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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13510
Folder ID Number: 13510-002

Folder Title:
President Aquino 11/9/90 [OA 3537] [2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	6	2

McNally/Simon
November 6, 1989
Draft Six (B:CORY.AR)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989

**Mrs. President, welcome back to the United States. And
welcome back to the White House. **

You last visited our country just months after the miracle of "people power," when -- as you so powerfully put it -- "all the world wondered as they witnessed...a people lift themselves from humiliation to the greatest pride."

The changes in your country since that time are truly exciting. After years of authoritarian rule, your leadership has made the Philippines a beacon for democracy, worthy of imitation throughout the world. Your economy is growing towards full recovery. We salute you -- and we salute the Philippine people -- for vision, perseverance and the successes you have achieved.

We're looking forward to this opportunity to get better acquainted, and to consult closely on the broad range of issues and concerns we share. High among these concerns, I know, is the promotion of private investment and trade between our two countries -- the key to balanced, long-term growth.

Part of your mission here is to spread the word to American business of the opportunity, warm welcome, and superb field conditions awaiting them in the Philippines.

Three years ago, when you rang the bell of freedom in Manila, America cheered and rose in awe. When your words rang

from the rafters of Congress, our leaders stood and gave you the most thunderous reception given any foreign leader in more than a generation. And just yesterday, when you rang the bell on the New York Stock Exchange, the market climbed ___ points. \\

The message is simple. From Main Street to Wall Street, America loves the Philippines. And America loves Cory Aquino. \\

You deserve our help. And you will get it. I pledge our continuing assistance to your government. That means security assistance. Economic development. And it means debt reduction.

Your priorities are our priorities. \\ Reform -- administrative and economic. \\ Recovery -- new investment, encouraged by sound infrastructure and sound policies. \\ And renewal -- help for the suffering in your streets, and help for your suffering environment.

Earlier this year, America's Independence Day marked the successful launch of the Multilateral Assistance Initiative. Developed with Japan, the World Bank, I.M.F. and other donors, this unique program bolsters your efforts to refuel and restructure the Philippine economy.

Today, Congress stands ready to provide \$160 million for the first year of this Initiative. [[And my appointment of one of America's pre-eminent statesmen, Ambassador Elliot Richardson, as my personal representative for the Initiative, shows the priority we accord to its success.]]

It is fitting, Mrs. President, that you should visit as we approach a Veterans Day weekend that will bring me to Texas to

dedicate their Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Of course, Vietnam was not the first time soldiers from our two lands dug in together to fight for democracy. 45 years ago this fall, an American hero clenched a corn-cob pipe in his teeth and waded ashore at Leyte [[LAY-tee]] Gulf -- shoulder to shoulder with Philippine President Sergio Osmena [[Os-MAIN-ya]]. MacArthur had returned. The liberation of the Philippines was at hand. \\

And 45 years ago, almost to the day, I, too, was fighting to bring peace and freedom to the Philippines. The skies over Luzon were thick with puffs of anti-aircraft fire, black and menacing. I was a 20 year-old kid, piloting a T.B.M. Avenger on a daylight raid against enemy warships, borne up by the winds of Manila Bay and the prayers of the Philippine people. \\

President Aquino has often spoken of her belief that God has a plan. And I don't doubt it. For looking back today, I realize that -- as I safely flew back to my ship on that November day, 1944 -- somewhere far below was the town of San Mateo, where an 11 year-old girl, a convent student, waited in safety with her family. She was a remarkable child, devoted to her studies and to her faith, fiercely proud of her family and her people. \

And today, it is a privilege and an honor for that American pilot to welcome her to the White House -- the elected leader of the Republic of the Philippines -- President Cory Aquino. \\

President Aquino, in 1986, as in World War II, your nation once again faced a moment of truth. And once again the people of the Philippines proved their courage to the world, and to

themselves. And when you triumphed -- when democracy triumphed -- it vindicated the sacrifice of all the brave Filipino and American soldiers who gave their lives so long ago, side by side in the common cause of freedom.

Down through the decades, our two peoples have shared a strong commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability -- for the Philippines, for America, and for the Pacific region.

That's why we fought for the Philippines in 1944. That's why America was proud to serve as a refuge for the Aquino family when Ninoy's courageous voice was stilled at home. And that's why our shared values became shared bonds -- bonds that continue to underpin our shared commitment to security today.

You noted here three years ago that the recovery of democracy brought with it the ability to deal with your major ally on an equal footing -- the only basis for a relationship between friends. It is in that spirit that we look forward to the discussions we have already agreed will begin in December -- discussions which, we are confident, will mold a new, mutually beneficial security partnership for the future. \\

We welcome you amid dramatic times. We welcome you amid a feeling of great hope in both our lands. And we welcome you amid a spirit of understanding and cooperation, looking forward to our conversations as close friends and allies.

Welcome back, Mrs. President. God bless you. God bless the people of the Philippines. And God bless the friendship between our two nations. Thank you.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/6/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 11/7/89 3:00 PM

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND TOAST FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 PM, Tuesday, November 7, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Minor comments

89 OCT 7 10:58

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

1989 NOV -6 PM 7:12

McNally/Simon
November 6, 1989
Draft Six (B:CORY.AR)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989

Madam?
**Mrs. President, welcome back to the United States. And
welcome back to the White House. \ **

You last visited our country just months after the miracle of "people power," when -- as you so powerfully put it -- "all the world wondered as they witnessed...a people lift themselves from humiliation to the greatest pride."

