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THE REAGAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS: THE FIRST SIX YEARS

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December 16, 1986

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IV. THE DOMESTIC AGENDA

Federal Judiciary -- Appointments of three Supreme Court Justices, including Sandra Day O'Connor, first woman to serve on the Supreme Court. To date, the President has appointed 299 men and women to the federal bench -- nearly one-half the entire federal judiciary.

National Crusade Against Drug Abuse -- (1982) The President and the First Lady launched a national crusade with six major goals to eliminate drug abuse. Federal spending to combat illegal drugs has tripled. More than 10,000 "Just Say No" clubs have been established nationwide since 1984.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

Crime -- In 1984, after three years of delay, Congress passed President Reagan's Omnibus Comprehensive Crime Control Act. During the past four years, spending has increased 61 percent and more than 2,100 new Federal investigators and prosecutors have been hired. One result: Unprecedented prosecution and conviction by federal prosecutors of mafia bosses.

Drug Enforcement -- Drug eradication efforts are now ongoing in over 14 countries, up from just two in 1980. Major initiatives and prosecutions like Operation Alliance and the South Florida Task Force and Force Hartford. Convictions have doubled and drug seizures have risen sharply since 1981.

Grassroots Educational Reform -- National Commission on Excellence in Education produced "A Nation at Risk" in April 1983 and sparked a national grassroots education revival. "What Works" builds upon the President's first-term accomplishments. Discipline, basics emphasized.

Immigration Reform -- (1986) The most sweeping changes in immigration reform in 34 years, provides means to control illegal immigration and legalize the status of millions of persons here contributing to the economy and the society.

Abortion -- (Spring 1985) U.S. foreign aid funds no longer underwrite abortions performed overseas. The Reagan Administration has continued the ban on taxpayer funding of abortions and has urged the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Child support -- The Reagan Administration's toughened enforcement helped achieve a record \$2.7 billion in child support collections in 1985.

Employment Discrimination -- The Reagan Administration has moved against real discrimination while opposing quotas. More new lawsuits and higher awards against employers for violations of Equal Employment Opportunity Laws were achieved between 1981 and 1985 than during 1977-1981.

Legal/Economic Equity for Women -- (1982-1985) Record number of senior women appointees. Task forces to purge Federal laws and agency regulations of discriminatory language; States encouraged to do same.

AIDS -- A half-billion dollar Federal research and education effort has led to breakthroughs in isolating AIDS viruses and establishing blood testing procedures.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

The Strategic Defense Initiative -- the moral alternative to the threat of mutual annihilation -- is on track. Between fiscal years 1984 and 1987, a total of \$8.3 billion will have been committed to this research effort; dramatic technological advances are being made.

Arms Reductions -- (1986) Brought the Soviets back to the bargaining table. For the first time, the United States and the Soviet Union are discussing the possibility of major reductions and eventual elimination of all ballistic missiles.

Strategic Modernization -- In 1981, the President recognized the need for strategic modernization and, as a result, proposed a five-part, coordinated program to restore the strategic balance with the Soviet Union. In 1985, Congress voted \$1.5 billion for 25 additional MX Missiles; total is now 50. Sea-based forces, currently the most survivable leg of our strategic Triad, are being modernized and a new class of Trident submarines is being deployed.

The B-1B Bomber -- (1986) The first of 100 B-1B bombers rolled off the assembly lines in fiscal year 1985, ahead of schedule and under budget.

Conventional Readiness and Modernization -- In the professional judgment of each U.S. Unified and Specified Commander-in-Chief, his command is far more ready "by every measure of common sense" than it was four years ago.

Pershing, Cruise Missiles in Europe -- The U.S. and her NATO allies prevailed in fulfilling the 1979 NATO decision despite massive propaganda effort to prevent deployment. (Fall 1983) First missiles in, deployment proceeding on schedule.

Fighting Defense Department Waste -- In 1981, costs in major weapon system development programs were growing at an average annual rate of 14 percent. The Reagan Administration reduced cost growth to less than 1 percent annually by FY 1985. Since 1981, DOD has conducted 60,000 audits which have produced more than \$10 billion in savings. Packard Commission recommendations for additional management efficiencies are being implemented.

Technology Transfer -- The Reagan Administration is the first to realize fully the major security risk posed by technology transfer, and has taken many steps toward stemming the flow of military sensitive know-how and hardware to the Soviet Union.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

Environment -- (Since 1981) Aggressive cleanup of hazardous waste sites -- the Reagan Administration has produced over 100 civil suits, 257 convictions and court-ordered cleanups worth \$400 million.

V. PROMOTING FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

Grenada Set Free -- (October 1983) At the request of the Organization of Eastern and Caribbean States, combined forces led by the U.S., liberated Grenada.

Aid to the Nicaraguan democratic resistance -- (1986) Congress with a bipartisan majority, adopted the President's \$100 million aid proposal.

El Salvador -- (1984) With the assistance of a bipartisan majority in Congress, a deteriorating situation in El Salvador was reversed.

Democracy in the Philippines and Haiti -- (February 1986) The U.S. government lent its support to successful popular movements in the Philippines and Haiti.

Angola -- (1985) Clark Amendment repealed -- unties U.S. hands to assist UNITA Freedom Fighters.

Afghanistan -- (1985/86) Soviet troop withdrawal urged in Gorbachev meetings; support pledged to Afghan freedom fighters.

A National Endowment for Democracy -- A Reagan initiative, has undertaken projects in support of democratic institutions in the Philippines, Northern Ireland, Chile, Haiti and South Africa. Other projects have assisted elementary school education for anti-communist Afghans.

VI. NATIONAL SECURITY

Men and Women in Uniform -- Since 1980, total active duty strength in our Armed Forces has increased over 5 percent. Recruitment goals are being met -- and with record high-quality recruits. Applications to the service academies are at record or near-record levels.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

Swift Action Against State-Sponsored Terrorism -- (April 1986)

U.S. attacks and destroys several terrorist support facilities in Libya, in response to clear evidence of Libyan involvement in terrorist activity.