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Kossuth Square, Budapest, Hungary, 7/11/89

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<b>G</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

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(Smith/Blessey)  
June 23, 1989  
Draft Four  
HUNGARY

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KOSSUTH SQUARE  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY  
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1989

Mr. President, My Hungarian and American Friends.

Six years ago, I became the highest-ranking American official to visit Hungary. Today, I become the first American President to travel here. Now, as then, Barbara and I are moved by your reception. And we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

That great poet of the 1848 Revolution, Sandor Petofi, once wrote, "Milliok Neveben Emelem Szavam." [Milyoke nevaeben emelem suvum: "Let me address you in the name of millions"]. Today, let me address you in the name of millions who convey their warmest greetings: The people of the United States.

I want to say to all of you that I have seen few cities more lovely than Budapest. And add that I have seldom seen a city more alight. Alight with commerce, change, and, above all, hope. Alight with the lamp of liberty.

In a few moments I will be received in a symbol of that liberty -- the Hungarian Parliament. I will speak one hundred and forty years after a true Hungarian patriot was received in another house that set its torch aflame -- the Congress of the United States.

His name was Lajos Kossuth, and his statue rests behind me. And in his remarks to the Congressmen who welcomed him, he spoke movingly about the quest for freedom which links the people of Hungary with the peoples of the world.

"We are very fond of the principle of . . . self-government," he said. And then he added, prophetically: "Bayonets may support, but afford no chair to sit upon."

My friends, the memory of Lajos Kossuth lifts us, teaches us. For he believed, as a Hungarian playwright said, that "Struggle and trust be always confident." He knew that no matter how many bayonets oppose the human spirit, the lamp of liberty would not go out.

This great man became the conscience of a people. And just two blocks away -- here, too, an eternal flame lights the fire of democracy. Like other Hungarian heroes, Lajos Batthyany and Imre Nagy sought free assembly, free press and speech, and freedom of religion. They knew -- as Hungarians have always known -- that the lamp of liberty would not go out.

In 1848, its light led Hungarians to oppose the forces of tyranny. And, in a war of revolution, to demand the free expression so central to humanity. And forty-three years ago, in another violent uprising, the lamp of liberty moved Hungary, as Imre Madach wrote a century earlier, to seek the same right "to [choose] freely . . . between the good and sinful ways," and so "realize that we are still shielded by God's eternal grace."

Madach wrote those words in that great literary work perhaps closest to the heart of Hungary: "The Tragedy of Man." Our mission 130 years later is to proclaim The Victory of Man. For we can light the lamp of liberty peacefully, not violently -- the liberty which is larger than any country, and as soaring as the heart. Our revolution must be one of democracy, not brutality. And we can win it with speeches and ballots, not bullets and tanks.

Today, this revolution illuminates the streets of Budapest and Keckshemet. The folk murals of Tolna. And the farmland of Tanyak. Its flame lights your boats that ride the Danube, and your gentle small towns. For the lamp of liberty is political, and economic. It is religious, and intellectual. Its apostles say: "Work where you want, and vote as you choose." And: "Freedom will crush those who try to crush it." They believe: "All things are possible for a Nation, and for a people." And proclaim: "The individual, not the State, is the voice of tomorrow."

Over the past few decades, the world has watched this lamp transform the Hungarian Nation. For you have shown how peace, freedom, and prosperity are allied. I applaud Hungary's greater privatization, and economic liberality. For free and open markets lead to greater affluence. I salute Hungary's revolution of more democracy and information. For politically, like commercially, liberty can open boundaries, and minds. I welcome, too, the withdrawal of Soviet troops, and the planned cutbacks in

the Hungarian military. And we watch with interest as the Soviet Union encourages such change.

Who would have dreamt how the lamp of liberty could do so much, so quickly, to improve the lot of Hungary? Now, let us use its light to go still further.

Next year, elections will be held in Hungary. Let them be free, open, and multi-partied. And this week, Radio Free Europe begins broadcasts in Hungary -- the first such Communist country. Let its coverage spur an even closer merging of East and West. In trade, as we remove unfair barriers, let us recall that only when economic and political freedom is not divisible can Hungary be true to her heritage, and to her promise. Becoming central to a Europe that is whole and free. And a light unto the world.

Lajos Kossuth came to America after the struggle for that light had, temporarily, been lost. Yet his reception showed how the United States and Hungary revere the lamp of liberty. When he first entered New York Harbor, an armada of ships sounded horns to celebrate his arrival. And when the City of New York held a parade in his honor, thousands rushed his open carriage. Perhaps no visitor since Lafayette had been greeted so emotionally.

Like you, those Americans admired those who defend the peace, not break it. And who opposed societies that are closed -- and foreign policies that are belligerent. And they believed in helping individuals, and Nations, who spur the freedom that

makes all progress possible. For they, like you, were intent on seeing that the lamp of liberty would not go out.

Now, as then, this light illumines the friendship between the United States and Hungary. We see it in the lives of the \_\_\_ million Americans of Hungarian descent. Heroes like nuclear scientist Edward Teller. Conductor Eugene Ormandy, proving how music "is the universal language." Or Colonel Kovach [Kovacs ezredes], who founded the U.S. Cavalry during the Civil War.