The changes in your country since that time are truly exciting. After years of authoritarian rule, your leadership has made the Philippines a beacon for democracy, worthy of imitation throughout the world. Your economy is growing towards full recovery. We salute you -- and we salute the Philippine people -- for vision, perseverance and the successes you have achieved.

We're looking forward to this opportunity to get better acquainted, and to consult closely on the broad range of issues and concerns we share. High among these concerns, I know, is the promotion of private investment and trade between our two countries -- the key to balanced, long-term growth.

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Your priorities are our priorities. \\ Reform -- administrative and economic. \\ Recovery -- new investment, encouraged by sound infrastructure and sound policies. \\ And renewal -- help for the suffering in your streets, and help for your suffering environment.

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Today, Congress stands ready to provide \$160 million for the first year of this Initiative. [[And my appointment of one of America's pre-eminent statesmen, Ambassador Elliot Richardson, as my personal representative for the Initiative, shows the priority we accord to its success.]]

It is fitting, Mrs. President, that you should visit as we approach a Veterans Day weekend, ~~that will bring me to Texas to~~

~~dedicate their Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Of course, Vietnam was not the first time soldiers from our two lands dug in together to fight for democracy.~~ ^{For it was} 45 years ago this fall, an American hero clenched a corn-cob pipe in his teeth and waded ashore at Leyte [[LAY-tee]] Gulf -- shoulder to shoulder with Philippine President Sergio Osmena [[Os-MAIN-ya]]. MacArthur had returned. The liberation of the Philippines was at hand. \\\

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President Aquino has often spoken of her belief that God has a plan. And I don't doubt it. For looking back today, I realize that -- as I safely flew back to my ship on ^a ~~that~~ November day, 1944 -- somewhere far below was the town of San Mateo, where an 11 year-old girl, a convent student, waited in safety with her family. She was a remarkable child, devoted to her studies and to her faith, fiercely proud of her family and her people. \\\

And today, it is a privilege and an honor for that American pilot to welcome her to the White House -- the elected leader of the Republic of the Philippines -- President Cory Aquino. \\\

President Aquino, in 1986, as in World War II, your nation once again faced a moment of truth. And once again the people of the Philippines proved their courage to the world, and to

he will probably delete as self-congratulatory

themselves. And when you triumphed -- when democracy triumphed -- it vindicated the sacrifice of all the brave Filipino and American soldiers who gave their lives so long ago, side by side in the common cause of freedom.

Down through the decades, our two peoples have shared a strong commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability -- for the Philippines, for America, and for the Pacific region.

That's why we fought for the Philippines in 1944. That's why America was proud to serve as a refuge for the Aquino family when Ninoy's courageous voice was stilled at home. And that's why our shared values became shared bonds -- bonds that continue to underpin our shared commitment to security today.

You noted here three years ago that the recovery of democracy brought with it the ability to deal with your major ally on an equal footing -- the only basis for a relationship between friends. It is in that spirit that we look forward to the discussions we have already agreed will begin in December -- discussions which, we are confident, will mold a new, mutually beneficial security partnership for the future. \\
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We welcome you amid dramatic times. We welcome you amid a feeling of great hope in both our lands. And we welcome you amid a spirit of understanding and cooperation, looking forward to our conversations as close friends and allies.

Welcome back, Mrs. President. God bless you. God bless the people of the Philippines. And God bless the friendship between our two nations. Thank you.

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McNally/Simon
November 6, 1989
Draft Three (B:CORY.TST)

1989 NOV -6 PM 7:12

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: TOAST AT STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
STATE DINING ROOM
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989
8:00 p.m.

Mrs. President, _____, _____, Members of the
Philippine delegation -- it's a great pleasure and an honor for
Barbara and me to welcome you to the White House tonight.

[[ACKNOWLEDGE OTHER AQUINO FAMILY MEMBERS?]]

I have always felt a special tie to the Philippines. That's
partly because it will always hold the magic of being the first
foreign country I ever visited, as a young man in 1944.

But it's also because, returning years later -- having
traveled to dozens of other lands -- only made me realize how
extraordinary the ^{friendship} hospitality of the Philippine people truly is.
The Filipino reputation for kindness, generosity, loyalty, and
easy laughter is well-deserved -- and well appreciated by me and
every American lucky enough to visit your shores.

And, like me, America has long shared a special friendship
with the Philippines, a friendship that is strong and enduring.

Part of the enduring friendship between our nations has been
based on our shared sacrifices, as we fought together side by
side, a poignant reminder of the cost of freedom.

And part of our enduring friendship has been based on very
practical concerns. We want to help the Philippines strengthen
its democracy and continue its economic recovery, and have

offered our belief that a new security treaty will help preserve bipartisan support for continued economic and military aid.

But part of America's love of the Philippines is based on pure, unabashed, sentiment and optimism. Americans have cheered the "People Power" revolution which galvanized the world, inspiring freedom-loving people everywhere. **You proved that ballots are stronger than bullets -- and that while democracy can be delayed -- ultimately, it cannot be denied. **

Your accomplishments since 1986 are monumental. A new Constitution in 1987. Free elections for thousands of local and national leaders. The restoration of press freedom and other civil liberties.

In just a few short years, the Philippines have gone from a deep recession to steady growth. We urge you to continue with the free market reforms needed to spur Philippine economic development.

