The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “2/5/75 - Toast at State Dinner for Prime Minister Bhutto” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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TOAST AT STATE DINNER

FOR PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1975
PRIME MINISTER AND BEGUM BHUTTO (BAY-GUUM BOO-TOE),

AND OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FROM PAKISTAN AND THE

UNITED STATES:
THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL EVENING. AS AMERICANS,
WE HAVE THE HONOR OF WELCOMING THE LEADER OF A TRUE FRIEND --
PAKISTAN -- TO WASHINGTON. I AM DELIGHTED TO HAVE HAD
THIS FIRST PERSONAL MEETING IN THE WHITE HOUSE WITH YOU THIS
MORNING, MR. PRIME MINISTER, AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE
THIS EVENING WITH YOUR WIFE AND TWO OF YOUR CHILDREN.
YOUR VISIT SYMBOLIZES THE WARM TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES,
AND I AM BOTH HONORED AND PLEASED YOU ARE HERE.

IT IS PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY THAT YOU, BEGUM BHUTTO,
JOINED YOUR HUSBAND ON THIS VISIT JUST AS YOU HAVE JOINED HIM
IN WORKING FOR THE BETTERMENT OF PAKISTAN AND ITS PEOPLE.
I am also very pleased to have two of your fine children with us tonight. Like their distinguished father before them, they are attending colleges in the United States -- and we are proud to have them in this country.
MR. PRIME MINISTER, THE WORLD KNOWS THAT THE BURDEN OF LEADERSHIP FELL ON YOU AT ONE OF THE MOST CRITICAL TIMES IN THE HISTORY OF PAKISTAN. WITH CONFIDENCE AND DETERMINATION, YOU HAVE GUIDED YOUR NATION INTO A NEW ERA OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION. YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND YOUR COURAGE DESERVE THE HIGHEST PRAISE.
OUR FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING REPRESENTS ANOTHER LINK IN THE CHAIN OF A MUCH LONGER ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE LEADERS AND THE PEOPLES OF PAKISTAN AND THE UNITED STATES. WE WANT TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN THE SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP WE HAVE SHARED SO LONG.

OUR TALKS TODAY HELPED TO DO THAT.
PEACE IN THE WORLD DEPENDS UPON PEACE IN ITS VARIOUS PARTS. YOUR LEADERSHIP, MR. PRIME MINISTER, HAS ENABLED PAKISTAN TO MOVE FORWARD WITH INDIA TOWARD ACHIEVING PEACE IN THAT AREA OF THE WORLD.
I am impressed as well by what you are doing to promote economic and agricultural development for Pakistan, despite the serious problems posed by the rapid rise in price levels for essential goods.
As you persevere in your tasks, you may be sure that this government regards the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a strong, secure, and prosperous Pakistan as a fundamental element in maintaining regional and world peace.
LET ME NOW PROPOSE A TOAST TO PRIME MINISTER AND
BEGUM BHUTTO, TO THE IDEALS AND THE HOPES THEY PERSONIFY
SO WELL, AND TO FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN
OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

END OF TEXT
CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT

VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN

FROM: PAUL A. THEIS

SUBJECT: Toast for Bhutto State Dinner

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE:
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