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(ROBINSON)

41725355
JUNE 9, 1986

SP1072

DROPBY CSIS BRIEFING

The document has been seen 6/10

THANK YOU AND GOOD EVENING. IT'S AN
HONOR TO SPEAK TODAY BEFORE THE MEMBERS AND
GUESTS OF THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY CENTER
FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ~~/~~
AN INSTITUTION WHOSE WORK SO DIRECTLY
AFFECTS THE SECURITY OF OUR NATION. I WANT
TO COMMEND YOUR FOUNDERS, ADMIRAL (ARE-LEE)
BURKE AND AMBASSADOR DAVID ABSHIRE ~~/~~ AND YOUR
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
JOE JORDAN ~~/~~ FOR ALL THEY HAVE DONE TO MAKE
THIS INSTITUTION SO WORTHY OF RESPECT.
PERMIT ME TO COMMEND, AS WELL, THOSE OF YOU
PRESENT TODAY FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR.
IN SUPPORTING C.S.I.S., YOU DO YOURSELVES
AND OUR NATION A SERVICE.

GREETINGS TO BUD McFARLANE,
JIM SCHLESINGER, AND ZBIG BRZEZINSKI —
MEN WHO DEMONSTRATE THAT, IN ITS ESSENTIALS,
OUR FOREIGN POLICY CAN INDEED REMAIN
BIPARTISAN. BY THE WAY, BUD, THANKS FOR
THE INVITATION. AND, OF COURSE, WARM
REGARDS TO YOUR HONOREE, ANNE ARMSTRONG.
COUNSELOR TO TWO PRESIDENTS, AMBASSADOR
TO GREAT BRITAIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE
PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY
BOARD, NO ONE HAS SET A HIGHER STANDARD
OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION THAN ANNE.
CONGRATULATIONS, MY FRIEND.

THIS EVENING I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK
BRIEFLY ON A MATTER OF CENTRAL IMPORTANCE
TO THE SECURITY OF OUR NATION AND
HEMISPHERE, BUT A MATTER, ABOVE ALL,
OF CENTRAL IMPORTANCE TO THE CAUSE OF HUMAN
LIBERTY. I REFER TO AID FOR THE DEMOCRATIC
RESISTANCE FORCES OF NICARAGUA.

NOW, I KNOW THAT EACH OF YOU IS A FOREIGN POLICY EXPERT AND THAT YOU HAVE STUDIED THIS ISSUE, EACH OF YOU, IN DETAIL: I VALUE THAT. BUT IN THE COMPLEX OF POLITICS — IN THE MIDST OF ALL THE TWISTINGS AND TURNINGS — ONE CAN SOMETIMES DISCERN A MOMENT OF IMPENDING DECISION, A MOMENT TO REDUCE THE ISSUE AT HAND TO THE PLAIN FACTS AND SUBMIT, IF YOU WILL, THE CLOSING ARGUMENT. WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT THAT ARGUMENT THIS EVENING, BEFORE YOU AND THE NATION.

AFTER THE NEARLY 7 YEARS DURING WHICH THE NICARAGUAN COMMUNISTS HAVE HELD POWER, THERE CAN NO LONGER BE ANY LEGITIMATE DOUBT ABOUT THE NATURE OF THEIR REGIME. THERE IS A BRAVE MAN IN NICARAGUA, A MAN WHO COURAGEOUSLY OPPOSED THE SOMOZA DICTATORSHIP.

LISTEN FOR A MOMENT TO THAT MAN, TO THE WORDS OF CARDINAL OBANDO Y BRAVO, ARCHBISHOP OF MANAGUA, AS THEY RECENTLY APPEARED IN THE WASHINGTON POST: TO CONSIDER THE SANDINISTA REGIME DEMOCRATIC IS, CARDINAL OBANDO Y BRAVO ASSERTS, "...TO IGNORE THE MASS EXODUS OF THE MISKITO INDIANS, WHO, ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, FLED IN THE THOUSANDS... / IT IS ALSO TO IGNORE THE DEPARTURE OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NICARAGUAN MEN AND WOMEN OF EVERY AGE, PROFESSION, ECONOMIC STATUS, AND POLITICAL PERSUASION.

IT IS TO IGNORE THAT MANY OF THOSE WHO ARE LEADERS OR PARTICIPANTS IN THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION WERE ONCE LEADERS OR MEMBERS OF THE SANDINISTA FRONT OR WERE MINISTERS IN THE SANDINISTA GOVERNMENT.

"IT IS TO IGNORE THE LACK OF ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR THE MOST TERRIBLE VIOLATION OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND OF SPEECH IN THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY.

IT IS TO IGNORE THE PROGRESSIVE AND
SUFFOCATING RESTRICTION OF PUBLIC LIBERTIES,
UNDER THE COVER OF AN INTERMINABLE NATIONAL
EMERGENCY LAW AND THE CONTINUAL VIOLATION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS. IT IS TO IGNORE THE EXPULSION
OF PRIESTS AND THE MASS EXODUS OF YOUNG
PEOPLE ELIGIBLE FOR MILITARY SERVICE....
NONE OF THIS IS TRUE OF A GOVERNMENT THAT
HAS THE SYMPATHY AND GENERAL SUPPORT OF THE
PEOPLE." I MIGHT ADD THAT NOT LONG AFTER
CARDINAL OBANDO Y BRAVO WROTE THAT STATEMENT
FOR THE WASHINGTON POST, THE SANDINISTA
REGIME CUT OFF ELECTRICITY TO HIS OFFICE —
ONE MORE ACT OF HARASSMENT AMONG MANY SCORES
OF SUCH ACTS VISITED UPON HIM.

YET DESPITE THE BRUTAL AND TOTALITARIAN
NATURE OF THE SANDINISTA REGIME, THE
STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM INSIDE NICARAGUA
CONTINUES; 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 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 LOYAL ONLY TO COMMUNIST POWERS. THEY FIGHT FOR FREEDOM.

JUST AS THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE RESISTANCE HAVE DECIDED WHAT THEY MUST DO, SO, TOO, HAVE GORBACHEV, CASTRO, ARAFAT, AND QADHAFI. SOVIET MILITARY ADVISORS IN NICARAGUA NUMBER IN THE HUNDREDS.

