

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):
2009-0166-S

FOIA Number:
2009-0166-S

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential
Library Staff.**

Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Office of the President
Series: Daily Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 90643
Folder ID Number: 90643-010

Folder Title:
Saturday, January 4, 1992

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
V	0	0	0	0

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Log	White House Telephone Log (Signal Switchboard) [redaction of personal information] (1 pp.)	01/04/92	(b)(6)	
02. Schedule	Mrs. Bush's Summary Schedule, Saturday, January 4, 1992 [redaction of personal information] (1 pp.)	01/02/92	(b)(6)	
03. Talking Points	Points to be Made for Telephone Conversation with Alfredo F. Cristiani (1 pp.)	01/03/[92]	(b)(1)	S
04. Notes	Handwritten notes [Institute of Southeast Asian Studies] (1 pp.)	n.d.	(b)(1)	
05. Notes	Handwritten notes of Prime Minister Gorbachev meeting (1 pp.)	01/04/92	(b)(1)	

Page 1 of 1

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Series: Daily Files
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Saturday, January 4, 1992

Pinksheet Number: dw2429
OA/ID Number: 90643-010
Date Closed: 5/19/2014
FOIA/Sys Case #: 2009-0166-S
Re-review Case #:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:



SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

Saturday, January 4, 1992

9:00 am	B	<u>Arrival Ceremony at Istana Palace</u>	Singapore
9:20 am	B	<u>Courtesy Call on Wee Kim Wee</u>	
9:40 am		<u>Meeting with Prime Minister Goh</u>	
10:15 am		<u>Drop by Presidential Business Delegation Meeting</u> (Demarest)	
10:40 am		<u>Expanded Bilateral Meeting</u>	
11:35 am		<u>Joint Press Availability</u> (Fitzwater)	
12:20 pm		<u>Meeting with ASEAN Business Council</u>	
12:45 pm		<u>Address Singapore Lecture Group</u> (Demarest)	
1:35 pm		<u>Lunch with Business Roundtable</u> (Demarest)	
3:10 pm	B	<u>American Embassy Community Greeting at new Chancery Site</u>	
4:25 pm		<u>Private Meeting with Lee Kuan Yew at Shangri-La Hotel</u>	
5:15 pm		<u>Private Time</u>	
7:35 pm	B	<u>State Dinner hosted by President Wee at Westin Plaza Hotel</u>	

UNP 12/27/91
8:00 pm

UNP 12/27/91
8:00 pm

B Arrive Shangri-La Hotel
B RON Singapore

9:15 pm



TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM

, 19⁹²_____

[illegible]

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RESTRICTION CODES

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM

SIGNAL SWITCHBOARD

January 4, 1992

	TIME		NAME	ACTION
	PLACED	DISC		
QNTX	7:32 AM	7:39	Mr. Clayton K. Yeutter	tlkd-ok 7:34 AM
INC	PM		(b)(6)	
OUT	AM			
INC	PM			
OUT	AM			
INC	PM			
OUT	AM			
INC	PM			
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INC	PM			
OUT	AM			
INC	PM			
OUT	AM			
INC	PM			

PRESIDENTIAL MOVEMENTS

LOCATION Singapore

DATE 4 January 1992

TIME	MOVEMENTS
0843	Depart Shangri-la Hotel via Motorcade
0857	Arrive Istana Palace
1211	Depart Istana Palace via Motorcade
1216	Arrive Westin Stamford Hotel
1508	Depart Westin Stamford Hotel via Motorcade
1534	Arrive Singapore American School
1600	Depart Singapore American School via Motorcade
1614	Arrive Raffles Hotel
1724	Depart Raffles Hotel via Motorcade
1732	Arrive Shangri-la Hotel
1924	Depart Shangri-la Hotel via Motorcade
1930	Arrive Westin Plaza Hotel
2214	Depart Westin Plaza Hotel via Motorcade
2222	Arrive Shangri-la Hotel

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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12:25 p.m. -Depart Ambassador's Residence en route Westin
Stamford Hotel, 2 Stamford Road, Singapore 0617,
011-65-338-8585 (& Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Nathan &
Mrs. Orr).

(Drive Time: 10 Minutes)

FYI 12:45pm GB rejoins MRS. BUSH

12:45 p.m. -Presidential Address to Singapore Lecture Group
(&GB).

(See attached material)

1:35 p.m. -Depart Westin Stamford Hotel en route Bishan
Housing Complex, Apartment Block 192, Bishan
Street 13, Singapore, 011-65-259-9606 (& Mrs.
Lee, Mrs. Nathan & Mrs. Orr).

(Drive Time: 15 Minutes)

FYI 1:35pm GB assumes separate schedule

1:55 p.m. -Visit Bishan Housing Complex.

(See attached material)

2:30 p.m. -Depart Bishan Housing Complex en route
Westin Stamford Hotel, 2 Stamford Road, Singapore
0617, 011-65-338-8585 (& Mrs. Lee).

(Drive Time: 15 Minutes)

FYI 2:50pm GB rejoins MRS. BUSH.

continued,

2:55 p.m. -Depart Westin Stamford Hotel en route Singapore
American School, 60 Kings Road, Singapore 1026,
011-65-466-5611 (&GB).

(Drive Time: 20 Minutes)

3:30 p.m. -American Embassy Community Greeting (&GB).

(See attached material)

FYI 3:45pm GB remarks

FYI 4:15pm GB assumes separate
schedule

4:20 p.m. -Depart Singapore American School en route
Shangri-La Hotel, 22 Orange Grove Road,
Singapore, 011-65-737-3644.

(Drive Time: 10 Minutes)

4:35 p.m. -Arrive Suite.

(Private Time: 2 Hours, 40 Minutes)

FYI 5:45pm GB arrives Suite

continued,

7:20 p.m. -Depart Shangri-La Hotel en route Westin Plaza Hotel, 2 Stamford Road, Singapore, 011-65-338-8585 (& GB, DPM Lee & Mrs. Lee).

(Drive Time: 10 Minutes)

7:30 p.m. -State Dinner Hosted by President Wee Kim Wee (&GB).

(See attached material)

(ATTIRE: BLACK TIE/LONG EVENING GOWN)

FYI 7:50pm Dinner is served

FYI 8:50pm GB gives toast

9:35 p.m. -Depart Westin Plaza Hotel en route Shangri-La Hotel, 22 Orange Grove Road, Singapore, 011-65-737-3644 (& GB, DPM Lee & Mrs. Lee).

(Drive Time: 10 Minutes)

9:50 p.m. -Arrive Shangri-La Hotel (&GB).

RON Shangri-La Hotel (&GB)
22 Orange Grove Road
Singapore
011-65-737-3644



THE SINGAPORE LECTURE

ASIAN-PACIFIC AFFAIRS

by the President of the United States of America

His Excellency Mr George Bush

at the

Raffles Ballroom

The Westin Hotels

under the Distinguished Chairmanship of

Mr Lee Kuan Yew

Senior Minister (Prime Minister's Office)

Saturday, 4 January 1992

The **Institute of Southeast Asian Studies** was established as an autonomous organization in 1968. It is a regional research centre for scholars and other specialists concerned with modern Southeast Asia, particularly the multi-faceted problems of stability and security, economic development, and political and social change.

The Institute is governed by a twenty-two-member Board of Trustees comprising nominees from the Singapore Government, the National University of Singapore, the various Chambers of Commerce, and professional and civic organizations. A ten-man Executive Committee oversees day-to-day operations; it is chaired by the Director, the Institute's chief academic and administrative officer.

The **Singapore Lecture** Series was inaugurated by the Institute in 1980 with a founding endowment from the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), which has since been augmented with a generous donation from Mobil Oil Singapore.

PROGRAMME

- 11.30 a.m. Arrival of guests
- 12.15 p.m. All guests to be seated
- 12.40 p.m. Arrival of Mr George Bush
- 12.45 p.m. Opening Address by the
Chairman, Mr Lee Kuan Yew
followed by the Lecture by
Mr George Bush

The Chairman, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, and
Mr George Bush welcome questions and
comments from the audience.

When asking a question or making a
comment, please identify yourself and use one
of the microphones provided.

To allow for maximum participation, it
would help if comments and questions are
brief and precise.

Thank you.

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Deed of Gift Restrictions

C(1) Closed by Executive Order 13526, governing access to national security information
C(2) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the information
C(3) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift [formerly listed as only C]
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NOTES

Ditto
(Bob. Orr)

Reminder

Singapore sent
a fine medical
unit to Desert Storm

You may
want to
mention
your discussion
of investment
opportunities
in ASEAN

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 12:50 P.M. (LOCAL)
SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1992

TEXT OF REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT SINGAPORE LECTURE GROUP

Westin Stamford Hotel
Singapore

January 4, 1992

Minister Lee, a quarter century ago, you led this small island of cultural and ethnic diversity, of limited physical resources, to independence. Then, through your vision and your force of intellect and will, you forged Singapore's nationhood. You stood courageously in a life and death struggle against the communists, and you prevailed. You led your nation and your region in the quest for peace and prosperity. Future generations will honor the name of Lee Kwan Yew. And as you know well from your visits to my home in Kennebunkport, I am pleased to know you as a friend.

Prime Minister Goh, I salute you for your wisdom and your vigor in carrying Singapore forward on its path to the future. I pledge America's steadfast friendship as you lead Singapore in facing the challenges of the coming generation. And I am also pleased that you, like many of your countrymen, came to my country for part of your education. These, too, are ties that bind us together.

It's an honor to deliver this lecture, following such leaders as Brian Mulroney, Helmut Schmidt, Rudd Lubbers, Bob Hawke, Mahathir bin Mohamad and Valery Giscard d'Estaing and such distinguished thinkers as Henry Kissinger and Milton Friedman. And, let me acknowledge: A. V. Liventals, Lee Hee Seng, and Dr. Richard Hu.

The addresses in this series reflect the changes in our world. Your first lecturers focused on the ideological and military struggle between socialism and democratic capitalism and especially between the United States and what we used to call the Soviet Union.

Think of that phrase for a moment -- "what we used to call the Soviet Union." When citizens pulled down the hammer and sickle ten days ago, and hauled up a new tricolor of freedom over the Kremlin, the Soviet Union ceased to exist and the prospect of a new world opened before us.

That act culminated a decade of liberation -- a time in which we witnessed the death throes of totalitarianism, and the triumph of systems of government devoted to individual liberty, democratic pluralism, free markets and international engagement.

As this struggle has drawn to a close, these lectures have shifted their focus from military confrontation to matters of economic cooperation.

Our new world has little use for old ways of thinking about the roles and relations of nation-states. The Cold War categories -- North-South, East-West, capitalist-communist -- no longer apply.

- more -

The future simply belongs to nations that can remain on the cutting edge of innovation and information; nations that can develop the genius and harness the aspirations their people.

Individuals wield power as never before. An innovator equipped with ideas and the freedom to turn them into inventions can change the way we live and think. Governments that strive only to maintain a monopoly of power, rather than to strengthen the freedom of the individual, will fall by the wayside, swept away by the tides of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Liberating technologies -- telephones, computers, facsimile machines, satellite dishes and other devices that transmit news, information and culture in ever greater volumes and at ever greater speeds -- have disabled the weapons of tyranny.

