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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
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OA/ID Number: 13655
Folder ID Number: 13655-001

Folder Title:
GB Inaugural Address 1/20/89 [OA 6853]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	26	18	6	3

TO: Peggy Noonan
FR: Bob Simon

1/18/89



Answers:

1. I checked the Salutation with Judy McClennan, chief of protocol at the Inaugural Committee. She said it was OK. I also checked with Susan Porter Rose, Mrs. Bush's chief of staff, and she said it was OK and that she did not think anyone had been overlooked and needed to be added. (Note: Rev. Billy Graham is giving the invocation and benediction. Both Reagan and Kennedy mentioned clergy present. Just a thought.)

2. As we discussed, the oath of office is prescribed in Article II of the Constitution and has been repeated exactly by every president since George Washington in 1789. As we discussed, George Washington added the phrase "so help me God" to the end of the official oath, and every president since then has used that phrase except Theodore Roosevelt, who said, "and so I swear."

The King James bible used by Washington in 1789 will be brought to the platform by Mrs. Bush for the President-Elect's use. FYI: George Washington kissed the Bible after taking the oath.

3. Here is the exact quote: "In essential things, unity; in doubtful things, liberty; in all things, charity."

Three quote dictionaries repeated this quotation. One attributed it as the personal motto of Richard Baxter (1615-1691), an English Puritan who was a chaplain Cromwell's army. The quote is also attributed to Philip Melancthon, an associate of Martin Luther who lived a century before Baxter. A classics professor at Catholic University told me the quotation is used often and that it appeared in an encyclical by Pope John XXIII.

The definitive source on this quote was Dr. Fred VanFutterin of LaSalle University, who is a noted St. Augustine scholar. He said Augustine is "without question" the originator of the quotation and wrote it in a letter in the year 417 or 418. He said he could find a copy of it if we need it.

4. The quote is correct. "Great nations, like great men, must keep their word."

The source: Justice Hugo Black in his 1960 dissenting opinion in the case FPC vs. Tuscarora Indian Nation (392 U.S. 99, 142). This quotation has been used by other justices since then, including a case involving the CIA, which might be where GB picked it up.

Mark
Keegan

294t-4485

475-1438

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224 Lisa Dodge

MEMO TO MARY LUKENS
FROM PEGGY NOONAN
DATE WED JANangst 1989

Mary, there are four items from the inaugural address to be checked by a researcher(s).

1. ^{Senator Ford} The Salutation. The Vice President wants to open his speech with these words noting these dignitaries:
"Mr. Chief Justice, Mr. President, Vice President Quayle, Senator Mitchell, Speaker Wright, Senator Dole, Congressman Michel, fellow citizens, neighbors, and friends."

Q: Is there any mistake of protocol in this? I think not from the salutations I've read in the past 20 years. There seems flexibility here. But the Vice President does not want to make a mistake.

2. An Assertion. The Vice President will say,
"I have just repeated word for word the oath taken by George Washington 200 years ago; and the bible on which I placed my hand is the bible on which he placed his."

yes

3. The researcher Bob Simon some time back passed on to me a quote that had caught his eye from, I believe, St. Augustine. The sentiment communicated was: "In crucial things, unity -- in important things, diversity -- in all things, generosity."

I need the exact quote, who said it, where it's from.

alabama

4. The Vice President may use the following quote, which he believes is from a liberal or moderate former Justice of the Supreme Court (perhaps Hugo Black, he's not sure.) The quote is: "Great nations like great men must keep their word."

cf Lib. 479-3175
Linda

I want the researcher(s) to be assigned to work directly with me; no middle man, no confusion. Please give them my # at home, 759-0440. And, naturally, I do not want them sharing the above with anyone.

Thanks Mary, as always.

Mary, the teleprompter is being loaded soon. I want the answers by c.o.b. today. Any problem with this?

— Peggy

wtt: Jaltie

Photocopy-Preservation

Motto Richard Baxter ↗ English Puritan chaplain
Cromwell's army
1615-1691

In necessary things unity, in
doubtful things liberty; in all things
charity.

Black: "Great nations, like great

FPC vs. Tuscarora Indian Nation

362 - U.S. 99, 142
1960 dissenting opinion.