Political and economic freedom are the destiny of the Filipino people. And the destiny of the American people is to stand with you in your struggles.

Mrs. President, earlier today I spoke of our nations' shared commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability.

But just as important as the values that link us as nations, are the fundamental values that link us as peoples -- what Barbara calls "faith, family and friendship." You have said that being a grandparent makes you happier than being President. Well, Cory -- that's just one more thing you and I agree on. \\\

By your leadership, by your example of faith in family and friends -- ~~and of abiding trust in fate itself~~ -- you have inspired a generation of freedom-lovers on both sides of the Pacific.

Mrs. President -- Let us raise our glasses. Here's to Philippine-American friendship. To a better world for our grandchildren -- and for children everywhere. To the peace and prosperity of your great nation. To Ninoy Aquino, the father of a movement that changed the world.

And, most of all, here's to hope -- as you once put it, to "blazing, serene hope" -- and to those who inspire it around the globe.

#

McNally/Simon
November 6, 1989
Draft Three (B:CORY.TST)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: TOAST AT STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
STATE DINING ROOM
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989
8:00 p.m.

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offered our belief that a new security treaty will help preserve bipartisan support for continued economic and military aid.

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Your accomplishments since 1986 are monumental. A new Constitution in 1987. Free elections for thousands of local and national leaders. The restoration of press freedom and other civil liberties.

In just a few short years, the Philippines have gone from a deep recession to steady growth. We urge you to continue with the free market reforms needed to spur Philippine economic development.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

From POTUS
per JG

November 8, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EM*

SUBJECT: TOAST FOR STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO

I. SUMMARY

At 8:00 p.m. on Thursday evening, November 9, 1989, you are scheduled to offer a pre-dinner toast at the State Dinner honoring Philippine President Corazon Aquino.

II. DISCUSSION

Attached for your consideration and review are draft remarks for tomorrow evening's toast at the State Dinner honoring Philippine President Corazon Aquino.

89 OCT 8 100 68
14:06

McNally/Simon
November 8, 1989
Draft four (B:CORY.TST)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: TOAST AT STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
STATE DINING ROOM
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989
8:00 p.m.

Mrs. President, Members of the Philippine delegation -- it's a great pleasure and an honor for Barbara and me to welcome you to the White House tonight.

I have always felt a special tie to the Philippines. That's partly because I first saw it in a very dramatic time in my life, and in the life of the Philippines -- 1944.

But it's also because, returning years later -- having traveled to dozens of other lands -- only made me realize how extraordinary the friendship of the Philippine people truly is. The Filipino reputation for kindness, generosity, loyalty, and easy laughter is well-deserved -- and well appreciated by me and every American lucky enough to visit your shores.

And, ~~like me~~, America has long shared a special friendship with the Philippines that is strong and enduring.

Part of the enduring friendship between our nations has been based on our shared sacrifices, as we fought together side by side, a poignant reminder of the cost of freedom.

And part of our enduring friendship has been based on very practical concerns. We want to help the Philippines strengthen its democracy and continue its economic recovery, and we have offered our belief that a new, long-term security agreement will

enhance our mutual security. In addition, speaking as a political leader, a new agreement will preserve bipartisan support for continued economic and military aid.

But part of America's love of the Philippines is based on pure, unabashed, sentiment and optimism. Americans have cheered the "People Power" revolution which galvanized the world, inspiring freedom-loving people everywhere. You proved that ballots are stronger than bullets -- and that while democracy can be delayed -- ultimately, it cannot be denied. \\\

Your accomplishments since 1986 are monumental. A new Constitution in 1987. Free elections for thousands of local and national leaders. The restoration of press freedom and other civil liberties.

In just a few short years, the Philippines has gone from a deep recession to steady growth. We urge you to continue with the free market reforms needed to spur Philippine economic development.

Political and economic freedom are the destiny of the Philippine people. And the destiny of the American people is to stand with you.

Mrs. President, earlier today I spoke of our nations' shared commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability.

But just as important as the values that link us as nations, are the fundamental values that link us as peoples -- what Barbara calls "faith, family and friendship." You have said that

being a grandparent makes you happier than being President.

Well, Cory -- that's just one more thing you and I agree on. \\\

By your leadership, by your example of faith in family and friends you have inspired a generation of freedom-lovers on both sides of the Pacific.

~~Mrs. President~~ -- Let us raise our glasses. Here's to Philippine-American friendship. To a better world for our grandchildren -- and for children everywhere. To the peace and prosperity of your great nation. ~~To Ninoy Aquino, the father of a movement that changed the world.~~

And, most of all, here's to hope -- as you once put it, to "blazing, serene hope" -- and to those who inspire it around the globe.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1989 NOV -8 PM 1:52

89 OCT 8 P6:08

November 8, 1989

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *AA for CW*

FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EMW*

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT CORAZON AQUINO

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your consideration and review are draft remarks for tomorrow morning's arrival statement, welcoming Philippine President Corazon Aquino to the White House.

II. DISCUSSION

At 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 9, 1989, you are scheduled to go to the South Lawn of the White House to greet Philippine President Corazon Aquino, and to make a brief arrival statement. An audience of approximately 1,000 is expected.

The attached remarks note the exciting progress the Philippines have made since the miracle of "People Power" -- stressing your belief in the power of free elections and free markets to bring about national prosperity for any country.

