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(Smith/Grossman)
April 13, 1992
Draft Two
FLORA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERIFLORA
COLUMBUS, OHIO
__, APRIL __, 1992

Mayor Lashutka and his lovely wife, __. Governor Voinovich and his wife, __. Dorothy and Bob Teater. / Thank you, John [Wolfe], for that introduction -- and for the privilege of attending AmeriFlora '92: America's Celebration of Discovery. //

Ours is a nation which discovery forged -- for Columbus believed the mariner must, in his words, probe "the secrets of the world." // So the son of a Genovese weaver took the first step in a trek that eventually produced the United States of America. In saluting his quincentennial, we salute how freedom's ship has sailed to every corner of the earth. /

((First, let me say that it's appropriate that Bob Hope is being honored at AmeriaFlora on the 500th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America. When Columbus and his crew stepped shore, Bob M.C.'d a benefit for them to raise money for future voyages.)) //

((Bob was telling me that one result of Columbus' voyage was trade that first introduced broccoli to the Europeans. They've been our friends all these years anyway.)) // They remain friends now -- adopting many of the beliefs that unite Americans. Freedom, and democracy. / The concept that ours is one world --

an interdependent world. / The idea that trade should be fair as well as free -- and let the best Nation win. //

You'll forgive me if I think that Nation is America. Best not only because of what we have -- but what we are. //

Americans celebrate discovery because we are never satisfied -- and because we know that bravery has no color. We do not value diversity only because America is strong. America is strong because we value diversity. //

Across from us here is a sculpture of sails of the Nina, Pina, and the Santa Maria. I also think of the 20-foot statue in downtown Columbus, and the full-size replica of the Santa Maria in the Sciota River. / ((Incidentally, it's a good thing America was discovered by America instead of some pirate. Otherwise, I might be speaking here in Blackbeard, Ohio.)) //

Here, in the largest city in the world bearing the explorer's name, you honor Columbus for the same reason as the mechanic in South Philadelphia / and the family farmer in Des Moines. You believe that the individual can make a difference / and that free enterprise can change America -- as America has changed the world. You know, too, that Columbus had a belief in the Bible, and that the values which sustained his voyage -- family, work, self-reliance, faith -- must sustain America as they always have -- as, pray God, they always will. //

I thought of that yesterday. Easter morning. We were at St. Anne's in Kennebunport -- the very church my folks were married. / Much has changed since Columbus found America. Our

world is smaller -- our fates at home linked to those abroad. /
But what hasn't changed is our quest for renewal -- material and,
above all, spiritual. More than ever, we need the One through
whom all things are possible. //

Yesterday, as I looked around our church, I gave thanks for
all that truly blesses America. And now, it's my privilege to
introduce the woman who has truly blessed my life. /

((I was thinking earlier: Columbus and his crew endured a
long, hard voyage and were rewarded with the discovery of a new
land -- and if you could endure listening to me speak for a few
minutes, you'd be rewarded with some remarks from Barbara.)) //

For two years she's been the grand patron of AmericaFlora.
She's been around the world, continuing Columbus' grand
tradition. / ((You know, he arrived in America and his luggage
wound up in China.)) /

For 44 years, this woman has wound up with me. Today, he's
here with you. Ladies and gentleman, a great First Lady of the
greatest Nation on earth. Barbara Bush.

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(Smith/Grossman)
April 13, 1992
Draft Two
FLORA

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: AMERIFLORA
COLUMBUS, OHIO
Monday, APRIL *20*, 1992

in SHUT

Catherine Adams

AM

Mayor Lashutka and his lovely wife, Janet. Governor Voinovich
and his wife, Ann. Dorothy and Bob Teater. / Thank you, John F.
[Wolfe], ~~for that introduction~~ -- and for the privilege of
attending AmeriFlora '92: America's Celebration of Discovery. //

Discovery, of course, forged America -- for Christopher
Columbus believed the mariner must, in his words, probe "the
secrets of the world." // So the son of a Genovese weaver took
the first step in a trek that eventually produced the United
States of America. In saluting his quincentennial, we salute how
freedom's ship has sailed to every corner of the earth. /

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being honored at AmeriaFlora on the 500th anniversary of
Columbus' discovery of America. When Columbus and his crew
stepped shore, Bob M.C.'d a benefit for them to raise money for
future voyages.)) //

((Bob was telling me that one result of Columbus' voyage was
trade that first introduced broccoli to the Europeans. They've
been our friends all these years anyway.)) // They remain
friends now -- adopting many of the beliefs that unite Americans.
Freedom, and democracy. / The concept that ours is one world --

*Bob Hope will
intro POTUS*

*Bob Hope
believes
is separate
from
Ameriflora*

*SEPARATE
FROM
AMERIFLORA*

*cut this -> you set enough good humor in the house
you can probably keep this*

FREE TRADE

an interdependent world. / The idea that trade should be fair as well as free -- and let the best Nation win. //

