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President's Dinner 6/14/89 [OA 6264]

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*Stephanie
fact checked*

Davis/Martin
June 7, 1989
Title: Pdinner
Draft: One

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: PRESIDENT'S DINNER, WASH. CONVENTION CTR.
June 14, 1989/9:20 p.m.

Thank you, Don. Mr. Vice President, Dan ((compliment to come)) . . . Mrs. Quayle, Marilyn, it's a delight to be with you on this excellent evening. David Murdock, thank you for your dedication in making this event possible. Guy Vander Jagt, it's great to see you. ((Note MOCs, Cabinet Officers.))

*memo
to
Christie
June!*

As you have heard, this room is divided into four quadrants depicting the regions of the United States -- North, South, East and West. ((You may have also heard that Lee Atwater suggested a fifth corner, one whole corner to represent South Carolina.))
((PAUSE))

memo

((Forgive me if I'm off to a slow start tonight . . . I've been speaking at so many school commencements lately, I'm only comfortable before audiences that snap gum.)) ((PAUSE))

It was at the last President's Dinner that the fortieth President of the United States stood before us and formally threw his support for a successor. Since then, Ronald Reagan has returned to his beloved California. And you and I have fought

memo

shoulder to shoulder, battling our way from 17 points behind to a 40-state win on Election Day. ((PAUSE))

But we didn't fight the battle we fought, we didn't put ourselves and our families through the turmoil of a campaign, just to win an election. We fought because we believed in certain ideas and certain ideals. We fought because we believed that together we can build a better America.

The American people defined our mission. And in the four months since the Inaugural, without fanfare or partisan furor, we have worked together to quietly follow this mission, to achieve what was considered to be outlandishly impossible..

Five

Jan 20

legislative
Affairs
7029

*** The American people want action on the deficit. And we reached an agreement with Congress to reduce the deficit by a whopping \$65 billion. ((PAUSE)) And we aim to achieve this without raising taxes by a single copper penny. ((PAUSE))

Pres
C-13 x H
8-12 proposal

*** The American people want action on a festering problem -- the hemorrhage of the Savings and Loan System. Our reform plan will restore stability, eliminate extravagant practices, and punish those who abuse the trust of depositors. The Senate approved our plan 91 to 8. I call on the House to follow suit.

Legislative
Affairs
Haven
6493

4/19 Regal's Bill
51-voll call

Legis 225-1772

*** The American people want action on ethics. We are all saddened by the historic and unprecedented resignation of a Speaker and a Majority Whip of the House. Clearly, it is time for an even-handed ethics standard across all branches of government. This is the goal of our ethics proposal. **We must all be equal before the law.**

*No Nally speech on schedule
Letters 6/13*

*** The American people want action on the environment. Yesterday, surrounded by the natural jewels of the Grand Tetons, enjoying the crisp, pristine mountain air, I called on Congress to join me in a quest for cleaner air, an end to acid rain, ozone depletion and other harmful emissions. **You shouldn't have to become a mountain man just to breathe good, clean air.**

*** The American people want action on crime. This Administration will not rest until we have lifted the shadow of fear from the homes, shops and streets of America. That is why I called last month for tough new laws, and more police and prosecutors to back them up. In short, this Administration **is ready to take back the streets.**

Crime speech at Capitol Peace off. memorial 5/15

*** The American people want action on foreign policy -- a sensible, yet bold plan to deal with the changes sweeping the Communist world, from Budapest to Beijing. Our agreement with Congress on Central America allows the United States to speak

*Bi-lateral accord on Central America
Rose Garden 4-18-89*

with one clear voice with one clear message -- let freedom ring
in Nicaragua.

Brussels speech *no semantic words*
In Brussels, I said that we face an historic opportunity to
move beyond containment of the Soviet Union. I said that the
world has waited long enough -- that Europe can be whole and
free; and the world can move beyond armed camps divided by
suspicion and fear. **And our NATO Allies agreed.**

But this, the first five months of my Administration, is
just a start. We must work together to protect what is already
the longest peacetime expansion in our history -- to keep America
competitive and on the job. We must fight drug abuse on every
front, to redeem thousands of children, to return promise to
their lives. And we must revitalize our schools, so that a solid
education is once again the birthright of every American.

To make this kind of progress will require more than a
government program or another grand initiative. Republicans
believe that it will take the active involvement of parents,
students and teachers; business and local government; churches
and schools. This is what we mean by a thousand points of light
-- a constellation of volunteers.

But as you know, achieving our highest goals depends, to a
large extent, on winning elections in Congress. We must take our

case to the American people, precinct by precinct, block by block.

I believe it's no coincidence that our party slipped to minority status in the House as we became a minority in the state legislatures. Today, Democrats now have a redistricting advantage in states that compose about 90 percent of the seats in Congress.

Republican National Committee call
Mary Nelson Stacy Lia
6597

Dave Carney - 7730

- 863 8759
JIM

That is why we Republicans must make aggressive gains at the state level. Critical gubernatorial and legislative races in the eight largest states alone will determine whether Republicans will be treated fairly in the drafting of 209 Congressional Districts.

Intergov. Affairs

Dave Carney 7730

7730 Political

MORE THAN 200

A majority, or even a large minority, of Republicans in state legislatures can join with Republican governors to sustain the veto of outrageous gerrymander schemes, strengthening our numbers in the U.S. House. Strong state parties can help us to win back the U.S. Senate -- perhaps our most critical goal. In the next election, we have a good shot at making big gains. Of course, the party that controls the White House is supposed to do poorly in mid-term elections. But there are no iron clad rules in politics. ((After all, if there were, I would never have become the only living member of the Martin Van Buren

RNE

Society . . .)) With your support and leadership, we can again defy the precedents. We can again make history.

In order to win, we must work together as a team, not as an association of acronyms. The RNC, the NRCC, the RGA, the NRSC -- these are top-notch, well-managed organizations staffed by the best people in politics today.

But our Republican Party must be greater than the sum of its parts; we must be inspired by a common purpose. We must reach out to new constituencies, to campaign in the neighborhoods, the ghettos, the barrios, once considered to be the exclusive domain of the opposition.

To win, we must also recruit the very best men and women to represent our party, as candidates and as officeholders.

These are my strategies for victory. But strategies are useless without a great purpose . . . We have such a purpose, to build a better America, for today and for the new century ahead.

We have shed a lot of blood, sweat and tears to rebuild the Republican Party over the last decade. The best way to keep our party ready for action is to engage ourselves in the 1990 election, from the courthouse, to the statehouse, to Capitol Hill. I thank you for your help in this campaign to elect more

Republicans. Let us prove to the Democrats that the successes of the 1980s are not a fluke; that they, in fact, spell the beginning of the end of Democratic dominance in Congress.

((PAUSE))

We can now aim for the stars, and we can do so because of you. For your leadership of our party, of our country, you have my sincerest gratitude.

Thank you, good night and God bless you all.

THE PRESIDENT'S DINNER
1101 17th Street, NW, Suite 808
Washington, DC 20036
202/659-1771

DATE: June 1

TIME: 7:20

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW THIS COVER SHEET: 4

TO: Christina Martin

FROM: Amy Englander

If you do not receive all the pages or cannot read this copy,
please contact: Kathy 659-1771

COMMENTS: please let us know if you
need anything else.

telex

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN
FR: AMY ENGLANDER *Amy*
DT: JUNE 1, 1989
RE: THE 1989 PRESIDENT'S DINNER

Per your request, below is background information on the 1989 President's Dinner that is taking place on Wednesday, June 14 at the Washington Convention Center.

