

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

FOIA Number:

S

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Smith, Curt, Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1992

OA/ID Number: 13889
Folder ID Number: 13889-041

Folder Title:
West Point Commencement, West Point, New York, 6/1/91

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	18	29	1	5

Ch. 1 in x's office —

(Smith/Grossman)
May 16, 1991
Draft Two
WEST

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WEST POINT COMMENCEMENT
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY
SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1991

General Vuono, General Palmer, ladies and gentlemen, families and friends, and Cadets of the Class of 1991. // Thank you for the privilege of being here. Barbara and I are delighted to be at this metaphor of "duty, honor, country." // Today, I feel as Douglas MacArthur did when he spoke of "coming home to West Point." I am proud to become an honorary member of the Long Grey Line. //

((First, what a sight to see such an outstanding military audience. / You weren't expecting Bob Hope, were you? / Second, let me say it was good of you to invite a Navy man to speak at West Point. I didn't want to press my luck, so I left the goat outside.)) //

((Actually, I'm lucky to be here. I almost didn't pass Sammy this morning. // And having arrived, I promise to be brief. After all, you've endured four tough and gruelling years -- and now comes the hard part. // Sitting through a Commencement Address.)) //

I speak to you today as an American who knows how the walls of oppression are tumbling down because of what our armed forces have done to keep America's defenses up. // And as a veteran who knows that -- like the memorial at Pearl Harbor. Or the Air

Force Academy, its silhouette reaching toward the sky -- this hallowed ground reflects our deepest values, and our principles as a people. //



Look around you here -- at the four statues in the mess hall / the five Stone Warriors / the sites that housed Lee and Pershing and beloved Ike and Schwarzkopf. // Its lessons live, as oral history -- passed from one generation to another. They recall that ours would not be the land of the free if it were not also the home of the brave. //

((Returning to West Point reminds me that no one should be shocked at the ferocity of our fighting ability in any conflict. // All they have to do is observe what we do to each other every year in the Army-Navy Game.)) // It also reminds us of what Woodrow Wilson meant when he said, "The American Revolution is always a beginning, never a consummation." And de Tocqueville: "The principle instrument of the United States is freedom." West Point is a symbol of the essence of America: What I call the American Character. //

Cut?

The American Character allowed us to brave independence and found the colonies ~~and then~~ ^{to} push back the wilderness / then preserve the Republic so that, united, we stood. A later generation helped open the West's giant, sprawling checkerboard. / Another pulled us out of the Depression -- though remember: We were poor in material goods, we ^{were} never ragged ^{about it} in spirit. // Still another generation showed how the Iron Curtain was no match for iron will and resolve. //

*1 power reference
Chris Brown?*

!

Today, I wish to talk of the American Character -- and how it makes ours -- I say this with no apology -- the greatest Nation in the history of the world. // Many Nations are special. America is singular. Giving greatly of itself. Asking little of others. Owing no allegiance to kings or queens, or despots or dictators -- but rather, to a set of ideals. //

The first ideal is the self-reliance that has made leadership not only America's duty but America's destiny. // Some believe government exists to make decisions for people. We believe government exists to help people make decisions for themselves. // This has led, inexorably, to a second part of the American Character. The creativity as old as 1776. // To this day, the only footprints on the moon are American footprints. / The only flag on the moon is the stars and stripes. // The know-how that put it there is America's domain. // America will always move dreams from the drawing-boards of today to the launching pads of tomorrow. //

Two centuries ago, a French author referred to this when he said, "Americans are the Western pilgrims, who are carrying along with them that great mass of arts, sciences, vigour, and industry which began long since in the East; they will finish the great circle." // Who is surprised that the Western pilgrims have made ours what has been called the American Century. To which I say: Why stop now? One good century deserves another. //

We come next to a third ideal I wish to speak about -- the foundation of our strength -- belief in family. // [[You know,

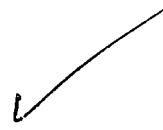
I've been lucky -- a wonderful wife and five great kids. And having helped put them through college, I remember receiving letters from them, and there would always be a "P.S." at the bottom. It was those three little words that say so much about the special bond between parents at home and kids away at school.

