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Mr. Prime Minister.

I want to thank you for those generous remarks, and for the warmth in your welcoming me and the members of my party to your country.

Today, of course, is a window upon the future. But I'm sure you will understand why it also marks a meeting with the points of my past.

For I have been on German soil times -- both as private citizen and public official. I have been warmed by the kindness of your people. And inspired by your character as a Nation.

I first came to West Germany in . But our ties go back still further. For it was in 1948, when I received my college degree, and moved to Texas, that I, and America, saw perhaps your finest profile in courage. One observer called it "the cradle of the American-German friendship." ^{oppression.}

I refer, of course, to the Berlin airlift, where our people stood, as Allies, against the forces of ~~tyranny and repression~~. Together, we stood as a citadel of freedom. And today, we must stand again -- united, resolute, and building a durable peace as Goethe said: "Without haste, but without rest."

Of course, we have differences. All allies do. But we will surmount those differences. For we are members of a family--and at times, will disagree. But we will surmount those differences. For what unites us far eclipses what divides us.

What unites us --as friends, and NATO members--are the values of faith, family, hard work, and democracy. And ties --economically, culturally, militarily--that bind our democracies. What unites us is our common dedication to the cause of peace--not merely in our time, but for generations to come. And the knowledge that Western unity is pivotal to that cause. ^A

United, we cannot fail. Divided, we cannot succeed. So let us prove equal to the task, as NATO has. Let us preserve democratic unity, as NATO must, and will.

And in so doing, let us help the peoples of America and West Germany, and freedom-loving peoples everywhere, live together in friendship and peace.

In that spirit, I ask all of our guests to rise and raise their glasses. To German-American friendship... and the motto the most durable alliance in the history of man. And to the health of my friend and colleague, the Prime Minister of the Federal Republic.

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To your ...

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(Smith/Blessey)
May 10, 1989
Draft One
KOHL

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KOHL TOAST
BONN, WEST GERMANY
TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1989

Mr. Chancellor, ladies and gentlemen. It is a very great honor for us to be in this magnificent room, and to be received so warmly by the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

My first visit here as President would have been special regardless of its timing. For I have been to your Nation many times as private citizen, and as a public official. And, always, I return not a stranger, but as a " ^{Las} ."

But it is specially apt, I think, that this visit coincides with two dates of great importance to both our countries: The 40th anniversaries of the founding of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Atlantic Alliance.

One of the early goals of NATO was to nurture a European stability within which the Federal Republic could pursue its political and economic development. The new democratic Germany, in turn, has immeasurably enriched the Alliance.

Together, these events have reinforced the other, building a durable and long-standing peace. I am reminded of how Goethe said, "Without haste, but without rest."

Today, it is hard to imagine a democratic Germany without a NATO. For this Alliance has been a citadel of freedom. Or to envision a NATO without a democratic Germany. For yours has been, and remains, a success story almost without parallel.

In a sense, your success parallels America's. For the history of post-war U.S.-German relations is of allies resolute and strong. Yes, sometimes we have disagreed, as allies will. But we know that what unites us far surmounts what divides us.

What unites us -- as friends, and NATO members -- are the values of faith, family, human rights, and democracy. And ties -- economic, cultural, military -- that bind our democracies. A common dedication to the cause of peace -- that, too, unites us. And the knowledge that Western unity is central to that cause.

Mr. Chancellor, we want a world in which oppression is banished from our lexicon, and where dignity and individuality triumph. And a Europe whose continent is reconciled on the basis of democracy and true independence.

(1985)
Today, we are perhaps nearer those goals than at any time since the founding of NATO and the Federal Republic. But we will achieve them only if we uphold the principles which have guided our friendship and the Atlantic Alliance for forty years.

If winds of change are blowing in Eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union, it is in part because Mr. Gorbachev has seen that our society works and that his does not.

If hope for a better life stirs the peoples of the Eastern Europe, it is because we have remained true to our values. ~~and willing to defend them.~~

And if hope exists for ending the division of Europe, Germany, and, yes, Berlin, it is because we have for forty years been willing to defend our own freedom.

Had we not -- had we failed our challenge -- the face of Europe would be very different today. It would be a Europe with no common prosperity. No perestroika or glasnost. Above all, it would be a Europe with no freedom.

In the future, let us learn from this past. That means preserving a strong defense that offers the greatest hope of easing Europe's division and ensuring Europe's freedom. For Peace Through Strength will give the Soviet Union ~~a carrot, and a stick~~ ^{incentive} to seek its security through democratization and reform.

We in the West have have never threatened that security. Nor do we today. All of Europe recognizes that reality. And it knows, too, that America, Germany, and Europe are more equal partners than in 1948. We welcome this new partnership. And we see the Federal Republic as a crucial part of a stronger European pillar: Assuming new global responsibilities; accepting its fair share of the challenge of Western defense.

Mr. Chancellor, ladies and gentlemen, the winds of change are blowing -- winds of opportunity, and of hope. Let us seize those winds with the qualities that have for forty years marked the Atlantic Alliance, and the friendship of our countries -- courage, self-sacrifice, ^① ~~a belief in democracy, and a longing for peace.~~ _{② generosity, ③ certainty, ④ pride}

Forty years ago, when I was a senior in college, the world marveled at perhaps Germany's finest profile in courage. One observer termed it "the cradle of the American-German friendship." I refer, of course, to the Berlin airlift. Together, we stood as allies against the forces of tyranny. ~~And~~ ^{together}, we must stand again, and will.

^{Party,} Divided, we cannot succeed. United, we cannot fail. In that spirit, I ask all of our guests to rise and raise their glasses. To the Federal Republic of Germany on its 40th ^{Anniversary}

anniversary, and to German-American friendship. To the most durable alliance in the history of man. And to the health of my friend and colleague, the Chancellor of the Federal Republic.