Pope John 23rd - author indeterminate
used it in an encyclical

Father 417 ~~418~~
Father Bill Watson Villanova
215-645-4500

Dr. Fred Van FURKIN

Laballe 215-951-1330
215-745-2003 h

Constitution as it stood in Washington's day contained only one relevant paragraph. It directed that before assuming his duties, the President-elect must promise to execute them properly. The Constitution as it now stands contains one further relevant paragraph—a statement in the twentieth amendment, ratified February 6, 1933, that the date on which the President is sworn in, previously established as March 4 by act of Congress, is now January 20.

All the other activities we have come to associate with the installation of a President—the revels and the hullaballoo, the salvos and the ovations, the balls, the concerts, the choruses and the galas, the sometimes seemingly endless parades in the afternoon and the fireworks in the evening—all these are the product not of law but of custom and tradition.

Because the inaugural rite is so varied, it may be likened to a vast mirror. In it we see ourselves, our changing attitudes, interests, hopes, and fears.

To a degree, every President writes his own program. Although other men planned the first inauguration, Washington succeeded in placing his stamp upon it. One of the characteristics of his subsequent administration was the care with which he honored the letter and spirit of the Constitution, but in the opening phase of his first inauguration he deviated from the great charter.

The Constitution prescribes the form of the oath. "I do solemnly swear (or affirm)," the President-elect is required to say, "that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

These were the words uttered by Chancellor Livingston. Washington repeated them, but at the end he added a phrase of his own. "So help me, God," he said. Ever since, every President has concluded the taking of his oath with these four words, except Theodore Roosevelt. Harboring some serious doubts about the existence of any being higher than himself, Teddy altered the traditional closing by saying instead, "And so I swear."

The President-elect, be it noted, may "swear to" or "affirm" the contents of his oath. For him, to swear is to direct his promises to God. The significance of this form of the oath was brought out by Abraham Lincoln in his first inaugural address in 1861, when he warned the rebelling states of the South that he must do all in his power to bring them back into the Union because the oath he had just taken to preserve the Union was "registered in Heaven."

The President who affirms merely expresses his sincere determination to carry out his promises. So far only one, Franklin Pierce of New Hampshire, has chosen to affirm rather than to swear. The young, handsome fourteenth President never explained his reasons for selecting this form of the oath, but they can be deduced from the circumstances surrounding his inauguration on March 4, 1853.

On the previous January 7, tragedy had befallen Pierce and his wife. They were en route from Boston to their New Hampshire home, when the train on which they and their son Bennie were riding hurtled from its tracks into the gully at the foot of the embankment. The President-elect and his wife were scarcely injured, but eleven-year-old Bennie, hopelessly caught in the wreckage, died before their eyes.

Pierce never got over it. Intensely, even morbidly reli-

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 ^AM-What They Said,660<
 ^Highlights of Speeches Past<
 ^EDS: Moved originally for PMs<
 ^By HARRY F. ROSENTHAL=
 ^Associated Press Writers=

FYI

WASHINGTON (AP) William Henry Harrison, the ninth president of the United States, pledged in his inaugural address not to run for a second term. He died a month later from pneumonia probably contracted while delivering that address on a bitterly cold day.

Harrison's speech was notable not only for its no-repeat promise, but also because it was the longest on record. It is not remembered for its rhetoric, which included this sentence: "The spirit of liberty is the sovereign balm for every injury which our institutions may receive."

Most presidents, however, have reserved their finest phrase-making for their inauguration speech. Abraham Lincoln exhorted his countrymen, when he was sworn for the second term, to act "with malice toward none; with charity for all." Franklin D. Roosevelt told Depression-plagued Americans that "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Harry Truman proclaimed: "I say to all men, what we have achieved in liberty, we will surpass in greater liberty."

Thomas Jefferson, the most gifted writer of all 40 presidents, enunciated a basic tenet of democracy: "absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority."

The tradition of invoking a higher power dates back to George Washington, who added "so help me God" to his oath and kissed the Bible. In the day of the father of our country the inaugural ceremony was indoors. It was moved outside in 1817 by James Monroe.

The best remembered inaugural speech, for its eloquence, is John F. Kennedy's in 1961.

"Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage," he said.

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

And, "ask not what America will do for you ask what you can do for your country."

His successor, Lyndon B. Johnson, said in his 1965 inaugural address that America's heritage must be relearned in each generation. "If we fail now, then we will have forgotten in abundance what we learned in hardship; that democracy rests on faith, that freedom asks more than it gives, and the judgment of God is harshest on those who are most favored."