"Please send money."]] //

Like family, a fourth ideal of the American Character is a priceless bequest. // The patriotism which has proven time and again, from the Revolutionary War to the Persian Gulf, that hardship and adversity cannot equal courage and a cause. // Americans know the stars and stripes are are a living testament to the living and the dead. So it is emblazened everywhere from our inner selves to outer space. // With new paths to explore and new horizons to seek, we must take Old Glory into the New World Order. Which is why I say to Congress: Let us pass a Constitutional Amendment making it illegal to desecrate the greatest symbol of the United States of America. //

The flag -- and all it embodies -- has led to the fifth ideal of the American character -- the freedom that is the heartbeat pumping life into the American Dream. // Might I add: That beat is daily, not irregular. // We know that 1776 is not just a date that resides in American history books, but a spirit that lives in American hearts. Which brings me to the final three ideals I want to discuss. Belief in God. Belief in service. Finally, belief in the justice and equality that is the true grandeur of America. //

Need some
from
family



Here is a simple fact. According to polling data, America is the most religious nation on earth. While no country can claim a special place in God's soul, we are better as a people because he has a hallowed place in ours. // In a recent survey, more Americans -- 40 per cent -- named faith in God as the most important part of their lives. Only 2 per cent chose a job that pays well. // Just as faith can move mountains, America has mountains of faith. That is why: I support a little girl, Monette Rethford, 11, of Omaha, Nebraska. She has gone to court to protect her simple right to talk about the Bible at school with a friend during recess. / Why I also support the Providence, Rhode Island School Board, which is trying to protect its right to have God mentioned during High School invocations. // And why, today, I again call on Congress to support a Constitutional Amendment to restore voluntary prayer to our Nation's schools. //

The seventh ideal central to this country springs directly from the tenets of our Judeo-Christian culture. The generosity that from the Marshal Plan to disaster relief, has caused America to aid Nations in need. We do it not because we have to but because we want to -- not because it's the expedient way but because it's the American way. The story of the Good Samaritan is more than just an object lesson. It's part of the American character. //

I have often said the definition of a successful life must include serving others. Think of Bastogne and Bunker Hill, where

me
Bangladesh

we upheld democracy. Or the Peace Corps and Power Through People, where freedom waved a flag emblazoned, "Service to Nation, and to neighbor." / Remember Clara Barton and the Red Cross, or Mary McLeod Bethune, who made higher learning a bequest. For 200 years, we Americans have lent a hand, tended wounds, and helped the less fortunate. //

Today, more than ever, we must build on these beginnings. Measuring life not by what's in our bank account -- but by holding ourselves to account for the well-being of our community. I speak of the last and perhaps most vital ideal of the American Character -- the belief in justice and equality. Aiding those for whom the American Dream seems an Impossible Dream. //

An ancient Jewish proverb reminds us, "Before the Eternal One, the highest of men and the lowest of men are equal." And it was Martin Luther King who said: "Injustice anywhere is a danger to justice everywhere." // We must end the discrimination, -- whether on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, or disability, that is worse than wrong. It is a fundamental evil that tears at the fabric of our society, and one that all Americans must oppose. Only by combating the Four Horsemen of the American Night -- poverty and infirmity, hatred and fear -- can we make ours the "We" -- not "Me" -- Generation. Only then we ensure something better than affirmative action. [I call it affirmative lives.] //

Throughout my public life, I have believed that the rights of none are secure unless the rights of all are respected -- and

how the American Dream cannot be a white, or suburban, or upper-class domain. I have talked of how no person can be free while another is not -- and how a strong and stable economy is the surest guarantee of social justice. // Our goal is opportunity -- the opportunity that feeds America's body so that America can throw wide her heart. / Some say government can redistribute opportunity. They are wrong. Government is finite. Opportunity must be infinite. / What we need is to make the American Dream brighter, the American Pie larger, the American Tomorrow more secure. //

Of course, there are those who disagree with this philosophy. They believe in an America of, by, and for the government. They would pit one group against other -- fracturing America into divisive special interests. // They would deny equal rights to all Americans -- ensuring preferential treatment for some. And substitute the crutch of dependency for the ladder of individual pride. I respect such views. I also totally reject them. //