- * There will be a reception prior to the Dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. The actual Dinner itself will begin at 7:30 p.m. and run until approximately 10:00 p.m. We would like President Bush to address the guests for 10 minutes beginning at approximately 9:20 p.m.
- * While President Bush served as Vice President he made remarks at the President's Dinner, the most recent being the 1988 President's Dinner.
- * Senator Don Nickles, Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee will have the honor of introducing President Bush.
- * We would like President Bush to recognize Senator Don Nickles, Chairman, National Republican Senatorial Committee; Congressman Guy Vander Jagt, Chairman, National Republican Congressional Committee and David Murdock, Chairman of the 1989 President's Dinner.

- * The theme for this year's Dinner is an " American" regional theme. The room will be divided in to four quadrants depicting the south, north, east and west regions of the United States. The colors will be predominately red, white and blue.
- * At the 1988 President's Dinner President Reagan endorsed now President Bush
- * The President's Dinner is the single largest Republican fundraiser with 100 percent of the net proceeds going to the U.S. Senate and House of Representative candidates. To date, the Dinner has raised in excess of 6 million dollars.
- * There will be approximately 4000 people in attendance including the Vice President and Mrs. Quayle, Members of the Cabinet and Republican Members of the House and Senate.
- * The five leading fundraisers for this event are:
Jack McDonald
Wally Ganzi
Alex Spanos
Alec Courtleis
Carl Lindner

Christina, I have also attached a schedule of the day's events prior to the Dinner for your information. As you can see, the President will meet with some of the guets prior to the Dinner at the White House Reception and Photo-Op. Should you have any questions please feel free to call us at 659-1771.

Thank you.

1989 PRESIDENT'S DINNER
Schedule of Events
June 14, 1989

(May 18, 1989)

FUNCTION: LEADERSHIP BREAKFAST
TIME: 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Cannon Caucus Room
HOSTS: Senator Bob Dole
Congressman Bob Michel
ATTENDEES: Chairman, Co-Chairmen
Fundraisers at \$30,000 and above
RSVP'S: Krista
ATTENDEES: 150 people

FUNCTION: MINORITY LEADER'S RECEPTION
TIME: 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.
LOCATION: S-230
HOST: Senator Bob Dole
ATTENDEES: Chairman, Co-Chairmen
Fundraisers at \$30,000 and above
RSVP'S: Lynn
ATTENDEES: 150 people

FUNCTION: VICE PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON
TIME: 12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Vice President's Residence, Observatory Hill
HOSTS: Vice President and Mrs. Quayle
ATTENDEES: Chairman, Co-Chairmen
Fundraisers at \$30,000 and above
RSVP'S: Debbie
ATTENDEES: 200 people

FUNCTION: PRESIDENTIAL PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
TIME: 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: The White House
HOST: President George Bush
ATTENDEES: Fundraisers at \$75,000
CONTACT: Amy

FUNCTION: WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION: The White House
HOSTS: President and Mrs. George Bush
ATTENDEES: Fundraisers at \$45,000 and above
RSVP'S: Kathy
ATTENDEES: 600 people

FUNCTION: CABINET RECEPTION
TIME: 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Willard Inter-Continental Hotel, Crystal Room
HONORED GUESTS: Members of the Cabinet
ATTENDEES: Fundraisers at \$45,000 and above
RSVP'S: Debbie
ATTENDEES: 200 people

FUNCTION: DINNER RECEPTION
TIME: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Washington Convention Center, Level 1
HOSTS: Vice President and Mrs. Quayle
 Republican Members of Congress
 VIP's
HONORING: Spouses of Republican Members of Congress
ATTENDEES: All Dinner Guests

FUNCTION: THE PRESIDENT'S DINNER
TIME: 7:30 - 10:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Washington Convention Center, Hall A
HOSTS: President and Mrs. Bush
 Vice President and Mrs. Quayle
 Republican Members of Congress
RSVP'S: Susie
ATTENDEES: All Dinner Guests

FUNCTION: APRES RECEPTION
TIME: 10:00 - 12:00 midnight
LOCATION: Washington Convention Center, Lobby 1
HOSTS: The President's Dinner Committee
ATTENDEES: All Dinner Guests and Volunteers

events

TOTAL P.05

May 21 / Administration of Ronald Reagan, 1986

country's vital interest.

RONALD REAGAN

The White House,
May 21, 1986.

Remarks at the Annual Republican Senate/House Fundraising Dinner

May 21, 1986

Thank you, Guy, and thank you all very much for this wonderful evening and the privilege for being here. If I remembered one sterling lesson from the profession that used to occupy my time, I'd sit down now while I'm ahead.

They call this the President's Dinner. You've already been told it's really you—and it is true—all of you, who deserve the honors. And as you've heard already, this is the third year in a row that this dinner has broken its fundraising records. And a lot of the credit goes to the campaign committee chairmen, Guy Vander Jagt, John Heinz, as well as honorary cochairmen Dole and Michel, the two Bobs as we sometimes call them. I wouldn't dare say the Bobbsey Twins. [Laughter] And I want to give special thanks to the dinner chairman, Drew Lewis, and his band of loyal party leaders who helped to make this all possible, including Ted Welch, Walter Wriston, Howard Allen, Jack McDonald, and T. Boone Pickens. Gosh, Boone, we've raised \$7 million this year. That's almost enough to buy a small oil company. [Laughter]

But we've got some other urgent business at hand, and that's the Senate and House campaigns in 1986. You haven't heard that mentioned here tonight yet. And we've certainly got our work cut out for us. The elections in '86 will chart America's course into the 1990's and beyond. Will America be strong, economically and militarily? Will we march into the 21st century with pride in our accomplishments, a leader in freedom, a force of hope to the other nations of the world? Or will we slide back into the malaise that George [Bush] mentioned that gripped our nation just 6 short years ago, forsaking the future of greatness that is rightly America's? That's what will be decided in these midterm elections.

I know and you know that without a Re-

publican majority in the Senate and a strong Republican base in the House that enabled us to build a winning coalition, without that critical mass of Republicans in the Congress, all that we've accomplished in these last 5½ years would never have been possible. We slashed tax rates, yes. We cut back needless regulations, liberating the entrepreneurial genius of the American people and giving our nation one of the longest sustained periods of economic growth in postwar history. We began rebuilding our military, regaining the trust of our allies and the respect of our adversaries. And we stand proudly on our record. I wonder, can the other side say as much?

In 1980 and 1984 the American people have repudiated the Democratic Party's policies of envy at home and weakness abroad. But don't think for a minute that the other side has been chastened. They're still up to their old tricks, fighting us every step of the way. Given half a chance, they would quickly begin to dismantle the strong and proud America that we've spent these 5½ years building. They'd gleefully take it down, piece by piece, all the while talking on and on about their so-called fairness. Well, if anyone has any doubts about where the other side still stands, all they have to do is look at the budget recently produced by the Democratic House of Representatives. It's a budget only Tip O'Neill's mother could love. [Laughter]

The other side still seems to have only two ideas: raise taxes and slash defense. And they still talk about America's defense as if it were somebody else's special interest. Well, maybe there's something revealing in that. There is one overriding question that is not being addressed by the other side: Has the Soviet Union in any way reduced its enormous and dangerous military buildup or its drive for domination that threat-

ens the security of the answer is no. Today the S deployed over 1½ times as aircraft as the United States as many submarines, over tanks, and over 11 times a pieces.

As long as this heavy mine, I cannot sit back a reckless antidefense budget that we have done. Ladies none of us can sit back. I Party must stand a lonely gates of freedom, then so meet this challenge. We m and firmly and rally the We must protect the sec And, yes, we must and brave young men and their lives to keep us free. best that we can give them

The House budget dem Democratic Party is still the same way they did b ties, when its policies pro terest rates, stratospheric mothballed military. It sh fair warning of what w other side takes control that will stand between instant replay of the lat Presidential veto. Our pro vival, and growing Americ mied by partisan politic ism.