The old world of splintered regions and ideologies has begun to give way to a global village universally committed to the values of individual liberty, democracy, and free trade, and universally opposed to tyranny and aggression.

If we are to realize the opportunities of this new era, we must address three intertwined challenges: The new requirements of peace and security, the challenge of promoting democracy, and the challenge of generating greater economic growth and prosperity around the world.

Consider first the challenge of peace and security. The world has learned, through two world wars, and most recently, through Saddam Hussein's naked aggression, that the dogs of war can be unleashed any time would-be aggressors doubt the commitment of the powerful to the security of the powerless.

As a nation that straddles two great oceans, a nation tempered by painful wartime experience, the United States remains committed to engagement in the Atlantic Community and the Asia Pacific region and, we are unalterably opposed to isolationism. That's my vow to you, as long as I am President.

A quarter century ago, many feared that free nations would fall like dominoes to the subversion of communism. Now, we can say with pride and a robust sense of irony that the totalitarian powers -- the powers that fomented conflict the world over -- have become the dominoes of the 1990's.

This end to the Cold War gives the United States an opportunity to restructure its military. But I want to assure you and all of our many friends in this part of the world, that the closing of bases in the Philippines will not spell the end to American engagement. We will maintain a visible, credible presence in the Asia-Pacific region with our forward deployed forces, and through bilateral defense arrangements with nations of the region.

That is why I am pleased to announce that this morning the United States has reached agreement with the Government of Singapore to explore in detail how we can transfer a naval logistics facility from Subic Bay in the Philippines to Singapore in the next year. We appreciate Singapore's far-sighted approach to the security requirements of a new era.

The United States does not maintain our security presence as an act of charity. Your security and prosperity serve our interests because you can better help build a more stable, more prosperous world.

An unstable Asia burdened with repression does not serve our interests. Nor does an Asia mired in poverty and despair. We need you as free and productive as you can be, and we understand that our security presence can provide a foundation for our mutual prosperity and shared defense.

But we also need your support in addressing the new threats of this new era -- regional conflicts and weapons proliferation. So I am pleased that the ASEAN nations are working with us to craft new and flexible arrangements to ensure the common defense. Access agreements and increased ASEAN-US dialogue can help us work cooperatively to promote stability in this region. By working cooperatively, we better share the security responsibilities of the post-Cold War era.

Strong, credible security agreements enable us to meet the second challenge, the challenge of democracy -- a challenge of shared interests and ideals.

Again, ASEAN is helping to spread positive political change, in ways that reflect the values, aspirations, and cultures of the nations in this region. ASEAN is trying to help the former communist states in Indochina reintegrate themselves in a world that respects free markets and free people. Those efforts are starting to produce hopeful results.

Just a few weeks ago American diplomats arrived in Phnom Penh for the first time in 16 years. We owe that breakthrough to years of effort by many of the nations. But, the Cambodian peace accord signed by Secretary Baker in Paris last October could not have existed without the help and cooperation of ASEAN. This historic agreement offers the very real hope of national reconciliation to the long-suffering people of Cambodia. Additionally, when the Paris Conference agreed on a peace settlement for Cambodia, my government offered to remove our trade embargo as the UN Advance Mission began to implement the settlement. Today I am pleased to announce the lifting of that embargo. Working with others, we need to turn attention to the economic reconstruction of that deeply wounded land, so its new political reconciliation has a home from which to grow.

We are now normalizing our ties with Laos and have begun to move with Vietnam along a path marked by implementation of the Paris Accords, and for the sake of many, many American families, the satisfactory resolution of our concerns about POW-MIA's.

The key point is this: After being strong, determined, and patient, we finally can entertain realistic hopes of building lasting ties of interest and affection with Indochina. Organizations such as ASEAN, which promote security, more open political systems, and open markets, form the building blocks for what I have called the New World Order.

This movement toward democracy leads us to the third challenge for the future, the challenge of economic growth and building a world of open and fair trade.

Everyone agrees that political rivalry and military adventurism threaten international stability. But no one should doubt that economic isolationism -- protectionism -- can be at least as threatening to world order. The protectionist wars of the 1920's and 1930's deepened the Great Depression, and set in motion conflicts that hastened the Second World War.

On the other hand, during the past half century, engagement and trade have produced unprecedented peace and prosperity -- here, in Singapore; throughout free Asia; in Europe and the United States. This prosperity also has led naturally to democracy,

fact that illustrates the indivisible relationship between security, democracy and individual liberty. The United States will remain engaged economically, especially in this part of the world. The Asian-Pacific region has become the world's economic dynamo. Our trade with Singapore has increased tenfold during the past 16 years. We now export more to Singapore than to Italy or Spain; more to Indonesia than to the whole of Eastern Europe. The economies here continue to grow at an astonishing rate, while enjoying impressive income equality and general prosperity.

The ASEAN countries, along with other nations in the region, helped initiate the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation process two years ago. APEC offers a powerful vehicle for sustaining free, market-based trade, for advancing the cause of regional and global trade liberalization, and for strengthening the cohesion and interdependence of the Asia-Pacific region.

This is important to us. Most of America's recent economic growth has come from export industries. Each billion dollars' worth of U.S. exports support many thousands of good American jobs.

A delegation of executives from major American businesses -- from the automobile industry to computer and electronics firms, to food and energy companies -- has joined me in order to express our national commitment to free and fair trade. Our executives will learn more about opportunities here, and they will also work to help other firms compete fairly throughout the world.

With us today are the American ambassadors to the ASEAN countries. They will be returning to the United States soon to tell American businesses there about the opportunities that exist here in ASEAN.

The United States is trying to establish an economic operating framework to facilitate and encourage these ties. This past October we agreed to a new Trade and Investment Framework Agreement with Singapore. I propose that we complement that Agreement by negotiating a Bilateral Investment Treaty. When combined with our global efforts through GATT, and our regional initiatives through APEC, this comprehensive approach can enable us to meet the economic challenges of the post-Cold War era.

Americans believe in free and open trade. Nations can achieve astonishing levels of prosperity when they embrace the challenge of the marketplace.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade can play an especially crucial role in expanding freedom's economic frontiers. That's why on each stop of this trip I'm calling for urgent action on behalf of the international trading system. I am urging the world's trading nations to join with us in making GATT Director Dunkel's proposed draft agreement the basis for a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round. While all of us have problems with portions of that draft, none of us can afford to let the progress it represents slip away. Now is the moment for a strong collective response. I particularly urge the dynamic trading nations of this region to help us to convince all GATT participants to build the momentum to achieve this agreement. A successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round can prepare the way for even greater trade liberalization in years to come, and greater prosperity for everyone.

GATT ensures that the world will continue moving toward broad economic integration, and not toward trade blocs. I don't have to point out to an audience in Singapore that there's a huge difference between a free trade zone -- an oasis of free trade -- and a trade bloc that attempts to hold the rest of the world at bay. We resolutely oppose efforts to create economic "fortresses" -- anywhere.

On the other hand, we wholeheartedly endorse free-trade agreements. Our North American Free Trade Agreement will beckon all nations to make the best of the resources and opportunities that the United States, Canada and Mexico have to offer. NAFTA is not a threat to Asia. It would not encourage the division of the world into trading blocs. Instead, our increased growth can stimulate more trade with Asia. And we support efforts to build free trade agreements elsewhere, including among the ASEAN nations.

Consider your own experience. A regime of free trade has enabled Singapore to become one of the Four Tigers of Asia, and one of the fastest developing nations on earth. When other nations' economies falter, you suffer. The worldwide economic slowdown has slowed your rate of economic growth this year, although most nations would be overjoyed to settle for six-percent growth. Singapore has one of the most open economies on earth, and I appreciate Singapore's leadership in pressing for even greater market freedom around the world.

But we also need to consider the full import of economic development. An economy is the aggregate of work, ingenuity and optimism of a nation. The term "economy" encompasses what millions of people do with their lives. Therefore, when we talk about strengthening economies, about growth, about opportunity, we mean much more than signing trade pacts. We mean building better lives for our people.

Americans understand that no nation will prosper long without a first-rate educational system. I have encouraged Americans to mount a revolution in education, which we call the America 2000 Education Strategy. America 2000 challenges citizens to set high standards for their schools, and it encourages all Americans to join forces in creating world-class schools. Meanwhile, we will continue to strengthen our university system, the world's finest, and the host today to over 200,000 students from Asia. Perhaps one may be a future Prime Minister. And, our APEC Educational Partnership initiative is seeking to link these educational ties to our mutual economic interests.

Once we have given students basic skills, we must give them the freedom to make the most of the knowledge they have acquired. Tax cuts and deregulation in the 1980's helped unleash the greatest peacetime economic recovery in American history. While in my country reducing the tax on capital gains is controversial, most of our competitors impose very low taxes on capital gains. Some, like Singapore, don't tax capital gains at all. We can learn from you; we can create a climate even more conducive to risk, to innovation, to the bold exploration of new technologies and ideas and, I'm confident that we will.

Beyond that, the nations of the world want to enjoy the blessings of growth without destroying the environment. Yet we need to achieve environmental protection without denying developing nations the opportunity to develop. The United States has environmental expertise and state-of-the-art environmental technology. The Asian nations have environmental challenges.

I am pleased to announce today that AID, the U.S. Trade Development Program, the Overseas Private Insurance Corporation, and our Eximbank have developed a creative approach in partnership with this region to better address the challenge of balancing environmental protection with development. We hope we can coordinate our effort with those of other developed nations, through various types of support, including U.S. equipment and technology. This will be good for Asia's environment and good for American jobs.

In conclusion, the nations committed to democracy and free markets have brought the world to a new era, one that promises unprecedented freedom from violence and deprivation. But this world will not simply happen. It will require hard work, tough negotiation, sacrifice, and the courage of our convictions. If we cast our lot with the forces of enlightenment and freedom over the counsels of defeatism and ignorance, we will build a better world -- a world bound by common interests and goals. Like you, Americans want a world at peace, one in which no blood must be shed for the ideals we all share. So we will maintain a vigorous security presence in order to prevent despots and tyrants from undermining the triumphs of freedom and democracy.

Like you, Americans want to live in a world enriched and enlivened by international trade -- in goods, in ideas, in cultures, and in dreams for the future. We want the opportunity to compete aggressively in the international marketplace. And, at the same time our consumers want access to the best goods and services that your economies have to offer. We want to live in a world made better by the genius and achievement of every culture. So we will advance the prospects for more open trade.

And like you, Americans want a world united and enlightened by freedom and justice, by political pluralism, and by the universal commitment to individual liberty and prosperity. So we will stand fast by our principles, and remain confident, strong, and vigilant.

Since 1784, when an American trading ship, the Empress of China, sailed for Canton from New York, the United States has tried to build strong ties of commerce with Asia. We remain committed to that vision.

