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HAYDEN

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: HAYDEN FUNDRAISER
TOPEKA, KANSAS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1990

Governor Hayden, Congressmen ___ and ___, distinguished guests. // ___, thank you for that introduction. As always, it's wonderful to be back in the very heartland of America. //

Today, I'm privileged to be in Topeka on behalf of a friend. He is a rancher and Viet Nam veteran, an environmentalist and businessman. Most of all, he is the great Governor of a truly great State. // Ladies and gentlemen, Governor Mike Hayden. //

((When I was invited here I was told Mike wanted a man whom Kansans adore to come from Washington to talk on his behalf. // But since Bob Dole couldn't make it, I thought I'd fill in.)) //

((As you may have read, I had some mishaps along the way. First, I was fishing with the Canadian Prime Minister on my boat when it broke down. // The next day we went back out -- and I got hooked in the ear while fishing with the Prime Minister and my son Jeb.)) //

((Talk about compounding injury. After being hooked, Jeb said if I'd been a fish he would have thrown me back. // Brian Mulroney was kinder -- tried to offer his sympathy. One problem: I couldn't hear him over the sound of the fish laughing.)) //

((I'm even thinking about giving up fishing altogether. After all, with the way my golf game's been going, I spend enough time around water just being out on the course. // Last time I

played golf, someone asked why I kept looking at my watch. I said, "This isn't a watch -- it's a compass.") //

For the last four years, Mike Hayden's compass has helped chart the future of Kansas. // A compass of integrity -- embodying Kansas' values of hard work and character. And family -- think of Mike's wife, Patti, and two kids. // A compass of morality. And stability -- he keeps things in perspective. ((It's like Mike tells me. "It's fine that you're here, Mr. President -- but if you really want to wow the crowd, bring Barbara.")) //

These qualities have endeared Mike to Kansas' good, quiet, decent people. It's no surprise that Kansas Likes Mike. // Just look at his background. Kansas State graduate. Member, then Speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives. // He's living proof of words spoken by that great Kansan, Dwight Eisenhower. Ike said, "Our best protection against bigger government in Washington is better government in the States." // Today, we meet to help Mike keep making government better in the State of Kansas. Let's re-elect Mike Hayden to a second term. //

((Mike, of course, was born in Atwood, on the west side of the State. He knows what Ike meant when he talked of "the great and priceless privilege of growing up in a small town." // Let me tell a story about how that privilege can mold a man. A story which shows small-town America's great capacity to care. //

((A two-year-old girl, Lacey Cook, lives in Dodge City. She needed a liver transplant to survive. // When Mike heard about

Lacy, he got on the phone. Called her mother. Helped to arrange for Lacy to get the operation she needed -- even offering the Governor's plane to get her to the hospital. // Next Tuesday, Lacy turns three years old. What's more, she's healthy again, and I'm proud to have her with us today. All Kansans can take pride in the courage evidenced by this wonderful child.) //

You can see what I mean by Mike Hayden's compass. Our task now is to use it to build on the triumphs of the last four years. Consider: Today, more Kansans are working than at any time in our history. Unemployment is the lowest in 11 years. No wonder Kansas likes Mike. // Here's more: Think of Mike's crusade to improve secondary and higher learning. The increase in net farm income -- up \$4 billion since '87. And a \$1.7 billion construction program to modernize your highways. Affection stems from achievements like these. // How did they happen? Not from Washington doing for Kansas -- but through Kansans doing for themselves. Not expanding the budget of the bureaucracy. Rather, expanding the horizons of the rainbow / we call tomorrow.

((All of you remember another great Kansan, Alf Landon. Perhaps you don't recall how once he said: "There are some intelligent people in Washington. [There are] more of them in Kansas.")) // Mike Hayden encapsules Kansas' common sense. So let me briefly talk about how he -- and you -- can help meet America's challenges. Challenges at home -- challenges abroad.

At home, we begin with education -- where Mike has launched a campaign to make Kansas No. 1. Your support can help him

convince the Congress to pass our National Educational Excellence Act. // Then, comes the environment -- here, too, I need Mike to keep America right. In 1987, Governor Hayden elevated the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to Cabinet level status. Your support can help him convince Congress to grant the Environmental Protection Agency Cabinet status and **pass Clean Air legislation I can sign.** // Finally, I need Mike to keep Kansas our Nation's breadbasket, producing more grain than any State. You know how vital agriculture is to America, and the world. //

((Mike grew up on a family farm. I'm sure he's heard the tale of how a city person bought a chicken farm. A friend was astonished. "Do you know anything about breeding chickens?" he asked. "No," said the city person, "but the chickens do."))

