks at the 1988 Reagan Administration Executive
Forum

Washington, D.C.

1/19/88

ECONOMY (con't)

We came in and said the only thing that was inevitable was that bad policies produced bad results. We said there may be no easy solutions, but there's a simple solution: Get government out of the way, and let free people in a free economy work their magic. When we proposed cutting tax rates and letting working people keep more of their own money, our critics warned that it would lead to runaway inflation. Instead, inflation was slashed to a fraction of what it had been, and interest rates were cut by more than half. The top tax bracket has now been lowered from 70 percent to 28 percent, and tax revenues are at an all-time high. Our critics warned that if we slowed the growth in government spending the economy would suffer. When I spoke to you last year, I reported that the U.S. economy had had 53 consecutive months of growth. Well, tonight I have to take that back because it's now 65 months. It is the longest peacetime expansion in our history.

Remarks at the President's Dinner

Washington, D.C.

5/11/88

America's economic progress depends on full participation by all our citizens. Our Nation will continue to command economic respect worldwide into the 21st century, but we will do so only so long as we continue to maintain our technological prowess; rekindle our entrepreneurial spirit, reduce government intervention in the marketplace; and seek to ensure that Americans of all races, creeds, colors, and national origins have every chance to take full parts in the domestic and international economy.

Minority Enterprise Development Week
1988 Proclamation

9/7/88

EDUCATION

Let us go forward with our conviction that education doesn't begin with Washington officials or State officials or local officials. It begins with the family, where it is the right and the responsibility, I think, includes teaching children respect for skin color that is different than their own; religious beliefs that are different from their own. It includes conveying the message to the young as well as to the old that racial discrimination and religious history have no place in a free society.

Remarks at the National Religious
Broadcasters 39th Convention

Washington, DC

2/9/82

Education begins in the home, where it's a parental right and responsibility. Both our public and our private schools exists to aid our families in the instruction of our children, and it's time some people back in Washington stopped acting as if family wishes were only getting in the way.

Remarks to the National Catholic
Education Association

Chicago, IL

4/15/82

You know the problems that our educational system faces. So many things have changed in our society from the structure of family life to drug abuse among our young that, over time, it's begun affecting education. The principles and the teachers along cannot correct these social ills any more than any single level of government can, by itself, improve the schools. But we can and we must build a new consensus among parents, teachers, and students, principals, and elected officials to bring about a renaissance in American education.

Remarks to Members of the National Association
of Elementary School Principals and National
Association of Secondary School Principals

The East Room

7/29/83

EDUCATION (con't)

Well, money alone can't buy our children quality education. I don't know how certain politicians, with a straight face, can tell taxpayers that simply more funds are needed to improve education. During the 20-year period between 1960 and 1980, spending on education was shooting up while college board scores were going down. If a 600-percent increase in 20 years in school spending could not make America smarter, how much more do we need? The Democrats' predictable answer is, "Billions more," of course.

Remarks at the Republican National Hispanic
Assembly's Fundraising Dinner

Arlington, VA

9/14/83

(I)t isn't just basic subjects that need to be taught; it's also basic values. I believe that unless we educate our children all that we are --the great devotions, the crucial writings, and the technical knowledge that have permitted millions to live in abundance and freedom -- then all these successes are in jeopardy. If we fail to instruct our children in justice, religion, and liberty, we will be condemning them to a world without virtue. They'll live in a twilight of civilization where great truths were forgotten.

Remarks at the National Forum on
Excellence in Education

Indianapolis, IN

12/8/83

The sad truth is many classrooms across the country are not temples of learning, teaching the lessons of good will, civility, and wisdom important to the whole fabric of American life; many schools are filled with rude, unruly behavior, and even violence.

Radio Address to the Nation

Camp David

1/7/84

EDUCATION (con't)

Conservatives have pointed out for years that while Federal spending on education was soaring, aptitude scores were going steadily down . . . America's schools don't need new spending programs; they need tougher standards, more homework, merit pay for teachers, discipline, and parents back in charge.