Together, the United States and its Asian-Pacific allies can build a world filled with economic tigers -- Nations growing rapidly; pioneering new intellectual, commercial and cultural terrain; spreading the blessings of free markets, democracy and peace. My trip through Asia this week marks a new start. The next step is up to us all.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

US - Asia Environmental Partnership
Fact Sheet

The United States-Asia Environmental Partnership (US-AEP) is intended to bring together the business communities, government agencies and non-governmental organizations in both America and Asia to collaboratively address the serious environmental problems that constrain growth, and to bring about a measurably cleaner and more protected environment in the Asia-Pacific region. US-AEP is envisaged as a long-term effort which will mobilize private sector resources to complement U.S. Government resources allocated to new and ongoing environmental programs in Asia.

Although it is planned that the specific activities of the US-AEP will be developed collaboratively, four broad program components are likely to be offered to Asian countries. They are:

-- An Environmental Fellowship and Training Program, to provide competitive grants for two-way exchanges of scholars and senior level managers for one month to one year to develop solutions to, and appropriate technologies for, the pressing environmental problems of Asia.

-- A Technology Cooperation Program to foster technology transfer opportunities through trade and investment activities and Asian and U.S. business exchanges. A U.S. Environmental Business Center will be established in the region which will support U.S. and Asian trade and investment linkages. Also planned are: a technology innovation seed fund, small business demonstration projects, and U.S./Asian business-to-business trade-related exchanges.

-- An Environmental Infrastructure Program to provide feasibility studies and loan guarantees for environmental infrastructure such as water supply and waste water treatment, solid and toxic waste treatment, clean and efficient power plants, and production of lead-free fuels.

-- A Regional Biodiversity Conservation Network to enable local communities, with the help of U.S. and Asian scientists, to preserve, analyze and sustainably use Asia's unique and valuable forest and marine plant and animal resources.

In addition to the numerous American business, business groups and non-governmental environmental organizations which will be invited to participate in the US-AEP, the following list of U.S. Government agencies will initially form the partnership: the Departments of State, Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Interior and Treasury; the Agencies for International Development, Environmental Protection, and United States Information; the Offices of Science and Technology Policy and of the U.S. Trade Representative; the Council of Environmental Quality; the

Export-Import Bank; the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; the Trade and Development Program; the Small Business Administration; the Peace Corps; the National Science Foundation; the Smithsonian Institution; and the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

For further information on the US-AEP, please contact Mr. Thomas Nicastro, AID/ASIA/DR at 202-663-2288.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE PRESIDENT
AND PRIME MINISTER GOH

Palace Courtyard
Istana Palace
Singapore

11:40 A.M. (L)

PRIME MINISTER GOH: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. The President and I have had discussion on many wide-ranging topics. I will not go into details. I would invite the President to say a few words, and then you can ask the questions from there.

Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BUSH: Well, thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. And let me just say that it is an honor and a privilege to be the first American President to visit Singapore. I've been moved by your hospitality, the openness of our conversations, and indeed, by the welcome that Barbara and I have received here.

Today I met with President Wee and had two very positive sessions -- make that three with Prime Minister Goh, because we just met with the business group that was here -- his ministers, our businessmen, the Prime Minister and myself. We focused on three areas: expanded growth and opportunity, security engagement, and the development of democracy and freedom in the region.

On trade, I'm pleased to announce that we have agreed in principle to a bilateral investment agreement. This will build on the work we've begun under the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, or the TIFA, that we concluded last October.

In the security area, the Prime Minister and I discussed America's continuing role in the area. Our security arrangements in this region will take a new form. The access agreement that we have with Singapore is an excellent example of the types of arrangements we would hope to develop to meet the challenges of the post-Cold War world.

We've agreed in principle to look at headquartering an element of the Seventh Fleet in Singapore, CTF-73. It's a logistics command for surface ships. And it's symbolic of our commitment to the region in the fact that we intend to stay as long as we are welcome.

Singapore increasingly illustrates the characteristics of a truly successful nation in the modern era, and a well-educated electorate, increasingly free to make its political choices felt with access to information to make informed choices. I recognize that democracy underlies prosperity, and I also recognize that no nation has a monopoly on defining how to put it into effect. But there are universal values of civil, political, human rights that we all can share.

And I'm proud of the progress Singapore and the U.S. have made together; proud of the friendship its people and leaders have shown over the past many years, and proud to know that we have a very bright and prosperous future together.

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So thank you. And now, Mr. Prime Minister, I'm delighted to follow your lead and take whatever questions come my way.

PRIME MINISTER GOH: Will I be the chairman?

PRESIDENT BUSH: Unless we want to appoint someone else to do it.

PRIME MINISTER GOH: I'll do it.

Q Mr. President, there have been reports that East Asia nations want you to moderate your demands for trade liberalization by Japan, fearing that if you don't you may inflame anti-American sentiment and actually endanger U.S. security ties in the region. Have you heard such concerns and are you worried about a possible backlash that already seems to be building in Japan?

PRESIDENT BUSH: I don't think there's a backlash building. I've read certain reports that address themselves to the question you raised. It is not my intention to do anything other than to improve and foster a relationship with Japan that we view is very, very important. And I've been very encouraged by statements by Mr. Miyazawa and others in anticipation of this trip.

I might add, we're going there to talk about economic opportunity and jobs; there's no question about that. But we also have other broad areas to discuss. And I would say the security concerns that we talked about today with Prime Minister Goh will be high on the agenda. We'll talk about the world trading system. We'll talk about our need to work together, Japan and the United States, to help countries as they are emerging into the democratic world.

So we're not going there in a kind of a aggressive mode, and I'm encouraged by the statements that I see coming out of Japan.

Q Mr. President, you've been mentioning along on this trip how things are bad economically at home. And we understand now that you're prepared in your State of the Union to call for renegotiation of the budget agreement to pay for various tax breaks and antirecession measures, such as tax breaks for first-time home buyers. Is that the case, sir? And do you think things have now gotten bad enough where it's time to renegotiate the budget agreement?

PRESIDENT BUSH: I don't think the time has come and nor will it come as long as I'm President to try to anything other than to hold the line on federal spending. The American people are very, very clear that the federal government spends too much. And the only good thing about the budget agreement is that it does have overall caps on federal spending. So it is not my view that we need to break those spending caps.

Q So you're not considering in any way renegotiating the budget agreement?

PRESIDENT BUSH: Well, I'm not thinking of renegotiating it in the sense of spending more money or getting out from under the only constraints that the American -- the only assurance that the American people have that the federal government isn't going to take more out of their pockets. And the budget agreement puts caps on spending. And I am for constraining the growth of federal spending.

And it gets to deficits. And one way to be sure that you don't have a recovery -- and I think we will have one -- one way to be sure you don't is to indicate that you're going to send government spending through the roof and that would put long-term

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interest rates through the roof, and that would be bad for the whole world trading system, and it would be bad for the taxpayers in our country.

Q Mr. President, yesterday U.S. officials -- a question for both of you, please -- yesterday U.S. officials left the impression that the transfer of CTF-73 to Singapore was a done deal. Is it a done deal this morning?

PRIME MINISTER GOH: Is it already a done deal?

Q Yes. I mean did you sign on the transfer?

PRIME MINISTER GOH: No. The President and I discussed the possibility of their transferring the Command Task Force from Subic Bay to Singapore. We have agreed in principle. We welcome the presence of America in terms of security in this area. And so long as the access of Singapore is within the memorandum of understanding which we have signed some time ago the presence will be welcome. So the details will be looked into by our Secretary of Ministry's departments.

THE PRESIDENT: I'm referring to the Prime Minister here to orchestrate this, but go ahead.

Q There has been information that the United States is about to lift the trade embargo on Cambodia. Will the United States also consider similar moves to other Southeast Asian countries, especially Myanmar and Vietnam? Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we want to see more progress in Burma, Myanmar before -- I think it's a little premature to talk about that. Vietnam, similarly -- the United States has an overriding, compelling desire to have total assurance that we know the fate of every American involved in the conflict with Vietnam. So it is a little premature to answer in the affirmative regarding Vietnam here, and way premature in terms of Burma, Myanmar.

Q Mr. President, the United States has consistently opposed the East Asia economic caucus proposed by Malaysia. What will it take to change your mind?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we've had an opportunity to discuss that here. We understand Singapore's position fully. What we want to do is be sure that we don't look like we are in favor of dividing the world up into mutually exclusive trading blocs. And thus, I took a lot of time in Australia and had an opportunity here to give our view to the Prime Minister and his colleagues on NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement, to make sure, to the best of my ability, that our friends in Asia understand that we are not trying to divide the world up into trading blocs.

Our view has been, possibly the answer better lies in using APEC, an expanded role for that, perhaps. So we are listening in terms of the Singapore view on this one, but I think the overriding point is we don't want to do something that perhaps accidentally does that which Singapore doesn't want, what the United States doesn't want, and divide the world into mutually exclusive trading blocs.

Q Mr. President, there is a clear difference of view between the United States and ASEAN towards the approach to be taken towards Myanmar. Have you discussed this subject at all with the Prime Minister?

THE PRESIDENT: This didn't come up today, and we'll have some more time if the Prime Minister wants to raise it. Our view is quite well-known.

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Q Some Asian businessmen and some Asian politicians, too, have criticized American businessmen for not being aggressive enough. They say Americans complain so much about trade barriers, unfair trade practices, but they say that the old American can-do, the old American good salesman, for example, that's just not true any more. Is some of it -- how do you feel about that? Is some of this criticism justified, and will you been talking to these businessmen who are with you?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, perhaps some is, but I'll tell you something -- we have a bunch of business leaders with us who represent not just their own companies and the successes that they've had, nor do they only represent those who have successfully dealt in Asia, but they also represent some of the largest trade organizations -- Chamber of Commerce, NMA -- National Manufacturers -- the smaller business outfits. And NFIB -- the National Federation of Independent Business.

So we've had some -- and others, too -- President's Export Council. We've had vigorous discussions -- they have -- with the -- and the Prime Minister made this possible -- with the top commercial ministers here, and others, about just that point. The Prime Minister says to me, hey, come on over -- but you've got to be aware of what the market's like here. You've got to do better.

And everybody in our country would say that. But we say yes, we'll do better and, yes, we think there's opportunity and let's work together to make these, but also we want access and cutting down of barriers so we can be here.

But I think there's some fairness to that in some areas. Singapore has been pretty vigorous, I think, in a two-way street.

Is that responsive?

Q Yes. I was thinking about Korea. They've often criticized Americans, and the Japanese, too, for not being aggressive enough.

PRESIDENT BUSH: Yes. Well, I think most American business men would say we've got to do better in trying to adapt to foreign markets. So that's part of it. The other part of it is, hey, we want full access to markets. And so it's not mutually exclusive. But our message is, the more access we have, the more we can invest, the more that means eventually means for jobs in our country. So I think it's a two-way street.

But our message is going to be listening to where we're not doing it right. These business people are smart. They'll take the message back to their colleagues through these vast organizations and say here's what we need to do now to get smaller and other businesses doing better in the United States by having investment and trade abroad. So that's the approach we've been taking.

Q Mr. President, I'd like to ask you one question. Do you see any political reasons to keep the strong military presence of the USA in this part of the world after the breakup of the Soviet Union?