Of course, from the American perspective, the most important challenge in U.S.-Philippine relations is securing a **long-term commitment** for our regional bases. The remarks emphasize the long, shared tradition of Americans and Filipinos fighting side by side to preserve freedom, peace and stability in the Philippines and in the Pacific region. The importance of this tradition is emphasized by a telling bit of research uncovered by Bob Simon -- that while 20-year-old Lt. George Bush was flying his final missions of the war against enemy shipping in Manila Bay, 11-year-old Corazon Aquino was praying in safety with her family down below.

We've included this anecdote not to emphasize your war record -- but rather, to underscore your personal, long-term commitment to the freedom and security of the Philippines.

McNally/Simon
November 8, 1989
Draft Seven (B:CORY.AR)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989

Check salutation
Mrs. President, welcome back to the United States. And
welcome back to the White House. \\
\\

You last visited our country just months after the miracle
of "people power."

The changes in your country since that time are truly
exciting. ~~After years of authoritarian rule~~ Your leadership has
made the Philippines a beacon for democracy, worthy of imitation
throughout the world. Your economy is growing towards full
recovery. We salute you -- and we salute the Philippine people
-- for vision, perseverance and the successes you have achieved.

We're looking forward to this opportunity to get better
acquainted, and to consult closely on the broad range of issues
and concerns we share. High among these concerns, I know, is the
promotion of private investment and trade between our two
countries -- the key to balanced, long-term growth.

Three years ago, when you rang the bell of freedom in
Manila, America cheered and rose in awe. When your words rang
from the rafters of Congress, our leaders stood and gave you the
most thunderous reception given any foreign leader in more than a
generation. And just yesterday, when you rang the bell on the
New York Stock Exchange, the market climbed 26 points. \\
\\

DS

**The message is simple. From Main Street to Wall Street, America loves the Philippines. And America loves Cory Aquino. **

You deserve our help. And you will get it. I pledge our continuing assistance to your government. That means security assistance, as well as aid to economic development. And it means cooperating in your important debt reduction program.

Your priorities are our priorities. \\ Reform -- administrative and economic. \\ Recovery -- new investment, encouraged by sound infrastructure and sound policies. \\ Renewal -- help with alleviating poverty and preserving the environment. \\ Resistance -- to the murderous anti-democratic forces of the Communist insurgency.

Earlier this year, America's Independence Day marked the successful launch of the Multilateral Assistance Initiative. This unique program -- developed with Japan, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other donors -- bolsters your efforts to refuel and restructure the Philippine economy.

Today, Congress stands ready to provide support for the first year of America's contribution to this Initiative. And my appointment of one of America's pre-eminent statesmen, Ambassador Elliot Richardson, as my personal representative for the Initiative, shows the priority we accord to its success. With your government's continued dedication to administrative reform, effective project implementation and economic restructuring, the promise of this Initiative will be fulfilled.

?

It is fitting, Mrs. President, that you should visit as we approach a Veterans Day weekend. In the darkest night of this democracy, in the days immediately following Pearl Harbor, Americans and Filipinos fought and died together. Hallowed names like Bataan and Corregidor will always bind us together in pride as well as sorrow.

It was because so many Philippine citizens sacrificed their lives that General MacArthur was able to wade ashore at Leyte [LAY-tee] Gulf with Philippine President Osmena [os-MAIN-ya]. MacArthur had returned and, fighting side-by-side with your countrymen, victory was achieved.

And 45 years ago, almost to the ^{very} day, ~~I~~ ~~too~~, was proud to play a part in the fight to bring peace and freedom to the Philippines. ~~The skies over Luzon were thick with puffs of anti-aircraft fire, black and menacing.~~ I was a 20 year-old kid, piloting a ~~T. B. M. Avenger on a daylight raid against enemy warships, borne up by the winds of Manila Bay and the prayers of the Philippine people.~~ ^{torpedo plane} ^{on a} ~~ship in Manila Bay.~~ ~~ship in Manila Bay.~~ ~~the Philippine people.~~ \\\

13, 14
Nov 19
Luzon

President Aquino has often spoken of her belief that God has a plan. And I don't doubt it. For looking back today, I realize that -- as I safely flew back to my ship on that November day, 1944 -- somewhere far below was the town of San Mateo, where an 11 year-old girl, a convent student, waited ~~in safety~~ with her family. She was a remarkable child, devoted to her studies and to her faith, fiercely proud of her family and her people. \\\

And today, it is a privilege and an honor for that American pilot to welcome her to the White House -- the elected leader of the Republic of the Philippines -- President Corazon Aquino. \\\

President Aquino, in 1986, as in World War II, your nation faced a moment of truth. And once again the people of the Philippines proved their courage to the world.

Down through the decades, our two peoples have shared a strong commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability -- for the Philippines, for America, and for the Pacific region.

You noted here three years ago that the recovery of democracy brought with it the ability to deal with your major ally on an equal footing -- the only basis for a relationship between friends. It is in that spirit that we look forward to the discussions we have already agreed will begin in December -- discussions which, we are confident, will mold a new, mutually beneficial, long-term security partnership for the future. \\

Welcome back, Mrs. President. God bless you. God bless the people of the Philippines. And God bless the friendship between our two nations. Thank you.