And we see it, too, in the Hungarian deeds, and people, for which America feels such pride. People like Saint Stephen, and composers Liszt and Bartok. Deeds like winning Hungary's many Nobel Prizes and Olympic Medals. Or a deed which happened more than five centuries ago, when a great patriot by the name of Gáspár Horthy [Gáspár Horthy] stopped a would-be invasion. In his honor, Pope \_\_\_ ordered each person to ring a bell at the time of day the battle ended. And since then, church bells all over the world ring precisely at mid-day.

Deeds, yes, by famous heroes. And by little-noted heroes -- the Budapest student, the Great Alfold shop-keeper, the artist in Sarkoz. For today, it is their deeds -- your deeds -- which are reducing the chasm between East and West. Enriching, and making possible, a more open, peaceful world. They are deeds which reflect the values of faith, freedom, and opportunity. Values which span the oceans, and centuries. And that we must resolve to carry to the world.

Six years from, Budapest and Vienna will jointly host the World's Fair. That event will celebrate those values. And so did that day, four weeks ago, when thousands filled this very square -- peacefully, movingly -- to honor the hero, and spirit, of the 1956 uprising. Among them was a man, Tibor Kalmar, who took part in that rebellion. And who now had tears in his eyes. "Today," he said of the public ceremony, "this unity is a kind of Hungarian wonder. For this day, it is worth living and forgiving. It was worth it to go through everything."

"Kedves mag yarok" [Kedvesh mah djar oh: "My dear Hungarian friends], you have endured much. And survived everything. Survived through family, and faith in God. And through the arching human spirit, oft-abused yet free. In coming years, your heroism can write a new chapter in the history of your Nation. Love democracy -- as Kossuth did. Confront oppression -- as Imre Nagy did. Show Hungary -- show the world -- that the lamp of liberty will never go out.

The bell resounds. The light endures. The lamp grows brighter by the day. Together, let us join hopes, and link hearts, and raise what Kossuth called "the morning star of liberty." The star that can light tomorrow. And bless the children of the globe.

Thank you for this wonderful occasion. I will never forget it. God bless you, God bless America, and "Isten Al Meg a Magyart" [eshtehn ahld mehg ah moyyart] -- yes, "God Bless The Hungarians."

Check Pronunciation  
on Stan Coveleski -

(Smith/Blessey)  
July 1, 1989  
Draft Seven  
HUNGARY

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: KOSSUTH SQUARE  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY  
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1989

Mr. President, My Hungarian and American Friends.

That great poet of the 1848 Revolution, Sandor Petofi [SHAHN-door PET-oo-fee], once wrote, "Let me address you in the name of millions." Today, let me address you in the name of millions who convey their warmest greetings: The people of the United States.

Six years ago, I became the highest-ranking American official to visit Hungary. Today, I become the first American President to travel here. Now, as then, Barbara and I are moved by your reception. And we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

I want to say to all of you that I have seen few cities lovelier than Budapest. And I have seldom seen a city more alive. Alive with commerce, change, and, above all, hope. Alive with a people who believe that like a lamp lighting the darkest night, liberty can light the globe.

In a few moments I will be received in a symbol of that liberty -- the Hungarian Parliament. And as I speak, I will recall how 137 years ago a true Hungarian patriot was received in

East and West. Enriching, and making possible, a more open, peaceful world. You are proving how liberty can expand Hungary's horizons. And enlarge the possibilities of her people. For liberty reflects the values of individuality, self-reliance, and respect for others. Values which underscore the dignity of man.

Four weeks ago, thousands filled this city's Heroes Square -- peacefully, movingly -- to honor the heroes, and spirit, of 1956. Among them was a patriot who, with many others, took part in that uprising. Astonished by the turnout, he found pride in Hungary's past -- and hope in her future. "For this day," he said, "it is worth living and forgiving. Today, this unity is a kind of Hungarian wonder."

My friends, you have endured much. And survived everything. Survived through family, and faith in God. And through the human spirit, oft-abused yet free. In coming years, your heroism can write a new chapter in the history of your Nation. Love Hungary -- as Imre Nagy [IM-reh NUDGE] did. Overcome oppression -- as Lajos Kossuth did. Show the world that the light of liberty will shine forever.

The darkness lifts. The bell resounds. The light grows brighter by the day. Together, let us raise what Kossuth called "the morning star of liberty." The star that can lead us toward tomorrow. And bless the children of the globe.

Thank you for this wonderful occasion. I will never forget it. God bless you, God bless America -- and as your National Anthem proclaims so unforgettably, "God Bless The Hungarians."

another house which embodied freedom -- the Congress of the United States.

His name was Lajos Kossuth [LOY-osh KO-shooth]. His statue stands behind me. And he arrived in America after Hungary's struggle for freedom had, temporarily, been lost. Yet in his remarks to Congress, he was hopeful, not embittered. For he believed in that democracy which links the people of Hungary with the peoples of the world.

"I have a steady faith in principles," he said. "I trust to the future of republicanism." And then he added: "Bayonets may support, but afford no chair to sit upon."