You'll forgive me if I think that Nation is America. Best not only because of what we have -- but what we are. //

Americans celebrate discovery because we are never satisfied -- and because we know that ~~bravery has no color~~. We do not value diversity only because America is strong. America is strong because we value diversity. // *(It's not just about race)*

~~Across from us here is a sculpture of sails of the Nina, Pina, and the Santa Maria. I also think of the 20-foot statue in downtown Columbus, and the full-size replica of the Santa Maria in the Sciota River. / ((Incidentally, it's a good thing America was discovered by America instead of some pirate. Otherwise, I might be speaking here in Blackbeard, Ohio.)) //~~

Here, in the largest city in the world bearing the explorer's name, ~~you~~ ^{WE} honor Columbus for ~~the same reason as the mechanic in South Philadelphia / and the family farmer in Des Moines.~~ You believe that the individual can make a difference / and that [free enterprise] can change America -- as America has changed the world. You know, too, that Columbus had a belief in the Bible, and that the values which sustained his voyage -- family, work, self-reliance, faith -- must sustain America as they always have -- as, pray God, they always will. //

I thought of that yesterday. Easter morning. ~~We~~ ^{Barbara + I} were at St. Anne's in Kennebunport -- the very church ^{in which} my folks were married. / Much has changed since Columbus ~~found~~ ^{came to our shores} America. Our

you need some segue about the controversy into it w/out intro is confusing

Dumb.

What the mechanic honors Columbus?? shades of Pete Wilson

Columbus not a family man.

WE kind of lost the changed world theme somewhat?
DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO W/ COLUMBUS DAY. PLUS, IT'S NOT LIKE WE NEED TO INTRODUCE FREE ENTERPRISE TO AMERICA. WHAT'S THE POINT?
Barbara + I attended services

are ever romancing the next horizon. There is a place for remembering yesterday's wrongs -- but that must not blind us to the good we may do tomorrow.

world is smaller, -- our fates at home linked to those abroad. /
 But what hasn't changed is our ~~quest for renewal -- material and,~~ ^{values. And these values must be our guide}
~~above all, spiritual.~~ ^{Now,} More than ever, we need the One through ^{as we renew our faith, ourselves,}
 whom all things are possible. //

^{Easter Sunday} Yesterday, as I looked around our church, I gave thanks for ^{an hour} America.
 all that truly blesses America. And now, it's my privilege to
 introduce the woman who has truly blessed my life. / ^{! yes}

((I was thinking earlier: Columbus and his crew endured a
 long, hard voyage and were rewarded with the discovery of a new
 land -- and if you could endure listening to me speak for a few
 minutes, you'd be rewarded with some remarks from Barbara.)) //

For two years she's been the grand patron of AmeriaFlora.

She's been around the world, continuing Columbus' grand
 tradition. / ((You know, he arrived in America and his luggage
 wound up in China.)) /

For 44 years, this woman has (wound up) with me. Today, he's
 here with you. Ladies and gentleman, a great First Lady of the
 greatest Nation on earth. Barbara Bush.

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*→ sounds like you mean "ended up."
 try "been my wife & my friend."*

*"stood by my side"
 (implicit Hillary slam).*

wife |

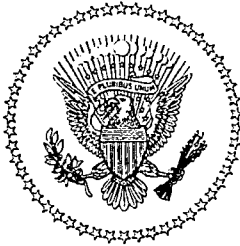
First Lady and her work for AmeriFlora. And Curtliness -- if you're not in a good mood, just think of the wonderful contrast you'll be implying with you know two...

Acknowledgements: Greg Lashutka (new Republican mayor of Columbus) and wife; Governor George Voinovich and wife; Dorothy Teater (president of the City Commission) and husband Bob; John Wolfe (president of the Board of Trustees of AmeriFlora and Columbus bigwheel -- publisher of local paper, etc.).

NOTE: I'll get you some Columbus color/quotes.

Weekly Compilation of

Presidential Documents



Monday, October 14, 1991
Volume 27—Number 41
Pages 1413-1436

Re: Quercetennial

111 RESEARCH

Pres Documents 4

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:22 a.m., October 10, 1991]

Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on October 11.

Remarks on Signing the Columbus Day Proclamation

October 10, 1991

Let me salute our chairman, Frank Donatelli, and salute the members of the commission, Gay Kingham and other members of the native American community with us; Christobal Colon, a descendant by direct line of Christopher Columbus. Of course, all the Members of Congress we're delighted to see here. Ambassadors Zappala and Einaudi and other members of the diplomatic community, so many. And we're very pleased to see all of you here. Let me just welcome you to the White House complex. That's what this is called for various reasons. [Laughter]

It's an honor to celebrate Columbus Day. You know, we're, in addition, saluting the start of a year of activities saluting the 500th anniversary of the first landing in the New World.