THE SANDINISTAS POSSESS AT LEAST SIX
SOVIET-BUILT HIND ATTACK HELICOPTERS —
HELICOPTERS THAT REPRESENT, IN EFFECT,
FLYING TANKS. CUBAN TROOPS SWARM THE
STREETS OF MANAGUA BY THE SCORES, AND THE
P.L.O. HAS ESTABLISHED AN EMBASSY THERE.
LINKS BETWEEN THE SANDINISTAS, THE P.L.O.,
THE LIBYANS, AND OTHERS ARE EXTENSIVE.
AND LET NO ONE FORGET THE PHOTOGRAPH OF
LIBYA'S QADHAFI AND THE SANDINISTAS'
ORTEGA / THERE THEY STAND, THEIR FISTS
CLENCHED IN A SALUTE OF SOLIDARITY.

THE COMMUNISTS HAVE MADE THEIR
DECISION; THE RESISTANCE HAS MADE ITS
DECISION. NOW WE MUST MAKE OURS. THE
CHOICE IS STARK; THE CHOICE IS UNAVOIDABLE.
WE CAN HELP OUR NEIGHBORS IN THEIR STRUGGLE
FOR FREEDOM. OR, BY DOING NOTHING, WE CAN
ABANDON THEM TO A COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP.

OVER 3 MONTHS AGO, I SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS A PLAN TO PROVIDE THE RESISTANCE FORCES OF NICARAGUA WITH \$100 MILLION IN URGENTLY NEEDED SUPPORT. MORE THAN 2 MONTHS AGO, THE SENATE APPROVED THE PLAN. NOW AT LAST A NEW VOTE IN THE HOUSE IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE. I WANT THE HOUSE — I WANT THE COUNTRY — TO KNOW HOW MUCH IS RIDING ON THIS DECISION.

IF THE HOUSE CHOOSES TO DENY TO THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE THE HELP IT NEEDS AND DESERVES, THIS WILL IN EFFECT GRANT PERMISSION TO THE SANDINISTAS TO IGNORE ANY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND PURSUE A MILITARY VICTORY INSTEAD.

THE FINAL OUTCOME IS ONLY TOO PREDICTABLE. BACKED BY A STEADY SUPPLY OF ARMS FROM THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS, THE SANDINISTAS WILL BE ABLE TO PIN DOWN THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, SURROUND THEM, AND, IN TIME, CRUSH THEM.

WHATEVER IS LEFT OF FREE INSTITUTIONS IN NICARAGUA WILL BE UTTERLY DESTROYED, AND UPON THE RUINS OF NICARAGUA'S BEST YEARNINGS AND ASPIRATIONS, UPON THE MUTILATED HOPES OF HER PEOPLE, A SECOND CUBA — INDEED A SECOND LIBYA — WILL HAVE BEEN RUTHLESSLY BUILT.

WE CAN BE CERTAIN THAT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NICARAGUAN REFUGEES WILL SEEK TO INUNDATE OUR SOUTHERN STATES. MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A MILLION NICARAGUANS — NEARLY 10 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE POPULATION — HAVE ALREADY FLED THE COUNTRY.

BUT NONE OF THIS NEED TAKE PLACE.

IF THE HOUSE VOTES TO GIVE THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE THE SUPPORT WE HAVE PROPOSED, DEMOCRACY IN THAT NATION CAN BE GIVEN A CHANCE. AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE PROVEN THEIR COMMITMENT TO JUST THIS HOPE. LAST MONTH THEY TOOK STEPS TO BROADEN THEIR POLITICAL BASE AND INCREASE THEIR SUPPORT AMONG THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE.

WITH ADEQUATE TRAINING AND SUPPLIES,
THEY COULD MOBILIZE THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF
THEIR COUNTRY AND WIN UNTOLD NEW RECRUITS —
IF ONLY THE HOUSE VOTES "YES."

OUR GOAL IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, A MILITARY
SOLUTION. INSTEAD, WE SEEK TO HELP THE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS ACHIEVE ONLY THE LEVERAGE
THEY NEED TO BRING THE COMMUNISTS TO THE
TABLE AND NEGOTIATE A POLITICAL —
AND DEMOCRATIC — SOLUTION. THREE TIMES,
THE RESISTANCE HAS ALREADY OFFERED TO PUT
DOWN ITS ARMS AND GO TO THE TABLE.

THREE TIMES, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE SAID "NO."
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN NICARAGUA SUPPORTS
AN INTERNAL RECONCILIATION AIMED AT
ACHIEVING DEMOCRACY. THE COMMUNISTS HAVE
REJECTED THIS PLAN. THE CONTADORA NATIONS
HAVE BACKED A NEGOTIATED PEACE, BASED,
AGAIN, UPON INTERNAL RECONCILIATION AND
DEMOCRACY.

THE SANDINISTAS HAVE REFUSED TO GRANT THESE PROPOSALS SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

THE COMMUNISTS ARE INTRANSIGENT BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THEY CAN AFFORD TO BE. EACH DAY THE MILITARY SITUATION IN NICARAGUA TWISTS ANOTHER DANGEROUS DEGREE IN FAVOR OF THE COMMUNISTS. IN THE MONTHS SINCE WE MADE OUR INITIAL REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, SOVIET-SUPPLIED WEAPONS IN NICARAGUA HAVE MOUNTED, CENSORSHIP AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS HAVE INCREASED, AND HUMAN SUFFERING HAS GROWN. NOW, THOSE WHO OPPOSE AID MUST ASK SEARCHING AND PAINFUL QUESTIONS. CAN WE BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCH ANGUISH? CAN WE PERMIT OURSELVES TO ACQUIESCE IN THE SANDINISTA TACTIC OF DELAY, DELAY, DELAY?

AGAIN I MUST REPEAT: THERE IS HOPE. JUST 10 YEARS AGO, LESS THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE PEOPLE OF LATIN AMERICA LIVED IN DEMOCRACIES.

