The original documents are located in Box 11, "7/4/75 - Remarks at Fort McHenry" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THANK YOU, JUDGE NORTHROP

GOVERNOR MANDEL

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

SENATOR BEALL

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS CONGRESSMAN LONG CONGRESSMAN GUDE CONGRESSWOMAN HOLT CONGRESSMAN BAUMAN CONGRESSWOMAN SPELLMAN CONGRESSMAN SARBANES

MAYOR SCHAEFER

OUR COUNTRY'S NEWEST CITIZENS

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

REMARKS AT FORT MCHENRY

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1975

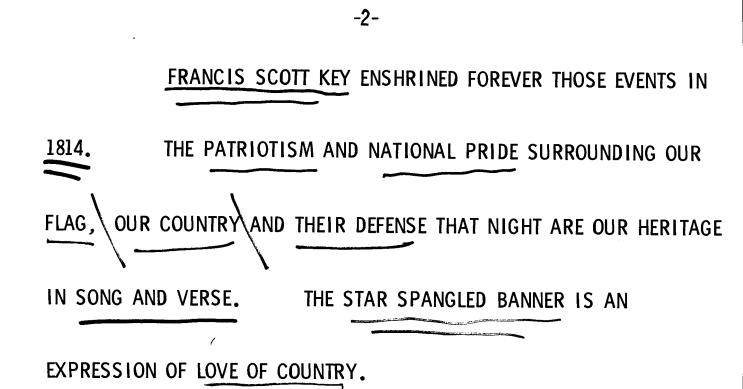
Digitized from Box 11 of President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library

WE MEET HERE AT TWILIGHT'S LAST GLEAMING.

THE CASEMATE WALLS AND SILENT CANNON OF

FORT MCHENRY BEAR QUIET TESTIMONY TO A NATION'S TRAVAIL

ON ANOTHER NIGHT IN ANOTHER AGE.



WE MUST NOT BECOME SO SOPHISTICATED, SO BLASE,

THAT WE IGNORE THESE SIMPLE BUT ELOQUENT MOMENTS OF OUR HISTORY. WE NEED TO REMIND OURSELVES THAT AMERICA REALLY IS "THE LAND

OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE."

- 4 -

WE ARE HONORED BY THOSE WHO EARLIER THIS EVENING

BECAME UNITED STATES' CITIZENS AT CEREMONIES HERE. THEY

HAVE CHOSEN WHAT WE OFTEN TAKE FOR GRANTED.

THE HALLMARK OF OUR FIRST CENTURY WAS

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FREE GOVERNMENT. IN THE FACE OF GREAT ODDS, <u>13 DISPARATE COLONIES</u> BECAME A FLEDGLING NATION. ITS FUTURE WAS INSECURE.

-6-

YET, THROUGH THAT TERRIBLE ORDEAL, IT WAS RESOLVED THAT THIS NATION WOULD NOT ENDURE HALF SLAVE AND HALF FREE THE UNION WAS PRESERVED.

-8-

BY OUR CENTENNIAL IN 1876, THE AMERICAN

REPUBLIC HAD BEEN SECURELY ESTABLISHED. OF THIS,

THERE WAS NO DOUBT, EITHER AT HOME OR ABROAD.

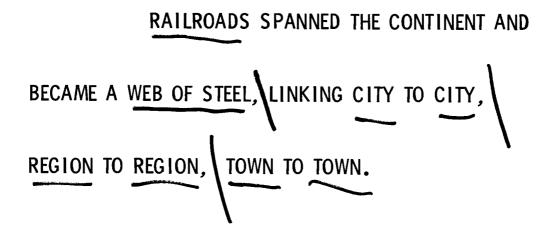
OUR SECOND CENTURY HAS BEEN MARKED BY

THE GROWTH OF A FREE AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM,

THE PIONEER SPIRIT WHICH CARRIED US WEST TURNED

TO NEW FRONTIERS.





THE AUTOMOBILE AND ITS ASSEMBLY

LINE CHANGED FOREVER TRANSPORTATION AND THE

MANUFACTURING PROCESS.

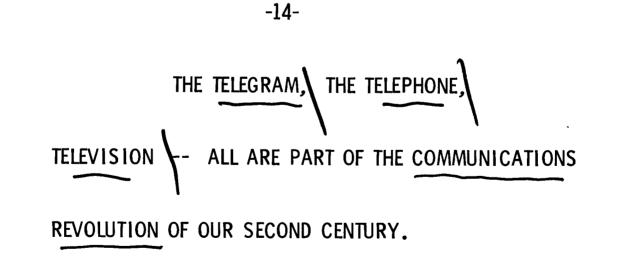
-12-

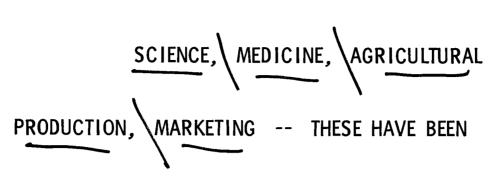
THE WRIGHTS MASTERED POWERED FLIGHT

AT KITTY HAWK. THE AGE OF FLIGHT WAS BORN.