Remarks at Conservative Political Action
Conference's 11th Annual Dinner

Washington, DC

3/2/84

Unfortunately, parents today all too often find themselves confronted with so-called experts and a large battery of misguided opinion that says their children's education should be what they call "value neutral." Well, to me, and I bet most Americans, a value neutral education is a contradiction in terms. The American people have always known in their bones how intimately knowledge and values are intertwined. We don't expect our children to rediscover calculus on their own, but some would give them no guidance when it comes to the even more fundamental discoveries of civilization: our ethics, morality, and values. If we give our children no guidance here, if we give them only a value neutral education, we're robbing them of their most precious inheritance -- the wisdom of generations that is contained in our moral heritage.

Radio Address to the Nation

Rancho del Cielo, CA

8/24/85

It wasn't government and Washington lobbies that turned education around; it was the American people who, in reaching for excellence, knew to reach back to basics. We must continue the advance by supporting discipline in our schools, vouchers that give parents freedom of choice; and we must give back to our children their lost right to acknowledge God in their classrooms.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

2/4/86

EDUCATION (con't)

(N)o true education can leave out the moral and spiritual dimensions of human life and human striving. Only education that addresses this dimension can lead to that blend of compassion, humility, and understanding that is summed up in one word: wisdom.

Education Day U.S.A. 1986 Proclamation

4/19/86

EL SALVADOR

(O)n election day, the people of El Salvador, an unprecedented 1.4 million of them, braved ambush and gunfire, trudging miles to vote for freedom.

They stood for hours in the hot sun waiting for their turn to vote. Members of our Congress who went there as observers told me of a woman wounded by rifle fire who refused to leave the line to have her wound treated until after she had voted.

A grandmother, who had been told by the guerrillas she would be killed when she returned from the polls, told the guerrillas, "You can kill me, kill my family, kill my neighbors, but you can't kill us all." The real freedom fighters of El Salvador turned out to be the people of that country, the young, the old, and the in-between.

Remarks to the British Parliament

London, England 6/8/82

It's time El Salvador's recognized for what they're trying to do. And it's true that their path has been a hard one. Peaceful change has not always been easy or quick. We realize the human rights are not all in El Salvador that we would like them to be. The killing must stop. But you have to realize much of the violence there -- whether from the extreme right or left -- is beyond the control of the government. El Salvador is moving in the right direction. Its elected government is committed to further improvement. They need and they deserve our help.

Remarks at the International Longshoremen's
46TN Quadrennial Convention

Hollywood, FL 7/18/83

EL SALVADOR (con't)

We've provided just enough aid to avoid outright disaster, but not enough to resolve the crisis, so El Salvador is being left to slowly bleed to death.

Address to the Nation

The Oval Office

5/9/84

If the communists can start war against the people of El Salvador, then El Salvador and its friends are surely justified in defending themselves by blocking the flow of arms. If the Soviet Union can aid and abet subversion in our hemisphere, then the United States has a legal right and a moral duty to help resist it. This is not only in our strategic interest; it is morally right. It would be profoundly immoral to let peace-loving friends depending on our help to be overwhelmed by brute force if we have any capacity to prevent it.

IBID

I wonder how many remember that when we first drew attention to the crises in El Salvador we were met with an almost fatalistic acceptance of Communist victory in that country -- if not the whole region. Democracy, it was said couldn't work in El Salvador. The people were too poor. They didn't want the chance for democracy that we offered; in fact, their sympathies lay with the Communist guerrillas, we were told.

But then one day the silent, suffering people of El Salvador were offered a chance to choose for themselves -- a national election. And despite the bullets, the bombs, and the death threats of the Communists, the people of El Salvador turned out in record numbers, standing in line for hours waiting to vote -- to vote for democracy.

Remarks at the 100th Annual Convention of the
American Newspaper Publishers

Ellis Island, New York 5/3/87

ENERGY

America must get to work producing more energy. The Republican program for solving economic problems is based on growth and productivity.

Large amounts of oil and natural gas lay beneath our land and off our shores, untouched because the present Administration seems to believe the American people would rather see more regulation, more taxes, and more controls than more energy

Presidential Nomination Acceptance Address --
Republican National Convention

Detroit, MI

7/17/80

The challenge ahead is to create a healthy economy that enables citizens, businesses, and state and local governments to make rational energy production and consumption decisions which reflect the true value of this nation's resources.

