

**The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “11/22/74 - Toast After Dinner at Banquet Hotel, Seoul, South Korea” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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## AFTER DINNER REMARKS

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MR. PRESIDENT, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND

GENTLEMEN:

I AM GREATLY HONORED BY THIS OCCASION AND APPRECIATE  
YOUR GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY THIS EVENING.

THE WARMTH SHOWN BY THE KOREAN PEOPLE EXCEEDS EVEN  
THAT WHICH I REMEMBER FROM MY PREVIOUS VISIT TO YOUR HOSPITABLE  
LAND. I AM DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY THE DYNAMISM OF KOREAN SOCIETY,  
THE ENERGY AND VITALITY OF KOREAN MEN, AND THE CHARM AND BEAUTY  
OF KOREAN WOMEN.

I WISH THAT I HAD MORE TIME TO SEE NOT ONLY THE  
IMPRESSIVE LANDMARKS OF THE KOREAN MIRACLE OF MATERIAL PROGRESS  
BUT ALSO THE FAMOUS HISTORICAL SHRINES OF YOUR COUNTRY.  
ON ANOTHER DAY, WHEN MY WIFE MAY ACCOMPANY ME, I WOULD  
LIKE TO RETURN.

IT WAS A PLEASURE TO MEET THE LEADERS OF MANY SECTORS OF KOREAN SOCIETY PRESENT TONIGHT. IN PARTICULAR, I AM PLEASED TO SEE THE SPEAKER AND OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES. HAVING SPENT A QUARTER OF A CENTURY IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, I PLACE A GREAT VALUE IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESSES OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

I CAME TO YOUR COUNTRY TO DEMONSTRATE AMERICA'S CONTINUED DETERMINATION TO PRESERVE PEACE IN KOREA, IN ASIA, AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

KOREANS AND AMERICANS WERE FRIENDS IN WAR. WE WILL REMAIN FRIENDS IN PEACE. AMERICA SEEKS WORLD PEACE FOR THE GOOD OF ALL AND AT THE EXPENSE OF NONE.

TODAY I ENJOYED A REWARDING AND INSPIRING VISIT  
WITH YOUR PEOPLE. I ALSO DREW NEW ENCOURAGEMENT BY MEETING  
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMED FORCES IN WHICH WE TAKE SUCH PRIDE.

I PLEDGE TONIGHT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE  
TO ASSIST AND SUPPORT YOU. OUR RELATIONSHIP --- AND OUR  
DIALOGUE --- WILL CONTINUE.

WE LIVE IN A TIME OF NEW INTERNATIONAL REALITIES AND  
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE AND PROGRESS IN ASIA AND ELSEWHERE.

PRESIDENT PARK, YOUR STATESMANLIKE INITIATIVE IN  
OPENING A DIALOGUE WITH THE NORTH CONTRIBUTED CONSTRUCTIVELY TO  
EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOLUTION TO THE KOREAN PROBLEM.  
WITH THE PERSEVERANCE AND COURAGE SO TYPICAL OF THE KOREAN  
PEOPLE, I TRUST YOU WILL PREVAIL IN THIS EFFORT.

LET US RECOGNIZE THE NEW WORLD IN WHICH WE ALL LIVE.  
LET US ENVISION THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF ALL NATIONS -- LARGE AND  
SMALL. WHEN WE PLAN FOR SUCH NEW INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AS  
ENERGY SHORTAGES AND FINANCIAL CRISES, THE UNITED STATES CONSIDERS  
THE INTERESTS OF ALL NATIONS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH  
YOU ON COMMON INTERESTS AND PROBLEMS.

AMERICA HAS CONFIDENCE IN THE PEOPLE OF KOREA,

JUST AS WE HAVE FAITH IN OURSELVES.

I AM HERE ON A MISSION OF PEACE. IT IS MY DEEPEST

HOPE THAT THE ENTIRE WORLD WILL LIFT ITS GAZE AND BROADEN ITS

VISION. I WOULD RATHER WALK A THOUSAND MILES FOR PEACE THAN

TAKE A SINGLE STEP TOWARD WAR.

END OF REMARKS