Richard Nixon said in 1969 that "what has to be done, has to be done by government and people together or it will not be done at all. The lesson of past agony is that without the people we can do nothing with the people we can do everything."

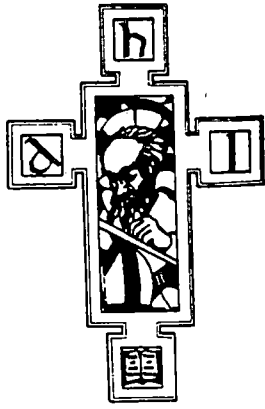
Gerald Ford, never elected, had no opportunity to deliver an inaugural address. But he was at his most eloquent at his swearing-in after Nixon resigned: "Our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works; our great republic is a government of laws and not men. Here the people rule."

In his turn, in 1977, Jimmy Carter began his tenure with praise for Ford. "For myself and for our nation, I want to thank my predecessor for all he has done to heal our land," Carter said. He told his fellow citizens that "the bold and brilliant dream which excited the founders of this nation still awaits its consummation. I have no new dream to set forth today, but rather urge a fresh faith in the old dream."

Ronald Reagan launched his eight years in the White House with a refrain from his campaign: "Government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem." And, "It is not my intention to do away with government. It is rather to make it work work with us, not over us; to stand by our side, not ride on our back."

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AUGUSTINIAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
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(215) 527-2100, Ext. 377

Director

Rev. Joseph C. Schnaubelt, O.S.A.

Feb. 19, 1989

Margaret Noonan
Speechwriter
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500


Dear Ms. Noonan:

Enclosed please find a copy of a research report on the citation of a "saint" in the Inaugural Address of President Bush. On Wednesday, January 18, 1989, I was asked by Mr. Robert Simon of the inaugural staff if the citation mentioned in the address was from Augustine. At the time, I gave him the received opinion of scholars that the words were indeed Augustine's. After research on the question in both Europe and here, I have determined the precise authorship of the citation and its circumstances. I hope that you find the information useful, albeit belatedly.

I have sent a copy of the enclosed to the President, to William Safire of the *New York Times*, and to our local newspaper, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

I regret the time that it took to clarify this matter. I hope that you appreciate the difficulty of such historical research and that you will continue to call upon us at the Institute in matters of this sort.

Sincerely yours,


Frederick Van Fleteren, Ph.D.
Professor of Philosophy

ST. AUGUSTINE AND THE INAUGURATION ADDRESS

On January 20, 1989 in his inauguration address, President Bush cited the motto of a "saint" to set the theme for his inauguration and indeed, we may suppose, for his entire administration: "In crucial things, unity; in important things, diversity; in all things, generosity." President Bush did not tell us the saint to which he was referring nor did he mention the entire motto again, perhaps because of lack of certitude concerning its origin. For these reasons, the source of this citation is of interest.

In actuality, President Bush did not use the motto as it is commonly cited: *In necessariis unitas; in dubiis libertas; in omnibus caritas.* ("In necessary things, unity; in doubtful things, liberty; in all things, charity.") It is in a variation of this form that the most recent edition of Bartlett's *Familiar Quotations* cites it. For some time, the citation in this form has been ascribed to St. Augustine, the fourth and fifth century genius who was described by one of his contemporaries as the "second founder of the ancient Catholic faith." The ascription of this quotation to St. Augustine is however unhistorical. A complete check of the writings of St. Augustine on computer at the Augustinus Lexicon at the University of Giessen in Germany has shown that neither the precise citation itself nor a place on which the quotation could be based could be found in the entire corpus of the writings of St. Augustine.

Nevertheless, grounds for ascribing it to Augustine abound. The most famous of these grounds may be the seal of the Catholic School of Theology at the same University of Giessen in Germany. In 1830, that faculty created a seal which pictures a bishop holding a book with this inscription under it: *In necessariis unitas; in dubiis libertas; in omnibus charitas. Augustin.* Whether the bishop on the seal is meant to be Augustine is a matter of some dispute. At that period, however, the citation was evidently ascribed to St. Augustine, for whatever reasons.