PRESIDENT BUSH: We see less because of the hostility that existed, Cold War hostility; we see less imminent threat. But who knows in this changing world where the security threats will come to the freedom of small ASEAN countries, for example. And what we will do is preserve a certain security presence.

But I think it's fair to say that has the world has changed dramatically, as the Cold War is over, the threat that existed between the Soviet Union and the United States is certainly way, way, way down. And I think our friends in Asia see it that way.

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But I think everyone recognizes that there can be untoward happenings. We saw one just a year ago in the Persian Gulf that required a mobility and a presence eventually in the Gulf by the United States.

So we are not in a war frame of mind; we're in a peace frame of mind. But we're keeping our eyes open. And there are certain security considerations that Asian countries agree with us exists and we'll just act accordingly.

Q Mr. Prime Minister, if I could bring you back to an earlier question --

PRESIDENT BUSH: He's got one for the Prime Minister, then let me come over there, sir, if you would.

Q I'd like to bring you back to the earlier question about the bases here in Singapore since there had been this expectation of agreement and there now seems to be more to talk about. Do you have specific reservations about more American troops coming into this country?

And if I could, Mr. President, bring you back to an earlier question as well, which was the question about defense spending in the U.S. Even though you don't want to break the budget, are you now going to cut deeper into defense spending?

PRIME MINISTER GOH: There was no reservation. What I said was that we agreed in principle. Of course, the details are not available to us, and the details have to be discussed between the two sides. And only when you know the details can we then sign an agreement. But this will be within the framework of the memorandum of understanding which we have with the United States. So in principle, we have told the President that there's no problem.

PRESIDENT BUSH: And my answer to that question is, we are examining all these questions right now. And if given the changes in the world, there are ways we can save further on defense that has taken -- absorbed quite a few cuts, I'd like to be able to recommend that to the American people. But all that -- we're working right now with the Secretary of Defense on these questions. But I would hope that the answer would be in the affirmative. But, again, I'd like to have available time left between now and when I finalize all of this to stay a little loose on it. But we're looking for saving taxpayers money everywhere we can.

Q Well, if I may, sir, Secretary Cheney says he and Dick Darman have already agreed on a figure.

PRESIDENT BUSH: Well, I don't know that he said that. I haven't been told that he's agreed with Dick Darman. So I'll let you know as soon as I hear, maybe.

Q Mr. President, a few minutes ago you mentioned the Gulf crisis. Is it one of the objectives of the United States in devising these new, more flexible regional security arrangements to ensure that, if there is in future some kind of regional crisis, that the United States and its friends and allies in this region can cooperate together more effectively, to damp down or contain such a problem? And can you give us an idea of the kinds of crises you see emerging in the future?

PRESIDENT BUSH: No, but I think the first part -- the answer to your question is, yes, I think there should be a flexible -- ability to respond flexibly. And that is what any security arrangements would be about. They would be very sensitive to the desires and the demands of any host country. But the point I'm trying to make is, as we move out of Subic because the Filipinos want us to -- the Philippine government wanted us to, that does not mean

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that we're withdrawing, pulling back and saying we have no responsibilities to our friends in the area.

I'd rather not try to hypothecate as to what kinds of conflicts might emerge in the future. I gave you an ex post facto example of one that was very much on the minds of everybody from just a year ago. And that happens to be over in the Persian Gulf. And I might say I'm very grateful for Singapore's understanding of that; their willingness to, as they did, send medical teams to the area. But I just think it would not be productive to try to foresee a specific flare-up that would require the presence, the kind of presence I'm talking about. I just think that would be -- I don't want any prophecy of that nature to be self-fulfilling. We're talking about a much more peaceful world today, and an American security presence helping keep it more peaceful. So I would just not like to go into the second part of your question.

Yes, Jessica.

Q Mr. President, you said that the focus of this trip now is jobs, jobs, jobs. When you were campaigning for President in 1988 you promised that you were going and try to create 30 million jobs. I'd like to know how many jobs you estimate you could create between now, let's say, and the fall to help people who are hurting right now in the United States, over the next six-eight months?

PRESIDENT BUSH: I don't know that there's any number that I could put on something of that nature. The question is to numbers of jobs. All I know is the world and certainly the United States -- much of the world has gone through some sluggish, difficult economic times. And therefore, what we want to do is to do everything we can, through this international trip, through things we can do at home to create jobs in this country. But I don't think I can set an exact number for you. Some of what we're going to be doing is setting in motion, hopefully, machinery that will result in more American jobs. Just the discussions we had on investment here today could do that.

So I can't help you on exact numbers, but I can say, yes, I am determined to do everything I can, internationally and domestically, to try to create more jobs. Our unemployment rates there are not satisfactory -- 6.9 or whatever the last figure is -- some say, well, that's three or four points lower than the depth of the recession in '82. That doesn't matter to me, because I will repeat what I've said: For the person out of work, the unemployment is 100 percent. So we're going to just keep on trying.

Q Back to the budget agreement, sir. Separate from the caps issue is the question of categories and the fact that, as it stands now, you cannot take savings from one category and put it in another. Are you ready to change that part of the agreement so that you could take savings from the defense and put it into domestic issues?

THE PRESIDENT: Let me say -- frankly, I'd like to put it into the pockets of the American taxpayer, if I possibly could, because I think that's what is needed. Maybe it would be nice to do something about the deficit, and maybe it would be nice to do certain things that can stimulate our economy, and that could call for alterations in the tax system. But I would just leave it right there, because I think it is important that we have the overall restraining effect of the budget agreement.

Now, what that means in terms of juggling it around from one account to another, we have to wait and see what the recommendations are out of defense and other areas. Because as you know, if you do change -- touch defense, why, that could require some kind of adjustment. But it's a little premature to go beyond that

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which I said in an interview that has triggered an awful lot of this interest on December 23rd, and I don't intend to go beyond that.

But I will simply reiterate my determination not to do anything that is going to reverse the economy and make it worse. And one thing that would make it worse is if I came out of here, talking about -- okay, Katie, bar the door, let's let spending go back out through the roof and remove all the restraints on it, and I'm not going to do that. The American people still feel the deficit is too high, they still feel that they're taxed too much, and they're right.

So one way to work in good faith with the American people and say I'm going to do my level best to stand up against these crazy spending schemes that want to go further and make the deficit worse. And I'm not going to do that.

Q There's been a lot of talk about how power in this region, particularly in the future, will not be military, it will be economic. And that there is a perception among Asian nations that the United States is a declining economic power and that you have put too much emphasis on this tour as a panacea to America's economic ills. How do you answer that?

PRESIDENT BUSH: I answer it by referring to able leaders of ASEAN countries who tell me what it is they'd like to see us do to be more active in Asian markets. I answer it by saying we are a Pacific power and we're going to stay involved in the Pacific. We have disproportionate responsibilities for security around the world. And I think the Prime Minister would probably agree with that, and we are going to keep those commitments. And I'd leave it on a very broad basis like that.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

12:02 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO SINGAPORE LECTURE GROUP

Westin Stamford Hotel
Singapore

12:50 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mr. Minister -- Prime Minister Goh, Senior Minister Lee. I'm delighted to be here, and thank you, sir, for that very kind introduction. Let me take this opportunity to say a few words about these two gentlemen I've just referred to.

Minister Lee, a quarter of a century ago, you led this small island of cultural and ethnic diversity, of limited physical resources, to independence. And then, through your vision and your force of intellect and will, you forged Singapore's nationhood. You stood courageously in a life and death struggle against the communists -- and you prevailed. You led your nation and your region in the quest for peace and prosperity. It is my convinced view that future generations will honor the name of Lee Kuan Yew. And as you know well from your visits in my own home in Kennebunkport -- Barbara's and mine -- I am pleased to know you as a friend.

Prime Minister Goh, I salute you, sir, for your wisdom, for your vigor in carrying Singapore forward now on its path to the future. I am grateful for the wonderful talks we had this morning, and I pledge America's steadfast friendship as you lead Singapore in facing the challenges of the coming generation. And I'm also pleased that you, like many of your countrymen, came to my the United States of America for part of your education. These, too, are ties that bind us together.

Now, on to the business at hand. It's an honor to deliver this lecture, following such leaders as Brian Mulroney, and Helmut Schmidt, and Rudd Lubbers, Bob Hawke, Mahathir bin Mohamad and Valery Giscard D'Estaing and such distinguished thinkers as Henry Kissinger and Milton Friedman. And let me acknowledge Professor K. L. Sandhu, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies; A.V. Liventals, the Chairman, Mobil Oil Singapore; Lee Hee Seng, Deputy Chairman and Board of Trustees, ISEAS; and Dr. Richard Hu, Chairman of the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Finance Minister.

Let me also salute the members of the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council with whom I just met who are here with us in this auditorium today.

The addresses in this series reflect the changes in our world. Your first lecturers focused on the ideological and military struggle between socialism and democratic capitalism -- and especially between the United States and what we used to call the Soviet Union.

Think of that phrase for just a moment -- "what we used to call the Soviet Union." When citizens pulled down the hammer and

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sickle 10 days ago, and hauled up a new tricolor of freedom over the Kremlin, the Soviet Union ceased to exist -- and the prospect of a new world opened before us.

That act culminated a decade of liberation -- a time in which we witnessed the death throes of totalitarianism, and the triumph of systems of government devoted to individual liberty, democratic pluralism, free markets and international engagement.

As this struggle has drawn to a close, these lectures have shifted their focus from military confrontation to matters of economic cooperation. Our new world has little use for old ways of thinking about the roles and relations of nation-states. The Cold War categories -- North-South, East-West, capitalist-communist -- no longer apply. The future simply belongs to nations that can remain on the cutting edge of innovation and information; nations that can develop the genius and harness the aspirations their own people.

Individuals wield power as never before. An innovator, equipped with ideas and the freedom to turn them into inventions, can change the way we live and think. Governments that strive only to maintain a monopoly of power, rather than to strengthen the freedom of the individual, will fall by the wayside, swept away by the tides of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Liberating technologies -- telephones, computers, facsimile machines, satellite dishes and other devices that transmit news, information and culture in ever greater volumes and at ever greater speeds -- have disabled the weapons of tyranny.

The old world of splintered regions and ideologies has begun to give way to a global village universally committed to the values of individual liberty, democracy, and free trade -- and universally opposed, I might add, to tyranny and aggression.

If we are to realize the opportunities of this new era, we must address three intertwined challenges: the new requirements of peace and security, the challenge of promoting democracy, and the challenge of generating greater economic growth and prosperity around the world.

Consider first the challenge of peace and security. The world has learned -- through two world wars, and most recently, as Senior Minister Lee talked about, through Saddam Hussein's naked aggression -- that the dogs of war can be unleashed any time would-be aggressors doubt the commitment of the powerful to the security of the powerless.

As a nation that straddles two great oceans -- a nation tempered by painful wartime experience -- the United States remains committed to engagement in the Atlantic Community and the Asia Pacific region -- and we are unalterably opposed to isolationism. That's my vow to you, as long as I am President of the United States of America.

A quarter century ago, many feared that free nations would fall like dominoes -- remember the domino theory -- fall like dominoes to the subversion of communism. Now, we can say with pride and a robust sense of irony that the totalitarian powers -- the powers that fomented conflict the world over -- have indeed become the dominoes of the 1990's.