Let us remember how the Civil Rights movement began. It began as a challenge -- that all citizens cooperate as members of the human race, not compete as members of one race against another. It invoked the dream that "one day children will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." It asserted the inviolability of absolute rights. //

Now, let us look at today. Too often, civil rights has become a Rubik's Cube of clashing entitlements. Too often, race-

exempt judgments have yielded to decisions based entirely on race. // That was true for the parents of Marv Nevels, a Kansas City youngster ready for kindergarten. Across the street from his family was a superb "magnet school" with ample space -- ample, that is, except for blacks. // A rigid quota system mandated spaces for three blacks for every two whites enrolled. Lacking enough whites, 12 seats went empty -- even with a waiting list of 86 black children -- and Mark was bused past his neighborhood school. Why? The pigment of his skin. //

Here's another child, Demond Crawford of __, victimized by someone else's definition of racial equality. When Demond was having trouble in school, his mother tried to have him tested. She was told: Your son may not take the I.Q. test because he is black -- if you reclassify him under another race, on the other hand, we will test him. The real test, it seems, is how to manipulate a child's heritage to fit the forms of social engineers. // I cannot think of more uncivil rights. Instead of a color-blind society, they create one blind to justice.

That is why our Administration has begun initiatives to expand opportunity -- not redistribute rights. For instance, educational choice -- parents sending their kids to the school of their choice, not the choice of the educational establishment. Tenant management and homeownership for the poor. // I think, too, of enterprise zones. Tough anti-crime legislation -- because no American is free if imprisoned by fear of crime. And community opportunity areas -- shifting the power from the heavy

hand of the state to the hands that run the home and raise the family. //

Expanded opportunity will also demand passage of our 1991 Civil Rights Bill -- and, here, too, I urge Congress to get on with the job. // This legislation will help erase consideration of factors such as race and sex from employment practices. / Second, reflect fundamental principles of fairness that apply throughout the legal system. Third, it will ensure that Congress lives by the same rules it prescribes for others -- *IT'S* ending Congressional exemption from Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. / And fourth, unlike opposing bills, ours does not force employers to make the thankless choice between using quotas and facing costly and risky litigation. Rather, it will ensure equal opportunity and equal protection under the law.

Our civil rights bill reflects profound beliefs. I believe in regarding Americans as Americans -- not as warring interest groups. / I believe that all Americans are equal and should be treated equally. / I believe in a color-blind society -- not one blind to justice. I believe that that we are not white, black, brown, yellow. We are Americans -- and moreover, children of the same humane and loving God. //

Already, these beliefs have become reality at West Point, in the Army, and in the Armed Forces of America. Look to your left or right; to the buddy in front of you; to your classmate to the rear. // They do not think of themselves as tokens of a community. They are individuals -- talented, and enterprising.

They know how Teddy Roosevelt once said, "Whoever thinks of himself more to the left of the hyphen than to the right of American is not a real American." // They -- you -- have made the Army a better place -- because of what they are, and what they dream. // You show how the Army has become the greatest equal opportunity employer -- a meritocracy, where what counts is the human heart and will, not sex or creed or color.

18-20? years ago, the All-Volunteer Army was formed. Since then, recruiting standards have spiraled. Since then, also, the number of black and Hispanic members of the Armed Forces have soared from less than one in ___ and ___, respectively, to today's ___ and ___. For instance: The share of the army officers corps who were black has nearly ___. The proportion of Hispanic generals rose ___ per cent. [Some say this shows something wrong

?? about America.] I say it shows everything right about America. // In your class today are the one thousandth black and one thousandth female graduates *the history of* in this great institution. The Army does not recruit minorities. It recruits soldiers -- the finest sons and daughters any Nation could ever have. //

For evidence, look in closing to the sands and seas of the Persian Gulf -- where what mattered was not race, or religion, but that our armed forces fought for what was right and good. // Think of General Colen Powell. He has been called a role model, an inspiration, an example of the Army as equalizer and uplifter. What do I call him? A hero. // Think of other heroes like such graduates of West Point as Norman Schwartzkopf, and General Fred

Franks, who led the U.S. VII Corps in the remarkable flanking maneuver which made the 100-hour war an historic war. And of the thousands of West Point graduates who served in Desert Storm. //

Think, finally, of the man sitting here on my right -- General Carl E. Vuono, your chief of staff. In closing, let me say about a word about him -- for just as you are beginning your careers of service to America, he is drawing to the end of his.