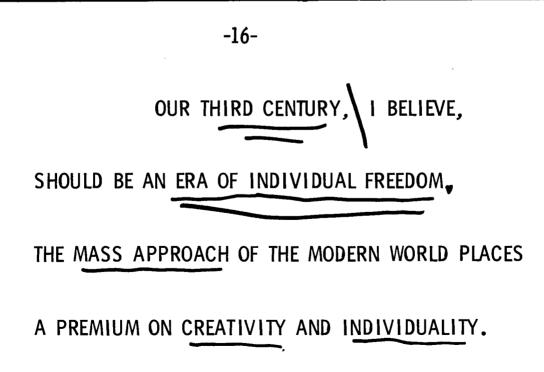
FROM THE FIRST ATLANTIC CROSSING BY THE "LONE EAGLE,"

CHARLES LINDBERGH, TO THE AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS WHO ANNOUNCED THAT ''THE EAGLE HAS LANDED'' WHEN THEY TOUCHED DOWN ON THE MOON, AMERICA'S LEADERSHIP WAS ESTABLISHED.





JUST A FEW OF THE MODERN FRONTIERS SINCE 1876.



-17-<u>MASS PRODUCTION, MASS EDUCATION, MASS</u> POPULATION, MUST NOT SMOTHER INDIVIDUAL EXPRESSION, OR LIMIT INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITY INDIVIDUALISM IS A SAFEGUARD AGAINST THE SAMENESS OF SOCIETY.

-18-

A GOVERNMENT TOO LARGE AND BUREAUCRATIC

CAN STIFLE INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE BY A FRUSTRATING STATISM,

IN AMERICA, OUR SOVEREIGN IS THE CITIZEN.

GOVERNMENTS EXIST TO SERVE PEOPLE. THE STATE IS THE

CREATURE OF THE POPULACE. THESE PROPOSITIONS ARE THE

FOUNDATION-STONES OF OUR BICENTENNIAL.

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TODAY, IN THE 199TH YEAR OF OUR INDEPENDENCE, WE STAND

AT THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.

LET US MAKE THE COMING YEAR A GREAT YEAR ON AMERICA'S

AGENDA OF ACHIEVEMENT.

AS WE MOVE TO THE BICENTENNIAL OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE. LET US THINK OF WHERE WE WILL BE AND WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE BY THE NEXT JULY 4TH -- BY THE NEXT DECADE BY THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CONSTITUTION -1 AND BY THE YEAR 2000.

-22-

LET US RESOLVE THAT THIS SHALL BE AN ERA OF HOPE

RATHER THAN DESPAIR. LET US RESOLVE THAT IT SHALL BE AN ERA

OF ACHIEVEMENT RATHER THAN APATHY. LET US RESOLVE THAT

IT SHALL BE A TIME OF PROMISE RATHER THAN OF REGRET.

THE BICENTENNIAL SHOULD BE A TIME -- FOR EACH

OF US -- OF SELF-EXAMINATION AND INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

QUALITY AND PERMANENCE SHOULD BE THE MEASUREMENTS OF OUR LIVES.

-24-

LET US PURSUE TRUTHS AND VALUES THAT WILL ENHANCE THE

QUALITY OF LIFE.

TO FORM A MORE PERFECT UNION, WE NEED TO LEARN

MORE OF OUR COUNTRY AND OUR PEOPLE.

AMERICANS MUST APPRECIATE THE DIVERSITY OF OUR LAND AND

OUR CITIZENS. BOUNDARIES OF REGIONALISM AND

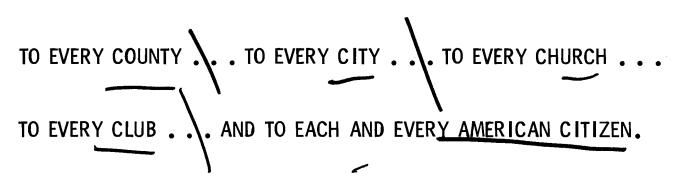
URBANIZATION MUST DISSOLVE BEFORE OUR WILL TO BE ONE NATION

AND ONE PEOPLE.

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IN THE COMING YEAR, THE BICENTENNIAL MUST

BECOME A TRUE, NATIONAL EXPERIENCE. THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND ITS LEGACY BELONG TO EACH OF THE STATES AND OUR FAR FLUNG TERRITORIES:





AT EVERY SCHOOL WHERE THE AMERICAN FLAG FLIES, IT IS MY HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE IN THE COMING YEAR A CONCENTRATED EFFORT IN THE CLASSROOM TO STUDY, DISCUSS AND PORTRAY THESE PAST 200 YEARS OF OUR HISTORY. I WOULD URGE THAT EVERY COMMUNITY SEEK

TO MAKE ITS PROGRAM AS MEANINGFUL AS POSSIBLE TO AS MANY AS POSSIBLE. IT SHOULD STRESS THE HISTORY, CULTURE, ACHIEVEMENTS AND VALUES WE ASSOCIATE WITH OUR

WAY OF LIFE.