Well, we can't let t agenda is too full for the Republican Party has it future. It's our job in the lock in the gains we've r alize this second Amer hope and opportunity. momentum for growt strength abroad, a mo that it will even sweep and carry them along. T wishful thinking, but it's seen it happen this year breakthrough of what mentioned here tonight Congress. A consensus i ica around low tax ra policies. Looking back o ist high-tax policies of t

Fundraising

in the Senate and a base in the House that led a winning coalition, a mass of Republicans in that we've accomplished years would never have slashed tax rates, yes. We regulations, liberating the genius of the American our nation one of the periods of economic history. We began re- , regaining the trust of spect of our adversaries. dly on our record. I her side say as much? the American people e Democratic Party's home and weakness ink for a minute that en chastened. They're ricks, fighting us every en half a chance, they to dismantle the strong hat we've spent these hey'd gleefully take it , all the while talking eir so-called fairness. y doubts about where ands, all they have to get recently produced ouse of Representa- only Tip O'Neill's ughter] seems to have only nd slash defense. And erica's defense as if se's special interest. mething revealing in rriding question that l by the other side: in any way reduced erous military build- nation that threat-

ens the security of the West? And the answer is no. Today the Soviet Union has deployed over 1½ times as many combat aircraft as the United States, over 2½ times as many submarines, over 5 times as many tanks, and over 11 times as many artillery pieces.

As long as this heavy responsibility is mine, I cannot sit back and permit some reckless antidefense budget to tear down all that we have done. Ladies and gentlemen, none of us can sit back. If the Republican Party must stand a lonely vigil to guard the gates of freedom, then so be it. We must meet this challenge. We must speak frankly and firmly and rally the people's support. We must protect the security of America. And, yes, we must and will protect the brave young men and women who risk their lives to keep us free. They deserve the best that we can give them.

The House budget demonstrates that the Democratic Party is still thinking exactly the same way they did back in the seventies, when its policies produced orbiting interest rates, stratospheric inflation, and a mothballed military. It should give America fair warning of what will happen if the other side takes control of the Senate. All that will stand between America and an instant replay of the late seventies is the Presidential veto. Our program for a strong, vital, and growing America will become stymied by partisan politics and obstructionism.

Well, we can't let that happen. Our agenda is too full for the years ahead. The Republican Party has its eye set on the future. It's our job in these next 2½ years to lock in the gains we've made to institutionalize this second American revolution of hope and opportunity. We must create a momentum for growth at home and strength abroad, a momentum so strong that it will even sweep up the other side and carry them along. That may sound like wishful thinking, but it's not. We've already seen it happen this year with the dramatic breakthrough of what has already been mentioned here tonight: tax reform in the Congress. A consensus is forming in America around low tax rates and progrowth policies. Looking back on the redistributionist high-tax policies of the late seventies, it

now seems like the Dark Ages. The Democratic Party's politics of envy has been consigned to the trash heap of economic history.

As the tax reform bill now before the Senate exemplifies, by cutting tax rates, all of America will benefit; every American can come out a winner. And pulling together, rather than pulling apart, we can all contribute to fulfilling America's destiny of greatness. You know, we've talked of simplification of the tax structure. I'll just give you one classic example. There is one section of the tax code, the opening line of which contains—the opening sentence—478 words. It only took 16 words to put the income tax into being.

I must admit there were times in this process, as tax reform wended its way through the passageways of Congress, that even I had momentary doubts. It's sort of like the time that the late Marilyn Monroe met Albert Einstein. Marilyn grabbed him by the arm and said, "Let's get married." Einstein looked at her and said, "My dear, what if our children had my looks and your brains?" [Laughter] And as I said, there were moments of concern—[laughter]—but thanks to the farsighted, imaginative leadership of Bob Packwood and the other members of the Senate Finance Committee, we can all be proud parents. We're writing history with this bill. And so, is this not the moment to bring the rates down to their lowest level in half a century; to open the doors to opportunity for every American, no matter what their background or the color of their skin; and to fire the entrepreneurial engines that will carry America into the 21st century? Yes, the time is now.

This is the kind of positive, future-oriented legislation a Republican Senate can give America. If we keep the Senate in '86, we'll keep it into the 1990's. Progrowth tax reform will be matched with spending restraint and a balanced budget. Inflation will become a memory of the distant past, rather than a slumbering beast, always ready to be reawakened. Do you know that in the first quarter of this year, so far—not giving the average over 12 years, just for that quarter—there's actually been a decline in the—not—it's been deflation. We're

going down, not up above the basic cost. We can look forward to no less than a new America, a rising America, reaching up to our greatest dreams, bound by the values of love for country, family, faith, and freedom that have held us together, in good times and bad, since our earliest days. And when we speak of values, let us always remember that our first and highest value is life itself. We stand proudly for the right to life of every living soul, and this includes from the unborn to all those in the twilight of their years. I have a great sympathy for people in the twilight of their years. [Laughter]

In foreign affairs we've seen that we can count on the Republican Senate to stand firmly on the side of freedom. Where does the House stand? Unfortunately we can't know, because the Democratic House leadership has twisted the rules so that a fair up or down vote on aid to the Nicaraguan freedom fighters was not possible. Can we turn our backs on our brothers and sisters to the south and still remain worthy of our own forefathers? Can we renounce the good and worthy ideals for which these Nicaraguan patriots shed their blood and believe their freedom lost there may not one day be lost here as well? Some say, "Yes." I say, "Never." And I say a few words that are not mine; they belong to that immortal Winston Churchill: "We must never give in. Never, never, never." Never, until the people of Nicaragua can live in the full sunlight of freedom and democracy.

So, this is the choice in '86: legislative

Remarks During a White House Briefing for Members of the American Retail Federation

May 22, 1986

It's an honor to be able to speak to you, the members of the American Retail Federation. You represent a vital sector of our economy—one that employs 18 million Americans—and I want you to know how much I appreciate the support that you've given to our administration from the very first. It's been a while now, and we're get-

ting to be the best kind of friends: old friends. We can look back on many a battle that we've been through together—and isn't it nice to be able to say that most of the time, we've won?

When we took office our nation saw orbiting interest rates and stratospheric inflation and a mothballed military. Not any-

finagling or leadership; high taxes and overspending or balanced budgets and economic growth; a weak, isolationist America in a world held hostage by pro-Soviet tyrants and Third World despots or a strong, secure America that accepts its destiny as leader of the free world. We've built the foundations of a future full of hope, an American future of unparalleled achievement and prosperity. We've got a proud record of success on our side. The other side should be forewarned. There ain't no stoppin' us now.

I want to thank each and every one of you for all you're doing for the party and for America. The next time I address one of these gatherings, I am counting on there being so many new Republican Senators and Representatives that it will be standing room only. If you've missed what I've been trying to say here, it really is—and there just aren't enough words to say it properly—just all of you—this country started out with a revolution that had never taken place before or since, a revolution that changed the entire philosophy of government, a revolution based on three words: "We the People." And you, the people, are going to keep that revolution in existence, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart, and God bless you all. Thank you.

Note: The President spoke at 9:45 p.m. in Hall A of the Washington Convention Center. The dinner was sponsored by the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee.

more, not by a long shot we've slashed tax rates, regulations, liberating the genius of the American people, making our nation one of the strongest in the world. Economic growth in postwar years has put on our shelves products undreamed of just a few years ago: personal computers, cordless telephones, new fabrics, even teddy bears. Entire stories. [Laughter] building our military. You've given me unusual gifts, I have to give you one the other day. It was a little difficult to squeeze it, it laid jelly on the floor.

But we've begun rebuilding our military and regaining the trust of our adversaries. Our country is striding toward getting under control once and for all. We've faced opposition in the past—just look at the budget. Representatives passed a budget that would weaken our defense. There's something wrong with that. It would be ridiculous if it were nearly 5½ years now that we have been repudiating high taxes at home and abroad but the opposition keeps doing the same old thing. To get out from retailing, the opposition looks as out of it as a stock market tie and pants. The American people are buying; neither is the economy in a slump.