TODAY THAT FIGURE IS 90 PERCENT. MANY HAD
WRITTEN OFF EL SALVADOR. OTHERS CLAIMED
THERE WAS NO HOPE IN HONDURAS AND GUATEMALA.
TODAY, THOSE NATIONS HAVE THEIR FREEDOM /
TODAY DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA CONSTITUTES
A SWELLING AND LIFE-GIVING TIDE. IT CAN
STILL FLOOD ITS POWERFUL, CLEANSING WAY INTO
NICARAGUA / THE COMMUNIST WALL AGAINST IT
IS HIGH, BUT NOT YET TOO HIGH — IF ONLY THE
HOUSE TAKES ACTION.

I APPEAL HERE TO DEMOCRATS AND
REPUBLICANS ALIKE; THE ISSUE IS HUMAN
FREEDOM — IT TOWERS ABOVE ALL PARTISAN
CONCERNS.

WHAT IT COMES DOWN TO IN THE END IS THE MATTER OF WITNESS — OF CHOOSING WHETHER TO BELIEVE THOSE WHOM WE KNOW TO BE PROVIDING US WITH ACCURATE REPORTS ABOUT NICARAGUA OR TO LISTEN INSTEAD TO THE WHISPERING VOICES WITHIN OUR OWN MINDS THAT SAY THERE IS NO TROUBLE THERE, NOT BECAUSE THAT IS THE TRUTH, BUT BECAUSE WE DO NOT CARE TO BE INCONVENIENCED BY THE NEED TO RISK ACTION.

ONCE AGAIN THAT GOOD MAN CARDINAL OBANDO Y BRAVO — THAT FOE OF TYRANNY, WHETHER SOMOZA'S OR THE SANDINISTAS' — HAS PUT THE CASE BEFORE US. HE WRITES TO THE EDITOR OF THE WASHINGTON POST:

"YOUR MESSAGE ASKING ME FOR AN ARTICLE ARRIVED ON SUNDAY...JUST AS I FINISHED CELEBRATING MASS.... DURING THE MASS, I READ THE PASTORAL LETTER WHICH WE, THE BISHOPS OF NICARAGUA, HAD WRITTEN FOR HOLY WEEK.

THE PULPIT WAS NOW OUR ONLY MEANS OF DISSEMINATING INFORMATION, BECAUSE THE LETTER WAS TOTALLY CENSORED AND PULLED FROM THE PAGES OF THE NEWSPAPER LA PRENSA, THE ONLY PRIVATE NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTRY...."

THE CARDINAL GOES ON TO RELATE THAT CHURCH OFFICES HAD BEEN APPROPRIATED BY GOVERNMENT ORDER, / THAT A CHURCH PRINTING PRESS HAD BEEN CONFISCATED BY THE STATE SECURITY POLICE, / THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD SHUT DOWN "RADIO CATOLICA," THE ONLY CATHOLIC RADIO STATION, / AND THAT EVEN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN, WITH THE PRAYERS AND TEXTS FOR THE DAY, HAD BEEN CONFISCATED.

"IT WAS AT THIS POINT," THE CARDINAL WRITES, "WHEN THE CHURCH WAS GAGGED AND BOUND, THAT YOUR REQUEST ARRIVED." THE READING FOR THE DAY...PRICKED MY CONSCIENCE.

THE SANHEDRIN SENT FOR PETER AND JOHN,
INTENDING TO FORCE THEM INTO SILENCE.

'BUT PETER AND JOHN SAID TO THEM IN REPLY:
IS IT RIGHT IN GOD'S EYES FOR US TO OBEY YOU
RATHER THAN GOD? JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES.
WE CANNOT POSSIBLY GIVE UP SPEAKING OF
THINGS WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD.'"

MY FRIENDS, LET US GIVE HEED TO
THOSE IN NICARAGUA WHO, LIKE CARDINAL
OBANDO Y BRAVO AND SO MANY OTHERS, SPEAK
TO US OF THINGS THEY HAVE SEEN AND HEARD.
AND LET US, PRAY GOD, MOVE TO HELP THEM.
THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU.

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The President has seen 6/9

(GILDER)

JUNE 9, 1986

416 75555

FG 427

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE
SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER ACCIDENT

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME TO THE ROSE
GARDEN.

THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE
SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER ACCIDENT HAVE JUST
BRIEFED ME ON THEIR REPORT / IT EXAMINES THE
REASONS FOR THE ACCIDENT / IT PRESENTS
RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHAT WE MUST DO TO HELP
PREVENT SUCH A TRAGEDY FROM OCCURRING AGAIN.

I LOOK FORWARD TO READING AND REVIEWING IT
IN DETAIL.

LET ME GIVE MY HEARTFELT THANKS TO THE
MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE ROGERS COMMISSION.
THEY HAVE PERFORMED THEIR TASK WITH
DISTINCTION / IT WAS AN ARDUOUS ONE.

TO A NATION STILL SUFFERING FROM THE TRAUMA
OF THE LOSS OF THE CHALLENGER AND HER BRAVE
CREW / IT WAS OFTEN A PAINFUL DUTY.

YET THE COMMISSION MEMBERS WERE RESOLUTE /
THEIR INVESTIGATION WAS THOROUGH AND
COMPREHENSIVE AND COMPLETED WITHIN THE
MANDATED TIME. /

THEY WENT IN WITH THEIR
EYES WIDE-OPEN AND WERE UNFLINCHING IN THE
PURSUIT OF THE FACTS. / THOUGH SADDENED AND
CHASTENED, / OUR NATION WILL BE STRONGER
BECAUSE OF THEIR COURAGE AND DEDICATION.

AND AS WE PUSH FORWARD IN OUR CONQUEST
OF SPACE -- (AND PUSH FORWARD WE WILL) --
OUR SHUTTLE PROGRAM WILL BE SAFER AND BETTER
PREPARED FOR THE CHALLENGES THAT LIE AHEAD.

I WANT TO THANK THE CONGRESS FOR
LETTING THE COMMISSION PROCEED UNFETTERED
WITH ITS INVESTIGATION / AND ALSO THE STAFF
OF NASA / THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE /
THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION /
THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD /
AND OTHERS WHOSE COOPERATION MADE THE
COMMISSION'S REPORT POSSIBLE.