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THE IDEAS THAT WERE FORGED AND FOUGHT FOR

IN THE 13 COLONIES CROSSED THE APPALACHIANS. THEY

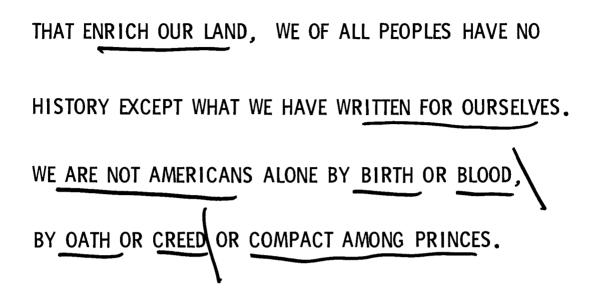
FOLLOWED THE CONESTOCA WAGONS AND RODE WITH THE

PONY EXPRESS. THEY CROSSED THE MISSISSIPPI AND THE MISSOURI, SPANNED THE PLAINS AND THE DESERTS. THEY BELONG AS MUCH TO THE WEST AS THEY DO TO THE EAST. WHEREVER THE AMERICAN FLAG HAS GONE, SO WENT THE CONCEPTS OF THIS GREAT REPUBLIC. AMERICAN CLIPPER SHIPS TOOK THE STORY TO THE FAR CORNERS OF THE EARTH.

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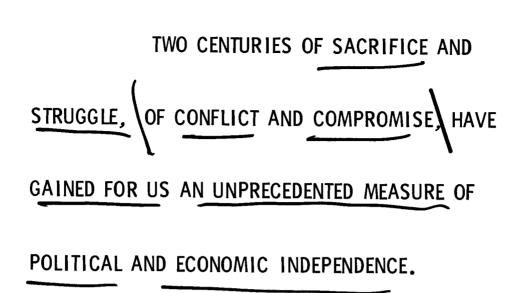
AMERICAN JET-LINERS CARRY IT EVERYDAY ACROSS THE SKIES TO DISTANT LANDS. INDEED, THIS EVENT DOES NOT BELONG JUST TO AMERICANS THIS IS A CELEBRATION OF LIBERTY, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY -- WHEREVER THEY EXIST.

WHILE WE CHERISH THE MANY HERITAGES





WE ARE AMERICANS BECAUSE WE DELIBERATELY CHOSE TO BE ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE, AND FOR 199 YEARS WITH GOD'S HELP WE HAVE GONE FORWARD TOGETHER.



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WE HAVE ON THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY OF 1975 A

FREE GOVERNMENT THAT CHECKS AND BALANCES ITS OWN

EXCESSES, AND A FREE ECONOMIC SYSTEM THAT CORRECTS ITS OWN ERRORS, GIVEN THE COURAGE AND CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION OF A FREE AND ENLIGHTENED CITIZENRY. THIS IS THE AMAZING HISTORY AMERICANS HAVE WRITTEN FOR THEMSELVES AS WE BEGIN OUR <u>BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION</u>. THE YOUNG REPUBLIC OF YESTERYEAR IS TODAY A STRONG AND GREAT NATION. IT STILL LIVES THE VALUES OF ITS DECLARATION, ITS CONSTITUTION, MAKE

-38-

ITS BILL OF RIGHTS. IT INFLUENCES THE DESTINY OF MILLIONS BEYOND OUR SHORES. IT STILL REMAINS -- IN LINCOLN'S WORDS -- THE LAST, BEST HOPE OF EARTH. LET US THIS FOURTH OF JULY CONTINUE

TO BE A NATION OF HOPE. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BELIEVE IN TOMORROW -- THAT BY DAWN'S EARLY

LIGHT OUR FLAG WILL STILL BE THERE.

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LET US BE ONE NATION AND ONE PEOPLE -- INDIVISIBLE -- FOR OUR FLAG IS ONE AND OUR DESTINY IS ONE. LET US BE A PEOPLE OF VALUES + OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND JUSTICE -- NO MATTER WHAT THE COST. THAT HAS BEEN OUR HISTORY. WE HAVE

NEVER COUNTED THE COST OF FREEDOM.

LET US, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS,

BE TRUE TO OURSELVES FOR THEN WE CAN BE

FALSE TO NO NATION OR NO PEOPLE.

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AND LET US LIVE NOT ONLY FOR OUR OWN PROGRESS

BUT ALSO IN HARMONY AND HOPE FOR ALL OTHER MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN -- EVERYWHERE. IN SO DOING, THE UNITED STATES AND ITS

PEOPLE SERVE AND HONOR THE PROMISE OF FRANCIS SCOTT

-43-

KEY'S WORDS:

"... LAND OF THE FREE, AND HOME OF THE

BRAVE."

END OF TEXT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

the state beau such the ball of the

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO:	THE PRESIDENT
VIA:	ROBERT HARTMANN PTA
FROM:	PAUL A. THEIS
SUBJECT:	President's remarks at Ft. McHenry's
• •	Our Country Program

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE:

Friday, July 4, 1975, Baltimore, Maryland, 9 p.m.

SPEECHWRITER: _____ Jack Marsh

. ...

EDITED BY: _____ Paul Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

Research, Park Service

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

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(X)	PRESS (Nessen)
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