National Energy Education Day
1982 Proclamation

3/10/82

ENGLAND

Great Britain and the United States are kindred nations of like-minded people and must face their test together. We are bound by common language and linked in history. We share laws and literature, blood, and moral fiber. The responsibility for freedom is ours to share.

Remarks at the Welcoming Ceremony for
Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher
of the United Kingdom

The South Lawn 2/26/81

I do hope you agree, Prime Minister, that this city is an excellent vantage point from which to see the brilliant sunlight that still falls upon the Empire.

I don't mean the empire of territorial possessions, I mean the empire of civilized ideas, the rights of man under God, the rule of law, constitutional government, parliamentary democracy, all the great notions of human liberty still so ardently sought by so many and so much of mankind. These are the enduring grandeur of the British heritage.

Toast of the President at Dinner

British Embassy 2/27/81

(T)he United States and the United Kingdom are bound together by inseparable ties of ancient history and present friendship. Our language, our law -- even though you do use our language with an accent -- (Laughter) -- our law, our democratic system of government, and our fierce belief in the God-given right of all men to be free -- all of these the United States shares with your proud island.

From Remarks During a Toast at a Dinner
at the British Embassy

Washington, DC 2/20/85

ENGLAND (con't)

For two centuries, Great Britain and the United States have been trading partners. We've stood together through two great world conflicts. 40 years ago last summer, Americans and Englishmen joined together in an invasion launched from Britain, the greatest invasion in all of man's history; together, we fought on the sands of Normandy. And together we reclaimed a continent to liberty.

IBID

ENTERPRISE ZONES

Hand in hand with this program to strengthen the discretion and flexibility of State and local governments, we're proposing legislation for an experimental effort to improve and develop our depressed urban areas in the 1980's and 90's. This legislation will permit States and localities to apply to the Federal government for designation as urban enterprise zones. A broad range of special economic incentives in the zones will help attract new business, new jobs, new opportunity to America's inner cities and rural towns. Some will say our mission is to save free enterprise. Well, I say we must free enterprise so that together we can save America.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/26/82

Clearly, decades of spending programs have done little more than subsidize the status quo and make wards of the government out of citizens who would rather have a job than a handout. It's time for us to find out if two of the most dynamic and constructive forces known to man -- free enterprise and the profit motive -- can be brought to play where government bureaucracy and social programs have failed.

Remarks on Signing a Message to the Congress
Transmitting Proposed Enterprise Zones
Legislation

Washington, DC

3/23/82

Although not a comprehensive answer to the problems in our inner cities, enterprise zones offer real hope for the mostly minority communities trapped at the bottom of America's economic ladder, in the heart -- the forgotten heart, all too often -- of our cities.

Remarks at the National Association
of Counties' Annual Convention

Baltimore, MD

7/13/82

ENVIRONMENT

Now, make no mistake. We will not permit the safety of our people or our environmental heritage to be jeopardized. But we are going to reaffirm that the economic prosperity of our people is a fundamental part of our environment.

Presidential Nomination Acceptance Address --
Republican National Convention

Detroit, MI

7/17/80

(A)s we develop the frontier of space, let us remember our responsibility to preserve our older resources here on Earth. Preservation of our environment is not a liberal or conservative challenge, it's common sense.

State of the Union Address

Washington, DC

1/25/84

(I) think the whole idea of conservation has often been obscured these past 20 years by some who've attempted to seize it as an issue, politicize it, and claim it as their own. I think there have been some who use the conservation movement as an excuse for blind and ignorant attacks on the entrepreneurs who help the economy grow -- the farmers who make our food, the businesses that give us heat in winter and coolness in the summer. This kind of antagonism to all things that speak of business has tended to confuse the issue, blur responsibility, and overshadow sincere concern.

Remarks at Dedication Ceremonies
for the National Geographic Society's
New Building

Washington, DC

6/19/84

ENVIRONMENT (con't)

Rational policies that recognize and make effective use of economic incentives should help to improve the management of our environment and natural resources by stimulating new achievements on the part of the American people. Efficient use of the Nation's resources, guided whenever possible by free markets rather than centralized controls, will work to promote environmental health, economic productivity, and fiscal responsibility.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report
Regarding the Council on Environmental Quality

2/19/86

This Administration is dedicated to promoting conservation and stewardship. Conservation means the efficient use of natural resources. Stewardship entails a love of the land and a determination to pass onto future generations a high quality environment suitable for human living.

