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Folder Title:
U.S. Embassy Greeting - Greece 7/20/91 [OA 6035]

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NAME OF SPEECH & DATE OF SPEECH

U.S. Embassy Greeting - Greece

7/20/91

NAME OF WRITER :

Hinchliffe / Blymire

NAME OF RESEARCHER:

Blymire

SPEECH SYNOPSIS:

President Bush opened by thanking the members of the embassy for their hard work and dedication. Because he was the U.S. Representative to China, Pres. Bush knew how much work goes into a Presidential visit. The President continued by commenting on how beautiful Athens is and how important the embassy was in the Persian Gulf War. Finally, the President closed by again thanking the embassy personnel for their loyalty and commitment to excellence.

**U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS \ ATHENS, GREECE
SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1991 \ 8:00 A.M.**

*** THANK YOU ALL FOR THAT WELCOME. I WANT TO GIVE AN EQUALLY WARM THANKS TO AMBASSADOR AND MRS. SOTIRHOS -- MARVELOUS HOSTS. MIKE'S NOT ONLY A GOOD FRIEND, HE'S A GIFTED AND HARD-WORKING AMBASSADOR AND A CREDIT TO OUR COUNTRY.**

*** YOU AND THE WHOLE STAFF HAVE DONE A SUPERB JOB IN ALL THESE ARRANGEMENTS. DCM JIM WILLIAMS -- ARE YOU STILL SPEAKING TO ME?**

- 2 -

YOU AND YOUR STAFF DESERVE A SPECIAL THANKS FOR HAVING DONE SO MUCH WORK TO PREPARE FOR OUR VISIT. SO MANY OTHERS: THE COUNSELORS AND THEIR STAFFS; REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICERS; ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMUNICATIONS PEOPLE; MILITARY; MOTOR POOL DRIVERS; OUR WONDERFUL GREEK CITIZENS WORKING HERE; EVEN THE PEACOCKS AND PHEASANTS WHOSE ROUTINE I'M SURE WE'VE DISRUPTED.

* I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS BECAUSE I'VE BEEN IN YOUR SHOES. WHEN I WAS OUR REPRESENTATIVE TO CHINA WE SURVIVED ONE VISIT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: AND TWO FROM HENRY KISSINGER. YOU'RE TALKING TO A GUY WHO KNOWS WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH.

* TO THIS WHOLE TEAM -- IT REALLY IS A TEAM -- THANKS FOR YOUR EXTRA WORK AND YOUR WELCOME, AND FOR MAKING SURE EVERYTHING HAS RUN SO SMOOTHLY.

THE ONLY THING I CAN SAY IS: YOU CAN BREATHE EASY SOON, BECAUSE I PROMISE TO LEAVE ON SCHEDULE.

* AND I DO APOLOGIZE FOR BRINGING YOU HERE NOT ONLY AT THIS UNHEARD-OF EARLY HOUR -- BUT ON A SATURDAY, NO LESS. \\ WELL, MAYBE THIS WILL SET A ROUTINE FOR WORKOUTS IN YOUR NEW GYM.

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* YOU DESERVE THANKS FROM THE COUNTRY YOU REPRESENT. WE HAVE A UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE -- A BOND BASED ON OUR SHARED VALUES OF DEMOCRACY AND LIBERTY. HERE, I HAVE SEEN FIRST-HAND HOW YOUR DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS BUILD UPON THOSE ANCIENT TIES.

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WHEN WAR CAME, I KNOW THAT THIS EMBASSY, THE WHOLE AMERICAN COMMUNITY, FACED A SERIOUS TERRORIST THREAT. I KNOW YOU STAFFED A COMMAND POST AROUND THE CLOCK. YOU DIDN'T BLINK. IT WAS A TREMENDOUS PERFORMANCE.

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EMBASSY GREETING -- AMERICAN EMBASSY \ ANKARA, TURKEY
SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1991 \ 12:20 P.M.

