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American Community Greeting--Seoul, South Korea 2/27/89 [OA 6343]

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(McIntyre, edit)
February 17, 1989
5:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA
FEBRUARY 27, 1989

It is an honor and a pleasure to visit with you today. Barbara and I just wish we had more time to spend with all of you. ((But we've got to catch our plane and get home to take the dog out... so I won't be long.))

On behalf of the American people I want to thank the Americans who are here, and those who could not be here, for the job you're doing and the sacrifices you're making so far from home, your families, and your friends.

To the Koreans here today, I want to thank you for the new friendships you offer, and the absolutely wonderful welcome you've given us.

I came to Korea today, on my first presidential trip outside of North America, to reaffirm our alliance with the Republic of Korea, which is vital to the security, political, and economic interests of the United States.

Earlier today I visited with President Roh at the Blue House, and then spoke to the National Assembly. All of our talks

have been marked by a spirit of friendship and cooperation. I told the President and the members of the National Assembly that the United States will remain a faithful friend and a dependable ally in the years ahead.

The United States will continue to stand with Korea against outside aggressors. We will continue to support Korea's democratic processes and diplomatic initiatives. And let me just say that as a former Ambassador, I respect the job our diplomats are doing in helping to shape and carry out our foreign policy.

We will continue to work with Korea to nurture more open markets, appropriate exchange rates, and greater economic growth. The American business community is well represented here today, and your efforts are vital to our future competitiveness.

America's commitment to the Republic of Korea is demonstrated, in large part, by the presence of all of you. To the men and women of America's armed forces in particular: you can take great pride in the contribution you're making to preserving peace, security, and freedom in this important part of the world.

I've been to the DMZ. Believe me, I know what you face day-by-day. And as your Commander-in-Chief, I salute you.

In the first several weeks since my inauguration, you may have heard that I have been emphasizing the importance of public service. There is no higher calling than to serve your country. In assembling my new Administration I have tried to attract honorable men and women who share my conviction that a public office is a public trust.

Well, many of you are public servants. You may be a long way from home but your willingness and dedication to serve do not go unnoticed. I appreciate your work. Our government appreciates your work. And the American people appreciate your work.

Being here has given us a renewed energy and a renewed commitment to work with the Republic of Korea to build a new era of peace and prosperity.

Thank you for everything you do.

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(McIntyre)
February 15, 1989
5:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA
FEBRUARY 27, 1989

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America's commitment to the Republic of Korea is demonstrated, in large part, by the presence of all of you. To the men and women of America's armed forces, you can take great pride in the contribution you're making to preserving peace on the Korean Peninsula.

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I've been to the DMZ. Believe me, I know what you face day-by-day. And as your Commander-in-Chief, I salute you.

Reuters
4-25-82

In the first several weeks since my inauguration, you may have heard that I have been emphasizing the importance of public service. There is no higher calling than to serve your country. In assembling my new Administration I have tried to hire honorable men and women who share my conviction that a public office is a public trust.

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April 25, 1982, Sunday, AM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 360 words

BYLINE: By James Foley

DATELINE: SEOUL

KEYWORD: Bush

BODY:

Vice President George Bush today visited U.S. troops near the tense Korean demilitarized zone (DMZ) and told South Korean officials Washington would continue to work in close harmony with the Seoul administration.

The vice president, the most senior Reagan administration official to visit South Korea, told a dinner in Seoul: "Koreans and Americans have a stake in the future and we'll work together as we have in the past."

Mr Bush, who is on the second leg of a five-nation Pacific tour, went to the DMZ, where a million troops are lined up, and talked with armed American soldiers before they began a patrol in the southern half of the zone.

He later peered through binoculars at North Korean guards and propaganda loudspeakers on the other side of the narrow demilitarized zone.

Last Wednesday heavy firing broke out across the DMZ and North Korea later charged that South Korean forces kept up sporadic firing over a period of two days, a charge denied by the Seoul Defense Ministry.

Mr Bush begins talks tomorrow with South Korean leaders, including President Chun Doo Hwan.