TODAY WE SEE ONCE AGAIN THAT OUR TRUE STRENGTH AS A NATION LIES IN OUR FREE AND OPEN SOCIETY. IN AMERICA, WE LEARN FROM OUR SETBACKS AS WELL AS OUR SUCCESSES.

AND ALTHOUGH THE LESSONS OF FAILURE ARE HARD / THEY ARE OFTEN THE MOST IMPORTANT ON THE ROAD TO PROGRESS. WE HAVE LEARNED IN THESE PAST FEW MONTHS THAT WE ARE FRAIL AND FALLIBLE / - BUT WE HAVE ALSO LEARNED THAT WE HAVE THE COURAGE TO FACE OUR FAULTS AND THE STRENGTH TO CORRECT OUR ERRORS.

BECAUSE WE DON'T HIDE OUR MISTAKES / WE'RE NOT CONDEMNED TO REPEAT THEM.

BECAUSE WE ARE AN OPEN SOCIETY / WE HAVE ROOM TO GROW. BECAUSE WE BASE OUR TRUST ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE / WE CAN COUNT ON THEIR COURAGE TO PULL US THROUGH THE HARD PLACES. THAT IS WHY WE CAN LOOK TO THEIR WISDOM AND CREATIVITY TO SHOW US THE WAY TO THE FUTURE.

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 WILL USE EVERY OUNCE OF AMERICAN SKILL/ INGENUITY/ AND GUMPTION/ WE WILL WORK TWICE AS HARD AND BE TWICE AS VIGILANT /- WE WILL 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 STAKE ON THE FUTURE. WE HAVE SUFFERED A TRAGEDY AND A SETBACK /- BUT WE WILL FORGE AHEAD/ WISER THIS TIME, AND UNDAUNTED /- AS UNDAUNTED AS THE SPIRIT OF THE CHALLENGER AND HER SEVEN HEROES.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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Now - BILL ROGERS

416 92550

(ROHRBACHER)

JUNE 10, 1986

The President has seen 6/10

DROPBY BRIEFING FOR TAX REFORM SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU. IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE WITH
YOU.) A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE WORD WAS OUT THAT
TAX REFORM WAS DEAD, LOOPHOLED TO DEATH.

TODAY, THANKS TO THE WORK OF BOB PACKWOOD,
RUSSELL LONG, AND SOME OTHER FINE SENATORS,
WE'RE ON THE EDGE OF A GIANT STEP FORWARD.

I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE CORE GROUP
OF SENATORS WHO HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES
TO PROTECTING THE TAX BILL ON THE SENATE
FLOOR... SOME OF WHOM ARE HERE THIS MORNING.

WITHOUT THE HELP AND COMMITMENT OF SENATORS
DOLE, SIMPSON, PACKWOOD, LONG, DANFORTH,
CHAFEE, WALLOP, GOLDWATER, THURMOND, QUAYLE,
DURENBERGER, WARNER, BRADLEY, MOYNIHAN,
MITCHELL, HART, BIDEN, KENNEDY, ROCKEFELLER,
AND EAGLETON, THE BILL MIGHT SOON FALL PREY
TO THE SPECIAL INTERESTS.

- 1.1 -

I WANT EACH OF YOU TO KNOW HOW GRATEFUL I AM
FOR ALL YOU ARE DOING TO ENSURE THAT THIS
INITIATIVE IS NOT SIDETRACKED AND THAT
AMERICA DOES, INDEED, TAKE THIS STEP
FORWARD.

WHAT WE DO WILL DETERMINE WHAT
HEADLINES ARE WRITTEN ABOUT TAX REFORM.

NOW, I KNOW SOME OF YOU ARE NO BEGINNERS
WHEN IT COMES TO WRITING HEADLINES.

IT REMINDS ME A BIT OF THE CUB REPORTER
WHOSE FIRST SOLO ASSIGNMENT WAS INTERVIEWING
THE OLDEST MAN IN TOWN.

HE GOT TO THE ADDRESS, AN OLDER BUILDING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY, AND AN ELDERLY GENTLEMAN ANSWERED THE DOOR. THE REPORTER ASKED HIM IF HE WAS MR. BROWN. "YEP," THE OLD-TIMER REPLIED. THE REPORTER IDENTIFIED HIMSELF, AND SAID HE WAS THERE FOR AN INTERVIEW. THE REPORTER WAS LED INTO THE LIVING ROOM, AND HE GOT RIGHT TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER. "MR. BROWN, HOW OLD ARE YOU?" "96." "TO WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR LONGEVITY?" "I DON'T SMOKE, DRINK, OR CAROUSE AROUND WITH WOMEN."

AT THAT MOMENT, THERE WAS A THUD AND CRASH UPSTAIRS. THE REPORTER LOOKED UP AND ASKED, "WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?" "OH, THAT'S JUST DAD, HE'S DRUNK AGAIN."

WELL, IF WE WORK TOGETHER, WE'RE GOING TO GIVE THE JOURNALISTS AND THE HISTORIANS SOMETHING TO WRITE ABOUT. THE CURRENT TAX CODE OF THE UNITED STATES IS AN ANTIQUATED RELIC OF A BYGONE ERA.

THE BLATANT UNFAIRNESS OF THE CODE, / LOADED
TO THE BRIM WITH SPECIAL INTEREST
PROVISIONS, / CONTRIBUTED TO THE GENERAL
CYNICISM AND ECONOMIC STAGNATION THAT
PREVAILED NOT SO LONG AGO. / IT DOESN'T TAKE
A PH.D. TO KNOW SOMETHING IS FUNDAMENTALLY
WRONG WHEN NEIGHBORS, (WHO EARN SIMILAR
INCOMES,) CAN EASILY BE PAYING PHENOMENALLY
DIFFERENT TAX BILLS. / AND HOW DOES A
CORPORATE HEAD FEEL ABOUT BEARING THE BURDEN
OF A HEAVY TAX LOAD / WHEN HE DISCOVERS HIS
COMPETITION IS LEGALLY PAYING NEXT TO
NOTHING?