0 AMBASSADOR AND MRS. ABRAMOWITZ, [MORT AND SHEPPIE],
MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF AND THE AMERICAN
COMMUNITY. IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH ALL OF
YOU. BARBARA AND I HAD THE SIMILAR PRIVILEGE OF
REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES -- A FEW YEARS AND A
COUPLE OF JOBS AGO -- WHEN I WAS CHIEF OF MISSION
IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. AS A RESULT OF
THAT EXPERIENCE, WE HAVE A GREAT APPRECIATION FOR
THE AMOUNT OF WORK THAT GOES INTO A PRESIDENTIAL
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0 FOR THE LAST YEAR, THIS EMBASSY HAS BEEN WORKING AT
FULL TILT. TURKEY WAS AT THE STRATEGIC CENTER IN
DESERT STORM, AND YOU PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN OUR
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TRULY MADE A DIFFERENCE IN DEFEATING SADDAM
HUSSEIN, AND, IN THE WAR'S AFTERMATH, IN SAVING THE
LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF IRAQI REFUGEES.

0 I SEE MANY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES HERE TODAY -- AND I KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU ARE FROM THE TOP-NOTCH FORCE THAT CAME BACK TO TURKEY AFTER THE WAR ENDED TO ASSIST WITH OPERATION PROVIDE COMFORT. THE WORLD WATCHED AS YOU AND THOUSANDS OF TURKISH AIRMEN AND SOLDIERS HELPED THE KURDISH PEOPLE AS THEY RETURNED FROM THE REFUGE OF THE MOUNTAINS TO THEIR OWN HOMES. I SALUTE YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES.

0 IN THESE TWO OPERATIONS, DESERT STORM AND PROVIDE COMFORT, WE SHOWED THE WORLD WHAT TURKISH-AMERICAN COOPERATION CAN ACHIEVE. AND YOU SHOWED WHAT ONE EMBASSY CAN ACHIEVE. FOR YOUR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES, IT IS MY HONOR TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED THE SUPERIOR HONOR AWARD TO THIS EMBASSY AS A WHOLE. CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE. //

0 I AM ALSO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED HONOR AWARD TO AMBASSADOR MORT ABRAMOWITZ, FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY COMMITMENT AND BRILLIANT LEADERSHIP OF THIS MISSION. CONGRATULATIONS, MR. AMBASSADOR.
//

0 MORT, I HEAR YOU ARE RETIRING IN A FEW DAYS, AFTER REACHING THE HIGHEST RANK IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE -- CAREER AMBASSADOR.

YOU HAVE MY BEST WISHES IN YOUR NEW POSITION AS HEAD OF THE CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE. OF COURSE, YOU WILL LEAVE BEHIND MANY FRIENDS IN TURKEY -- FROM THE PRESIDENT ON DOWN. BUT TRY TO THINK OF IT THIS WAY: WHEN YOU GET TO WASHINGTON, YOU WILL FIND MANY FRIENDS THERE -- FROM THE PRESIDENT ON DOWN, I MIGHT ADD.

0 FINALLY, I WANT TO THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU -- DCM MARC GROSSMAN, MAJOR GENERAL BILL FARMEN, FOREIGN SERVICE AND MILITARY PERSONNEL, SPOUSES, AND CHILDREN -- FOR THE MANY SACRIFICES YOU'VE MADE TO SERVE YOUR COUNTRY OVERSEAS. I KNOW IT CAN BE TOUGH: LONG HOURS, DISTANT DEPLOYMENTS, TERRORIST THREATS, AND LIVING CONDITIONS THAT ARE NO PICNIC ... NOT TO MENTION THE STRAIN OF BEING FAR FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS BACK IN THE STATES.

BUT ALL OF YOU CAN LOOK WITH PRIDE AT YOUR HISTORIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE LAST YEAR AND CONCLUDE THAT THE SACRIFICES WERE WORTH IT.

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(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
July 12, 1991 9 a.m.
EMBASSY.TS Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS
July 20, 1991
Athens, Greece

* Thank you all for that welcome. I want to give an equally warm thanks to Ambassador and Mrs. Sotirhos -- marvelous hosts. Mike's not only a good friend, he's a gifted and hard-working Ambassador and a credit to our country.

* You and the whole staff have done a superb job in all these arrangements. DCM Jim Williams -- are you still speaking to me? You and your staff deserve a special thanks for having done so much work to prepare for our visit. So many others: the counselors and their staffs; regional security officers; administrative and communications people; military; motor pool drivers; our wonderful Greek citizens working here; even the peacocks and pheasants whose routine I'm sure we've disrupted.

* I appreciate your efforts because I've been in your shoes. When I was our representative to China we survived one visit from the President of the United States: and two from Henry Kissinger. You're talking to a guy who knows what you've been through.

* To this whole team -- it really is a team -- thanks for your extra work and your welcome, and for making sure everything has run so smoothly. The only thing I can say is: you can breathe easy soon, because I promise to leave on schedule.