The most recent edition of Bartlett's *Familiar Quotations* gives Richard Baxter as the source for this motto. Indeed, in notes for a Letter to Sir Edward Harley on September 15, 1656 from Baxter, a Puritan and dissident Anglican, we find the following citation:

"I shall add no more but three general words, from three sayings, which so please me, that they are often in my mouth. . . . 3. In all your consultations about Reformation, Unity, and Toleration, be sure that you carefully avoid the extremes of uncharitable rigor, presumptuous impositions, and licentious toleration of Church destroyers: as that we may have *In necessariis, unitatem; in non necessariis, libertatem; in utrisque charitatem* (in necessary things, unity; in non necessary things, liberty; and in both, charity).

The citation which appears in the notes near another citation ascribed to Augustine is said to come from "Vulg.", which is a latin abbreviation for *vulgus* meaning "crowd." I take this to mean that this saying is commonly found at the time. I would further speculate that Baxter, student of

Augustine and competent scholar, did not know the source of the citation. As in the two citations just above it, he would have indicated the source were he to have known it. The Latin is obviously not classical. Bartlett notwithstanding, though the text is found in the works of Baxter, it is not original with him.

In searching for the sources of the seal of the Catholic School of Theology at the University of Giessen, Hans Georg Gendel, emeritus professor at the University of Giessen, has given a probable account of the origin of the motto. He traces it back to Rupert Meldenius in his work "*Paraenesis votiva pro pace ecclesiae ad theologos Augustanae Confessionis*" (A Votive Exhortation for the Peace of the Church to Theologians of the Augustinian Confession): *Si nos servaremus in necessariis unitatem, in non necessariis libertatem, in utrisque charitatem, optimo certe loco essent res nostrae.* ("If we were to observe unity in necessary matters, freedom in non necessary matters, and charity in both, our affairs would certainly be in the best state.") This work was written circa 1626 and later published by J. G. Pfeiffer in *Variorum Auctorum Miscellanea Theologica* in Leipzig, 1736. Rupert Meldenius is apparently a pseudonym for Peter Meiderlin (or perhaps Meuderlin), a seventeenth century Lutheran theologian of the Augsburg Confession and a follower of Johann Arnd. In the exhortation, Peter (Rupert) requests his fellow theologians in the Augsburg Confession to end their internal arguments,

to keep their unity, and to practice true piety. It is a readily apparent how the motto would fit into such a writing. Other authors repeat the phrase. For example, Friedrich Lücke in his *Über die ursprüngliche Form und den wahren Sinn des kirchlichen Friedensspruches* (1850) (Over the original form and the true meaning of the ecclesiastical peace sayings) gives the saying this form: *In necessariis unitas, in non necessariis libertas, in utrisque caritas.* It is Lücke who identifies Rupert Melden as a pseudonym for Peter Meiderlin and shows a wider use of the phrase in Johann Amos Comenius. The saying is also found in other theologians. We should of course remember that Martin Luther was a friar in the Order of St. Augustine and that his theology harks back to Augustine, though perhaps in a one-sided manner.

Gendel remarks in his essay that it would be unhistorical to criticize the nineteenth century theologians for ascribing the citation to Augustine. This, of course, may well be true. I would however point out that it might have been difficult for a Catholic School of Theology in Germany of the nineteenth century to use a citation from a Lutheran Theologian on its seal. Therefore, the faculty may have attributed the quotation to an honored source which they knew would be acceptable to the Catholic Church authorities.

Frederick Van Fleteren
Augustinian Historical Institute
Villanova University

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 20, 1989

INAUGURAL ADDRESS
OF THE PRESIDENT

The Capitol

12:05 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Chief Justice, Mr. President, Vice President Quayle, Senator Mitchell, Speaker Wright, Senator Dole, Congressman Michel, and fellow citizens, neighbors and friends.

There is a man here who has earned a lasting place in our hearts, and in our history. President Reagan, on behalf of our nation I thank you for the wonderful things that you have done for America. (Applause.)

I've just repeated word-for-word the oath taken by George Washington 200 years ago; and the Bible on which I placed my hand is the Bible on which he placed his.

It is right that the memory of Washington be with us today, not only because this is our Bicentennial Inauguration, but because Washington remains the father of our country. And he would, I think, be gladdened by this day. For today is the concrete expression of a stunning fact: Our continuity these 200 years since our government began.

We meet on democracy's front porch. A good place to talk as neighbors, and as friends. For this is a day when our nation is made whole, when our differences, for a moment, are suspended.

And my first act as President is a prayer. I ask you to bow your heads.