This end to the Cold War gives the United States an opportunity to restructure its military. Having said that, I want to assure you and all of our many friends in this part of the world, that the closing of bases in the Philippines will not spell an end to American engagement. We will maintain a visible, credible presence in the Asia-Pacific region with our forward deployed forces, and through bilateral defense arrangements with nations of the region.

That is why I'm pleased to announce that this morning we've reached agreement with the government of Singapore to explore in detail how we can transfer a naval logistics facility from Subic Bay in the Philippines to Singapore in the next year. We appreciate Singapore's far-sighted approach to the security requirements of a new era.

The United States does not maintain our security presence as some act of charity. Your security and your prosperity serve our interests because you can better help build a more stable, more prosperous world. An unstable Asia burdened with repression does not serve our interests. Nor does an Asia mired in poverty and despair. We need you as free and productive as you can be, and we understand that our security presence can provide a foundation for our mutual prosperity and shared defense.

But we also need your support in addressing the new threats of this new era -- regional conflicts, weapons proliferation. And so I'm pleased that the ASEAN nations are working with us to craft new and flexible arrangements to ensure the common defense. Access agreements and increased ASEAN-U.S. dialogue can help us work cooperatively to promote stability in the whole region. By working cooperatively, we better share the security responsibilities of the post-Cold War era.

Strong, credible security arrangements enabled us to meet the second challenge, the challenge of democracy -- a challenge of shared interests and shared ideals.

Again, ASEAN is helping to spread positive political change, in ways that reflect the values, aspirations and cultures of the nations in this region. ASEAN is trying to help the former communist states in Indochina reintegrate themselves in a world that respects free markets and free people. Those efforts are starting to produce very hopeful results.

Just a few weeks ago American diplomats arrived in Phnom Penh for the first time in 16 years. We owe that breakthrough to years of effort by many nations. But the Cambodian Peace Accord, signed by Secretary Baker in Paris last October, could not have existed without the help and the cooperation of ASEAN. This historic agreement offers the very real hope of national reconciliation to the long-suffering people of Cambodia.

And additionally, when the Paris Conference agreed on a peace settlement for Cambodia, my government offered to remove our trade embargo as the United Nations Advance Mission began to implement the settlement. And today I am pleased to announce the lifting of that embargo. Working with others, we need to turn attention to the economic reconstruction of that deeply wounded land and so its new political reconciliation has a home from which to grow.

We are now normalizing our ties with Laos and have begun to move with Vietnam along a path marked by implementation of the Paris Accords, and for the sake of many, many American families, the satisfactory resolution of our concerns, our deep concerns about POW and MIAs.

The key point is this: After being strong, determined, and patient, we finally can entertain realistic hopes of building lasting ties of interest and affection with Indochina. Organizations such as ASEAN, which promote security, more open political systems, and open markets, form the building blocks for what I've called the new world order.

This movement toward democracy leads us to the third challenge for the future, the challenge of economic growth and building a world of open and fair trade.

Everyone agrees that political rivalry and military adventurism threaten international stability. But no one should doubt that economic isolationism -- protectionism -- can be at least as threatening to world order. The protectionist wars of the '20's and '30's deepened the Great Depression, and set in motion conflicts that hastened the Second World War.

On the other hand, during the past half century, engagement and trade have produced unprecedented peace and prosperity -- here, in Singapore; throughout free Asia; in Europe and in the United States. This prosperity also has led naturally to democracy, a fact that illustrates the indivisible relationship between security, democracy and individual liberty.

The United States will remain engaged economically, especially in this part of the world. The Asian-Pacific region has become the world's economic dynamo. Our trade with Singapore, it's increased tenfold during the past 16 years. We now export more to Singapore than to Italy or Spain; more to Indonesia than to the whole of Eastern Europe. The economies here continue to grow at an astonishing rate, while enjoying impressive income equality and general prosperity.

The ASEAN countries, along with other nations in the region, helped initiate the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation process two years ago, APEC. APEC offers a powerful vehicle for sustaining free, market-based trade; for advancing the cause of regional and global trade liberalization; and for strengthening the cohesion and interdependence of the Asia-Pacific region.

Now this is important to us. Most of America's recent economic growth has come from export industries. Each billion dollars' worth of U.S. exports support many thousands of good American jobs.

A delegation of executives from major American businesses -- from the automobile industry to computer and electronics firms, to food and energy companies -- has joined me in order to express our national commitment to free and fair trade. Our executives will learn more about opportunities here, and they will also work to help other firms compete fairly throughout the world. With us today also are the American ambassadors to the ASEAN countries. They will be returning to the United States soon to tell American businesses there about the opportunities that exist in ASEAN.

The United States is trying to establish an economic operating framework to facilitate and to encourage these ties. This past October we agreed to a new Trade and Investment Framework Agreement with Singapore. And I propose that we complement that Agreement by negotiating a bilateral investment treaty. When combined with our global efforts through GATT, and our regional initiatives through APEC, this comprehensive approach can enable us to meet the economic challenges of the post-Cold War era.

Americans believe in free and open trade. Nations can achieve astonishing levels of prosperity when they embrace the challenge of the marketplace.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade can play an especially crucial role in expanding freedom's economic frontiers. And that's why on each stop of this important trip I'm calling for urgent action on behalf of the international trading system. I am urging the world's trading nations to join with us in making GATT

Director Dunkel's proposed draft agreement the basis for the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

While all of us have problems with portions of that draft, none of us can afford to let the progress it represents slip away into the past. Now is the moment for a strong collective response. And I particularly urge the dynamic trading nations of this region to help us to convince all GATT participants to build the momentum to achieve this agreement. A successful conclusion to this Uruguay Round can prepare the way for even greater trade liberalization in years to come and greater prosperity for everyone.

GATT ensures that the world will continue moving toward broad economic integration and not toward trade blocs. I don't have to point out to an audience in Singapore, especially an informed audience like this, that there's a huge difference between a free trade zone -- an oasis of free trade -- and a trade bloc that attempts to hold the rest of the world at bay. We resolutely oppose efforts to create economic fortresses anywhere.

On the other hand, we wholeheartedly endorse free trade agreements. Let me be clear on something. Our North American Free Trade Agreement will beckon all nations to make the best of the resources and opportunities that the United States, Canada and Mexico have to offer. NAFTA, that North American Free Trade Agreement, is not a threat to Asia. It would not encourage the division of the world into trading blocs.

Instead, our increased growth can stimulate more trade with Asia. And we support efforts to build free trade agreements elsewhere, including among the ASEAN nations.

Consider your own experience. A regime of free trade has enabled Singapore to become one of the Four Tigers of Asia, and one of the fastest developing nations on Earth. When other nations' economies falter, you suffer. The worldwide economic slowdown has slowed your rate of economic growth this year -- although most nations would be overjoyed to settle for six-percent growth. (Laughter.) And I can speak for one. (Laughter.) Singapore has one of the most open economies on Earth, and I appreciate Singapore's leadership in pressing for even greater market freedom around the world.

But we also need to consider the full import of economic development. An economy is the aggregate work, ingenuity and optimism of a nation. The term "economy" encompasses what millions of people do with their lives. And therefore, when we talk about strengthening economies, about growth, about opportunity, we mean much more than signing trade pacts. We mean building better lives for our people.

Americans understand that no nation will prosper long without a first-rate educational system. And I've encouraged Americans to mount a revolution in education, which we call -- we call it the America 2000 education strategy. America 2000 challenges our citizens to set high standards for their schools; it encourages all Americans to join forces in creating world-class schools. And meanwhile, we will continue to strengthen our university system -- we think the world's finest -- and the host today to over 200,000 students from Asia. Perhaps one may be a future Prime Minister. I am certain she'll be a good one. (Laughter.) And our APEC Educational Partnership initiative is seeking to link these educational ties to our mutual economic interests.

Once we have given students basic skills, we must give them the freedom to make the most of the knowledge they have acquired. Tax cuts and deregulation in the 1980's helped unleash the greatest peacetime economic recovery in American history. And while in my country reducing the tax on capital gains is somewhat

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controversial politically, most of our competitors impose very low taxes on capital gains. Some, like Singapore, don't tax capital gains at all. We can learn from you -- we can create a climate even more conducive to risk, to innovation, to the bold exploration of new technologies and ideas -- and I'm confident that we will.

Beyond that, the nations of the world want to enjoy the blessings of growth without destroying the environment. And we need to achieve environmental protection without denying developing nations the opportunity to develop. The United States has environmental expertise and state-of-the-art environmental technology. The Asian nations have environmental challenges.

I am pleased to announce today that AID, the U.S. Trade Development Program, the Overseas Private Insurance Corporation -- OPIC -- and our Ex-Im Bank have developed a creative approach in partnership with this region to better address the challenge of balancing the environmental protection with development. We hope we can coordinate with our effort with those of other developed nations through various types of support, including U.S. equipment and technology. This will be good -- it will be good for Asia's environment, good for American jobs.

In conclusion, the nations committed to democracy and free markets have brought the world to a new era, one that promises unprecedented freedom from violence and deprivation. But this world will not simply happen. It will require hard work, tough negotiation, sacrifice, and the courage of our convictions. And if we cast our lot with the forces of enlightenment and freedom over the counsels of defeatism and ignorance, we will build a better world -- a world bound by common interests and goals.

Like you, Americans desperately want a world at peace, one in which no blood must be shed for the ideals we all share. So we will maintain a vigorous security presence in order to prevent despots and tyrants from undermining the triumphs of freedom and democracy.

Like you, Americans want to live in a world enriched and enlivened by international trade -- in goods, in ideas, in cultures, and in dreams for the future. We want the opportunity to compete aggressively in the international marketplace. And at the same time our consumers want access to the best goods and services that your economies have to offer. We want to live in a world made better by the genius and achievement of every culture. So we will advance the prospects for more open trade.

And like you, Americans want a world united and enlightened by freedom and justice, by political pluralism, by the universal commitment to individual liberty and prosperity. So we will stand fast by our principles -- and remain confident, strong, and vigilant.

Since 1784, when an American trading ship, the Empress of China, sailed for Canton from New York, the United States has tried to build strong ties of commerce with Asia. We remain committed to that vision. And together, the United States and its Asian-Pacific allies can indeed build a world filled with economic tigers -- nations growing rapidly; pioneering new intellectual, commercial and cultural terrain; spreading the blessings of free markets, democracy and peace. My trip through Asia this week marks a new start. The next step is up to all of us.

Thank you again. And may God bless you, the people of Singapore, people of the United States of America. Thank you all very, very much. (Applause.)

MODERATOR: Ladies and gentlemen, we have a tight schedule, certain to squeeze out the question and answer session. We

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have a very few questions that the President has offered to meet. So can I ask the questioners to be brief, to the point -- state your name, and get to the point quickly, please.