In addition to this budget leadership in the House, a trade bill—well, rather an antitrade bill—that is political. This antitrade legislation, would have the most basic tenets of free national trade. Indeed, it would turn our world into a trade war with our allies and partners. Economic growth around the world would be hurt. And again, there's a cost to this effort on the part

Republican Senate/House Fundraising Dinner

Remarks at the Annual Dinner.
April 29, 1987

Joe Canzari, Vice President and Barbara Bush, Members of the House and Senate, Chairman Boone Pickens—what happened? There. [Laughter] I thought it was sabotaged for a minute—Chairman Boone Pickens and honored guests and fellow Republicans, Nancy and I are pleased to be with you on this memorable and beautiful occasion—an expensive one, too. [Laughter]

Well, we can be gratified that if it wasn't for all of us, what we're paying tonight might well be the normal price for dinner. It's a joy to see old friends and to recognize the hard work and generosity of so many.

The other day, an aide burst into the Oval Office to tell me that intelligence reports indicated there would soon be another hostile takeover. I said, "Is it Daniel Ortega, his Eastern-bloc advisers, the helicopter gunships, and all those Soviet tanks?" He said, "No, it's even worse. It's two Texans, a letter of credit, and Boone Pickens." [Laughter] Well, then he gave me the good news. He's on our side. [Laughter]

I think we owe a special word of thanks to Boone Pickens for the terrific job he's done in putting this event together. And I also want to thank each and every one of you for your tremendous generosity in support of our party and what we're doing for America. Believe me, we couldn't have accomplished so much without you.

Also with us tonight are a number of candidates seeking our party's nomination for President. I'd ask them to stand, but I know you'd all be watching to see Howard Baker's response. [Laughter] But seriously, we can be proud of those seeking our nomination, and I'm certain that we all agree it would be an honor to have any one of them head up our ticket. And I'm going to do everything I can to help our nominee become the next President of the United States.

Now, the other party had a flock of contenders, as well—so many that it gets a bit confusing at times. A few weeks ago, I read that Gephardt had announced his candidacy. I remember putting down the paper

when I read that, and I said, "Nancy, it sounds like that fellow Hartpence has changed his name again." [Laughter]

Also a word of congratulations to Senator Rudy Boschwitz, new chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee. And let's make it clear, as others have said already, in 1988 we intend to win back control of the United States Senate for the GOP. It's not that we don't like Senator Byrd's fiddling, mind you. It's just that we'd like him to do it with his violin. [Laughter]

What doesn't go to winning back the Senate from tonight's revenues will be put to work by Guy Vander Jagt's National Republican Congressional Committee. And together, we're going to make certain that the next President is a Republican and that he has a Congress that will work with him rather than against him. Do you know how long it's been? The last time that a Republican President had a Republican Congress was in Dwight Eisenhower's term, and for 46 of the last 56 years, it hasn't been that way. Well, I'll come to that later.

One thing becoming clearer every day is that the number of Republicans in Congress makes an enormous difference. As of next year, the other party, as I've said, will have had a majority in both Houses of the Congress for 46 of the last 56 years and one House for an additional 6 years. And we have had a majority in both Houses for only four of those 56 years, and two of those were with a Democratic President and two, as I said, with President Eisenhower. Let's make a commitment tonight to get the word out and get the vote out.

Many in the other party don't understand they're vulnerable, but the American people do understand that. For 6 years, they've been telling themselves that their political slippage is a fluke of history. Well, sometimes I'm taken a bit aback to be given personal credit for throwing the predetermined course of history off track. Well, there's going to be a rude awakening out there when our opponents realize that our success has more to do with substance than style.

Winston Churchill was once asked, "Doesn't it thrill you, Mr. Churchill, to know that every time you make a speech, the hall is packed to overflowing?" "It's

quite flattering," Winston replied, "but whenever I feel this way, I always remember that if instead of making a political speech I was being hanged, the crowd would be twice as big." [Laughter] "Success in a democracy," as Churchill pointed out, "has little to do with pleasing the crowd and a lot to do with the soundness of one's ideas."

The unmistakable truth is that the other party still bends and twists to maintain the support of liberal activists whose values, goals, and interests are contrary to those of the American people. No matter how it's decorated, theirs is still the party of more regulations, bigger spending, and higher taxes. The Republican Party, for the sake of the country, must continue to offer a vigorous and distinct alternative, a platform consistent with the traditions and desires of those whose votes we seek.

Look at the evidence: It's only been a few months since our opponents regained control of both Houses of Congress, and already spending and tax schemes are bobbing to the surface like so much debris on the Potomac. [Laughter] One piece of pork floating our way is a housing bill to spend \$131 billion over the next 5 years. The Federal Government is already the Nation's largest landlord, and the last thing we need now, for everyone's sake, is to expand that role. The Federal Government just shouldn't be building and maintaining housing units. If the goal is helping the needy, let's give them direct financial assistance and let the private sector build and maintain the housing.

Now, this approach, of course, differs dramatically from that of those who would expand government at any cost in order to try to solve every problem. One need only remember the cumulative effect of that way of governing. The last time the opposition controlled both Houses of Congress and the Presidency, the average price of a new home went from \$54,200 to \$83,000; the interest rates shot through the roof. And by the time we got here, the average monthly payment for buying a new home had escalated from about \$330 to \$780—the biggest 4-year jump in housing costs on record. Now, I ask you: Would you buy a used housing policy from such people? [Laughter]

No matter how well-intentioned government controls and grandiose programs are, for the most part they are counterproductive. The inefficiency and misallocation of resources inherent in this approach undercut effective local and private sector programs. You know, if central planning worked, we'd be getting our grain from the Soviet Union and not the other way around.

We hear reports from that country, for example—I collect stories about that country—of a 10-year wait, seriously, to purchase an automobile, and the customer has to pay in advance. And there's this story about a worker who saves and saves, fills out all the paperwork, stands in all the lines, obtains all the necessary approvals. And finally, at the last window, the last stamp is affixed to the documents. He lays his cash down, and the bureaucrat counts out the money and tells him to come back in 10 years for his car. The little man turns and stops, and he says—looks back and said, "Well, morning or afternoon?" [Laughter] "Well," the fellow says, "it's 10 years from now. What's the difference—does it make?" He says, "Well, the plumber's coming in the morning." [Laughter]

By the end of the last decade, our economy was exhibiting some of the same maladies associated with other lands and other systems—shortages, long lines, stagnation, and pessimism. Turning that situation around, setting things right, was a team effort. It would never have happened without a band of stalwart Republicans in the House, headed up by Bob Michel, and also Republicans in the Senate, under Bob Dole's leadership.

Proud of our accomplishments, we Republicans have made the mistake in believing the public will naturally reward us at the polls. Well, unfortunately, as we learned last fall, the fastest drying liquid known to man are tears of gratitude. [Laughter] The American people will cast their ballots based not on what we did yesterday, but on what we will do tomorrow.

Furthermore, we cannot win or keep the allegiance of the electorate simply by opposing spending or offering protection against the ill-conceived ideas of our opponents. Political trends, especially among young people, will continue in our direction

only if the Rep asserts a positive vision of a vigorous America. In contrast to more government, we must encourage growth and oppose higher take-home pay at home and abroad. Let's focus on redistributing pieces of a shrinking pie to citizens loose to be

By sticking to a free enterprise environment, investment, and growth, inflation is under control. Over 13 million jobs have been created in the last 2 years. Some new businesses have failed, but the economy has been self-improving. America is now in an era of technology.

What this has done is a myth being spread. Jobs are being created. Well, the rest. Yes, many jobs are being created. Those 13 million jobs are paying occupational skills, professional skills, real take-home pay. Poverty is up, poverty is down, the average wage is up, and our economy is expanding. None of this is taken for granted. We don't want to slip back into a recession and undermine progress and pull us back.

