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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .

INTERNATIONAL BICENTENNIAL MESSAGE FOR

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 1976

I AM HONORED TO WELCOME THE CITIZENS OF THE WORLD
TO AMERICA'S BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. ON JULY 4TH WE CELEBRATE
THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF OUR DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE.

AS A NATION OF MANY NATIONS, THE UNITED STATES
CHERISHES ITS RICH HERITAGE OF RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL, RACIAL
AND NATIONAL DIVERSITY.

IT IS THAT DIVERSITY WHICH MADE AMERICA UNIQUE AND
WHICH HAS HELPED MAKE THE AMERICAN ADVENTURE SO SUCCESSFUL IN
THE PAST 200 YEARS.

THE HALLMARK OF THAT ADVENTURE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN
EAGERNESS TO EXPLORE THE UNKNOWN -- WHETHER IT LAY ACROSS AN
OCEAN OR A CONTINENT, ACROSS THE VASTNESS OF SPACE OR THE
FRONTIERS OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE.

BUT EVEN WHILE REACHING FOR THE UNKNOWN, AMERICANS
HAVE ALSO KEPT THEIR FAITH IN THE WISDOM AND EXPERIENCE OF THE
PAST. COLONISTS AND IMMIGRANTS BROUGHT WITH THEM CHERISHED
VALUES AND IDEALS -- IN RELIGION AND CULTURE, IN LAW AND
LEARNING -- WHICH, MIXED WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN WAYS,
GAVE US OUR RICH AMERICAN HERITAGE.

THE UNIQUE AMERICAN UNION OF THE KNOWN AND THE
UNKNOWN, THE TRIED AND THE UNTRIED, HAS BEEN THE FOUNDATION FOR
OUR LIBERTY AND THE SECRET OF OUR GREAT SUCCESS.

THIS HERITAGE AND THIS SUCCESS ARE TWO OF THE GREAT
THEMES OF TODAY'S CELEBRATION. BUT THE EYES OF AMERICA HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN FIXED ON THE FUTURE, AND SO THEY ARE ON THIS
MEMORABLE DAY.

AMERICA'S THIRD CENTURY WILL FIND US MORE AND MORE
CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH THE WORLD ABOUT US. ANCIENT BARRIERS
OF GEOGRAPHY AND COMMUNICATION HAVE BEEN SURMOUNTED BY
MODERN TECHNOLOGY.

WE CAN SEE MORE CLEARLY EVERY DAY THAT THIS IS TRULY
ONE WORLD, THAT THE FAMILY OF MAN DRAWS CLOSER TOGETHER EVEN
AS OUR NUMBERS MULTIPLY, THAT THE FATE OF ONE NATION WILL HELP
SHAPE THE FATE OF ALL.

AS WE SALUTE THE PAST TODAY, LET US WELCOME THE
FUTURE ALSO. FOR MY FELLOW CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA, I PLEDGE TO THE WORLD AND TO THE FUTURE A CONTINUED
SEARCH FOR PEACE, FOR LIBERTY AND JUSTICE, AND A BETTER LIFE
FOR ALL.

THIS IS THE PROMISE OF AMERICA -- A PROMISE WE
SHALL ALWAYS STRIVE TO FULFILL.

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