Q Mr. President, the trend in closer economic interaction within the region, with Europe forging a single market and the U.S., Canada and Mexico moving towards a North American free trade area, all grow in momentum in the 1990s. How, in your opinion, can we ensure that these trends do not result in inward-looking economic blocs? How can APEC as a body promote greater economic openness and counter these inward-looking trends? Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: One, help us reach a successful conclusion in the GATT Round. Therein lies the most important single step that can guarantee against trading blocs. Secondly, accept my word that nothing in the North American Free Trade Agreement wants to divide this -- wants to contribute to dividing the world into trading blocs, into blocs that shut out other people's goods. That is not what it's about. If we are successful in the NAFTA, that will increase markets for Asian goods in South America, which has been an area that needs economic help.

So the first answer is, help with GATT -- successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round. And the second answer is, please understand that NAFTA -- and I can only speak for American participation therein, and I'm sure it's true of President Salinas of Mexico and of Brian Mulroney of Canada -- have no intention of having that free trade between ourselves be a bloc to ASEAN goods. Stop worrying about it. That isn't going to happen.

If I could think of a third reason, I'd tell you.
(Laughter.) But those are the two I've got. (Laughter and applause.)

Q Mr. President, I believe that most countries in the Asia-Pacific region want to see the U.S. continue to play a major economic and security role in the Western Pacific. But many are worried that Japan may become the leader in the economic competition especially in trade and investments in the Asia-Pacific region. Will the U.S. respond to this Japanese economic challenge and stay in the competition? However, if Japan eventually becomes the preeminent investor and trader in the region, will the U.S. remain engaged in the economies and the security of the region?

THE PRESIDENT: Good question, and the answer is, yes. We are, regardless of what happens, we are going to continue our cooperation in terms of security. That's a given. That's important. It's important, I think, to ASEAN. And I think it's very, very important to my country, the United States of America.

I'm not as gloomy, as the question implied, in terms of Japan dominating ASEAN. I would be worried about it if I thought that we would all acquiesce, including Singapore, in a bloc to offset Canada or to offset a perceived trading bloc in Europe. Then I would be concerned about that. But I don't think that is going to be the reality because we are going to forcefully, with our best we can offer in terms of economics and investment and two-way trade, stay involved in the area.

If you predicated it by saying the world will divide into three blocs; do we have any concern about domination from an economic superpower, which is Japan, I'd say you could have some concerns there. But that's not what I see as the reality. And I hope that in some way, this trip contributes to the idea that we want to avoid blocs that shut people out and we want to open markets that cause people to come in.

And so that is the way that I look at it right now. I we will stay engaged. I'm looking forward to the part of my trip

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that takes me to Japan. We have trade problems there. They're aware of it; we're going to talk to them. But it's not going to be exclusively on that. I'm interested, as you know, in creating jobs for Americans through fair trade, through access to markets, through matters of this nature. But we also have a wide array of other considerations that I will be discussing with the very able leaders of Japan. And it might well be that we will talk about the idea that we ought not to see this world divided up into regional blocs.

So I'll do my best in that regard.

Q It was with some irony that I read recently in the observation of Li Peng, Chinese Prime Minister -- China's Prime Minister -- that, in fact -- with events surrounding the dissolution of the ex-Soviet empire, events in Yugoslavia, that, in fact, the single source of threat to your new world order is no longer security in Asia-Pacific but, in fact, Europe. Your comments, please.

THE PRESIDENT: Mike, please elaborate. I didn't see the comment by Li Peng and I need a little more of what he was talking about -- threat to Europe. In what sense?

Q In the sense of the threat to the new world order that you referred to earlier -- the theater of threat from a sort of geopolitical and military sense is no longer question marks over Asia-Pacific, but more question marks over the European theater.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, see, I wouldn't agree with the premise that in the past the concern wasn't about the Soviet Union, if that's what he was talking about. The major so-called "superpower confrontation" has been between the United States and the Soviet Union -- Soviet Union with its satellites and the United States with its friends and allies. And now, with the dissolution of the Soviet Union, we see that this doesn't exist; that major Cold War security threat, if we handle things properly with the emergence of the republics or this Commonwealth, should no longer concern us.

We're going to stay engaged with the republics. We're going to stay engaged with the Commonwealth, helping in every way we can these now-fledgling democracies as they emerge and strengthen their independence. We want to see that there isn't a security threat from that part of the world.

I may be missing what he's getting at, but I just think we have to guard against unpredictability, and thus, the security presence will remain in Asia. It may be different than it's been in the past -- the whole makeup of the U.S. defenses has been changing, as you know -- but we are going to retain because of unforeseen circumstances and with the welcome of our friends in this area, a security presence here.

So if the distinguished leader of China was implying that wasn't necessary anymore, fine, that's a good -- and I'm confident that China is not seeking external hegemony. There was a time when everybody was much, much more concerned about that. But we'll be here. We'll be around as a stabilizing, reassuring security presence where wanted.

By that, I can't say that we think the only threats to worldwide security might emerge in this area; we don't. But we've had a Pacific presence and we're going to continue to have a Pacific presence.

Still not sure I got to the point, but anyway, that's the answer. (Laughter.)

MODERATOR: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm sure there are very many questions, but the schedule is so tight I have to call a halt to the questions.

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I'll now ask Professor Sandhu to say a few words in appreciation for the lecture and the answers the President has given.

PROFESSOR SANDHU: I suppose I'm not revealing any state secret when I say President Bush has never allowed burdens of state or the batings of his political opponents to either deter him from his mission or cloy his feelings for his fellow citizens. Moreover, his perceptions of the world include a vision which is not only farsighted and reassuring, but one that sees America's domestic imperatives and its global responsibilities as but two mutually compatible and profitable sides of the same coin.

To him, the future of a great America and a prosperous and stable world are inseparable twins. We are, therefore, Mr. President, all the more inspired and honored to have had you address us. And may I, on behalf of the Institute and all present, thank you for the unique opportunity and honor of listening to you in person. (Applause.)

We also have the added distinction of having the other half of the illustrious Bush partnership with us. And needless to say, Mrs. Bush, we are delighted that you could be with us and grace the occasion. And may I wish you and the other members of the distinguished presidential delegation a pleasant visit and a happy New Year. (Applause.)

It is fitting, too, that this first lecture by a President of the United States of America has taken place under the chairmanship of Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew, and before the largest audience ever in the series.

We are also grateful for all the support that we have received for the series and particularly the presence among us of Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and his senior cabinet colleagues. (Applause.)

On that note, ladies and gentleman, may I conclude by saying once again what a pleasure it has been to welcome our special guest, President George Bush, and each and every one of you. Thank you all and good day. (Applause.)

END

1:31 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Albert V. Casey, of Texas, to be Chief Executive Officer of the Resolution Trust Corporation. This is a new position. From 1988-1991, Mr. Casey served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of First Republic Bank Corporation in Dallas, Texas.

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POOL REPORT #20

THE BUSHES AT THE SINGAPORE STATE DINNER

JANUARY 4, 1992

SINGAPORE

No news; almost no color.

The Bushes were served a nine course dinner at the Westin/Stamford Hotel, a seventy-three story colossus shaped something like a paper towel tube. Our pool dined in the resplendent Indiana Room which, looked much like it sounds, but for the centerpiece behind the buffet of rice and local fruits, a four-foot tall crowing rooster carved out of ice.

Back at the State Dinner, after the fourth course President Wee arose and, standing before a large rock garden apparently built for the occasion, saluted Mr. Bush's leadership during the Persian Gulf Crisis. "The world is in your debt, Mr. President, for your leadership in resisting aggression and asserting the rule of law." Mr. Bush in turn praised Singapore for leading the way in promoting free trade.

Your pool thought that Mrs. Bush looked especially handsome this evening in a stylish gown of coral color with black, silver and gold design. Her husband wore a monkey suit.

Michael Wines - New York Times

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT WEE KIM WEE
IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

Westin Plaza Hotel
Singapore

9:03 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Your Excellency, Mr. George Bush, President of the United States of America, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Mr. President, Mrs. Barbara Bush, and your distinguished delegation to Singapore. You have greatly honored us by your visit to our island republic.

Mr. President, you lead the United States at an historic turning point of the world. Momentous changes have taken place. The international situation is in a period of flux as a new world order takes shape.

As President of the United States, you will have a decisive role in helping to shape it. Your vision and steadfastness were never more in evidence when you forged the international coalition to force Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Your actions during the Gulf crisis demonstrated your resolve that the new world order should be based on the rule of law. The world is in your debt, Mr. President, for your leadership in resisting aggression and asserting the rule of law.

Mr. President, although the Cold War has ended and the communist ideology is discredited, the United States' presence in the Asia Pacific and continuation of the United States-Japan security alliance remain vital for regional peace and stability.

Any significant change in the United States interest or capability will set off reactions that can only increase uncertainties and instability. Singapore will do what it can under the memorandum of understanding between us to facilitate the continued American presence and interest in the region.

Mr. President, the United States and Singapore have traditionally enjoyed close and warm relations. This is, in a large measure, because we share the United States' strategic objectives of a world where peace, stability and security allow all nations to concentrate on economic development in order to improve their people's well-being through free trade and investments.

The United States has been Singapore's major trading partner for many years, and is also our biggest investor. Many American companies are in business in Singapore.

Some use Singapore as the operational headquarters for the entire region. They have made substantial contributions to Singapore's economy. They have helped to transfer technology and develop our managerial talent.

Because of an enlightened outlook in these companies, Singaporeans have risen to become chief executive officers of the Singapore operations of major firms like IBM and Hewlett Packard.

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Singapore companies have now begun to invest in the United States. They are small players, but they illustrate how the free market works to the advantage of all participants.

The conclusion of a trade and investment framework agreement between Singapore and the United States in October 1991 will give added impetus to the floor of trade and investment between our two countries. The Asia Pacific is the most vibrant region in economic growth in the world. It was the United States policies after World War II that made this possible. It started with the rehabilitation of Japan during the Korean War in 1950 to '53, followed by the reconstruction of Korea and Taiwan.

The growth spread into ASEAN with ever-increasing trade and investments. The potential is enormous, as is apparent from the volume of America's transpacific trade -- now about one-third larger than its transatlantic trade.

The United States can play a significant part in strengthening economic ties across the Pacific. APEC can hasten the peace at which these links grow to the benefit of all. Mr. President, despite America's present economic difficulties, we believe that the United States has the intellectual vigor and the economic weight to lead the way to what's a better future for the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now invite you to rise and join me in a toast to the health and success of President George Bush and Mrs. Barbara Bush; to the prosperity of the people of the United States of America; and to the continuing friendship and close ties between our two countries.

Mr. President, Mrs. Bush.

(A toast is offered.)

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. It really has been an honor to be with you and to be the first American President to visit the Republic of Singapore. A Malay proverb reminds us, "He who has many friends ready to help need not fear threats." And tonight Barbara and I want to thank all of you for your friendship and your hospitality.

I will only single out the Prime Minister, having mentioned the President, Senior Minister, but so many have been so kind and so thoughtful to us. We are very pleased to be here in Singapore, Southeast Asia's smallest nation, yet a leader and yet a land large in opportunity.

You know how free markets and free trade can further opportunity. You've shown us. You've led the way. You know, too, how opportunity can enhance the new world order that President Wee referred to.