* And I do apologize for bringing you here not only at this unheard-of early hour -- but on a Saturday, no less. \\ Well, maybe this will set a routine for workouts in your new gym.

* Being in Athens, I now know some of the power summoned up in Pericles' Funeral Oration which reminds us it was "by courage, sense of duty and a keen feeling of honor in action that men were enabled to win" all the greatness of this great, ancient city.

* You deserve thanks from the country you represent. We have a unique relationship with Greece -- a bond based on our shared values of democracy and liberty. Here, I have seen first-hand how your diplomatic efforts build upon those ancient ties.

* This celebration is especially sweet, because it's been a harrowing year. Everyone representing our country throughout the world has been through times of hard work and hard decisions. But you persevered and pulled together with your colleagues abroad and at home in support of what we were standing for in the Gulf.

* Your efforts, and your successful liaison with the Greek government, were important to our cause. When war came, I know that this embassy, the whole American community, faced a serious terrorist threat. I know you staffed a command post around the clock. You didn't blink. It was a tremendous performance.

* When you see the victory parades in America, extraordinary celebrations of the American spirit, -- know that they are also paying tribute to you. For you manned your post and stood for our policies and our values and stayed fast and firm and true.

* I'll simply end where I began, by thanking you -- all of you, whatever duty you have in this Embassy -- for your service and loyalty to the greatest, freest, most wonderful country on the face of the Earth. Thank you, and God bless you all.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

5204

DATE: 7/10/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURSDAY, 7/11/91 COB

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS-ATHENS, GREECE 7/20/91

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than COB, THURSDAY, JULY 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

- MASTER -

RESPONSE:

July 11, 1991

The NSC Staff concurs with the changes indicated.

Brent Scowcroft
Brent Scowcroft

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
July 10, 1991 1 p.m.
EMBASSY.TS Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS
July 20, 1991
Athens, Greece

* Thank you all for that welcome. I want to give an equally warm thanks to Mike and Estelle: marvelous hosts. Mike's not only a good friend, he's a gifted and hard-working Ambassador *and a great credit to our country.*

* You and the whole staff have done a superb job in all these arrangements. *DCH Jim Williams* ~~Your admin officer~~ -- are you still speaking to me? You deserve a special thanks *for having done so much work to prepare* ~~-- you bear a disproportionate share of the load.~~ So many others: the *political and economic* counsels *our wonderful* and *their administrative and* staffs; communications people; military; Greek citizens working here; even the peacocks and pheasants whose routine I'm sure we've disrupted.

* I appreciate your efforts because I've been in your shoes. When I was *our representative to (Porter)* ~~Ambassador in~~ China we survived one visit from the President of the United States -- and two from Henry Kissinger. You're talking to a guy who knows what you've been through.

* To this whole team -- it really is a team -- thank you for your extra work and your welcome, and for making sure everything has run so smoothly. The only thing I can say is: you can breathe easy soon, because I promise to leave on schedule.

* And I do apologize for bringing you here not only at this unheard-of early hour -- but on a Saturday, no less. \\ Well, maybe this will set a routine for workouts in your new gym.

* Being here in Athens, I now know some of the power summoned up in Pericles' Funeral Oration, which reminds us it was "by courage, sense of duty, and a keen feeling of honor in action that men were enabled to win" all the greatness of this great, ancient city.

* You deserve thanks from the country you represent. We have a unique relationship with Greece -- a bond based on our shared values of democracy and liberty. Here, I have seen first-hand how your diplomatic efforts build upon those ancient ties.

* This celebration is especially sweet, because it's been a harrowing year. Everyone representing our country throughout the world has been through times of hard work and hard decisions. But you persevered and pulled together with your colleagues abroad and at home in support of what we were standing for in the Gulf.

* Your efforts, and your successful liaison with the Greek government, were important to our cause. When war came, I know that this embassy, the whole American community, faced a serious terrorist threat. I know you staffed a command post around the clock. You didn't blink. It was a tremendous performance.

* When you see the victory parades in America -- and they are extraordinary celebrations of the American spirit -- know that they are also paying tribute to you. For you manned your post and stood for our ^{Policles + Olin (Porter)} values and stayed fast and firm and true.