The two leaders will discuss the security situation in the Korean peninsula, where the United States maintains 40,000 troops in the south to ward off any military adventure by Communist North Korea.

Relations between the Chun and Reagan administrations got off to a good start when the South Korean president was the first head of state to visit Washington after Mr Reagan's inauguration. But anti-American feelings are simmering in South Korean universities because of U.S. support of the former army strongman.

Recent anti-American actions included the fire bombing of the U.S. cultural center in the southern part of Pusan and the burning of an American flag on a campus.

Diplomatic sources said Mr Bush would meet with church leaders, some of whom are critical of President Chun, during his three-day visit here.

From Seoul, Mr Bush goes to Singapore, Australia and New Zealand. There has been speculation he might extend his trip to go to China to discuss

LIMITED OFFICIAL USERemarks to Official American Community in Seoul

- o As a fellow public servant, and on behalf of the American people, I thank all those serving in Korea today. You play an essential role in managing a complex, vital bilateral relationship.
- o To the members of the U.S. armed forces here today, and those who were unable to leave their posts, I recognize and applaud your sacrifices. You serve far from home to safeguard freedom. As your commander-in-chief, I salute you.
- o America's commitment to Korean security is demonstrated most firmly by the presence of the American servicemen and women stationed here. You, and those who preceded you, can take pride in the contribution you have made to preserving peace on the Korean Peninsula for 35 years.
- o As a twice former Ambassador, I understand and respect the skills and achievements of our nation's diplomats. National security depends on both the wise use of military resources and skillful diplomacy. We depend on you in shaping our foreign policy and in carrying it out.
- o I also depend on and thank you for all the hard work you have put into making my visit here today a success.
- o I understand that the U.S. business community is well represented here today. Your work is vital to American competitiveness. Our workers depend on you to open new markets in this part of world. This Administration is opposed to protectionism and is pledged to work for freer trade and investment worldwide.
- o As I look over this crowd, I see many family members here as well. I want to thank you for coming. Your presence in Korea adds a human dimension to the American commitment here. With due respect to Hollywood, through you the Korean people are allowed to see Americans as we really are.
- o To the Koreans here today, I want to thank you for your assistance and advice and for the new friendships you offer.
- o (If site is K-16 Air Base) It is appropriate that I address this joint group of Americans and Koreans at this joint Korean-American air base.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Embassy
to
Korea

Speech at Yongsan

General Menetrey, General Chong, officers, enlisted men and women, distinguished civilians:

It is a pleasure and honor to visit with you. On behalf of the American people I want to thank the Americans here today, and those who could not be here, for the sacrifices you are making. You are serving far from home, family and old friends, to safeguard freedom. To the Koreans here today, I want to thank you for the new friendships you offer.

I came to Korea today, in my first presidential trip outside North America, to reaffirm our alliance with the Republic of Korea. This area of the world is vital for U.S. security, political and economic interests.

I visited with President Roh Tae Woo at the Blue House and spoke to the National Assembly. I told the President and the Assemblymen and women of our continuing security commitment, and of our support for Korea's democratic processes and diplomatic initiatives. I also spoke of the need to nurture free markets.

America's commitment to Korean security is demonstrated most firmly by your presence here. You, and those who preceded you, can

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take pride in the role you have played. Americans and Koreans have shed blood together fighting to preserve freedom.

As a fruit of Korea's freedom to determine its own destiny, this country is undergoing rapid political, social and economic changes. Not the least of these has been the change to a multi-party democracy.

As a former legislator, I know from first-hand experience that democracy is not always neat and tidy. But I also know that there is no better system of government than democracy. Nor is there any better foundation for good relations between nations. Korean-American relations are most sound when, like today, our governments are both based upon the freely expressed will of our peoples.

You serve in Korea at a challenging time. Even as you stand ~~shoulder-to-shoulder with our Korean allies to preserve this~~ country's hard-won freedom, prosperity and democracy, some of those whom you help protect misunderstand why you are here. A tiny minority of critics even resorts to violence. But I know that most Koreans remember and appreciate your sacrifices. And, America certainly remembers. As your commander-in-chief, I salute you.

Thank you.

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