WE'VE GOT A CHANCE TO CLEAR UP MANY
OF THE INEQUITIES AND TO BRING DOWN THE
TAX RATES OF MOST AMERICANS. / BY NOW YOU
KNOW THAT WHAT WE ARE PROPOSING IS A TAX
CODE WITH TWO RATES, / 15 AND 27 PERCENT.

EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE WILL BE PAYING
EITHER NO TAX OR THE LOWER RATE, / AND MOST
AMERICANS WILL ENJOY A REDUCTION OF THEIR
TOTAL TAX OBLIGATION. / THE LEAST FORTUNATE
WILL BE TAKEN OFF THE ROLLS ALTOGETHER.

FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, OUR TAX
PROGRAM REPRESENTS A PATHWAY TO SANITY.

THE CURRENT CODE IS A BIZARRE MENAGERIE, /
ONE THAT RUNS COUNTER TO THE INTERESTS
OF GOOD MANAGEMENT AND A SOUND ECONOMY.

IT ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO CHANNEL THEIR
RESOURCES INTO TAX SHELTERS RATHER THAN
ECONOMY-BUILDING INVESTMENT. /

BUSINESSMEN
SPEND MUCH OF THEIR TIME, / EFFORT /
AND CREATIVE GENIUS / MANEUVERING THROUGH
THE SYSTEM RATHER THAN PLANNING FOR
EFFICIENT PRODUCTION, / DISTRIBUTION, /

AND SALES. / OUR PLAN IS TO BRING THE MAXIMUM
CORPORATE TAX RATE DOWN FROM 46 PERCENT
TO 33 PERCENT.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE WILL BE CLOSING OFF
MANY OF THE SPECIAL TAX BENEFITS BUILT INTO
THE SYSTEM AT THE BEHEST OF THIS OR THAT
INDUSTRY. WE WANT TO LEVEL OFF THE PLAYING
FIELD, MAKE IT FAIRER FOR THOSE WHO COMPETE
WITHIN ONE INDUSTRY AND FAIRER FOR THOSE
SEGMENTS OF OUR ECONOMY WHICH COMPETE WITH
EACH OTHER. IT WASN'T A GOOD IDEA FOR
GOVERNMENT TO TAKE SIDES IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT THE BEST THING
GOVERNMENT CAN DO FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN
OF ENTERPRISE IS TO GET OUT OF THEIR WAY.

OBVIOUSLY, THIS BILL WILL NOT SOLVE ALL
THE PROBLEMS, BUT IT WILL BE PROGRESS WITH
A CAPITAL "P." WE'VE COME A LONG WAY IN
THESE LAST 5-1/2 YEARS. WE'VE BROUGHT
INFLATION AND INTEREST RATES DOWN.

WE TURNED OUR COUNTRY AWAY FROM DECLINE
AND PESSIMISM AND PUT IT ON THE ROAD
TO GROWTH AND PROSPERITY.

BUT THERE IS AN OLD SAYING, / IF YOU STOP
MOVING FORWARD / YOU'LL START FALLING BACK.

NOW'S THE TIME TO VIGOROUSLY AND
ENERGETICALLY PUSH AHEAD AS NEVER BEFORE.

NEW HORIZONS ARE JUST BEYOND OUR SIGHT.

WE'VE ALREADY ENJOYED 3-1/2 YEARS OF

ECONOMIC GROWTH. WE CAN (WITH THE PASSAGE
OF THIS TAX REFORM PROGRAM) CATAPULT AMERICA
INTO THE 21ST CENTURY WITH THE SAME OPTIMISM
AND UNLIMITED POTENTIAL WITH WHICH WE
ENTERED THE 20TH CENTURY /- NOT THAT I WAS
AROUND BACK THEN.

SERIOUSLY THOUGH, / THE COUNCIL OF
ECONOMIC ADVISERS SUGGESTS THAT THIS BILL
WILL ADD TREMENDOUS INCENTIVES AND
EFFICIENCIES TO OUR ECONOMY.

WE COULD WELL INCREASE OUR COUNTRY'S GROWTH RATE NEARLY 10 PERCENT OVER THE NEXT DECADE PUTTING AS MUCH AS \$600 TO \$900 MORE IN REAL INCOME INTO THE POCKETS OF EACH HOUSEHOLD EACH YEAR/AND CREATING AS MANY AS 4 MILLION ADDITIONAL NEW JOBS. THESE RESULTS ARE WORTH EVERY OUNCE OF ENERGY WE PUT INTO TAX REFORM.

WHAT WE ARE DOING IS REAFFIRMING THE VIABILITY OF OUR SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.

DURING THE LAST DECADE, THERE WERE SOME WHO SEEMED TO HAVE THEIR DOUBTS. WELL, WE'VE PROVEN THE NAYSAYERS WRONG TIME AND AGAIN. AMERICA WORKS WHEN WE WORK.

I'VE HAD MANY WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES DURING MY TIME IN OFFICE/BUT THE GREATEST THRILL HAS BEEN MEETING AND GETTING TO KNOW THIS GENERATION OF YOUNG AMERICANS.

I'VE MET THEM ON CAMPUSES AND CHURCHES/ IN FACTORIES/AND JUST LAST WEEK/ AT A MARINE BASE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

- 8 -

THEY'RE THE BEST DARN BUNCH OF KIDS WE'VE
EVER HAD. WHAT WE ARE DOING NOW IS FOR

THEM. WE'RE GOING TO PASS ON TO THEM

A FREE, PROSPEROUS, AND SECURE AMERICA.

THAT'S WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT. THANK YOU

FOR ALL YOU ARE DOING. GOD BLESS YOU.

#

The President has seen 6/12

(GILDER)

JUNE 11, 1986

4174 DSC

SP 386

PRESS CONFERENCE OPENING STATEMENT

GOOD EVENING. I'D LIKE TO BEGIN BY
READING A SHORT STATEMENT.

I WANT TO SAY A FEW WORDS TONIGHT ABOUT
THREE IMPORTANT ISSUES NOW BEFORE CONGRESS.

