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Folder Title:
Cinco de Mayo Celebration 5/5/89 [OA 6263]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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Davis
May 1, 1989
5May
Draft: One

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: THE ROSE GARDEN
CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION
MAY 5, xx x.m.

Thank you. (Acknowledge celebrities.) Isn't it a marvelous sight to see the folklore and traditions of past so refreshingly alive in these children.

This whole scene -- the costumes, the music, the pageantry -- reminds me of my days as a Congressman in Houston. Cinco de Mayo is big in Texas; just as it is throughout the United States. The reason is obvious -- this country and Mexico are bound by ties of blood, culture and friendship.

This is keenly appreciated in the Bush family. Barbara and I have always felt at home in the Mexican-American community. Living in Texas, we were deeply impressed by Hispanic values -- caring, patriotism, love of God. And, because of Jeb's wife Columba, we feel doubly blessed because the Hispanic culture is now our culture too.

What was true of a family is true of a nation: Hispanic culture is growing deep roots into American life. This is why the Mexican-American community plays such a pivotal role in our national culture, and in this Administration. We deeply respect

your commitment to family, honor and tradition. We need your ideas. And we want your involvement.

On this day, we also recognize something else that binds together the United States and Mexico -- we are two former European colonies whose independence has been hard-won.

Less than one week ago, I joined in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the swearing-in of George Washington in New York. How appropriate is it for us to now observe the victory of another champion of liberty -- Benito Juarez. Like Washington, he possessed a homespun dignity, a simple eloquence and a commanding presence. Both were men of peace who were forced to fight for freedom.

So this is a day for all Americans to look Southward, to memories of home and hearth for some; to memories of friendship for the rest. Think of the fifth of May as not a national holiday of another country only -- but as the celebration of ideals that know no border. Ideals of pride, family and tradition. This is the spirit of the Mexican-American community. And this is the spirit of all Americans, north and south of the Rio Grande.

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Appointments?
Cuban
+ Puerto Rican Community

Davis/WALLACE
May 1, 1989
5May
Draft: One

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: THE ROSE GARDEN
CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION
MAY 5, xx x.m.

200

Sec. Law 802

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