Today I will sign a special proclamation. I might add a P.S., and that P.S. will mandate that all Americans learn to pronounce a new word, "quincentenary." [Laughter] I'm trying to get it down myself.

It is not easy this week to resist the temptation to stretch the truth and try to establish some special link to the Italian community or to Spain, whose ships and sailors carried Columbus to the New World. I will resist it. I was telling that to my aides last week as we headed to our newly named auto fleet, the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria. [Laughter]

Emerson once said, "Every ship that comes to America got its chart from Columbus." For half a millennium, what Columbus discovered has helped chart the course of exploration and opportunity, sailing freedom's ship to every corner of the Earth.

Today, we salute a hemisphere moving toward democracy and free enterprise, aided by initiatives like the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. It is my hope that this quincentenary will commemorate the common heritage of America and its neighbors. In addition, we salute not only Columbus' spirit of adventure but also the story of this Nation, unafraid, ever-changing, challenging the unknown, devoted to the blessings of liberty and the principles that unite all Americans.

Columbus Day celebrates the idea that we do not value diversity merely because America is strong. America is strong because we value diversity. In that spirit, it is now my privilege to sign a proclamation designating October 14, 1991, as Columbus Day. Thank you all very, very much for being in attendance.

Note: The President spoke at 10:30 a.m. in the Indian Treaty Room at the Old Executive Office Building. In his remarks, the President referred to Frank J. Donatelli, chairman of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission; Gay Kingham, executive director of the American Indian Congress; U.S. Ambassador to Spain Joseph Zappala; and Ambassador Luigi R. Einaudi, U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States.

Proclamation 6354—Columbus Day, 1991

October 10, 1991

As we approach the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first landing in the New World, renewed attention is being focused on this celebrated Admiral of the Ocean Seas in both Europe and the Americas. During our annual observance of Columbus Day, we celebrate all that this master mariner has symbolized to our

NEW WORLD

my line!

Nation. For generations, Christopher Columbus has embodied the spirit of exploration and discovery—and the beginning of America itself.

When Columbus began his first bold transatlantic voyage in 1492, he was pursuing both a theory and an opportunity. The journey promised as much risk as reward, and it required substantial courage, initiative, and resolve on the part of Columbus and his crew. These qualities have been shared by virtually every great pioneer. Thus the story of Christopher Columbus reminds us that all fruitful exploration and discovery begins with a willingness to set one's sails higher, to seek new horizons, and to follow wherever one's imagination and experience might lead. It also reminds us that industry and labor are the foundation of learning and progress.

On this occasion, however, we celebrate not only the spirit of learning but also the story of our Nation. The meeting of cultures that was made possible by Christopher Columbus marked the beginning of a new chapter in history. The subsequent exchange of knowledge, resources, and ideas between the Old World and the New led to the development of two entire continents and to the birth of a Nation committed to liberty and opportunity.

Columbus Day has long been a special occasion to Italian Americans and to Americans of Spanish descent. Yet as we remember the brave son of Genoa who, with help from the Spanish monarchs Ferdinand V and Isabella I, linked two hemispheres, we know that this day holds meaning for us all. It is a time to recall the many pioneers who, like Columbus, have challenged the unknown and carried humankind further along the path of progress. It is a time to celebrate the rich heritage of America's native peoples, as well as our strengths as a Nation of immigrants. On this day, we also celebrate the close ties we share with our neighbors in Central and South America and the Caribbean, as fellow heirs of Columbus' voyages. Our Administration is working hard to develop these ties even closer through the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. Most important, perhaps, Columbus Day is a time for us to do some exploring of our own—to study and learn from the past so that we might appreciate

more fully the blessings of freedom and the principles that unite all Americans today.

In tribute to the legacy of Christopher Columbus, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 1991, as Columbus Day. I call on the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:33 p.m., October 10, 1991]

Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on October 15.

Remarks Following Discussions With President Rafael Calderón of Costa Rica

October 10, 1991

President Bush. It's a great honor and pleasure to meet with you today at the White House. And I warmly remember my visits to Costa Rica as Vice President in 1986 and then as President in 1989. I will never ever forget the cheers, the genuine enthusiasm that the Costa Rican people showed for the United States of America when our flag was displayed there in that stadium. I'll never forget it. I know Barbara was touched by the warm hospitality extended by you and Mrs. Calderón and the Costa Rican people at your inauguration last May. There can be no doubt, Mr. President,

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★★★★★★

★★★★★★

PRESIDENTIAL ANECDOTES

Paul F. Boller, Jr.
"

