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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *by*

DEPARTURE STATEMENT FROM

MADRID

SUNDAY - JUNE 1, 1975

- 1 -

AS WE DEPART SPAIN, MRS. FORD AND I WISH TO EXPRESS
OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO GENERAL AND MRS. FRANCO, TO PRINCE JUAN
CARLOS AND PRINCESS SOFIA, TO PRESIDENT AND MRS. ARIAS, AND
TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND TO THE SPANISH PEOPLE FOR THE
WONDERFUL RECEPTION ACCORDED TO US.

THE WARMTH WITH WHICH WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, THE CORDIAL, FRANK
AND PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS I HAVE HAD WITH YOUR HIGHEST OFFICIALS,
THE FRIENDSHIP WHICH WE HAVE FOUND FOR THE UNITED STATES, HAVE
MADE OUR VISIT TO MADRID AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE WHICH MRS.
FORD AND I WILL LONG REMEMBER.

MANY TODAY QUESTION THE COURSE OF THE FUTURE. BUT
I HAVE NO DOUBT OF THE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE SPAIN WILL PLAY
IN THAT FUTURE, IN THE WORLD AS A WHOLE, AND, PARTICULARLY, IN THE
WEST. SPAIN IS A PART, GEORGRAPHICALLY AND HISTORICALLY,
OF EUROPE. SPAIN IS A PART OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

ACCORDINGLY, I AM SURE THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR SPAIN A GREATER ROLE
IN EUROPEAN AND ATLANTIC ORGANIZATIONS OF IMPORTANCE TO BOTH
OF OUR COUNTRIES.

YOU HAVE OUR SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR THE
WONDERFUL WELCOME EXTENDED TO US AT ALL LEVELS AND DURING EVERY
MOMENT OF OUR STAY. AS A RESULT OF MY MEETINGS HERE, I AM
CONFIDENT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN, WORKING TOGETHER, WILL
PRODUCE A BETTER LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLES --- AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE
PROSPECTS OF A BETTER LIFE FOR PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.
END OF TEXT