First and foremost, we need congressional leadership. Spending limitations. Hollings. If they get out of the people. Then we can put it on our list for the United States. The hands of 43 million will help him eliminate

only if the Republican Party aggressively asserts a positive agenda for the future—a vision of a vigorous, competitive, and free America. In contrast to the program of more government advocated by our opponents, we must champion a program of growth and opportunity, of lower taxes and higher take-home pay, of freedom at home and abroad. Let our opponents continue to focus on redistribution and dividing the pieces of a shrinking pie. We'll turn our citizens loose to bake a bigger pie.

By sticking to our principles, we've created an environment that encourages enterprise, investment, and innovation. As a result, we've had 53 months of sustained growth, inflation has gone from double digits to the lowest rate in 25 years, and over 13 million jobs have been created—the American miracle, as our allies have called it. In the last 2 years, over half a million new businesses have been started. Yes, some fail, but they're free to try again. Our economy has been in a constant state of self-improvement from top to bottom. America is now well on its way into a new era of technology and enterprise.

What this has meant to our citizens—one myth being spread is that old high-paying jobs are being replaced by lower paying new jobs. Well, this big lie should be laid to rest. Yes, many entry-level, lower paying jobs are being created, but 60 percent of those 13 million new jobs are in higher paying occupations—management, technical skills, professionalism. This is one reason real take-home pay for the average American is up, poverty has declined 2 years in a row, the average lifespan continues to expand, and our standard of living is on the upswing. None of this, however, can be taken for granted. If Congress is permitted to slip back into old habits, it could well undermine prosperity, undo our reforms, and pull us back into the pit we left behind.

First and foremost, we challenge the new congressional leadership to live up to the spending limitations of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings. If they do not, we'll take our case to the people. The situation already cries out for institutional reform. The primary item on our list is giving the President of the United States the same power now in the hands of 43 Governors, something that will help him eliminate the worst abuses of

politically motivated spending. I'm talking about a line-item veto.

And something else America clearly needs is a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced Federal budget. I'd prefer relying on Congress, but if they fail to act—as I wrote to the minority leader of the Montana State Senate—we can still turn to a constitutional convention to get the job done.

Wasteful spending, especially in this time of high deficits, is a dagger pointed at the heart of everything we've accomplished. Let the big spenders note that if through their profligate ways they threaten to destroy the hard-fought tax reform achieved last year, they'll face not only a veto but an outraged electorate. I predict that if Congress spends itself silly, then tries to pay the bill by undoing last year's tax reform, a sort of Proposition 13-like rage will sweep across this land.

Of course, some of the most hard-fought battles that we've had in these last 6 years dealt with issues of national security. We were told time and again that if we didn't give into this or that Soviet demand, any hope for arms control would be lost. There was tremendous pressure, for example, to accept a freeze that would have left the Soviet Union in a position to dominate Europe with nuclear-armed intermediate-range missiles. Well, we held firm, and today we could be on our way to an historic first—an actual reduction in the number of nuclear weapons threatening mankind. The details must be worked out, hitches may arise, but undeniably, progress has been made.

But let me reaffirm one thing tonight: We are proud of the technological genius of our people, and we do not intend to stand still simply because our adversary can't keep up. We will not bargain away our right to develop a system that can offer protection against ballistic missiles. The Strategic Defense Initiative is not on the bargaining table.

Preserving the peace is one of America's primary goals in world affairs. However, equally important to us is our commitment to championing the cause of freedom. Freedom and peace are inseparably linked, and in no place is that more clear than in Cen-

tral America. If we permit the cause of freedom to be snuffed out in Nicaragua, if we cower and refuse to support those who fight for democracy, our country will pay dearly for our lack of courage.

I received a letter signed by several of the field commanders of the democratic resistance a few months ago, just before they began their long trek back into Nicaragua. They went knowing they faced an enemy supported by Eastern-bloc and Cuban military advisers, an enemy armed with powerful Soviet weapons. In their letter these field commanders indicated they understood the political difficulties I was going through and appreciated the faith that I had in them. And they pledged, as individuals who were putting their lives on the line, fighting against tremendous odds, that they would not let me down. What they meant is, they would not let us down.

That same kind of spirit is found among the people in Afghanistan, in Angola, in Poland, and among all those who resist dictatorships.

There is a power in the flame of liberty. It can melt the chains of despotism and change the world. It built our country into a mighty engine of progress and opportunity and made us a beacon of hope to all those who would be free. Today we must stand strong, because we are the keepers of that flame. And again, I appreciate your hard work and generosity. You are doing your part.

You know, I can't close without saying something I said to an audience in Los Angeles just a short time ago. I received a letter recently, and a man told me something—I had never heard it put in these words. He said, "You know, you can go to live in Greece, but you cannot become a Greek. You can go to live in Japan, but you cannot become a Japanese. You can move to Turkey, live there, but you can't become a Turk." And he went on through several more countries where this was true. "But" he said, "anyone, from any corner of the world, can come to America and become an American."

Thank you all, and God bless you all.

Note: The President spoke at 9:30 p.m. in Hall A of the Washington Convention Center. The dinner was sponsored by the

National Republican Senatorial Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee.

As printed above, the remarks follow the text of the White House press release.

Visit of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan

*Remarks at the Arrival Ceremony,
April 30, 1987*

The President. It's a pleasure today to welcome again Prime Minister Nakasone, Mrs. Nakasone, trusted friends, and he is the elected leader of a valued ally, which is also one of the world's great democracies.

The good will and cooperation between Japan and the United States has been a tremendous boon to both our peoples. Such relationships as our countries enjoy and benefit from are an historical rarity. Great care has been taken over four decades by political leaders on both sides of the Pacific to mold and create this gem of friendship which is of such immense value.

This hasn't been easy; it has taken effort on both sides. Ours, after all, is a dynamic and changing friendship, filled with all the energy and spirit which one would expect between two robust peoples. Today our governments must meet the great responsibility of overseeing a continued, positive evolution between the United States and Japan. I have confidence in your judgment, and by working together, any problem we face can be solved.

Even the closest of friends have differences. Ours is the challenge of keeping trade and commerce, the lifeblood of prosperity, flowing equitably between our peoples. To do that, we must address the current unsustainable trade balance. It has spawned calls for protectionism that would undo the shining economic accomplishments we've achieved together. If history tells us anything, it is that great advances in the human condition occur during times of increasing trade. Conversely, it is also clear that interruptions in international commerce result in stagnation and decline.

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REMARKS: BIPARTISAN ACCORD
ROSE GARDEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1989
2:15 P.M.

FOUR WEEKS AGO, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS,
THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS, THE DEMOCRATIC AND
REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE HOUSE AND SENATE, SPOKE
WITH ONE VOICE ABOUT CENTRAL AMERICA.

- 2 -

BY SIGNING A BIPARTISAN ACCORD ON CENTRAL AMERICA,
WE JOINED HANDS FOR THE GOOD OF THAT TROUBLED REGION.
AND BY PLACING PRINCIPLE ABOVE PARTY, WE REAFFIRMED THE
CORNERSTONE OF AMERICA'S FOREIGN POLICY.

LAST WEEK, THE CONGRESS PASSED LEGISLATION TO
IMPLEMENT THIS BIPARTISAN ACCORD. AND, TODAY, I AM
PROUD TO SIGN THIS LEGISLATION.

- 3 -

MY FRIENDS, YOU HAVE SHOWN THAT BIPARTISANSHIP WORKS. AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ACTING QUICKLY, HONORABLY, AND IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

OUR OBJECTIVE IN CENTRAL AMERICA IS A DEMOCRATIC NICARAGUA WHICH DOES NOT SUBVERT OR THREATEN ITS NEIGHBORS AND WHOSE PEOPLE ENJOY THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FRUITS OF A FREE SOCIETY.