WE'VE REINED IN GOVERNMENT SPENDING/
AND WITH GRAMM-RUDMAN WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO
A DISAPPEARING DEFICIT BY 1991. BUT THERE
ARE STILL A FEW OBSTACLES IN THE WAY ON OUR
ROAD TO A BALANCED BUDGET. RATHER THAN MAKE
THE SENSIBLE ADJUSTMENTS WE HAVE SUGGESTED/
SOME IN CONGRESS APPARENTLY INTEND TO TAKE
LARGE AND DANGEROUS CUTS OUT OF OUR NATIONAL
DEFENSE. AND AGAIN WE HEAR THAT CONSTANT
REFRAIN COMING OUT OF WASHINGTON —
RAISE TAXES.

IT'S TIME FOR CONGRESS TO TAKE A
RESPONSIBLE APPROACH TO SPENDING DECISIONS.
AND WHEN IT COMES TO TAXES/ LET'S GET INTO
THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES.

I'VE SAID IT BEFORE, AND I'LL SAY IT AS
OFTEN AS IT TAKES/ I'LL VETO ANY TAX HIKE
THAT COMES ACROSS MY DESK. NOT ONLY WILL WE
NOT RAISE TAXES BUT BEFORE I LEAVE OFFICE/
I PLAN TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE A BALANCED
BUDGET AMENDMENT THAT PUTS A PERMANENT LID
ON TAXES AND DOESN'T LET THE GOVERNMENT GROW
ANY FASTER THAN THE ECONOMY.

SO WE'VE MADE PROGRESS/ BUT WE HAVE A
WAYS TO GO ON THE BUDGET. I'M GLAD TO SAY,
THOUGH/ THAT WE'RE MOVING ON TAX REFORM THAT
WILL ACHIEVE FAIRNESS AND PROMOTE GROWTH.

WE'RE LOOKING AT A TAX REFORM BILL IN THE
SENATE THAT IS QUITE SIMPLY ONE OF THE BEST
ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS/ ONE OF THE BEST
JOB CREATION PROGRAMS/ AND ONE OF THE BEST
PRO-FAMILY BILLS THIS COUNTRY HAS EVER
SEEN/- ALL ROLLED INTO ONE.

I HOPE THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE WILL MOVE
QUICKLY TO BRING THIS BILL INTO LAW/
SO AMERICA CAN MAKE A FRESH START IN 1987
WITH EVEN LOWER TAX RATES/ EVEN MORE JOBS/
AND EVEN STRONGER GROWTH.

FINALLY, THERE IS THE UPCOMING VOTE ON
AID TO THE NICARAGUAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

CONGRESS MUST UNDERSTAND THE URGENCY OF THE
SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA. DELAY IS
DEADLY AND PLAYS RIGHT ALONG WITH THE
COMMUNISTS' GAME PLAN /- BECAUSE WHILE WE
MAY HAVE TIED OUR OWN HANDS/ THE SOVIETS,
CUBANS AND LIBYANS HAVEN'T TIED THEIRS.

WITH OVER A BILLION DOLLARS OF SUPPORT AND
SOME OF THE MOST FEARSOME WEAPONS IN THE
SOVIET ARSENAL, THE COMMUNIST STRATEGY IS
SIMPLE /- HOLD OFF AMERICAN AID AS LONG AS
POSSIBLE IN THE HOPE THEY CAN DESTROY ALL
OPPOSITION BEFORE HELP ARRIVES.

IT IS TIME FOR AN UP OR DOWN VOTE ON
FREEDOM IN NICARAGUA /- AN UP OR DOWN VOTE
ON WHETHER THE UNITED STATES IS GOING TO
STOP SOVIET EXPANSIONISM ON THE AMERICAN
MAINLAND / WHILE THE PRICE IS STILL NOT TOO
HIGH / AND THE RISKS ARE STILL NOT TOO GREAT.

WE MUST ACT NOW IN A BIPARTISAN WAY TO DO
THE RIGHT THING / TO RESCUE FREEDOM IN
NICARAGUA AND TO PROTECT THE NATIONAL
SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES.

NOW, HELEN, DO YOU WANT TO BEGIN THE
QUESTIONS?

#

41725455
SP 1073

(GILDER)

41725455
The President has seen 6/11
JUNE 11, 1986

Sec. Bill Bennett
YOUNG ASTRONAUTS EVENT
Jim Fletcher

THANK YOU, JACK. THANK YOU ALL.

IT'S WONDERFUL TO BE HERE WITH YOU.

YOU KNOW, THE AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM
IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PLACES IN THE WHOLE
WORLD, AND I'LL BET YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY.
HERE ARE THE AIRCRAFT, JETS, AND SPACESHIPS
THAT BROKE THE RECORDS, THAT WENT FARTHER
AND HIGHER AND STAYED UP LONGER THAN ANY
BEFORE. THESE ROOMS ARE A LIVING HISTORY
OF ALMOST A CENTURY OF PROGRESS AND
SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT.

BUT YOU KNOW, EACH ONE OF THESE AIR AND
SPACE SHIPS NEEDED A PILOT TO FLY IT TO FAME
AND GLORY. WITHOUT THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE
THAT ANIMATED THESE HEROES OF AVIATION,
THESE FLYING MACHINES WOULD NEVER HAVE
GOTTEN OFF THE GROUND.

MAN WOULD HAVE REMAINED FOREVER A SLAVE TO GRAVITY, / A PRISONER OF TWO DIMENSIONS ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE.

JUST ABOVE YOU IS THE PLANE THAT MADE THE FIRST POWERED FLIGHT / - THE WRIGHT FLYER. THAT WASN'T MANY YEARS BEFORE I WAS BORN. THE WRIGHT BROTHERS' FIRST FLIGHT LASTED ONLY 12 SECONDS AND COVERED ONLY 120 FEET / LESS THAN THE WING SPAN OF A 747 / BUT THAT SHORT FLIGHT TRANSFORMED THE WORLD.