On a June morning in 1957 -- a morning just like this one -
- Carl Vuono took the oath of office as a second lieutenant of Field Artillery. For the next 34 years -- in peace and war -- he labored to build the army of Just Cause and Desert Storm -- the finest our Nation has ever had and the ^{first} ~~best~~ in the world today.

// His legacy is etched in the Arabian Peninsula, in Panama, and in camps, posts, and installations wherever Americans have done -
- and do -- the hard work of freedom. //

When America called upon its Army to right a wrong done to another country far from our shores, our soldiers responded with courage and commitment. Deploying from the United States and Europe and supported by our magnificent Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, and by the forces of many Nations, our Army stopped aggression / defended Saudi Arabia / and then, fighting [outnumbered] -- demolished the fourth-largest Army in the world. //

What a magnificent chapter in the novel called America.
What a silhouette for how -- like Patton and Powell and Stormin' Norman -- America's Armed Forces embody the American Character.

// As we saw in the Gulf, a self-reliant nation is a creative nation. A creative nation reveres a sense of family -- and knows how patriotism and freedom can aid the dignity of the individual. That dignity, in turn, requires faith in God / the service of brotherhood / and justice and equality. / Thus, the ideals that form America's heirloom of the heart. //

I began with words from Douglas MacArthur. Let me close with how, speaking to us over the decades, he said: "The soldier above all prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." Thanks to you, the peace has been secured. Now, let us keep it -- preserve it -- for all the peoples of the world.

This is your sacred task, and your duty to the Nation. Thank you -- I know you will fulfill it -- and God bless the United States of America.

#

I began with words from Douglas MacArthur. Let me close with how, speaking to us over the decades, he said: "The soldier above all prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." Thanks to you, the peace has been secured. Now, let us keep it / preserve it / for all the peoples of the world. //

This is your sacred task, and your duty to the Nation. Thank you / I know you will fulfill it / and God bless the United States of America.

#

(Smith/Grossman)
May 28, 1991
Draft Five
WEST

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WEST POINT COMMENCEMENT
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY
SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1991
10 A.M.

Thank you, General Palmer, for that introduction. General Vuono, ladies and gentlemen, families, friends, and Cadets of the Class of 1991. // It is an honor to be here at this symbol of "duty, honor, country" -- and to know what Douglas MacArthur meant when he spoke of "coming home to West Point." Barbara and I are proud to be honorary members of the Long Grey Line. //

((What a sight to see such an outstanding military audience. / Now I know how Bob Hope feels. / Also, let me say it was good of you to invite a Navy man to speak at West Point. I didn't want to press my luck, so I left the goat outside.)) //

((Returning to West Point reminds me that no one should be shocked at the fierceness of our fighting ability in any conflict. // All they have to do is observe what we do to each other every year in the Army-Navy Game.)) //

We meet this morning not as members of opposing teams -- but as one people called Americans. / Americans who know that -- like the memorial at Pearl Harbor, or the Air Force Academy, its silhouette reaching toward the sky -- this ground at West Point reflects our deepest values, and our principles as a country. //

Look around you here -- at the four statues in the mess hall / the five Stone Warriors / the buildings that housed Lee and Ike

and Pershing. / Their lessons live as oral history -- passed from one generation to another. // They teach us what Woodrow Wilson knew: "The American Revolution is a beginning . . . never a consummation." Militarily and culturally / morally and spiritually / West Point has always been a metaphor for the American Character. //

The American Character allowed us to brave independence / found the colonies and push back the wilderness / then preserve the Republic so that, united, we stood. / One generation forged the opening of the West. / Another ended the Depression -- because while poor in material goods, we were never ragged in spirit. // Still a later generation showed how the Iron Curtain was no match for America's iron courage. //

Today, I wish to talk of this American Character -- and how it makes ours -- I say this without apology -- the greatest Nation in the history of the world. // Many countries are special. America is singular. Giving always of itself. Asking little of others. Owing no allegiance to kings or queens, or despots or dictators -- but rather, to a set of ideals. //