#

**STATE DINNER TOAST FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
STATE DINING ROOM / 11-9-1989 / 8:00 P.M.**

**MRS. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE
DELEGATION -- IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE AND AN HONOR FOR
BARBARA AND ME TO WELCOME YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE
TONIGHT.**

**I HAVE ALWAYS FELT A SPECIAL TIE TO THE
PHILIPPINES. THAT'S PARTLY BECAUSE I FIRST SAW IT IN A
VERY DRAMATIC TIME IN MY LIFE, AND IN THE LIFE OF THE
PHILIPPINES -- 1944.**

- 2 -

**BUT IT'S ALSO BECAUSE, RETURNING YEARS LATER --
HAVING TRAVELED TO DOZENS OF OTHER LANDS -- ONLY MADE
ME REALIZE HOW EXTRAORDINARY THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE
PHILIPPINE PEOPLE TRULY IS. THE FILIPINO REPUTATION
FOR KINDNESS, GENEROSITY, LOYALTY, AND EASY LAUGHTER IS
WELL-DESERVED -- AND WELL APPRECIATED BY EVERY AMERICAN
LUCKY ENOUGH TO VISIT YOUR SHORES.**

**AND, AMERICA HAS LONG SHARED A SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP
WITH THE PHILIPPINES THAT IS STRONG AND ENDURING.**

PART OF THE ENDURING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR NATIONS HAS BEEN BASED ON OUR SHARED SACRIFICES, AS WE FOUGHT TOGETHER SIDE BY SIDE, A POIGNANT REMINDER OF THE COST OF FREEDOM.

AND PART OF OUR ENDURING FRIENDSHIP HAS BEEN BASED ON VERY PRACTICAL CONCERNS. WE WANT TO HELP THE PHILIPPINES STRENGTHEN ITS DEMOCRACY AND CONTINUE ITS ECONOMIC RECOVERY, AND WE HAVE OFFERED OUR BELIEF THAT A NEW, LONG-TERM SECURITY AGREEMENT WILL ENHANCE OUR MUTUAL SECURITY.

IN ADDITION, SPEAKING AS A POLITICAL LEADER, A NEW AGREEMENT WILL PRESERVE BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID.

BUT PART OF AMERICA'S LOVE OF THE PHILIPPINES IS BASED ON PURE, UNABASHED, SENTIMENT AND OPTIMISM. AMERICANS HAVE CHEERED THE "PEOPLE POWER" REVOLUTION WHICH GALVANIZED THE WORLD, INSPIRING FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.

- 5 -

**YOU PROVED THAT BALLOTS ARE STRONGER THAN BULLETS -- AND THAT WHILE DEMOCRACY CAN BE DELAYED -- ULTIMATELY, IT CANNOT BE DENIED. **

YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE 1986 ARE MONUMENTAL. A NEW CONSTITUTION IN 1987. FREE ELECTIONS FOR THOUSANDS OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEADERS. THE RESTORATION OF PRESS FREEDOM AND OTHER CIVIL LIBERTIES.

IN JUST A FEW SHORT YEARS, THE PHILIPPINES HAS GONE FROM A DEEP RECESSION TO STEADY GROWTH.

- 6 -

WE URGE YOU TO CONTINUE WITH THE FREE MARKET REFORMS NEEDED TO SPUR PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FREEDOM ARE THE DESTINY OF THE PHILIPPINE PEOPLE. AND THE DESTINY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IS TO STAND WITH YOU.

MRS. PRESIDENT, EARLIER TODAY I SPOKE OF OUR NATIONS' SHARED COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, PEACE AND STABILITY.

- 7 -

**BUT JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE VALUES THAT LINK US AS NATIONS, ARE THE FUNDAMENTAL VALUES THAT LINK US AS PEOPLES -- WHAT BARBARA CALLS "FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDSHIP." YOU HAVE SAID THAT BEING A GRANDPARENT MAKES YOU HAPPIER THAN BEING PRESIDENT. WELL, CORY -- THAT'S JUST ONE MORE THING YOU AND I AGREE ON. **

BY YOUR LEADERSHIP, BY YOUR EXAMPLE OF FAITH IN FAMILY AND FRIENDS YOU HAVE INSPIRED A GENERATION OF FREEDOM-LOVERS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PACIFIC.

- 8 -

LET US RAISE OUR GLASSES. HERE'S TO PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP. TO A BETTER WORLD FOR OUR GRANDCHILDREN -- AND FOR CHILDREN EVERYWHERE. TO THE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF YOUR GREAT NATION.

AND, MOST OF ALL, HERE'S TO HOPE -- AS YOU ONCE PUT IT, TO "BLAZING, SERENE HOPE" -- AND TO THOSE WHO INSPIRE IT AROUND THE GLOBE.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 8, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *AA for CW*

FROM: EDWARD McNALLY *EM*

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT CORAZON AQUINO

I. SUMMARY

Attached for your consideration and review are draft remarks for tomorrow morning's arrival statement, welcoming Philippine President Corazon Aquino to the White House.

II. DISCUSSION

At 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 9, 1989, you are scheduled to go to the South Lawn of the White House to greet Philippine President Corazon Aquino, and to make a brief arrival statement. An audience of approximately 1,000 is expected.

The attached remarks note the exciting progress the Philippines have made since the miracle of "People Power" -- stressing your belief in the power of free elections and free markets to bring about national prosperity for any country.