Mr. President, I salute you for helping shaped that order, for working with America to promote stability and prosperity. And as a friend, Singapore's grant of access for our forces has helped ensure the security of this area. And I also want to note the role ASEAN has played in working for peace in Cambodia.

Your national anthem proclaims, "may Singapore progress." And let us vow to achieve progress for democracy for this entire area of the world. Twenty-five centuries ago Confucius said, "Wisdom, compassion and courage, these are the three universally recognized moral qualities of men." Well, in that spirit, I would invite all of our guests to rise and raise their glasses to these very qualities that Confucius spoke of which promote peace and human

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dignity; to the friendship, and it is a genuine one, between the people of Singapore and the people of the United States of America; and to your health, Mr. President, and that of your nation, now and in all the years to come. And once again, our thanks for a wonderful visit.

To you, sir, and to the people of Singapore.

(A toast is offered.)

END

9:15 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
Singapore
For Immediate Release January 4, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

AMERICAN EMBASSY COMMUNITY GREETING

American Embassy
Singapore

3:42 P.M. (L)
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much. All you guys out front and all you guys out back, thank you for the greeting. And let me first thank our very able Ambassador Bob Orr, former governor of one of our great states, now Ambassador here who's doing a superb job; thank him for the introduction.

I want to particularly pay my respects to Dr. Bergman, the Superintendent, and Peter Larson, the Principal, thanking them for getting you out of class for few minutes. (Laughter.) I mean, I know a happy crowd when I see one, and I know why. You don't have to be studying -- never mind. (Laughter.) Only half right. I know you're good students. And Barbara and I are just delighted to be with you all. A delight to see so many American families here, as well as the kids from this great Singapore American School.

You know, this school, I am told, is well-known in Singapore, but also throughout this entire region, for your high academic standards, the good facilities, the active involvement by parents. And by providing that kind of top-quality education for the Americans in Singapore, you're playing your own part in our crusade that Bob Orr referred to, to strengthen and reform the whole system of American education. The young people here, all of you, serve to remind us that everyone, American and Singaporean, share common hopes and dreams for the future.

A shining symbol of the thriving future for relations between America and Singapore is the new Chancellory Building that we're about to construct. And because of the rainy season, I was advised not to attempt a ground-breaking ceremony outside today. But I want to just say a few words about the new Chancellory Building project.

John Ruskin who was an architect of great distinction, as well as a noted writer, once said, "When we build, let us build forever." And while Mr. Ruskin may have been referring to the bricks and mortars that make a building, the same is true of relationships. And this new Chancellory demonstrates in concrete and glass and steel that we intend to stay. We will remain engaged in Singapore. And we will remain engaged in this fast-growing region, as well.

I am very pleased that Singapore shares this commitment. Just three months ago they broke ground for a new chancellory in Washington. It's not enough, though, to construct a new building. We've got to deepen our ties, build even tighter bonds of shared interests and commitments. And every working American with a stake in our global economy, every businessman, every student should know more about this region and know more about the tremendous opportunities offered here.

The benefits of stronger ties between our country and Singapore is best measured not through revenues, but through cultural enhancement. And all of you gathered here have been instrumental in opening the lines of communication and understanding. I realize that many of you are going to move on to other assignments before this chancellery is finished, but let it stand as a reminder of your hard work and of your dedication and of your commitment.

So on behalf of those who will follow in the years to come at Embassy Singapore, let me just say, thank you for your efforts. We also -- Barbara and I would also like to thank all of you for the great support that you've given the staff, not all you kids necessarily, but those involved in this visit. We know that you had to make last minute changes in Christmas plans and we really appreciate all that you and your families have done to guarantee the success of this visit. So thank you for that. Your hospitality and diligent service to country -- and I'm speaking now of people connected largely with the embassy and also, sir, to this institution -- have been super. And may God bless you all. And to you kids, work hard. You're lucky to have such a good school. You're lucky to be in this wonderfully friendly country that means so much to the United States of America.

And now what my duty is, having concluded this short -- you've got to admit it was a fairly short speech -- (laughter) -- will be to present this shovel over here -- spade they call it -- for the use of the future ground-breaking. I want to give this to Ambassador Orr.

And thank you kids, every single one of you, for being here with us today. It's the first time an American President has been to Singapore, and I am very lucky that I am that President. Thank you very much. (Applause.) There you go. It's all yours.

MRS. BUSH: Thank you. (Applause.) I'll just say a few words. Happy New Year. (Laughter.) George and I are, as he said, absolutely thrilled to be here with all of you. And we're -- your sort of renew our vim and vigor and our pride in our country -- and we're thrilled to be here with all of you. Thank you for a great visit. (Applause.)

END 3:49 P.M. (L)

POOL REPORT #18

Pool Report 1/4/91

After his press conference at the Istana Palace, the official residence of Singapore President Wee Kim Wee, Bush travelled by motorcade to the Westin Hotel, where he met for about 20 minutes with members of the U.S.-ASEAN Council for Business and Technology.

During the photo op, Maurice R. Greenberg, chairman and chief executive officer of the American International Group and chairman of the U.S. ASEAN Council, told Bush that ASEAN is the third largest market for the U.S. "It's one of the better regions for U.S. business," Greenberg said.

Bush was escorted into the Raffles Ballroom of the Westin by Lee Kuan Yew, the former Singapore Prime Minister who is now a senior minister in the government. Bush received a standing ovation from the crowd of businessmen gathered to hear the Singapore Lecture, which was open to the press.

After his speech, Bush was escorted to the 70th floor of the Westin, where he was given an official lunch by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. Standing under an enormous cut glass chandelier, Goh said he hoped the American businessmen travelling with Bush take the time to study ASEAN's economies.

Goh said the reason for the rapid economic growth of the region is the "relatively open economies" of ASEAN. "The steak you will be having for lunch is imported from America (laughter). Malaysia too is relatively open. Indonesian and Thailand are liberalizing many sectors of their economies..."

"We are your 12th largest export market. Our imports from you amounted to 30% of our GDP, surely one of the highest in the world," Goh said. "America's security presence in this region and American investments have helped Singapore prosper. We want America to play a bigger part in our growth, through more investments and trade. We believe so do all our neighbors. All of us need America as a partner in our economies to help balance the growing presence of Japan."

Goh offered Bush a toast with white wine. Bush responded briefly by telling Goh, "I can't tell you how important we view the U.S.-Singapore relationship."

After the lunch, Bush made an unscheduled visit to the Esplanade, a park on the waterfront. The only people there were kids on skate boards, who hooted and cheered as Bush, Mrs. Bush and Goh strolled the waterfront and visited a massive steel sculpture erected to honor the country's 25th anniversary of independence. Bush then travelled by motorcade to the Singapore American School.

Charles Wallace -- L.A. Times

POOL REPORT #19

FROM THE AMERICAN SCHOOL TO RAFFLES .

JANUARY 4, 1992

SINGAPORE

Bush's visit to the Singapore American School could have been a stop on the campaign trail, so festooned it was with American flags and beaming school children. He spoke from a platform in a gymnasium packed with kids and parents, where he thanked the principal for ``getting you out of class for a few minutes.'' Behind him, a set of risers was packed with kids in Cub Scout, Brownie and school uniforms, each of them waving flags and signs. After Ambassador Robert Orr made a pitch for America 2000, Bush noted that, even from overseas, the school was ``doing your part for American education.'' Barbara Bush told the 500 or so cheering folk from the embassy and the American community that ``you sort of renew our vim and vigor and our pride in the country.''

Afterward, Bush did the grip and grin thing along a rope line and even added a kiss here and there. Somehow he and Mrs. Bush then managed to perch themselves on the risers surrounded by about 200 beaming kids in what Sig Rogich later pronounced a masterful photo opportunity. He even signed an American flag or two.

In the colonial-era lobby at Raffles, Bush again found himself waiting for a Singaporean leader as Lee Kuan Yew, the ruling party leader, arrived a few minutes late. But the delay provided time for another choreographed photo, as Bush posed with a diminutive 14-year-old door boy, Mohammed Andy, who wore a 1930s-style white-gloved uniform and pillbox hat.

As Lee Kuan Yew arrived and joined the photo op, he observed to Bush that Reagan more than any other U.S. president he had known had seemed to master the art of ignoring the press. ``See, we can all learn from that,'' Bush replied.

Lee was accompanied by Brig. Gen. George Yeo, Singapore's second minister for foreign affairs, who was said to have served as the counterpart to Scowcroft in the meetings. The four adjourned for a private talk upstairs as your pool and White House officials were ordered confined to the bar. Among those observed in close proximity to a Singapore Sling were Card, Rogich and Sittman.

In contrast to the morning apathy, there were a goodly number of people lining the streets as the motorcade passed. Bush was back in the hotel by 5:30 for a short break before tonight's State Dinner.

Douglas Jehl
Los Angeles Times

POOL REPORT D

MRS. BUSH GOES HOUSE HUNTING

JANUARY 4, 1992
SINGAPORE

Barbara Bush visited a swell 24th-story flat in one of the hundreds of high-rise public apartment "blocks" that house 87 percent of Singapore's population. At one point, while she and Josie Orr, wife of the U.S. ambassador, probed the economics of owning such apartments, Mrs. Bush was asked by the owner if she wanted to buy it. They also were accompanied by Lee Hocking, who is the daughter-in-law of Lee Kuan Yew, and by Mrs. S.R. [Urmila] Nathan, wife of Singapore's ambassador to the United States. Mostly it was show and tell, beginning with a rooftop view 26 stories up, then a tour of the duplex (two-story) apartment #24-297 at 13 Bishran St. It was all a revelation to those who know the plight of American public housing as Mrs. Bush noted: "It's of great interest to us to see how you're doing with public housing in this country," she told Tan Kia Jin, 37, and his wife Soh Ee Bin, 32.

The Tan family -- ethnic Chinese who speak excellent English as well as Mandarin -- live in the home with their two children, Isaac, 6, and Ivan, 3, and a live-in Filipino maid who identified herself to your pool as Jocelyn Daquila. Despite the 145 square meter, three-bedroom, corner Executive Maisonette on a high floor, this family is considered upper middle class but not wealthy. Both work -- she is a financial officer at Great Eastern Life Assurance Co. and he is a supervisor at the Peoples Association youth and sports division dealing with international competition -- but we were not told their income. There is a monthly earning ceiling of \$6,500 (Singapore dollars) to live in public housing and the acting chairman of the Housing Board, Brigadier General Tan Chin Tiong [no relation, the name is like Smith or Jones, according to Singapore Broadcasting Barbara-watcher Judith Tan]. Gen. Tan, who runs Singapore's public safety and was filling in for the vacationing chairman, told Mrs. Bush this block had a \$5,000 qualifying income. He also said there was a two-year waiting list of no more than two years, but the apartment owner Mr. Tan told her he'd waited five for this special apartment to be built. "This is my dream," he said.