- 4 -

OUR CONTINUED ASSISTANCE TO THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE REPRESENTS THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BOTH TO SUPPORT THE ESQUIPULAS ((EH-SKI-P00-LAS)) PEACE PROCESS AND TO SUSTAIN THOSE WHO STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY.

- 5 -

UNDER THE ESQUIPULAS ACCORD, INSURGENT FORCES HAVE THE RIGHT TO REINTEGRATE INTO THEIR HOMELAND UNDER SAFE, DEMOCRATIC CONDITIONS WITH FULL CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. THAT IS THE DESIRE OF THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE. AND WE WILL SUPPORT IT THROUGH CONCERTED DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO REINFORCE THIS REGIONAL AGREEMENT.

- 6 -

HERE, IN PARTICULAR, LET ME THANK THE CONGRESS. FOR BY SUPPORTING MY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED ASSISTANCE AT CURRENT LEVELS THROUGH THE ELECTIONS IN NICARAGUA, SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 28, 1990, YOU HAVE REAFFIRMED THE WILL OF THIS GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE PEACE AND FREEDOM IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

- 7 -

THE SUCCESS OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PEACE PROCESS AND THE PROSPECTS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION IN NICARAGUA DEPEND ON FULL AND HONEST SANDINISTA COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR REPEATED PLEDGES OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM. WE HAVE YET TO SEE GENUINE SANDINISTA COMPLIANCE; THUS FAR, THEY HAVE REFUSED TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE OPPOSITION REGARDING THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR FAIR ELECTIONS.

- 8 -

IT IS CLEAR THAT CLOSE INTERNATIONAL SCRUTINY AND SUSTAINED PRESSURE WILL BE CRITICAL TO INDUCE SANDINISTA COMPLIANCE. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THE SOVIET UNION MUST MATCH ITS RHETORICAL SUPPORT FOR THE PEACE PROCESS WITH CONCRETE ACTION TO HALT MILITARY AID, TO END SUBVERSION IN THE REGION, AND TO PROMOTE GENUINE DEMOCRACY IN NICARAGUA.

- 9 -

IT IS FITTING TO RECALL WHAT FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT SAID WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE NATION IN 1940: "TODAY WE SEEK A MORAL BASIS FOR PEACE.... IT CANNOT BE A LASTING PEACE IF THE FRUIT OF IT IS OPPRESSION, OR STARVATION, OR CRUELTY, OR HUMAN LIFE DOMINATED BY ARMED CAMPS."

OUR ACCORD ENVISIONS A DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL AMERICA, AND A MORE JUST AND TRANQUIL HEMISPHERE.

- 10 -

ABOVE ALL, IT POINTS US TOWARD THE FUTURE -- FOR AMERICA, AND FOR THE PEOPLE OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

SO, LET US SEIZE THE MOMENT. THANK YOU, AND GOD BLESS YOU. AND NOW, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO SIGN LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTING THE BIPARTISAN ACCORD ON CENTRAL AMERICA.

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REMARKS: BRUSSELS ARRIVAL STATEMENT
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
MAY 28, 1989

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE BACK ONCE AGAIN IN BRUSSELS, AND I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT MY FIRST VISIT AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES COMES AS THE NATIONS OF NATO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS OF ALLIANCE -- AND THE LONGEST PERIOD OF PEACE AND FREEDOM EUROPE HAS KNOWN IN THE MODERN AGE.

- 2 -

AMERICANS AND BELGIANS SHARE THE MEMORIES OF WAR AND HARD-WON PEACE IN THIS CENTURY. FLANDERS, THE BATTLE OF THE ARDENNES, BASTOGNE: THOSE NAMES ARE PART OF OUR HISTORY AS WELL AS YOUR OWN -- PART OF OUR SHARED HERITAGE OF FREEDOM, AND THE SACRIFICES IT REQUIRES.

BELGIUM -- NO STRANGER TO CONQUEST AND DIVISION -- RECOGNIZED FROM THE FIRST THE IMPORTANCE OF ALLIANCE IN THE POST-WAR WORLD.

- 3 -

TODAY, AS PERMANENT HOME TO NATO AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, BRUSSELS STANDS AT THE CENTER OF A EUROPE FREE, AT PEACE, AND PROSPEROUS AS NEVER BEFORE -- A EUROPE THAT IS STEADILY MOVING TOWARDS A SINGLE MARKET, AND UNPRECEDENTED POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES. IN BRUSSELS, THE SIGNS OF THIS EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE ARE EVERYWHERE.

- 4 -

BELGIUM HAS BEEN A GOOD FRIEND AND A VALUED ALLY -- ONE THAT HAS ALWAYS ACTED WITH ALLIANCE INTERESTS IN MIND. EARLY IN THIS DECADE, BELGIUM WAS ONE OF FIVE NATO NATIONS THAT MADE THE DIFFICULT DECISION TO BASE INF SYSTEMS ON ITS SOIL. THOSE DEPLOYMENTS GAVE US THE LEVERAGE WE NEEDED TO NEGOTIATE THE FIRST-EVER NUCLEAR ARMS REDUCTION TREATY.

- 6 -

LOOK FORWARD AS WELL TO MY MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER MARTENS, MY DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT DELORS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND SECRETARY GENERAL WOERNER OF NATO.

THE FUTURE OF NATO DEPENDS ON THE ALLIANCE'S ABILITY TO DEAL WITH OUR ENDURING SECURITY CONCERNS AND OUR EVOLVING ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP.

- 5 -

THAT'S THE KIND OF COURAGEOUS AND REALISTIC APPROACH THAT EXPLAINS NATO'S SUCCESS. NATO IS AT ONCE READY TO ENSURE THE COMMON DEFENSE, AND, WHEN SOVIET ACTIONS -- NOT JUST WORDS -- WARRANT IT, TO REDUCE ARMS AND SEEK TO DIMINISH TENSIONS WITH THE EAST.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS WITH KING BAUDOUIN [BOW-DWIN] AND THE NATO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT.

- 7 -

WE LOOK TO BELGIUM TO CONTINUE TO PLAY ITS IMPORTANT
ROLE IN OUR CLOSE AND COOPERATIVE TRANS-ATLANTIC
PARTNERSHIP.

THANK YOU.

#

REMARKS: PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY
U.S. CAPITOL -- WEST FRONT
MONDAY, MAY 15, 1989
12:00 NOON

LAST FALL, A RETIRED NEW YORK POLICE LIEUTENANT GAVE ME BADGE NUMBER 14072 -- THE BADGE HIS SON WORE THE DAY HE WAS GUNNED DOWN BY A GANG OF COCAINE COWARDS. MATTHEW BYRNE ASKED ME TO KEEP EDDIE'S BADGE AS A "REMINDER OF ALL THE BRAVE POLICE OFFICERS...WHO PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE FOR US EVERY DAY."

MATT, YOUR SON'S BADGE IS KEPT IN MY DESK IN THE OVAL OFFICE. DURING THE DEBATE ON GUN-RELATED VIOLENCE THAT HAS RAGED IN THIS COUNTRY THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, NEITHER IT, NOR WHAT IT REPRESENTS, HAS EVER BEEN FAR FROM MY MIND. I'VE HEARD THE MANY VOICES, THE COURAGEOUS AND THE COMPASSIONATE, THE WOUNDED AND THE WIDOWED.

WE GATHER TODAY TO RESPOND TO THOSE VOICES, AND TO HONOR THE FALLEN BY LAUNCHING A NEW NATIONAL STRATEGY -
- A PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICA'S CITIES AND STATES -- TO
TAKE BACK THE STREETS.

IT CALLS FOR A RETURN TO COMMON SENSE. AND IT BEGINS WITH A CLEAR-EYED VISION OF THE KIND OF PROBLEMS WE FACE, THE KIND OF PEOPLE WE ARE, THE KIND OF VALUES WE HOLD -- AND THE KIND OF NATION WE INTEND TO BEQUEATH TO OUR CHILDREN.