The first ideal is the self-reliance that moves America from the drawing boards of today to the launching pads of tomorrow. // This has led, inexorably, to a second ideal -- the creativity as old as Eli Whitney and Robert Fulton. // The American Character is also patriotic -- proving time and again, from the Revolutionary War to the Persian Gulf, that hardship and adversity cannot outlast commitment and a just cause. // The

result: A devotion to freedom that is the heartbeat of the Idea called America. // ((Might I add: That beat is regular, not arhythmic.))//

Next, the American Character is religious. We know, as Lincoln said: "The question is not whether God is on our side - - but whether we are on God's side." // It is also generous -- causing America to aid the troubled and dispossessed . / Think of Operation Provide Comfort for the Kurds in Iraq -- where freedom's flag reads, "Service to Nation, and to neighbor." / Or how here at home, many servicemen and women returning from Operation Desert Shield and Desert Home have become points of light. / Talking with students about staying in school // working hard // and turning off drugs. Their example -- which I urge to follow -- shows how for 200 years, we Americans have lent a hand, tended wounds, and helped the less fortunate. //

More than ever, we must now build on these foundations. Measuring life not by what's in our bank account -- but by holding ourselves to account for the welfare of our community. // I mean perhaps the most crucial part of the American Character. The belief in justice and equality that can help those for whom the American Dream seems an Impossible Dream. //

I have come here today to talk of making that dream reality. As at West Point, you already have. As in America, we surely must. // I speak of a meritocracy, where what counts is the human heart and will -- not creed or color or origin. // Look at your left or right. What do you see there? People divided by

race? Or your friends and buddies? // Easy. You see your friends. Members of a military that has shown what amazing things Americans can do when they see themselves not as tokens of a community. But as Americans have always seen themselves. As individuals -- talented and enterprising -- judged by what we are, and what we dream. //

More than three decades ago, the Civil Rights movement was founded on this very ideal. It began as a challenge -- that all citizens cooperate as members of the human race, not compete as members of one race against another. // It invoked the dream that "one day our children will be judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

In the Army -- as here at West Point -- that "one day" is now. // Recall what has happened since the birth of the All-Volunteer Army. Entrance standards have risen. So has the number of minority members in the Army -- soaring from less than 175,000 to nearly 275,000. // The percentage of minority enlisted personnel has nearly doubled. / The number of minority officers has almost tripled. // In your class are the one thousandth black and one thousandth female graduates of this great institution. The Army does not recruit minorities. It recruits soldiers -- the finest sons and daughters any Nation could ever have. //

America's task is to achieve what we celebrate today at West Point. We must think of ourselves not as white, black, brown, yellow -- but as Americans. / We must honor a humane and loving

God through the very lives we lead. / Above all, we must condemn the racial suspicion which threatens our national well-being as much as violence / or drugs / or poverty. Indeed, it may be more venal -- for it hides in the recesses of the human soul -- unbidden and unseen -- until some occasion triggers it. / We all have seen images of rage exploding on our streets. Cars burned / people maimed / stores destroyed by vandals. / Too often, these tragedies occur because one person took offense at the color of another's skin.

Racial suspicion inspires stranger to hate stranger -- for no reason other than their pigment -- setting people of all colors into mindless conflict. // It is a crisis imperiling America -- and demands an answer worthy of America. To find that answer, we need only heed voices that reflect the true greatness of America. //

Thirty years ago, Martin Luther King observed, "Injustice anywhere is a danger to justice everywhere." // He knew that we must end the discrimination -- whether on the basis of race, national origin, sex, religion, or disability -- that tears the fabric of our society. / Black and white, the great civil rights leaders of the 1950s and '60s realized that only opportunity could feed America's body so that America could throw wide her heart. // They knew, too, that government could only enhance -- not redistribute -- opportunity. Government is finite. Opportunity must be infinite. //

Today, ignoring history, some talk not of opportunity but of redistributing rights. They would pit one group against other - - fracturing America. Instead of equal rights for all Americans, they would ensure preferential treatment for some. / I respect these views. I also reject them. For what they demand -- often explicitly, more often implicitly -- is the use of quotas. Quotas which divide people who ought to -- and usually want to - - work together for racial harmony. //