In Kansas, even chickens realize that when it comes to farming, Washington Doesn't Know Best. Kansans do. So I ask you to back a new farm bill that emphasizes market-oriented policies giving producers more flexibility to decide what crops to grow. Our new farm bill must be even-handed. And level-headed. Helping lower the deficit and interest rates while increasing choice for farmers and consumers. // We also need to maximize the grain agreement President Gorbachev and I signed at our recent summit. A deal calling for at least 40 million metric tons of grain to be purchased by the Soviets in the next five years. // Here's one more way to keep agriculture strong. I ask you to support our capital gains tax cut proposal which will create new investment. I call on the Congress to pass that bill.//

So far I've discussed how we can keep America right at home.
// Let me close by talking about what we can do to serve the principles we hold dear abroad. I refer to the issue central to our minds, and hearts: the crisis in the Persian Gulf. //

As you know, the outcome is still undecided -- hard choices remain. But of this we are certain: When some ask: Where does America stand? Our answer is: America stands where it always has -- against aggression -- against those who would use force to replace the rule of law. // As a former platoon leader and company commander in Viet Nam, nobody knows this better than Mike Hayden: America will not be intimidated. //

Five weeks ago, these beliefs prompted me to take action in the Middle East to restore the sovereignty of Kuwait and deter those who threaten friendly countries and the vital interests of America. Those objectives are unchanged today. They will remain unchanged. // Kansans know that no one ever walks away from appeasing an aggressor. He only crawls. // So with our friends and allies, we will do what we did from Corregidor to Hamburger Hill. We will not stand by while one country literally swallows another whole. We will stand firm against the aggression now condemned around the world. // Our cause may not be easy -- but it will always be right. So we will do whatever it takes to help our men and women restore peace and, thus, complete their mission. //

This means, first, the cooperation of the United Nations and the twenty-two countries involved in the Persian Gulf effort. We

are united for stability and security. We will remain united. //

The mission I speak of will also require what Chairman of the Joint Staffs Powell called "the finest peacetime military in the history of America." As long as I am President, that military will remain purposeful and proud. // In his first Inaugural Address, George Washington said "To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving the peace." Look to the Persian Gulf: Those words have rarely been truer than now. //

((Today, the finest soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines any Nation could have are showing how the best way to keep the peace is to keep America militarily strong. // Here are some examples -- all now on active duty in Saudi Arabia with the Air National Guard's 190th Air Refueling Group from Topeka's Forbes Field. // Sergeant Johnnie Keller is a graduate of Osage [Osage] City High School, who last March joined the Guard. Today, he's standing shoulder to shoulder for what is right, and good, with colleagues like Theresa Boyd of Lawrence -- a jet engine mechanic and 11-year Guard veteran. And technical sergeant Bill Hortenstine, a Highland Park grad who helps maintain the KC-135 tankers that refuel planes on the way to Saudi Arabia. //

((Finally, I'd like to mention two other members of the 190th -- Bonita Pardue and Nic White. For six months they'd been planning an October wedding to coincide with her parents' 50th wedding anniversary. Then came the bad news: The 190th's Chaplain was sent to the Middle East. // Now, the good news. The

couple showed typical Kansas ingenuity. // They sent to Colorado for a replacement.)) //

((These Kansans reflect the true caliber of America -- and the vital essence of our mission. A mission embodied by a short note received by Lieutenant Colonel Don Fowler in the Saudi Arabian Control Center. The note came from a Kuwaiti refuge who didn't speak English well -- but whose words had a simple eloquence. A capital "I," a small heart, and the letters "USA."))

The letters "USA" aren't merely part of the alphabet. They stand for something called human dignity, and self-determination. Qualities that Kansans have upheld for decades. // They express the belief that America could not be the land of the free if it were not the home of the brave. A belief that Kansans are courageously defending on the sands and the waters offshore of Saudi Arabia. //

For more than half-a-century, generations have marveled at a wonderful movie set here in Kansas. Ask anyone from Warsaw to Wichita: They know how Dorothy said, "There's no place like home." // There is nothing I want more than for our American servicemen and women to come home -- and they will / once we've completed a mission that does right by America, and the world. //

Abroad, let us raise the flag of peace and justice. At home, let's show that Kansas does like Mike. // On November 6, ours is the chance to show what we think of the past four great years. Let's seize it. And by re-electing Mike Hayden Governor, help make the next four years the greatest in Kansas history.//

Thank you for this wonderful evening. God bless the United States of America. And God bless the men and women who are keeping it the greatest Nation on the face of this earth.

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