THE PROBLEM IS VIOLENT CRIME -- AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE BLOOD THAT'S BEEN SHED BY INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED GUNS IN THE HANDS OF A NEW CLASS OF CRIMINALS. USUALLY, BUT NOT ALWAYS, THE DEATHS ARE TIED TO A CYCLE OF DOLLARS AND DRUGS AND DEPENDENCY.

THE PRINCIPLES ARE SIMPLE. MY GENERATION WELL REMEMBERS WHAT SOME BELIEVE WAS F.D.R.'S FINEST SPEECH: THE "FOUR FREEDOMS" ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS. THE LAST, OFTEN FORGOTTEN, BUT ARGUABLY MOST FUNDAMENTAL OF THOSE FREEDOMS WAS SIMPLY THIS: FREEDOM FROM FEAR. OUR SWORN DUTY TO "INSURE DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY" IS AS OLD AS THE REPUBLIC ITSELF, PLACED IN THE CONSTITUTION'S PREAMBLE EVEN BEFORE THE COMMON DEFENSE AND THE GENERAL WELFARE. WHEN WE ASK WHAT KIND OF SOCIETY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE, OUR GOAL MUST BE A NATION IN WHICH LAW ABIDING CITIZENS ARE SAFE AND FEEL SAFE.

TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL, PEOPLE MUST BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS. THAT'S COMMON SENSE. MOST AMERICANS ARE LAW ABIDING, AND MOST BELIEVE THAT THERE IS SUCH A THING AS RIGHT AND WRONG -- GOOD AND EVIL. WHETHER IT'S THE BRUTALIZATION OF A YOUNG RUNNER IN A PARK OR TERRORIZING A YOUNG MAN ONTO A CROWDED HIGHWAY, THESE ARE ACTS THAT CANNOT BE EXCUSED, OR EXPLAINED AWAY.

A COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO CRIME MEANS THAT IF WE ARE GOING TO AFFECT PEOPLE'S BEHAVIOR, WE MUST HAVE A CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN WHICH THERE IS AN EXPECTATION THAT:

-- IF YOU COMMIT A CRIME, YOU WILL BE CAUGHT.

-- AND IF CAUGHT, YOU WILL BE PROSECUTED.

-- AND IF CONVICTED, YOU WILL DO TIME.

FOR FAR TOO LONG, A PRIVILEGED CLASS OF VIOLENT AND REPEAT OFFENDERS HAVE CALCULATED THAT CRIME REALLY DOES PAY -- THAT OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IS A CRAPSHOOT WHERE THE RISKS ARE WORTH THE REWARDS. WELL, IT'S TIME WE CHANGE THE ODDS -- AND UP THE STAKES ENORMOUSLY.

WE WILL LEAD THE WAY. WE WILL DO OUR PART -- AND THEN SOME. BUT NO FEDERAL EFFORT CAN SUCCEED WITHOUT THE FULL PARTNERSHIP OF THE CITIES AND STATES YOU REPRESENT. UNFORTUNATELY, NOWHERE IS YOUR FRONT LINE ROLE MORE EVIDENT THAN IN THE HONOR ROLL THAT WILL BE READ TODAY: OF THE 161 OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY LAST YEAR, 152 WERE STATE OR LOCAL COPS. YOU ARE THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE -- AND YOUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO ADOPT TOUGH LEGISLATION AND PROVIDE THE RESOURCES -- IN POLICE, PROSECUTORS AND PRISONS -- TO FULLY BACK YOU UP.

AT THE TRIAL OF EDDIE BYRNE'S EXECUTIONERS, THERE WAS TESTIMONY THAT THE HIT WAS ORDERED FROM PRISON TO SEND A "MESSAGE" TO THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE BADGE. ONE WITNESS SAID THEY HOPED TO SEE THE ATTACK ON THE TV NEWS AT RIKER'S ISLAND.

TODAY WE HAVE A MESSAGE OF OUR OWN: WE'RE GOING TO TAKE BACK THE STREETS. BY TAKING CRIMINALS OFF THE STREETS.

IT'S AN ATTACK ON ALL FOUR FRONTS -- NEW LAWS TO PUNISH THEM, NEW AGENTS TO ARREST THEM, NEW PROSECUTORS TO CONVICT THEM, AND NEW PRISONS TO HOLD THEM.

I AM ANNOUNCING TODAY A COMPREHENSIVE NEW OFFENSIVE FOR COMBATTING VIOLENT CRIME. FOR EDDIE BYRNE, FOR EVERY OFFICER WE HONOR HERE TODAY, AND FOR AMERICA.

THE FIRST FRONT OF THIS CAMPAIGN -- NEW LAWS -- STARTS WITH THE SEMI-AUTOMATIC AND SO-CALLED "ASSAULT" WEAPONS THAT CRIMINALS HAVE TAKEN AS THEIR GUN OF CHOICE.

AGAIN, COMMON SENSE HAS TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN THIS DISCUSSION. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, NEARLY HALF THE HOUSEHOLDS IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE GUNS. GUNS ARE ALREADY OUT THERE, AND THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY ARE LEGITIMATELY OWNED FOR LEGITIMATE PURPOSES.

BUT IN CONTRAST TO LEGITIMATE GUN OWNERSHIP IS THE CHILLING FACT THAT SOMETHING LIKE 80 PERCENT OF ALL FIREARMS USED BY FELONS ARE STOLEN OR OTHERWISE UNLAWFULLY OBTAINED. THROUGHOUT OUR NATION'S HISTORY, THE HARD LESSON WE'VE LEARNED IS THAT CRIMINALS WILL GET GUNS.

SO LET ME BE VERY CLEAR ABOUT OUR RESPONSE: THE RIGHT TO OWN GUNS IS NOT A LICENSE TO HARM OTHERS.

FIRST, I AM CALLING ON CONGRESS TODAY TO DO FOR DANGEROUS FIREARMS WHAT IT HAS WISELY DONE FOR DANGEROUS DRUGS -- TO DOUBLE THE MANDATORY MINIMUM PENALTIES FOR THE USE OF SEMI-AUTOMATIC WEAPONS IN CRIMES INVOLVING VIOLENCE OR DRUGS.

THE MATH IS SIMPLE. ANYONE WHO USES A SEMI-AUTOMATIC FOR CRIME -- OR SO MUCH AS HAS ONE ON THEM DURING A CRIME -- WILL DO AN AUTOMATIC 10 EXTRA YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON. NO PROBATION. NO PAROLE. NO MATTER WHICH JUDGE THEY GET.

SECONDLY, WE JUST CAN'T PLEA BARGAIN AWAY THE LIVES OF OUR COPS AND KIDS. I AM DIRECTING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ADVISE AMERICA'S PROSECUTORS TO END PLEA BARGAINING FOR VIOLENT FEDERAL FIREARMS OFFENSES. THOSE WHO USE GUNS WILL DO TIME -- HARD TIME.

THIRD -- WHEN A CRIMINAL CARRIES A GUN -- AND SOMEONE DIES -- THEY MUST PAY WITH THEIR OWN LIVES.

WE ARE CALLING ON CONGRESS TODAY TO ENACT THE STEPS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE DEATH PENALTY -- AND TO NEWLY DESIGNATE THE USE OF A FIREARM AS AN "AGGRAVATING FACTOR" FOR DETERMINING WHETHER THE DEATH SENTENCE SHOULD BE IMPOSED.

AND I CALL ON AMERICA'S GOVERNORS TO MATCH THIS FEDERAL INITIATIVE AND PROPOSE THESE SAME THREE STANDARDS AT HOME -- MANDATORY TIME, NO DEALS WITHOUT COOPERATION, THE DEATH PENALTY WHERE APPROPRIATE. YOUR STATES OWE IT TO THOSE HERE TODAY.