Some 70,000 people now live in Bishran New Town and the population will rise to 116,000 when all 40,000 apartments are built. A red carpet was laid for Mrs. Bush from the motorcade stopping point into the building where even the elevators had red carpets. Gen. Tan explained that families can buy such apartments (the Tans' place cost \$146,000 Singapore four years ago) with a \$5,000 down payment and can borrow that money from one-half of anticipated social security pensions. "You can see how we've improved over the years. We started with very simple blocks," Gen. Tan said, pointing to examples of early and late. "Those are very colorful," Mrs. Bush said of the newer ones. After signing a guest book, seeing points of interest from the roof (she was especially intrigued by heavily landscaped balconies), and waving back to people on high floors of adjoining buildings, Mrs. Bush walked down two flights to the Tans place and sat with them on leather-looking living room furniture arranged around a Persian rug, sipping Perrier with a slice of lemon. "We're causing a lot of trouble today," Mrs. Bush said to Mrs. Tan when the party crowded into the already crowded apartment. "Not at all," Mrs. Tan said, introducing Isaac and Ivan. "Let's sit down," Mrs. Bush said. There was talk about the children going to school (off for weekend), how long they had lived there (four years), whether it was safe for children to play downstairs ("Yes, they have lots of playmates," Mrs. Tan said). Mrs. Bush seemed surprised when she heard a maid lived with the family. She played counting games with Ivan while Isaac was being girded to present a wonderful Picasso-like drawing he'd made of a cat with a half-moon head. Probably worth a fortune on

U.S. art market, but the kid came to tears from being so nervous when he presented it. Mrs. Bush plunged the party, particularly Mrs. Lee, into laughter when she said, "We're very impressed with your weather." "It was raining before you came," she said.

When Mrs. Orr asked how long it would take to pay off the apartment's mortgage, Mrs. Tan replied, "It's paid off. I'm a happy owner." "Now you can sell it," Mrs. Bush parried. "Want to buy it?" asked Mrs. Tan. Once she let that opportunity slip through her fingers, Mrs. Bush was given a very professional and attractive blue plate depicting village life in old Singapore. "Well, you certainly have grown," Mrs. Bush said.

While touring the house, Mrs. Bush was taken by the beautiful white tile Mr. Tan had installed everywhere, oohed and aahed over the family wedding picture but a worried mother Tan oohed and aahed to Ivan about the pristine condition of his room. "Good boy," she told him in an aside as the party came upstairs. "You didn't mess up your room this morning." That room was the resting place of an elaborate IBM-style personal computer with printers, disk drives, and a locked case of disks.

As a parting gift, Mrs. Bush gave the Tans an autographed copy of "Millie's Book" to the boys and "200 years of the American Presidency" to the parents. She autographed pieces of pink and purple construction paper for the two boys and signed an autograph book at the request of Mr. Tan for his neighbor across the hall who was somewhat displaced by arrangements for the visit. In a parting shot, she picked up Ivan for a family picture and said "I'm taking him home." Mrs. Tan screeched, "The first lady of the U.S.A. Wheeee!" Whereupon they departed.

Frank Murray, The Washington Times

POOL REPORT # 17

The Top of the Business Delegation Meeting

January 4, 1991

Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher and his band of CEO's were seated on one side of the table across from Trade Ministry and other economic Singaporean officials. Bush opened the meeting saying, "Had a very good and vigorous discussion with the Prime Minister," who was sitting to Bush's left... "Businessmen in this country really understand the importance of international trade."

Interviewed in an anti-room, White House Physician Burton Lee said that the President's fire ant bites continued to be vexing the leader of the free world. "Dr. Lee is having a very difficult time making them go away," Lee said, speaking of himself in the third person. Dr. Lee said Bush was using cortisone cream on the bites on the inside of his left wrist.

Ellen Warren
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

POOL REPORT #16

TOP OF EXPANDED BILATERAL MEETING

January 4, 1991

A few sparse quotes. As pool entered Bush was introducing the U.S. team including Ambassador Orr and Brent Scowcroft. A single row of U.S. officials sat on one side of the table across from two rows of Singaporeans. This prompted Bush to observe, "we don't have any backup. You've got a lot of brainpower back there." Goh replied, "we are a small country trying to look big." Bush replied, "when I see that vigorous growth down there you're doing pretty darn well."

Bush then observed, "well, there is a lot of interest in this, this leg of the trip...."

On the thorny issue of chewing gum: you're pool spotted Ministry of Information official Jerry Gomez vigorously chewing gum. He asserted this was from "old stock" before the gum sale ban went into effect this week. Gomez asserted it is not illegal to chew it however, "but you can't sell it."

Asked if there might be a black market developing for chewing gum here Gomez laughed - amused by the interest in this subject - and said, "who knows where you get it" now. Gomez said, "me and some of my friends" are impassioned gum chewers. "We'll go cold turkey but we'll recover."

On the issue of why President Wee was late to the arrival ceremony: a Singaporean Ministry of Information official asserted that Wee was not late but rather, "you (the U.S. delegation) were early." U.S. officials said, in fact, Bush was exactly on time. They checked their watches.

Ellen Warren
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

POOL REPORT # 15

MOTORCADE TO ISTANA PALACE AND TOPS OF MEETINGS WITH
SINGAPORE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER

January 4, 1992

No substance and little color.

Bush flatters the press corps.

Motorcade crawled down Orchard Road past extremely sparse onlookers who seemed only marginally interested in the first ever visit of a U.S. President to Singapore.

It was later learned that the motorcade was extremely slow and actually halted for several minutes within the palace confines because President Wee Kim Wee was running about five minutes late. Efforts to find out why he was tardy have thus far failed. Bush and Wee stood at attention for a military welcome including playing of U.S. and Singapore anthems and reviewing of white-clad troops in maroon berets bearing guns with bayonets.

When pool entered white washed palace for top of Bush and First Lady's courtesy call on President and Mrs. Wee Bush was saying, "...like about 10 percent. 10percent." We have no idea what he was talking about.

Bush is wearing dark suit, blue shirt; Mrs. Bush in navy silk dress, pearls.

At top of Bush meeting with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong the President was explaining how he doesn't take questions at photo ops. The Prime Minister asked, referring to the press corps, "do they follow you all over the place?" Bush replied, "this is just the representative pool. There are many many more. They just send to a meeting like this the star quality, the very very best." Pool detected that this was a sarcastic remark.

Goh refused to answer a question about how he felt about more American troops presence in Singapore saying, "there will be a press conference later." Bush aide Michael Busch tells pool that President Bush actually did make a flattering remark about the capability of the White House Press Corps to Prime Minister Goh, who seemed impressed that Bush knew the first names of many of the American reporters. Your pool did not hear this flattering remark.

The palace is located on beautifully landscaped grounds featuring a small golf course. Inside the red carpet main strairway is banked with rows of colorful potted plants in lush display. President Wee's wife is wearing fuschia dress with curiously clashing scarlet shoes and handbag.

Ellen Warren
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
(Singapore)

For Immediate Release

January 4, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT WEE KIM WEE
IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

Westin Plaza Hotel
Singapore

9:03 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Your Excellency, Mr. George Bush, President of the United States of America, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you, Mr. President, Mrs. Barbara Bush, and your distinguished delegation to Singapore. You have greatly honored us by your visit to our island republic.

Mr. President, you lead the United States at an historic turning point of the world. Momentous changes have taken place. The international situation is in a period of flux as a new world order takes shape.

As President of the United States, you will have a decisive role in helping to shape it. Your vision and steadfastness were never more in evidence when you forged the international coalition to force Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Your actions during the Gulf crisis demonstrated your resolve that the new world order should be based on the rule of law. The world is in your debt, Mr. President, for your leadership in resisting aggression and asserting the rule of law.

Mr. President, although the Cold War has ended and the communist ideology is discredited, the United States' presence in the Asia Pacific and continuation of the United States-Japan security alliance remain vital for regional peace and stability.

Any significant change in the United States interest or capability will set off reactions that can only increase uncertainties and instability. Singapore will do what it can under the memorandum of understanding between us to facilitate the continued American presence and interest in the region.

Mr. President, the United States and Singapore have traditionally enjoyed close and warm relations. This is, in a large measure, because we share the United States' strategic objectives of a world where peace, stability and security allow all nations to concentrate on economic development in order to improve their people's well-being through free trade and investments.

The United States has been Singapore's major trading partner for many years, and is also our biggest investor. Many American companies are in business in Singapore.

Some use Singapore as the operational headquarters for the entire region. They have made substantial contributions to Singapore's economy. They have helped to transfer technology and develop our managerial talent.

Because of an enlightened outlook in these companies, Singaporeans have risen to become chief executive officers of the Singapore operations of major firms like IBM and Hewlett Packard.

MORE

Singapore companies have now begun to invest in the United States. They are small players, but they illustrate how the free market works to the advantage of all participants.

The conclusion of a trade and investment framework agreement between Singapore and the United States in October 1991 will give added impetus to the floor of trade and investment between our two countries. The Asia Pacific is the most vibrant region in economic growth in the world. It was the United States policies after World War II that made this possible. It started with the rehabilitation of Japan during the Korean War in 1950 to '53, followed by the reconstruction of Korea and Taiwan.

The growth spread into ASEAN with ever-increasing trade and investments. The potential is enormous, as is apparent from the volume of America's transpacific trade -- now about one-third larger than its transatlantic trade.

The United States can play a significant part in strengthening economic ties across the Pacific. APEC can hasten the peace at which these links grow to the benefit of all. Mr. President, despite America's present economic difficulties, we believe that the United States has the intellectual vigor and the economic weight to lead the way to what's a better future for the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I now invite you to rise and join me in a toast to the health and success of President George Bush and Mrs. Barbara Bush; to the prosperity of the people of the United States of America; and to the continuing friendship and close ties between our two countries.

Mr. President, Mrs. Bush.

(A toast is offered.)

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. It really has been an honor to be with you and to be the first American President to visit the Republic of Singapore. A Malay proverb reminds us, "He who has many friends ready to help need not fear threats." And tonight Barbara and I want to thank all of you for your friendship and your hospitality.

I will only single out the Prime Minister, having mentioned the President, Senior Minister, but so many have been so kind and so thoughtful to us. We are very pleased to be here in Singapore, Southeast Asia's smallest nation, yet a leader and yet a land large in opportunity.

You know how free markets and free trade can further opportunity. You've shown us. You've led the way. You know, too, how opportunity can enhance the new world order that President Wee referred to.

Mr. President, I salute you for helping shaped that order, for working with America to promote stability and prosperity. And as a friend, Singapore's grant of access for our forces has helped ensure the security of this area. And I also want to note the role ASEAN has played in working for peace in Cambodia.

Your national anthem proclaims, "may Singapore progress." And let us vow to achieve progress for democracy for this entire area of the world. Twenty-five centuries ago Confucius said, "Wisdom, compassion and courage, these are the three universally recognized moral qualities of men." Well, in that spirit, I would invite all of our guests to rise and raise their glasses to these very qualities that Confucius spoke of which promote peace and human

MORE

dignity; to the friendship, and it is a genuine one, between the people of Singapore and the people of the United States of America; and to your health, Mr. President, and that of your nation, now and in all the years to come. And once again, our thanks for a wonderful visit.

To you, sir, and to the people of Singapore.

(A toast is offered.)

END

9:15 P.M. (L)

January 4, '92

George Bush Presidential Library Transfer Sheet

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