RIGHT ABOVE YOU, TOO, IS THE "SPIRIT OF SAINT LOUIS," / IN WHICH CHARLES LINDBERGH MADE A LONELY FLIGHT ACROSS THE COLD WATERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC. I REMEMBER WELL THE HEADLINES AND CELEBRATIONS WHEN "LUCKY LINDY," (AS WE CALLED HIM,) TOUCHED DOWN SAFELY IN EUROPE. ^{THE BACK ON RT.} AND THERE TO MY LEFT YOU CAN SEE THE ORANGE BELL X-1, / IN WHICH CHUCK YEAGER BROKE THE SOUND BARRIER AND PROVED HE HAD "THE RIGHT STUFF."

HERE ARE THE CAPSULES THAT FIRST
CARRIED MAN INTO EARTH ORBIT. AND OVER
THERE TO MY RIGHT / YOU CAN REACH OUT AND
LITERALLY TOUCH ANOTHER WORLD /-- A PIECE
OF ROCK BROUGHT BACK FROM THE MOON BY OUR
APOLLO ASTRONAUTS.

THESE MAGNIFICENT MEN AND THEIR FLYING
MACHINES HAVE ENLARGED OUR WORLD / THEY GAVE
MANKIND WINGS SO THAT HE COULD SOAR LIKE HIS
SPIRIT. THEY HAVE IMMEASURABLY ENRICHED ALL
OUR LIVES.

BUT THIS EPIC ADVANCE INTO THE FUTURE
HAS ALSO BEEN A TALE OF BRAVE SACRIFICE.

CHUCK YEAGER WILL BE THE FIRST TO TELL YOU: /
HIS CONQUEST OF THE SOUND BARRIER WAS MADE
POSSIBLE BY MANY FEARLESS TEST PILOTS BEFORE
HIM: / NOT A FEW OF WHOM SACRIFICED THEIR
LIVES IN THEIR HAZARDOUS LINE OF DUTY.

IT WAS ONLY AFTER WE LOST THREE OF OUR
HONORED APOLLO ASTRONAUTS IN A FIRE ON
THE LAUNCH PAD THAT WE LANDED ON THE MOON.

AND WE ALL REMEMBER TOO WELL THAT
TRAGIC DAY IN JANUARY WHEN WE LOST THE
BRAVE CREW OF THE CHALLENGER. HOW OUR
NATION MOURNED YET EVEN IN OUR GRIEF
WE IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT OUR DUTY -
FINDING THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT DOING
EVERYTHING HUMANLY POSSIBLE TO PREVENT
SUCH A TRAGEDY FROM EVER HAPPENING AGAIN.

THE INVESTIGATION WAS EXPEDITIOUS AND
THOROUGH. WE LEARNED AGAIN THAT WE ARE
FAR FROM PERFECT THAT WE ARE FRAIL AND
FALLIBLE. WE MAKE MISTAKES. BUT WE WILL
NOT HIDE FROM OUR ERRORS. THOUGH SADDENED
AND CHASTENED OUR NATION AND OUR SPACE
PROGRAM WILL BE STRONGER BECAUSE WE HAVE
LOOKED OUR FAULTS STRAIGHT IN THE FACE
AND WE HAVE DONE WHAT MUST BE DONE TO
CORRECT THEM.

SO, YES, WE'RE GOING AHEAD WITH A SPACE PROGRAM WORTHY OF THE MEMORY OF THE CHALLENGER SEVEN. THEIR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE WILL GUIDE US ON TO NEW AND EVER GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONQUESTS.

FOR OUR JOURNEY INTO SPACE, WE HAVE A CO-PILOT NOW / THE MEMORY /- THE SPIRIT /- OF THE CHALLENGER SEVEN.

WE WILL MAKE OUR SPACE PROGRAM SAFE / RELIABLE / AND PROUD /- JUST AS THE CHALLENGER SEVEN WOULD HAVE WANTED.

OUR COMMITMENT TO SPACE HASN'T AND WON'T SLACKEN ONE BIT. IN FACT, IT'S STRENGTHENED /- BECAUSE WITH THEIR MEMORY IN MIND / WE'RE NOT ONLY GOING TO DO EVERYTHING WE PLANNED TO DO BEFORE / WE'RE GOING TO DO IT BETTER.

YOU KNOW, AFTER THE SHUTTLE DISASTER / MANY SUPPORTIVE CALLS AND LETTERS FLOWED INTO THE YOUNG ASTRONAUT COUNCIL FROM YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELVES.

ONE ESKIMO CHILD FROM MT. VILLAGE, ALASKA,
SAID, "IF OUR ANCESTORS HAD BEEN AFRAID
TO CROSS OVER THE ICE, WE WOULDN'T BE HERE
TODAY." "WE SHOULD HONOR THE BRAVE
ASTRONAUTS WHO SEEK THEIR DREAM," WROTE
ANOTHER, "I WANT TO JOIN THE YOUNG
ASTRONAUT PROGRAM AND FIND MY DREAM."

AND AN 11-YEAR-OLD BOY FROM DALY CITY,
CALIFORNIA, WROTE, "IF WE STOP GOING
INTO SPACE, PEOPLE EVERYWHERE WILL DIE
A LITTLE IN THEIR HEARTS." "WELL, I WANT
TO MAKE A PLEDGE TO YOU YOUNG ASTRONAUTS
TODAY - I PROMISE YOU NOW, WE'RE NOT
STOPPING."

THE WEALTH OF TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW
AND ABILITY AT NASA ARE SOME OF AMERICA'S
MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL RESOURCES, AND THE
HEART AND DEDICATION OF NASA'S STAFF ARE ONE
OF AMERICA'S GREAT INSPIRATIONS.

WE WILL MAKE NECESSARY CHANGES AND
IMPROVEMENTS/AND NASA WILL CONTINUE TO
BE IN THE VANGUARD AS AMERICA FULFILLS
ITS DESTINY IN SPACE.

LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE.

NOT ONLY WILL WE MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENTS TO
OUR NATIONAL SECURITY AND CIVIL GOVERNMENT
SATELLITE LAUNCHINGS/BUT WE'RE ALSO
ACTIVELY ENCOURAGING THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO
BEGIN ITS OWN SPACE VENTURES. WE'RE GOING
TO LET THE AMERICAN SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE
LOOSE IN THE LIMITLESS FRONTIER OF SPACE.

