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TALKING POINTS

CEREMONY FOR GENERAL ANDREW J. GOODPASTER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1974

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GENERAL GOODPASTER HAS MORE THAN THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE. HE RETURNS TO THE UNITED STATES AFTER MORE THAN FIVE YEARS AS SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER IN EUROPE. HE IS AN "OLD WHITE HOUSE HAND," SERVING HERE UNDER PRESIDENTS EISENHOWER AND KENNEDY. HIS CAREER DEMONSTRATES EXCELLENCE IN MANY DIFFERENT FIELDS:

-- DEGREES IN BOTH ENGINEERING AND INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS.

-- A MILITARY 'TRIPLE THREAT' -- HOLDING TACTICAL,  
OPERATIONAL AND STRATEGIC COMMANDS.

-- ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AS COMMANDANT OF THE  
NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE.

-- PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMACY AS A SENIOR MEMBER OF THE  
MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

-- VARIOUS ASSIGNMENTS OVER THE YEARS WITH THE  
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, EVENTUALLY BECOMING DIRECTOR OF THE  
JOINT STAFF.

-- WHITE HOUSE SERVICE FOR ABOUT SIX AND ONE-HALF YEARS UNDER PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AS DEFENSE LIAISON OFFICER AND STAFF SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT. HE SERVED FOR A BRIEF PERIOD UNDER PRESIDENT KENNEDY IN THE SAME CAPACITY.

GENERAL GOODPASTER, BORN IN GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS, AND GRADUATED FROM WEST POINT IN 1939, HAS SERVED IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD: EUROPE, NORTH AFRICA, THE FAR EAST, LATIN AMERICA AND VARIOUS PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES. HE HAS BEEN NATO MILITARY COMMANDER SINCE MID-1969.

THE GENERAL, WHO RETIRED ON DECEMBER SEVENTEENTH,  
IS TO RECEIVE THE HIGHEST NON-COMBAT AWARD GIVEN BY THE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
"DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL."

THE EXPRESSION "A GRATEFUL NATION" IS PARTICULARLY  
APPROPRIATE BECAUSE GENERAL GOODPASTER HAS BEEN A MAN OF  
TRULY DISTINGUISHED PERFORMANCE IN MANY FIELDS OF ENDEAVOR.  
HE HAS PROVED TO BE MORE THAN A "TRIPLE THREAT."  
HE IS AN ALL-AROUND ALL AMERICAN.

END

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT  
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FROM: PAUL THEIS *PT*  
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