Of course, from the American perspective, the most important challenge in U.S.-Philippine relations is securing a long-term commitment for our regional bases. The remarks emphasize the long, shared tradition of Americans and Filipinos fighting side by side to preserve freedom, peace and stability in the Philippines and in the Pacific region. The importance of this tradition is emphasized by a telling bit of research uncovered by Bob Simon -- that while 20-year-old Lt. George Bush was flying his final missions of the war against enemy shipping in Manila Bay, 11-year-old Corazon Aquino was praying in safety with her family down below.

We've included this anecdote not to emphasize your war record -- but rather, to underscore your personal, long-term commitment to the freedom and security of the Philippines.

McNally/Simon
November 8, 1989
Draft Seven (B:CORY.AR)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989

Mrs. President, welcome back to the United States. And
welcome back to the White House. \\

You last visited our country just months after the miracle
of "people power."

The changes in your country since that time are truly
exciting. After years of authoritarian rule, your leadership has
made the Philippines a beacon for democracy, worthy of imitation
throughout the world. Your economy is growing towards full
recovery. We salute you -- and we salute the Philippine people
-- for vision, perseverance and the successes you have achieved.

We're looking forward to this opportunity to get better
acquainted, and to consult closely on the broad range of issues
and concerns we share. High among these concerns, I know, is the
promotion of private investment and trade between our two
countries -- the key to balanced, long-term growth.

Three years ago, when you rang the bell of freedom in
Manila, America cheered and rose in awe. When your words rang
from the rafters of Congress, our leaders stood and gave you the
most thunderous reception given any foreign leader in more than a
generation. And just yesterday, when you rang the bell on the
New York Stock Exchange, the market climbed ___ points. \\

The message is simple. From Main Street to Wall Street, America loves the Philippines. And America loves Cory Aquino. \\
\\

You deserve our help. And you will get it. I pledge our continuing assistance to your government. That means security assistance, as well as aid to economic development. And it means cooperating in your important debt reduction program.

Your priorities are our priorities. \\
\\ Reform -- administrative and economic. \\
\\ Recovery -- new investment, encouraged by sound infrastructure and sound policies. \\
\\ Renewal -- help with alleviating poverty and preserving the environment. \\
\\ Resistance -- to the murderous anti-democratic forces of the Communist insurgency.

Earlier this year, America's Independence Day marked the successful launch of the Multilateral Assistance Initiative. This unique program -- developed with Japan, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other donors -- bolsters your efforts to refuel and restructure the Philippine economy.

Today, Congress stands ready to provide support for the first year of America's contribution to this Initiative. And my appointment of one of America's pre-eminent statesmen, Ambassador Elliot Richardson, as my personal representative for the Initiative, shows the priority we accord to its success. With your government's continued dedication to administrative reform, effective project implementation and economic restructuring, the promise of this Initiative will be fulfilled.

It is fitting, Mrs. President, that you should visit as we approach a Veterans Day weekend. In the darkest night of this democracy, in the days immediately following Pearl Harbor, Americans and Filipinos fought and died together. Hallowed names like Bataan and Corregidor will always bind us together in pride as well as sorrow.

It was because so many Philippine citizens sacrificed their lives that General MacArthur was able to wade ashore at Leyte [LAY-tee] Gulf with Philippine President Osmena [os-MAIN-ya]. MacArthur had returned and, fighting side-by-side with your countrymen, victory was achieved.

And 45 years ago, almost to the day, I, too, was proud to play a part in the fight to bring peace and freedom to the Philippines. The skies over Luzon were thick with puffs of anti-aircraft fire, black and menacing. I was a 20 year-old kid, piloting a T.B.M. Avenger on a daylight raid against enemy warships, borne up by the winds of Manila Bay and the prayers of the Philippine people. \\

President Aquino has often spoken of her belief that God has a plan. And I don't doubt it. For looking back today, I realize that -- as I safely flew back to my ship on that November day, 1944 -- somewhere far below was the town of San Mateo, where an 11 year-old girl, a convent student, waited in safety with her family. She was a remarkable child, devoted to her studies and to her faith, fiercely proud of her family and her people. \\

And today, it is a privilege and an honor for that American pilot to welcome her to the White House -- the elected leader of the Republic of the Philippines -- President Corazon Aquino. \\\

President Aquino, in 1986, as in World War II, your nation faced a moment of truth. And once again the people of the Philippines proved their courage to the world.

Down through the decades, our two peoples have shared a strong commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability -- for the Philippines, for America, and for the Pacific region.

You noted here three years ago that the recovery of democracy brought with it the ability to deal with your major ally on an equal footing -- the only basis for a relationship between friends. It is in that spirit that we look forward to the discussions we have already agreed will begin in December -- discussions which, we are confident, will mold a new, mutually beneficial, long-term security partnership for the future. \\

Welcome back, Mrs. President. God bless you. God bless the people of the Philippines. And God bless the friendship between our two nations. Thank you.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

8961

DATE: 11/6/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 11/7/89 3:00 PM

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL STATEMENT AND TOAST FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO

	ACTION FYI			ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 3:00 PM, Tuesday, November 7, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

The NSC concurs with changes as noted. November 8, 1989 *Arrival is long,*

[Signature]
 Brent Scowcroft
 Assistant to the President
 for National Security Affairs
 CC: James W. Cicconi
 Assistant to the President
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
 Ext. 2702

68:6v 8 15 89

89 NOV 7 A 9: 14



1989 NOV -6 PM 7:12

McNally/Simon
November 6, 1989
Draft Six (B:CORY.AR)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989

**Mrs. President, welcome back to the United States. And
welcome back to the White House. **

You last visited our country just months after the miracle of "people power," when -- as you so powerfully put it -- "all the world wondered as they witnessed...a people lift themselves from humiliation to the greatest pride."