AND WE'RE GOING TO BUILD A MANNED SPACE
STATION FOR THE 1990's (MODEL ABOVE 400 LFT.) SOME OF YOU YOUNG
ASTRONAUTS COULD BE ITS FIRST INHABITANTS.
AND SOME OF YOU MAY EVEN PILOT THE SPACE
PLANE WE'RE BUILDING SO WE CAN COMMUTE UP
AND DOWN TO OUR NEW HOMES IN THE SKY.

THE SPACE PLANE WILL BE A HYPERSONIC MARVEL
THAT CAN TAKE OFF FROM A STANDING RUNWAY/
ACCELERATE UP TO 25 TIMES THE SPEED OF
SOUND / AND BREAK INTO EARTH ORBIT.

WE SHOULD HAVE THE FIRST TEST MODEL READY
ABOUT 1993 /- AND IF ANY OF YOU ARE ITS
PILOT / I HOPE YOU'LL TAKE ME ALONG FOR A
RIDE. / NANCY SAYS I'M GOOD COMPANY AND
PEOPLE LAUGH AT MY STORIES.

THIS MAY SOUND LIKE DREAMING / WELL IT
IS /- THE SORT OF DREAM THAT COMES TRUE.

YOU KNOW, I'VE LIVED THROUGH A SIZEABLE
CHUNK OF THIS 20TH CENTURY, / AND I'VE SEEN
SOME MIGHTY BIG CHANGES IN MY LIFETIME.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT / I CAN REMEMBER THE FIRST
SOUND I HEARD OVER THE RADIO. / I WAS ABOUT
THE AGE OF SOME OF THE OLDER ONES HERE.

THERE WAS A YOUNG MAN WHO LIVED DOWN BY THE
RIVER. / LIKE YOU, HE WAS AN EXPERIMENTER.

HE BUILT HIMSELF A LITTLE CRYSTAL RADIO
SET /- THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS A
FACTORY-BUILT RADIO IN THOSE DAYS /-
AND I REMEMBER HOW SEVERAL OF US FOLLOWED
HIM AND HIS RADIO AS HE WALKED ALL OVER
TOWN / HOLDING THE ANTENNA IN HIS HAND AND
FISHING IN THE AIR FOR A RADIO SIGNAL.

AND FINALLY WE BEGAN TO HEAR MUSIC /-
COMING FROM STATION K.D.K.A. IN PITTSBURGH, /
~~AND WE WERE ALL VERY EXCITED~~
ONE OF THE VERY FIRST RADIO STATIONS IN
THE COUNTRY.

AND YOU KNOW, JUST 9 YEARS LATER THE
RADIO INDUSTRY HAD DEVELOPED TO THE POINT
THAT I GOT A JOB AS A RADIO SPORTS
BROADCASTER. / RADIO HAD BECOME A NATIONAL
INSTITUTION, / WITH PROGRAMS AND RADIO STARS
KNOWN NATIONWIDE BECAUSE OF ITS ENORMOUS
IMPACT /- AND ALL IN THOSE FEW YEARS.

SINCE THEN, THE PACE OF TECHNOLOGICAL
PROGRESS HAS BECOME EVER MORE RAPID, / AND THE
CHANGES I'VE SEEN IN MY LIFETIME WILL BE
DWARFED BY THE CHANGES YOU SEE IN YOURS.

I ENVY YOU THAT. / BUT THE EXPERIMENTS I SAW
ON MY WAY IN CONVINCED ME THAT MANY OF THOSE
CHANGES WILL BE MADE BY THE YOUNG MEN AND
WOMEN -- (THE YOUNG ASTRONAUTS) -- RIGHT HERE
IN THIS ROOM.

AS YOU KNOW, 1992 IS DESIGNATED
INTERNATIONAL SPACE YEAR. / WE CHOSE THAT
YEAR BECAUSE IT'S THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS' DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

EACH ONE OF YOU YOUNG ASTRONAUTS, /
(SCIENTISTS, AND EXPERIMENTERS) IS A FUTURE
COLUMBUS / -- AN EXPLORER OF THE 20TH --
AND 21ST -- CENTURIES.

REMEMBER THIS; / WHEN WE COME TO THE
EDGE OF OUR KNOWN WORLD / WE ARE STANDING ON
THE SHORES OF THE INFINITE.

DIP YOUR HAND IN THAT LIMITLESS SEA /
YOU ARE TOUCHING THE MYSTERY OF GOD'S
UNIVERSE. SET SAIL ACROSS ITS WATERS
AND YOU EMBARK ON THE BOLDEST, MOST NOBLE
ADVENTURE OF ALL. OUT BEYOND OUR PRESENT
HORIZONS LIE WHOLE NEW CONTINENTS OF
POSSIBILITY / NEW WORLDS OF HOPE WAITING
TO BE DISCOVERED.

WE HAVE TRAVELED FAR / BUT WE HAVE ONLY
BEGUN OUR JOURNEY. THERE ARE HUNGRY TO
FEED / SICKNESSES TO CURE / AND NEW WORLDS
TO EXPLORE. THIS IS NO TIME FOR SMALL PLANS
OR SHRINKING AMBITIONS. WE STAND ON THE
THRESHOLD OF AN EPIC AGE / AN AGE OF
TECHNOLOGICAL SPLENDOR AND AN EXPLOSION
OF HUMAN POTENTIAL / - AN AGE FOR HEROES.
AND I THINK I SEE MANY OF THEM RIGHT HERE
IN THIS ROOM.

THE DREAMS OF YOUR PARENTS WILL BECOME
YOUR REALITIES. THE FUTURE WE CAN ONLY
CONJECTURE / YOU WILL BE ABLE TO REACH OUT
AND TOUCH /- JUST LIKE THAT PIECE OF
MOONSTONE. YOU YOUNG ASTRONAUTS WILL BE OUR
PILOTS INTO THE FUTURE / AND IT IS OUR HEARTS
YOU WILL CARRY WITH YOU ON YOUR VOYAGE TO
THE STARS.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

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