FOURTH -- TWO MONTHS AGO, AT MY DIRECTION, THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS SUSPENDED THE IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN, SO-CALLED "ASSAULT" WEAPONS. ATF IS CONTINUING ITS EXAMINATION TO DETERMINE WHICH -- IF ANY -- OF THESE WEAPONS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE UNDER THE STANDARDS IN EXISTING LAW. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS STUDY -- AND AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION -- WE WILL PERMANENTLY BAN ANY IMPORTS THAT DON'T MEASURE UP TO THESE STANDARDS.

RECENTLY, THE U.S. NEWS COVER STORY ON GUNS SUMMED UP A RELATED CHALLENGE -- "THE DIFFICULTY IN DRAFTING LAWS THAT WILL SEPARATE ASSAULT WEAPONS USED IN CRIME FROM SEMI-AUTOMATICS FREQUENTLY USED" FOR LEGITIMATE HUNTING AND SPORT.

THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL CONTROVERSY AND DEBATE ON THIS POINT. BUT ONE THING THAT WE DO KNOW ABOUT THESE "ASSAULT" WEAPONS IS THAT THEY INVARIABLY ARE EQUIPPED WITH UNJUSTIFIABLY LARGE MAGAZINES. THE NOTORIOUS AKS-47, FOR EXAMPLE, COMES WITH A MAGAZINE THAT PUMPS OFF 30 EXPLOSIVE BURSTS WITHOUT RELOADING.

AND THAT IS WHY -- FIFTH -- WE STAND ON THE STEPS OF CONGRESS AND ASK ITS SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION, MANUFACTURE, SALE, OR TRANSFER OF GUN MAGAZINES OF MORE THAN 15 ROUNDS.

THE CURRENT DEBATE WAS FIRST SPARKED WHEN AN UNSTABLE GUNMAN IN STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA PURCHASED AN AKS-47 OVER THE COUNTER -- AND USED IT TO LAY WASTE TO AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND.

PATRICK EDWARD PURDY HAD NO BUSINESS BUYING THAT GUN. HE WAS ARRESTED ON HIS FIRST WEAPONS CHARGE BEFORE HIS 15TH BIRTHDAY. BY HIS FOURTH FIREARMS ARREST, PURDY HAD FINALLY TURNED 18, AND WITH IT CHALKED UP THE FIRST OF TWO ADULT CONVICTIONS. ALTHOUGH FOR VIOLENT AND WEAPONS OFFENSES, BOTH CONVICTIONS WERE MISDEMEANORS. PURDY CRAWLED THROUGH THE LOOPHOLE THAT BARS ONLY FELONS FROM BUYING GUNS -- AND GOT THAT DEADLY AKS-47. THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS.

AND THEREFORE, WE ALSO PROPOSE THAT CONGRESS CLOSE THE PURDY LOOPHOLE, AND OTHERS LIKE IT THAT ALLOW DEADLY WEAPONS TO FALL INTO DEADLY HANDS. AGAIN, THAT'S JUST COMMON SENSE.

BUT WE NEED TO DO MORE THAN JUST ENACT NEW LAWS. IN A RECENT MOVIE ABOUT THE L.A. GANG WARS, A WOMAN SHOUTS ENCOURAGEMENT TO A COP ON PATROL, TELLING HIM: "YOU GET THEM OFF THE STREET." HE ANSWERS: "LADY, WE'RE TRYING." AND THE WOMAN OFFERS A FOUR WORD SOLUTION: "YOU NEED MORE HELP."

BELIEVE ME, WE KNOW IT. OUR POLICE NEED MORE HELP. AND I'M HERE TODAY TO TELL YOU THAT WE'RE PREPARED TO MATCH RHETORIC WITH RESOURCES -- AND CALL ON OUR CITIES AND STATES TO DO THE SAME.

THE SECOND FRONT OF OUR NEW OFFENSIVE CALLS FOR INCREASED MANPOWER AND A NEW STRATEGY ON GUNS -- A STRATEGY BASED ON MODELS OF PROVEN EFFECTIVENESS. I HAVE DIRECTED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE TREASURY SECRETARY, WORKING TOGETHER WITH STATE AND LOCAL ENFORCEMENT, TO LAUNCH A COMPREHENSIVE, COORDINATED OFFENSIVE AGAINST OUR NATION'S MOST VIOLENT CRIMINALS.

I AM REQUESTING FUNDING FOR HIRING 825 NEW FEDERAL AGENTS AND STAFF -- 375 AT ATF, 300 AT THE FBI, AND 150 DEPUTY U.S. MARSHALS. MANY OF THESE HIRINGS WILL PERMIT EXPERIENCED INVESTIGATORS FROM ALL THREE AGENCIES TO PROMPTLY COMBAT VIOLENT CRIME IN THE FIELD.

OF COURSE, ARRESTING THESE THUGS DOESN'T HELP IF WE DON'T HAVE THE MUSCLE TO PROSECUTE EACH CRIMINAL TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW. THAT'S WHY THE THIRD FRONT OF THIS CAMPAIGN CALLS FOR CONGRESS TO BACK UP THESE NEW TROOPS WITH 1,600 NEW PROSECUTORS AND STAFF.

NOW, THERE PROBABLY ISN'T A COP HERE WHO HASN'T SEEN A CASE WHERE A DANGEROUS FELON -- PROPERLY ARRESTED, FULLY PROSECUTED, AND SENTENCED TO THE MAXIMUM -- WALKED OUT OF JAIL EARLY, SOMETIMES YEARS EARLY, BECAUSE PRISONS ARE BURSTING AT THE SEAMS. THAT'S NOT RIGHT.

PART OF OUR COMMON SENSE APPROACH IS A SIMPLE RECOGNITION THAT IT DOESN'T DO ANY GOOD TO PROVIDE NEW FEDERAL AGENTS, NEW ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEYS, AND NEW LAWS WITH LONG-TERM PENALTIES -- IF WE DON'T HAVE THE PRISON CELLS TO KEEP CRIMINALS WHERE THEY BELONG. A CHAIN IS ONLY AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK.

AND SO, AS THE FOURTH FRONT IN THIS COMPREHENSIVE EFFORT, I AM CALLING ON CONGRESS TO AUTHORIZE AN ADDITIONAL \$1 BILLION -- OVER AND ABOVE THE \$500 MILLION ALREADY SLATED FOR 1990 -- FOR FEDERAL PRISON CONSTRUCTION. THESE 24,000 NEW BEDS WILL BOOST FEDERAL PRISON CAPACITY BY NEARLY 80%.

NOT SINCE LINCOLN HAS A PRESIDENT STOOD IN FRONT OF THE CAPITOL AND BEEN JUST A FEW MILES FROM THE FRONT LINE OF A WAR. NEVER WAS THE TOLL MORE VISIBLE THAN IN THE FACES OF THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN -- THE FAMILIES -- GATHERED HERE TODAY. AND WHEN I FIRST STOOD HERE AS PRESIDENT -- ONLY MOMENTS AFTER TAKING THE OATH -- I MADE A PROMISE: "THIS SCOURGE WILL STOP." AND THAT'S A PROMISE WE INTEND TO KEEP.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I OFFER MY CONDOLENCES FOR YOUR FALLEN LOVED ONES AND FELLOW OFFICERS. I SALUTE YOUR COMMITMENT AND YOUR COURAGE. AND AS A CITIZEN GRATEFUL FOR THE PROTECTION YOU HAVE PROVIDED FOR MY FAMILY AND MY COUNTRYMEN, I THANK YOU AND WISH YOU GODSPEED. AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

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8 largest

California 45

NY 34

Ill 30

TX 27

PENNA 23

Ohio 21

Florida 19

Michigan 18

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