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While it is a truism that this is a finite world with physical limits to resources, it is not correct to conclude that, therefore, the Nation will eventually lose the ability and the resources necessary to sustain modern civilization. In practice this should never occur because as a given resource is used up its price rises, stimulating conservation, the search for additional supplies, and substitution of new resources for the depleted one. A superior natural resources policy is one that favors those institutions by which new resources are substituted for old ones: individual enterprise, guided by the price signals of the market, and technological advances that conserve resources and permit them to be used more efficiently.

Statement by the President Regarding the United
Nations World Environment Day

6/5/86

EUROPE

We need to remember that despite the problems we face, we are strong, secure, and stable democracies. We need to remind ourselves that when we stood together in the past, we performed great feats. We can do it again; we can meet any challenge if we remain true to each other and to the beliefs we share.

Remarks to the European Management Forum Symposium

(Recorded for Use)

1/28/82

From a terrible war we learned that unity made us invincible; now, in peace, that same unity makes us secure. We sought to bring all freedom-loving nations together in a community dedicated to the defense and preservation of our sacred values. Our alliance, forged in the crucible of war, tempered and shaped by the realities of the post-war world, has succeeded. In Europe, the threat has been contained, the peace has been kept.

Remarks at a U.S.-French Ceremony
at Omaha Beach

Normandy, France

6/6/84

Perhaps the greatest triumph of all was not in the realm of a sound defense or material achievement. No, the greatest triumph after the war is that in spite of all of the chaos, poverty, sickness, and misfortune that plagued this continent, the people of Western Europe resisted the call of new tyrants and the lure of their seductive ideologies. Your nations did not become the breeding ground for new extremist philosophies. You resisted the totalitarian temptation. Your people embraced democracy, the dream the fascists could not kill. They chose freedom.

Address to a Special Session of the European
Parliament

Strasbourg, France

5/8/85

EUROPE (con't)

In the decades after the war, Europe knew great growth and power, amazing vitality in every area of life -- from fine arts to fashion, from manufacturing to science to the world of ideas. Europe was robust and alive, and none of this was an accident. It was the natural result of freedom, the natural fruit of the democratic ideal. We in America looked at Europe and called her what she was -- an economic miracle.

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The leaders and people of postwar Europe had learned the lessons of their history from the failures of their predecessors. They learned that aggression feeds on appeasement and that weakness itself can be provocative. We, for our part, can learn from the success of our predecessors. We know that both conflict and aggression can be deterred, that democratic nations are capable of the resolve, the sacrifices, and the consistency of policy needed to sustain such deterrence

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I do not believe those who say the people of Europe today are paralyzed and pessimistic. And I would say to those who think this, Europe, beloved Europe, you are greater than you know. You are the treasury of centuries of Western thought and Western culture; you are the father of Western ideals and the mother of Western faith. Europe, you have been the power and the glory of the West, and you are a moral success. In the horrors after World War II, you rejected totalitarianism; you rejected the lure of the new superman and a new Communist man; you proved that you were and are a moral triumph.

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EUROPE (con't)

Europeans who remember history understand better than most that there is no security, no safety, in the appeasement of evil.

Address to the Nation (Regarding U.S. Air Strike
Against Libya)

The Oval Office

4/14/86

Preservation of a peaceful, free, and democratic Europe is essential to the preservation of a peaceful, free, and democratic United States. If our fellow democracies are not secure, we cannot be secure. If you are threatened, we're threatened. If you're not at peace, we cannot be at peace. An attack on you is an attack on us. This is not simply a matter of treaty language, important as treaty language is.

Address to Western Europe

The White House

2/23/88

A free and democratic Europe is essential to a free and democratic America. We have let there be no doubt in the Soviets' minds: An attack on free Europe would be the same as an assault on the United States. The core of our foreign policy and of our national security is our permanent partnership with our fellow democracies in the Atlantic alliance, on which the cause of freedom so critically depends. We will never sacrifice the interests of our allies and friends in any agreement with the Soviet Union.

Remarks at the Annual Leadership Conference of the
American Legion

Washington, D.C.

2/29/88