The changes in your country since that time are truly exciting. After years of authoritarian rule, your leadership has made the Philippines a beacon for democracy, worthy of imitation throughout the world. Your economy is growing towards full recovery. We salute you -- and we salute the Philippine people -- for vision, perseverance and the successes you have achieved.

We're looking forward to this opportunity to get better acquainted, and to consult closely on the broad range of issues and concerns we share. High among these concerns, I know, is the promotion of private investment and trade between our two countries -- the key to balanced, long-term growth.

Part of your mission here is to spread the word to American business^{so} of the opportunity^{and} warm welcome, ~~and superb field conditions~~ awaiting them in the Philippines.

Three years ago, when you rang the bell of freedom in Manila, America cheered and rose in awe. When your words rang

from the rafters of Congress, our leaders stood and gave you the most thunderous reception given any foreign leader in more than a generation. And just yesterday, when you rang the bell on the New York Stock Exchange, the market climbed ___ points. \\

**The message is simple. From Main Street to Wall Street, America loves the Philippines. And America loves Cory Aquino. **

You deserve our help. And you will get it. I pledge our continuing assistance to your government. That means security ^{and as well as aid to} assistance, ^{cooperating in your important} Economic development. And it means ^{debt reduction program.} \\

Your priorities are our priorities: \\ Reform --

administrative and economic. \\ Recovery -- new investment, encouraged by sound infrastructure and sound policies. \\ ~~and~~

Renewal -- help ^{with alleviation of poverty} ~~for~~ the suffering in your streets, and help ~~for~~ in

^{Preserving} your suffering environment. \\ Resistance -- to the murderous, anti-democratic forces of the Communist insurgency.

Earlier this year, America's Independence Day marked the successful launch of the Multilateral Assistance Initiative. Developed with Japan, the World Bank, I.M.F. and other donors, this unique program bolsters your efforts to refuel and restructure the Philippine economy.

Today, Congress stands ready to ^{support the first year of America's} ~~provide \$160 million for the~~ ~~contribution to~~ ~~first year of this Initiative.~~ \\ And my appointment of one of

America's pre-eminent statesmen, Ambassador Elliot Richardson, as my personal representative for the Initiative, shows the priority ^{with your government's continued dedication to administrative} ~~and~~ we accord to its success. \\ ~~economic reform~~, effective project ^{implementation, and economic restructuring,} the promise of MAI will be fulfilled.

It is fitting, Mrs. President, that you should visit as we ^{that will bring me to Texas to} ~~that will bring me to Texas to~~ approach a Veterans Day weekend.

N.B. This has now been cleared for announcement

In the darkest night of this democracy, in the days immediately following Pearl Harbor, Americans and Filipinos fought and died together. ~~Names such~~ Hallowed names like Bataan and 3 Corrigador ~~will~~ will always bind us together in pride as well as sorrow.

~~dedicate their Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Of course, Vietnam was not the first time soldiers from our two lands dug in together to~~ ^{have ~~struggled~~ struggled} ~~fight for democracy. 45 years ago this fall, an American hero~~ ^{preserve It was only because of so many ~~other~~ General Douglas MacArthur} ~~clenched a corn-cob pipe in his teeth and waded ashore at Leyte~~ ^{Filipinos Philippine citizens had sacrificed their lives that}

[[LAY-tee]] Gulf ~~-- shoulder to shoulder with Philippine~~ ^{with} ~~President Sergio Osmena. [[Os-MAIN-ya]].~~ ^{Common Filipinos had kept up the fight throughout the occupation and fighting's side by side with your countryman, victory was} ~~returned. The liberation of the Philippines was at hand. \\~~ ^{achieved.}

And 45 years ago, almost to the day, I, too, was fighting to bring peace and freedom to the Philippines. The skies over Luzon were thick with puffs of anti-aircraft fire, black and menacing. I was a 20 year-old kid, piloting a T.B.M. Avenger on a daylight raid against enemy warships, borne up by the winds of Manila Bay and the prayers of the Philippine people. \\

President Aquino has often spoken of her belief that God has a plan. And I don't doubt it. For looking back today, I realize that -- as I safely flew back to my ship on that November day, 1944 -- somewhere far below was the town of San Mateo, where an 11 year-old girl, a convent student, waited in safety with her family. She was a remarkable child, devoted to her studies and to her faith, fiercely proud of her family and her people. \\

And today, it is a privilege and an honor for that American pilot to welcome her to the White House -- the ^{Corazon} ~~elected~~ leader of the Republic of the Philippines -- President ~~Gery~~ Aquino. \\ \\

~~President~~ ^{once} Aquino, in 1986, as in World War II, your nation ~~once~~ again faced a moment of truth. And once again the people of the Philippines proved their courage to the world, and to

themselves. And when you triumphed -- when democracy triumphed -- it vindicated the sacrifice of all the brave Filipino and American soldiers who gave their lives so long ago, side by side in the common cause of freedom.

Down through the decades, our two peoples have shared a strong commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability -- for the Philippines, for America, and for the Pacific region.