Even now, the memory of Lajos Kossuth lifts us, teaches us. For his life was a celebration of bravery, and of dreams. He knew that a courageous people would not bow to bayonets and barbed wire. He knew that the light of liberty would shine forever.

This great man became the conscience of Hungary. And just two blocks away -- here, too, an eternal flame lights the fire of democracy. Like other Hungarian heroes, Lajos Batthyany [LOY-osh BAHT-on-ee] sought free assembly, free press and speech, and freedom of religion. They knew that no matter how much suffering beset this Nation, its light of liberty would shine forever.

When the Hungarian playwright Imre Madach [IM-reh MAW-dawch] observed, "It is so great freely to choose between the good and sinful ways," he was describing that belief -- the belief that free expression would conquer tyranny. And he wrote those words

in that great literary work ironically entitled, "The Tragedy of Man."

My friends, our mission is to help liberty proclaim The Victory of Man. Proclaim it peacefully, not violently. For The Victory of Man can help Hungary's future be worthy of her history. And help Hungary live for what so many in the world have died for: opportunity, human decency, and democratic ideals.

Today, this quest for democracy fills the streets of Budapest and the great plains of Hortobagy [HORT-oh-buy], and from Debrecen [DEB-ray-cen] to Sopron [SHOW-prone]. It rides the currents of the Danube, and touches the gentle towns that grace its banks. For Hungary's love of liberty is political, and economic; religious, and intellectual. Its apostles say, work where you want. And vote as you choose. They believe that all things are possible for a Nation, and for a people. And proclaim the individual, not the State, as the voice of tomorrow.

Over the past twelve months, the world has watched this liberty transform the Hungarian Nation. You have shown how peace, freedom, and prosperity are allied. I applaud Hungary's greater privatization, and economic liberalization. I salute Hungary's movement toward democracy and increased flow of information. I welcome, too, the withdrawal of Soviet troops, and the planned cutbacks in the Hungarian military. We watch with interest as the Soviet Union encourages such change. And in Brussels just six weeks ago, I proposed mutual reductions in arms

that would further reduce -- significantly -- conventional forces in Europe.

Who would have dreamt that your love of liberty would do so much, so quickly, to improve the lot of Hungary? Now, let us use its promise to open boundaries, and minds.

Next year, elections will be held in Hungary. Let them be free, open, and multi-partied. And let there be wide participation in the democratic process. For this holds the promise of an alternative future for Hungary -- a democratic alternative.

And this week, Radio Free Europe begins broadcasts originating from Hungary -- the first in a Communist country. Let its coverage spur even closer ties between East and West. In trade, as we remove unfair barriers, we must remember that only when economic and political freedom go hand-in-hand can Hungary be true to her heritage, and to her children. Becoming central to a Europe that is whole and free.

Lajos Kossuth came to America after Hungary had, for the moment, seen freedom disappear. Yet his reception showed how our two peoples share a common love of liberty. In New York Harbor, an armada of ships sounded horns to celebrate his arrival. And when the City of New York held a parade in his honor, thousands rushed his open carriage. Perhaps no visitor since Lafayette had been greeted so emotionally.

Like Hungarians, the Americans of that time admired those who love what Kossuth called "the principle of . . . self-

government." They opposed closed societies. And they believed in helping individuals, and Nations, who understood that real freedom makes all progress possible. For they, like you, were determined to ensure that the light of liberty would shine forever.

Today, more than ever, this kinship binds the peoples of the United States and Hungary. We see it in the lives of the nearly two million Americans of Hungarian descent. In giants like nuclear scientist Edward Teller. Or conductor Eugene Ormandy, who proved that music "is the universal language." Or Colonel Kovach [KO-vach], who founded the U.S. Cavalry during the Civil War.

But this kinship isn't one-way: Americans also admire Hungarians whose deeds inspire us. Heroes like the great founder of the Hungarian State, Saint Stephen, and great composers like Liszt and Bartok. Or Hungary's many winners of Nobel Prizes and Olympic Medals. Or that great patriot by the name of Janos Hunyadi [YAHN-osh HOON-yah-dee] who more than five centuries ago stopped a would-be Turkish invasion. In his honor, the Pope ordered each Catholic church to ring a bell at the time of day the battle ended. And since then, Catholic church bells all over the world ring precisely at mid-day.

Heroes, yes -- American, Hungarian. But there are other, unknown heroes, too -- the student in Budapest, the vintner in Lake Balaton [BAHL-ah-ton], the artist in Sarkoz [SHAHR-kooz]. Today, it is they -- you -- who are reducing the chasm between

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Who would have dreamt that your love of liberty would do so much, so quickly, to improve the lot of Hungary? Now, let us use its promise to open boundaries, and minds.

We salute your decision for elections to be held in Hungary. We salute your decision to encourage more participation in the democratic process. For this holds the promise of an alternative future for Hungary -- a democratic alternative.

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Thank you for this wonderful occasion. I will never forget it. God bless you, God bless America -- and as your National Anthem proclaims so unforgettably, "God Bless The Hungarians."

# # # #

*And in my own way, I will be sure we will always stand together we will always stand together.*