* I'll simply end where I began, by thanking you -- all of you, whatever duty you have in this Embassy -- for your service and loyalty to the greatest, freest, most wonderful country on

the face of the Earth. Thank you, and God bless you all.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 JUL 11 A9:31

DATE: 7/10/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURSDAY, 7/11/91 COB

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS-ATHENS, GREECE 7/20/91

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PORTER ROSE</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>SNOW</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than COB, THURSDAY, JULY 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

Tony, see attached couple of minor suggestions. Looks fine otherwise. Susie Porter Rose

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
July 10, 1991 1 p.m.
EMBASSY.TS Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS
July 20, 1991
Athens, Greece

* Thank you all for that welcome. I want to give an equally warm thanks to Mike and Estelle: marvelous hosts. Mike's not only a good friend, he's a gifted and hard-working Ambassador.

* You and the whole staff have done a superb job in all these arrangements. Your admin officer -- are you still speaking to me? You deserve a special thanks -- you bear a disproportionate share of the load. So many others: the political counselor and staff; communications people; military; Greek citizens working here; even the peacocks and pheasants whose routine I'm sure we've disrupted.

* I appreciate your efforts because I've been in your shoes. When I was ~~Ambassador in~~ ^{our representative to} China we survived one visit from the President of the United States -- and two from Henry Kissinger. You're talking to a guy who knows what you've been through.

* To this whole team -- it really is a team -- thank you for your extra work and your welcome, and for making sure everything has run so smoothly. The only thing I can say is: you can breathe easy soon, because I promise to leave on schedule.

* And I do apologize for bringing you here not only at this unheard-of early hour -- but on a Saturday, no less. \\ Well, maybe this will set a routine for workouts in your new gym.



* Being here in Athens, I now know some of the power summoned up in Pericles' Funeral Oration, which reminds us it was "by courage, sense of duty, and a keen feeling of honor in action that men were enabled to win" all the greatness of this great, ancient city.

* You deserve thanks from the country you represent. We have a unique relationship with Greece -- a bond based on our shared values of democracy and liberty. Here, I have seen first-hand how your diplomatic efforts build upon those ancient ties.

* This celebration is especially sweet, because it's been a harrowing year. Everyone representing our country throughout the world has been through times of hard work and hard decisions. But you persevered and pulled together with your colleagues abroad and at home in support of what we were standing for in the Gulf.

* Your efforts, and your successful liaison with the Greek government, were important to our cause. When war came, I know that this embassy, the whole American community, faced a serious terrorist threat. I know you staffed a command post around the clock. You didn't blink. It was a tremendous performance.

* When you see the victory parades in America -- and they are extraordinary celebrations of the American spirit -- know that they are also paying tribute to you. For you manned your post and stood for ^{Pericles' love} our values and stayed fast and firm and true.

* I'll simply end where I began, by thanking you -- all of you, whatever duty you have in this Embassy -- for your service and loyalty to the greatest, freest, most wonderful country on

the face of the Earth. Thank you, and God bless you all.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

91 JUL 10 P1: 41

DATE: 7/10/91 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: THURSDAY, 7/11/91 COB

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS-ATHENS, GREECE 7/20/91

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROMLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SNOW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HOLIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Tony Snow, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than COB, THURSDAY, JULY 11, with a copy to this office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

~~MAILED~~

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
July 10, 1991 1 p.m.
EMBASSY.TS Draft Two

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS
July 20, 1991
Athens, Greece

* Thank you all for that welcome. I want to give an equally warm thanks to Mike and Estelle: marvelous hosts. Mike's not only a good friend, he's a gifted and hard-working Ambassador.

* You and the whole staff have done a superb job in all these arrangements. Your admin officer -- are you still speaking to me? You deserve a special thanks -- you bear a disproportionate share of the load. So many others: the political counselor and staff; communications people; military; Greek citizens working here; even the peacocks and pheasants whose routine I'm sure we've disrupted.

* I appreciate your efforts because I've been in your shoes. When I was Ambassador in China we survived one visit from the President of the United States -- and two from Henry Kissinger. You're talking to a guy who knows what you've been through.

* To this whole team -- it really is a team -- thank you for your extra work and your welcome, and for making sure everything has run so smoothly. The only thing I can say is: you can breathe easy soon, because I promise to leave on schedule.

* And I do apologize for bringing you here not only at this unheard-of early hour -- but on a Saturday, no less. \\ Well, maybe this will set a routine for workouts in your new gym.

* Being here in Athens, I now know some of the power summoned up in Pericles' Funeral Oration, which reminds us it was "by courage, sense of duty, and a keen feeling of honor in action that men were enabled to win" all the greatness of this great, ancient city.