Take the story of Marv Nevels, a Kansas City youngster ready for kindergarten. Across the street from his family was a superb "magnet school" with ample space -- ample, that is, except for blacks. // Mark was victimized by a rigid quota system mandating spaces for three blacks for every two whites enrolled. Lacking enough whites, 12 seats went empty -- even with a waiting list of 86 black children -- and Mark was bused past his neighborhood school. Why? Because he was black. //

Quotas divide, not unite. In that spirit, last year I vetoed a so-called civil rights measure that would have created powerful incentives for employers to adopt quotas in order to avoid litigation. This bill would have encouraged anyone to "sue-first, ask questions later." Instead of ignoring race -- upholding the American Character -- it focused almost entirely on race -- demeaning the American Character. // So do other things which make suspicion their bequest. / Things like dismissing college test scores as unfair and somehow racist. Or the practice known as "race-norming" -- which considers minorities so

inferior that their tests must be scored separately from whites.

Race-norming is, in fact, race-baiting. By patronizing and insulting minorities, it drives Americans apart instead of bringing them together. // We need another way to achieve justice and equality. A more unifying, moral, and noble way. // Let me suggest it -- and how our way can spur people to trust -- not hate -- each other. Using human nature as a lever -- not a club. //

I learned long ago that if you want something done, give someone a reason for doing it. Don't put them on the defensive. Don't brow-beat them. Appeal to their better selves. // As I see it, this is the concept behind Affirmative Action. / To some, Affirmative Action should be a slave to mindless numerical percentages. To me, it is a way to provide opportunity for individuals based on merit. / Some think Affirmative Action should involve a Rubik's Cube of entitlements. I believe it is a device to help nurture affirmative lives. // So our Administration has fostered educational choice -- parents sending their kids to the school of their choice, not the choice of the educational establishment. / And we have begun other programs that reinforce a good education. For example: Our Project HOPE Initiative -- tenant management and homeownership for the poor. / Enterprise zones. Tough anti-crime legislation -- because no American is free if imprisoned by fear of crime. And community opportunity areas -- shifting the power from the heavy hand of the state to the hands that run the home and raise the family. //

These policies will ensure equal opportunity. They do not -
- cannot -- impose equal success. // To preach such fantasy
invites self-destruction through disunity. Instead, today I urge
passage of legislation which will spur justice through unity.
Our Administration's 1991 Civil Rights Bill will, first, forbid
consideration of factors such as race and sex in employment
practices. / Second, it reflects fundamental principles of
fairness that apply throughout the legal system. / Third, it
will ensure that Congress lives by the same rules it prescribes
for others -- ending Congressional exemption from Title VII of
the Civil Rights Act of 1964. / Fourth, unlike opposing bills,
ours does not force employers to make a thankless choice between
using quotas and facing costly and risky litigation. Rather, it
will ensure equal opportunity and equal protection under the law.

I have spoken today of how to substitute the ladder of pride
for the crutch of dependency. Believing that the rights of none
are secure unless the rights of all are respected -- and that all
Americans are equal and should be treated equally. // This
belief reflects the heart and soul of America -- for it is
inclusive, not exclusive. It involves cooperation, not
litigation / the extended hand, not the iron fist / the
knowledge, above all, that our fate is not divisible. // Here at
West Point, you've shown the essence of the American Character -
- opportunity based on merit. Now, let us build a "We" -- not
"Me" -- Generation -- by carrying the ideals of this school to
the Nation and the world. //

Like Colin Powell and Norman Schwartzkopf and the Class of 1991, Douglas MacArthur embodied those ideals. I began with words of his. Let me close with how, speaking to us over the decades, he said: "The soldier above all prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." // Our magnificent military has helped secure the peace abroad. Now, let us heal the wounds and scars at home -- and help the extended hand spur harmony and brotherhood, not faction and suspicion.

Our goal is the true grandeur of America -- the dignity of the individual. // So let us honor it -- foster it -- as America's heirloom of the heart. // Thank you, and God bless this sacred land -- the United States of America.

#