'Heavenly Father, we bow our heads and thank you for your love. Accept our thanks for the peace that yields this day and the shared faith that makes its continuance likely. Make us strong to do your work, willing to heed and hear your will, and write on our hearts these words: "Use power to help people." For we are given power not to advance our own purposes, nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power, and it is to serve people. Help us remember, Lord. Amen.'

I come before you and assume the presidency at a moment rich with promise. We live in a peaceful, prosperous time, but we can make it better.

For a new breeze is blowing, and a world refreshed by freedom seems reborn; for in man's heart, if not in fact, the day of the dictator is over. (Applause.) The totalitarian era is passing, its old ideas blown away like leaves from an ancient lifeless tree.

A new breeze is blowing, and a nation refreshed by freedom stands ready to push on. There is new ground to be broken, and new action to be taken.

There are times when the future seems thick as a fog; you sit and wait, hoping the mists will lift and reveal the right path.

But this is a time when the future seems a door you can walk right through -- into a room called Tomorrow.

MORE

Great nations of the world are moving toward democracy -- through the door to freedom.

Men and women of the world move toward free markets -- through the door to prosperity.

The people of the world agitate for free expression and free thought -- through the door to the moral and intellectual satisfactions that only liberty allows.

We know what works: Freedom works. We know what's right: Freedom is right. We know how to secure a more just and prosperous life for man on Earth: through free markets, free speech, free elections, and the exercise of free will unhampered by the state. (Applause.)

For the first time in this century -- for the first time in perhaps all history -- man does not have to invent a system by which to live. We don't have to talk late into the night about which form of government is better. We don't have to wrest justice from the kings. We only have to summon it from within ourselves.

We must act on what we know. I take as my guide the hope of a saint: In crucial things, unity -- in important things, diversity -- in all things, generosity.

America today is a proud, free nation, decent and civil -- a place we cannot help but love. We know in our hearts, not loudly and proudly, but as a simple fact, that this country has meaning beyond what we see, and that our strength is a force for good.

But have we changed as a nation even in our time? Are we enthralled with material things, less appreciative of the nobility of work and sacrifice?

My friends, we are not the sum of our possessions. They are not the measure of our lives. In our hearts we know what matters. We cannot hope only to leave our children a bigger car, a bigger bank account. We must hope to give them a sense of what it means to be a loyal friend, a loving parent, a citizen who leaves his home, his neighborhood and town better than he found it.

And what do we want the men and women who work with us to say when we are no longer there? That we were more driven to succeed than anyone around us? Or that we stopped to ask if a sick child had gotten better, and stayed a moment there to trade a word of friendship?

No president, no government, can teach us to remember what is best in what we are. But if the man you have chosen to lead this government can help make a difference; if he can celebrate the quieter, deeper successes that are made not of gold and silk, but of better hearts and finer souls; if he can do these things, then he must.

America is never wholly herself unless she is engaged in high moral principle. We as a people have such a purpose today. It is to make kinder the face of the nation and gentler the face of the world.

My friends, we have work to do. (Applause.) There are the homeless, lost and roaming, there are the children who have nothing -- no love and no normalcy -- there are those who cannot free themselves of enslavement to whatever addiction -- drugs, welfare, the demoralization that rules the slums. There is crime to be conquered, the rough crime of the streets. There are young women to be helped who are about to become mothers of children they can't care for and might not love. They need our care, our guidance, and our education, though we bless them for choosing life.

The old solution, the old way, was to think that public money alone could end these problems. But we have learned that that is not so. And in any case, our funds are low. We have a deficit to bring down. We have more will than wallet, but will is what we need.

We will make the hard choices, looking at what we have and perhaps allocating it differently, making our decisions based on honest need and prudent safety.

And then we will do the wisest thing of all -- we will turn to the only resource we have that in times of need always grows: the goodness and the courage of the American people. (Applause.)

And I am speaking of a new engagement in the lives of others -- a new activism, hands-on and involved, that gets the job done. We must bring in the generations, harnessing the unused talent of the elderly and the unfocused energy of the young. For not only leadership is passed from generation to generation, but so is stewardship. And the generation born after the Second World War has come of age.

I have spoken of a thousand points of light -- of all the community organizations that are spread like stars throughout the nation, doing good.

We will work hand in hand, encouraging, sometimes leading, sometimes being led, rewarding. We will work on this in the White House, in the Cabinet agencies. I will go to the people and the programs that are the brighter points of light, and I'll ask every member of my government to become involved.

The old ideas are new again because they are not old, they are timeless: duty, sacrifice, commitment, and a patriotism that finds its expression in taking part and pitching in. (Applause.)