That's why we fought ~~for the Philippines in 1944.~~ *together in World War II.* That's why America was proud to ~~serve as a refuge for the Aquino family when Ninoy's courageous voice was stilled at home.~~ *support the rebirth of democracy in the Philippines.* And that's why our shared values became shared bonds -- bonds that continue to underpin our shared commitment to security today.

You noted here three years ago that the recovery of democracy brought with it the ability to deal with your major ally on an equal footing -- the only basis for a relationship between friends. It is in that spirit that we look forward to the discussions we have already agreed will begin in December -- discussions which, we are confident, will mold a new, mutually beneficial, *long term* security partnership for the future. \ \

We welcome you amid dramatic times. We welcome you amid a feeling of great hope in both our lands. And we welcome you amid a spirit of understanding and cooperation, looking forward to our conversations as close friends and allies.

Welcome back, Mrs. President. God bless you. God bless the people of the Philippines. And God bless the friendship between our two nations. Thank you.

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McNally/Simon
November 6, 1989
Draft Three (B:CORY.TST)

1989 NOV -6 PM 7:12

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: TOAST AT STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT AQUINO
STATE DINING ROOM
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1989
8:00 p.m.

Mrs. President, _____, _____, Members of the
Philippine delegation -- it's a great pleasure and an honor for
Barbara and me to welcome you to the White House tonight.

[[ACKNOWLEDGE OTHER AQUINO FAMILY MEMBERS?]]

I have always felt a special tie to the Philippines. That's
partly because it will always hold the magic of being the first
foreign country I ever visited, as a young man in 1944.

But it's also because, returning years later -- having
traveled to dozens of other lands -- only made me realize how
extraordinary the hospitality of the Philippine people truly is.
The Filipino reputation for kindness, generosity, loyalty, and
easy laughter is well-deserved -- and well appreciated by me and
every American lucky enough to visit your shores.

And, like me, America has long shared a special friendship
with the Philippines, a friendship that is strong and enduring.

Part of the enduring friendship between our nations has been
based on our shared sacrifices, as we fought together side by
side, a poignant reminder of the cost of freedom.

And part of our enduring friendship has been based on very
practical concerns. We want to help the Philippines strengthen
its democracy and continue its economic recovery, ^{we} and have

offered our belief that a new, ² security ^{agreement} treaty will ^{enhance our mutual securi!} help ~~preserve~~ ^{In addition, speaking as a political leader}
a new agreement will preserve ~~the~~
bipartisan support for continued economic and military aid.

But part of America's love of the Philippines is based on pure, unabashed, sentiment and optimism. Americans have cheered the "People Power" revolution which galvanized the world, inspiring freedom-loving people everywhere. **You proved that ballots are stronger than bullets -- and that while democracy can be delayed -- ultimately, it cannot be denied. **

Your accomplishments since 1986 are monumental. A new Constitution in 1987. Free elections for thousands of local and national leaders. The restoration of press freedom and other civil liberties.

In just a few short years, the Philippines ^{has} ~~have~~ gone from a deep recession to steady growth. We urge you to continue with the free market reforms needed to spur Philippine economic development.

^{Philippine} Political and economic freedom are the destiny of the Filipino people. And the destiny of the American people is to stand with you in your struggles.

Mrs. President, earlier today I spoke of our nations' shared commitment to freedom, democracy, peace and stability.

But just as important as the values that link us as nations, are the fundamental values that link us as peoples -- what Barbara calls "faith, family and friendship." **You have said that being a grandparent makes you happier than being President. Well, Cory -- that's just one more thing you and I agree on. **

By your leadership, by your example of faith in family and friends -- and of abiding trust in ^{faith}~~fofe~~ itself -- you have inspired a generation of freedom-lovers on both sides of the Pacific.

Mrs. President -- Let us raise our glasses. Here's to Philippine-American friendship. To a better world for our grandchildren -- and for children everywhere. To the peace and prosperity of your great nation. To Ninoy Aquino, the father of a movement that changed the world.

And, most of all, here's to hope -- as you once put it, to "blazing, serene hope" -- and to those who inspire it around the globe.

#

offered our belief that a new ² ~~security~~ ^{long term} ~~treaty~~ ^{agreement} will help ^{enhance our} preserve ~~mutual security.~~ bipartisan support for continued economic and military aid.

But part of America's love of the Philippines is based on pure, unabashed, sentiment and optimism. Americans have cheered the "People Power" revolution which galvanized the world, inspiring freedom-loving people everywhere. **You proved that ballots are stronger than bullets -- and that while democracy can be delayed -- ultimately, it cannot be denied. **

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And, most of all, here's to hope -- as you once put it, to "blazing, serene hope" -- and to those who inspire it around the globe.

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ENTERTAINMENT THANK YOU: AQUINO STATE DINNER

0 THANK YOU, SIMON ESTES, FOR LENDING YOUR REMARKABLE TALENT TO THIS REMARKABLE EVENING. WE'RE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU BACK AT THE WHITE HOUSE, AND WE'RE PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE USED YOUR VOICE NOT ONLY TO CREATE GREAT MUSIC, BUT ALSO TO TEACH OUR YOUTH. SO JUST LET ME SAY, THANKS AGAIN, SIMON, AND GOOD LUCK IN YOUR EXCITING NEW ROLE -- PLAYING THE LEAD IN THE COMING MUSICAL DRAMA ABOUT DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. THANK YOU EVERYONE, AND GOOD NIGHT.

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