New York Oxford
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
1981

Abraham Lincoln

1861-65

Abraham Lincoln (1809-65) was the first humorist to occupy the White House. "He could make a cat laugh!" exclaimed Bill Green.¹ "It was as a humorist that he towered above all other men it was ever my lot to meet," said another friend from Lincoln's youth.² H. C. Whitney, a lawyer who rode the circuit with Lincoln in Illinois, was struck by Lincoln's keen sense of the absurd: "He saw the ludicrous in an assemblage of fowls, in a man spading his garden, in a clothes-line full of clothes, in a group of boys, in a lot of pigs rooting at a mill door, in a mother duck teaching her brood to swim—in everything and anything."³ During the Civil War, London's *Saturday Review* told its readers: "One advantage the Americans have is the possession of a President who is not only the First Magistrate, but the Chief Joker of the Land."⁴ By the middle of 1863, several joke books—with titles like *Old Abe's Jokes*, *Abe's Jokes—Fresh from Abraham's Bosom*, and *Old Abe's Jokes, or, Wit at the White House*—were circulating in the North and spreading Lincoln stories, many of them spurious, far and wide; and there have been collections of Lincoln anecdotes in print ever since.⁵

Humor was unquestionably a psychological necessity for Lincoln, though—being a serious, not a solemn, man—he would not have put it quite that way. He once called laughter "the joyous, beautiful, universal evergreen-of-life," and he enjoyed droll stories the way some people enjoy detective novels.⁶ But both as a lawyer and as

Abraham Lincoln

1861-65

(1809-65) was the first humorist to occupy the position that "could make a cat laugh!" exclaimed Bill Green.¹ "I am the only man that he towered above all other men it was said," said another friend from Lincoln's youth.² "He was a lawyer who rode the circuit with Lincoln in Illinois, and his keen sense of the absurd: "He saw the ludicrousness of fowls, in a man spading his garden, in a group of boys, in a lot of pigs rooting about, in a mother duck teaching her brood to swim—in a group of boys." During the Civil War, London's *Saturday Review* said: "One advantage the Americans have is the abundance of humor. The President who is not only the First Magistrate, but the first humorist in the Land."⁴ By the middle of 1863, several joke books were published, such as *Old Abe's Jokes*, *Abe's Jokes—Fresh from the Mouth of Old Abe's Jokes*, or, *Wit at the White House*—and many more. The North and spreading Lincoln stories, many of them humorous and wide; and there have been collections of jokes in print ever since.⁵

Humor was a psychological necessity for Lincoln, not a solemn, man—he would not have been a humorist. He once called laughter "the joyous, beautiful, and life-giving," and he enjoyed droll stories the way one enjoys detective novels.⁶ But both as a lawyer and as

a politician he also found amusing stories enormously helpful in putting across important points he wanted to make. And as President he used his gifts as a storyteller to put people at ease, to win them over to his point of view, or simply to get them off the point and out of his office without having to deny their requests in so many words. Humor, he once said, was "an emollient" that "saves me much friction and distress." A group of people who had gone to the White House seeking government jobs reported resignedly afterward that "the President treated us to four anecdotes." Humor was also important for Lincoln during the Civil War as a means of relaxing, getting away from his troubles for a moment, and refreshing his spirit. "I laugh," he told a friend in the darkest days of the war, "because I must not cry; that is all—that is all." Once, when a Congressman came to complain about something, Lincoln said, "Well, that reminds me of a story." Outraged, the Congressman growled that he hadn't come to the White House to hear jokes. "Now, you sit down!" exclaimed Lincoln; and he went on to explain how vital it was for him to relieve his cares from time to time with funny stories. On another occasion Ohio's Senator Benjamin Wade called to demand that General Grant, who was not doing very well before Vicksburg at the time, be fired at once. "Senator," said Lincoln, "that reminds me of a story—" "Yes, yes," said Wade impatiently, "That is the way it is with you, Sir, all *story, story!* You are the father of every military blunder that has been made during the war. You are on the road to hell, Sir, with this government, by your obstinacy, and you are not a mile off this minute!" "Senator," said Lincoln gently, "that is just about the distance from here to the Capitol, is it not?"⁷

Lincoln's taste in jokes ran all the way from the lowly pun to the satirical anecdote. Like all lovers of the English language, he took keen pleasure in plays upon words. Once he was looking out the window of his law office in Springfield, Illinois, and saw a stately matron, wearing a many-plumed hat, picking her way gingerly across the muddy street. Suddenly she slipped and fell. "Reminds me of a duck," said Lincoln. "Why is that?" asked a friend. "Feathers on her head and down on her behind," said Lincoln.⁸ His pun about Admiral Andrew H. Foote was equally corny. When Admiral Foote was put in charge of the South Atlantic squadron, Lincoln told Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles to be sure the Admiral's ship was seaworthy. "How is it you are so particular?" asked Welles. "Why,"