We need a new engagement, too, between the Executive and the Congress. The challenges before us will be thrashed out with the House and the Senate. And we must bring the federal budget into balance, and we must ensure that America stands before the world united -- strong, at peace and fiscally sound. But of course things may be difficult.

We need compromise; we've had dissension. We need harmony; we've had a chorus of discordant voices.

For Congress, too, has changed in our time. There has grown a certain divisiveness. We have seen the hard looks and heard the statements in which not each other's ideas are challenged, but each other's motives. And our great parties have too often been far apart and untrusting of each other.

It's been this way since Vietnam. That war cleaves us still. But, friends, that war began in earnest a quarter of a century ago, and surely the statute of limitations has been reached. This is a fact: The final lesson of Vietnam is that no great nation can long afford to be sundered by a memory.

A new breeze is blowing -- and the old bipartisanship must be made new again. (Applause.)

To my friends -- and, yes, I do mean friends -- in the loyal opposition -- and, yes, I mean loyal, I put out my hand.

I am putting out my hand to you, Mr. Speaker.

I am putting out my hand to you, Mr. Majority Leader.

For this is the thing: This is the age of the offered

hand.

And we can't turn back clocks and I don't want to. But when our fathers were young, Mr. Speaker, our differences ended at the water's edge. And we don't wish to turn back time, but when our mothers were young, Mr. Majority Leader, the Congress and the Executive were capable of working together to produce a budget on which this nation could live. Let us negotiate soon, and hard. But in the end, let us produce.

The American people await action. They didn't send us here to bicker. They ask us to rise above the merely partisan. (Applause.) "In crucial things, unity" -- and this, my friends, is crucial.

To the world, too, we offer new engagement and a renewed vow; we will stay strong to protect the peace. The "offered hand" is a reluctant fist; once made, strong and can be used with great effect.

There are today Americans who are held against their will in foreign lands and Americans who are unaccounted for. Assistance can be shown here and will be long remembered. Goodwill begets goodwill. Good faith can be a spiral that endlessly moves on.

"Great nations like great men must keep their word." When America says something, America means it, whether a treaty, or an agreement, or a vow made on marble steps. (Applause.) We will always try to speak clearly, for candor is a compliment. But subtlety, too, is good and has its place.

While keeping our alliances and friendships around the world strong, ever strong, we will continue the new closeness with the Soviet Union, consistent both with our security and with progress. One might say that our new relationship in part reflects the triumph of hope and strength over experience. But hope is good. And so is strength. And vigilance.

Here today are tens of thousands of our citizens who feel the understandable satisfaction of those who have taken part in democracy and seen their hopes fulfilled.

But my thoughts have been turning the past few days to those who would be watching at home.

To an older fellow who will throw a salute by himself when the flag goes by, and the woman who will tell her sons the words of the battle hymns. I don't mean this to be sentimental. I mean that on days like this, we remember that we are all part of a continuum, inescapably connected by the ties that bind.

Our children are watching in schools throughout our great land. And to them I say, thank you for watching democracy's big day. For democracy belongs to us all, and freedom is like a beautiful kite that can go higher and higher with the breeze.

And to all I say, no matter what your circumstances or where you are, you are part of this day; you are part of the life of our great nation. (Applause.)

A president is neither prince nor pope, and I don't seek "a window on men's souls." In fact, I yearn for a greater tolerance, an easy-goingness about each other's attitudes and way of life.

There are few clear areas in which we as a society must rise up united and express our intolerance. The most obvious now is drugs. And when that first cocaine was smuggled in on a ship, it may as well have been a deadly bacteria, so much has it hurt the body, the soul of our country. And there is much to be done and to be said, but take my word for it -- this scourge will stop. (Applause.)

MORE

And so there is much to do; and tomorrow the work begins.

And I do not mistrust the future; I do not fear what is ahead. For our problems are large, but our heart is larger. Our challenges are great, but our will is greater. And if our flaws are endless, God's love is truly boundless.

Some see leadership as high drama and the sound of trumpets calling. And sometimes it is that. But I see history as a book with many pages -- and each day we fill a page with acts of hopefulness and meaning.

The new breeze blows, a page turns, the story unfolds -- and so today a chapter begins -- a small and stately story of unity, diversity, and generosity -- shared, and written, together.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America. (Applause.)

END

12:25 P.M. EST