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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WELCOME HOME ELECTION EVE RECEPTION
WESTIN GALLERIA BALLROOM
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1990
6:00 P.M.

Thank you, Phil. [[Wendy Gramm, Claytie and Modesta
Williams, [Rob and Catherine Mosbacher], [Milo Hamilton]... and
of course, the enlightened leadership of the Texas Rangers.]]

Let me tell you, after that season of discontent back in
Washington, **it's great to be back home, here in Houston.** \\\

I'm proud to be from this city that means so much to so
many. This is the city that knows how to live, knows how to
dream, and knows how to make dreams come true.

Two decades ago, Houston was the first word the world heard
from the moon -- and this fall, **Texas is where Republicans are
going to have the last word -- by electing Phil Gramm, Clayton
Williams, and Rob Mosbacher.** \\\

People living here in the big state with the big ideas
have the will to take risks -- to think boldly and clearly. They
deserve leadership that gives their dreams room to grow.

Here in Texas, you've got three outstanding candidates that
exemplify the best -- and they highlight the serious differences
in philosophy between the two parties. When voters understand
those differences, we win. And **when Texas elects leaders like
Phil Gramm, Clayton Williams, and Rob Mosbacher, America wins.** \\\

Take the critical issue for Texas -- and for all Americans:
the economy. Unlike the party that only wants to regulate, we're

the party that wants to innovate. We want a growth agenda -- expanding economic opportunities for working men and women. Business leaders like Rob Mosbacher and Clayton Williams know how it's done -- they've done it themselves.

American working men and women deserve an economy where they can create, innovate, and prosper. That's why we want to encourage enterprise of every kind, for every American, from rural farmers to inner city youth.

And that's why, in the budget negotiations, we worked so hard to create incentives to make America less dependent on foreign oil. We are the party where "Made in America" means something. We are the party with a growth agenda. \\\

But along with economic strength, we have another important priority -- we believe in a strong defense. For ten years we've held firm against the liberal cries to cut back on defense -- and last year, it paid off.

Democracy has finally dawned again in Eastern Europe, after a cold dark night of 45 years. And now we bear wondrous witness to a tidal change in the currents of history. We see the United States and the Soviet Union working together to contain aggression. Republicans will always stand for peace through strength -- and that's something we can all be proud of. \\\

There's a reason we're able to stand strong against aggression in the Persian Gulf today. It's because Republican leadership has been working to make sure that our defense capability is nothing less than the best.

There's an old saying about defense, that when there's trouble, you don't have time to go shopping. Technology doesn't happen overnight. Most defense systems take a decade or more to move from the drawing board to deployment. America's strong defense is made possible by decisions made years earlier -- **decisions made by Republican leadership.** With leaders like Phil Gramm in the U.S. Senate, America will always stand strong. ///

But beyond a strong economy and a strong defense, there is of course still work to be done on the Republican agenda. **Education**, for example. America can't have a first-class economy without first-class schools. But building better schools doesn't just mean building a bigger bureaucracy.

That's why we sent Congress the Educational Excellence Act -- our action plan for **fundamental education reform**, to reward **achievement, encourage accountability** -- and to give parents more choice in their children's education.

The three wise men we're endorsing tonight all agree: when it comes to our kids' education, the bureaucracy doesn't know best -- parents do. // We need real education reform -- and with the Republican Party -- with Phil Gramm, Clayton Williams and Rob Mosbacher -- we'll get fundamental change in American education. ///

This Party also knows how important it is for America to follow her dreams, wherever they take her. That's why, last year, I announced three major goals for America in space.

First, to have Space Station Freedom up before the century is out. Second, for the new century, a permanent lunar base: "Back to the Moon, back to the future -- and this time --back to stay." And third, a manned expedition to Mars. \\\

The new budget contains a healthy 13.8 percent boost for America's space program. Together, these initiatives form the cornerstone of my Administration's far-reaching plan for investing in America's future. They will help protect the environment, fuel an educational renaissance, and hone America's competitive edge.

At a time when too many underestimate and undercut America's leadership in technology, this party understands how important it is for the future. That's why we're going to keep fighting for cutting-edge projects like the Super-conducting Supercollider -- a technological giant that will recreate the fireball of our origins, and allow us to study forms of matter that haven't existed since the birth of the universe.

We know how important it is, that America continues to reach, to strive, to dream -- because when those dreams come down to earth, they create new technologies, new industries, and new jobs.

But there's another piece of our unfinished agenda, that the men and women in this room are committed to. We're the party that's tough on crime, not soft on criminals. That's why Clayton Williams is so determined to create crime- and drug-free communities here in Texas.

This Party's refusal to indulge criminals is one reason Phil Gramm has become a national leader to clamp down on drugs and crime. And it's why I sent tough legislation to the Congress a year and a half ago. To give police and prosecutors the tools they need to get violent criminals off the streets and put them away. \\\

But in the final hours of the Congress, the Democratic liberals choked -- and completely gutted our package to fight violent crime.

Republicans fought for habeas corpus reforms -- to stop convicted criminals from endlessly abusing the appeals process. Republicans fought for reforms of the exclusionary rule -- a judge-made law that lets the guilty go free. And Republicans fought for a real death penalty for drug kingpins and terrorists. The liberal Democrats blocked these provisions -- blocked the will of the people. We need to be tough on crime and criminals. Republicans want change. Give me more Republicans -- and we'll get the job done. ///

You know, it's been a long, tough campaign for a lot of candidates. But I came home to Houston for my last stop, because I know that all of you share the fundamental values that make this Party strong.

Twelve hours from now, the American people will vote. Tomorrow, they have a chance to vote for change. For the Party that stands for a strong economy, a strong defense, new progress

in education, technology, and space -- and the party that has the courage to be tough on crime.

The Republican Party is the real Party of the people -- and the right choice at the polls tomorrow. Because we know what works for America. And leaders like Phil Gramm, Clayton Williams, and Rob Mosbacher know what works for Texas. \\\

Tomorrow, on the ranches, farms and fields, in the cities and the suburbs, get the people to the polls -- and **bring America a new agenda for change.**

Thank you. And God bless the great state of Texas.

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