* You deserve thanks from the country you represent. We have a unique relationship with Greece -- a bond based on our shared values of democracy and liberty. Here, I have seen first-hand how your diplomatic efforts build upon those ancient ties.

* This celebration is especially sweet, because it's been a harrowing year. Everyone representing our country throughout the world has been through times of hard work and hard decisions. But you persevered and pulled together with your colleagues abroad and at home in support of what we were standing for in the Gulf.

* Your efforts, and your successful liaison with the Greek government, were important to our cause. When war came, I know that this embassy, the whole American community, faced a serious terrorist threat. I know you staffed a command post around the clock. You didn't blink. It was a tremendous performance.

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* I'll simply end where I began, by thanking you -- all of you, whatever duty you have in this Embassy -- for your service and loyalty to the greatest, freest, most wonderful country on

the face of the Earth. Thank you, and God bless you all.

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(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
July 10, 1991 1 p.m.
EMBASSY.TS Draft Two

STARTED
01 JUL 10 12:49
PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS
July 20, 1991
Athens, Greece

* Thank you all for that welcome. I want to give an equally warm thanks to Mike and Estelle: marvelous hosts. Mike's not only a good friend, he's a gifted and hard-working Ambassador.

* You and the whole staff have done a superb job in all these arrangements. Your admin officer -- are you still speaking to me? You deserve a special thanks -- you bear a disproportionate share of the load. So many others: the political counselor and staff; communications people; military; Greek citizens working here; even the peacocks and pheasants whose routine I'm sure we've disrupted.

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* To this whole team -- it really is a team -- thank you for your extra work and your welcome, and for making sure everything has run so smoothly. The only thing I can say is: you can breathe easy soon, because I promise to leave on schedule.

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* This celebration is especially sweet, because it's been a harrowing year. Everyone representing our country throughout the world has been through times of hard work and hard decisions. But you persevered and pulled together with your colleagues abroad and at home in support of what we were standing for in the Gulf.

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* I'll simply end where I began, by thanking you -- all of you, whatever duty you have in this Embassy -- for your service and loyalty to the greatest, freest, most wonderful country on

the face of the Earth. Thank you, and God bless you all.

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(Hinchliffe/Blymire)
July 2, 1991 3 p.m.
EMBASSY Draft One

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: U.S. EMBASSY GREETINGS
July 20, 1991
Athens, Greece

* Thank you all for that warm reception. I want to give an equally warm thanks to Mike and Estelle: marvelous hosts. Mike's not only a good friend, he's a gifted and hard-working Ambassador. *Sounds patronizing* [I couldn't hope to have a finer American to serve me here.]

* You and the whole staff have done a superb job in all these arrangements. Your admin officer -- are you still speaking to me? You deserve a special thanks -- you bear a disproportionate share of the load. So many others: the political counselor and staff; communications people; military; Greek citizens working here. I'm sympathetic, since I've been in your shoes. When I was Ambassador in China we survived one visit from the President of the United States -- and two from Henry Kissinger. You're talking to a guy who knows what you've been through here.

* To this whole team -- and it really is a team -- thank you for your extra workload and your welcome, and for making sure everything's run so smoothly. The only thing I can say is: you can breathe easy soon, because I promise to leave on schedule.

* (INSIDE STORY TO COME) Being here in Athens, I now know some of the power summoned up in Pericles' Funeral Oration, which reminds us it was "by courage, sense of duty, and a keen feeling of honour in action that men were enabled to win" all the greatness of this proud, ancient city.

* You deserve thanks from the country you represent. We

have a unique relationship with Greece -- a bond based on our shared values of democracy and liberty. Today and yesterday, I have seen first-hand how your special kind of diplomacy celebrates our country's friendship.

* This celebration is especially sweet, because it's been a harrowing year. Everyone representing our country throughout the world has been through times of hard work and hard decisions. But you persevered and pulled together with your colleagues abroad and at home in support of what we were standing for in the Gulf. Your efforts, and your successful liaison with the Greek government, were important to our cause. When war came, I know that this embassy -- the whole American community -- faced a serious terrorist threat. I know you staffed a command post around the clock. You didn't blink. It was a tremendous performance. When you see the victory parades in America -- and they are extraordinary celebrations of the American spirit -- know that they are also paying tribute to you. For you manned your post and stood for our values and stayed fast and firm and true.

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