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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *def.*

"A BICENTENNIAL DECLARATION"

FEBRUARY 15, 1975

I AM PLEASED TO HELP LAUNCH THIS PROGRAM TONIGHT . . .
ON HOW BEST TO CELEBRATE OUR NATION'S TWO HUNDREDTH BIRTHDAY.

THE CONCEPT OF A "BICENTENNIAL DECLARATION," WHICH
IS SUPPORTED BY AMERICANS FROM MANY WALKS OF LIFE, SUGGESTS
THAT THE BIRTHDAY PARTY WE ARE PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR SHOULD
LAUNCH A PERIOD OF ACHIEVEMENT BEYOND 1976.

THIS CHALLENGE SPEAKS TO ALL OF US, BECAUSE THERE
CAN BE NO BETTER WAY TO HONOR THE PAST . . . THAN BY WORKING
TO IMPROVE THE FUTURE.

THE PERIOD OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION REMINDS US
AS A PEOPLE OF HOW DIFFICULT PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED THROUGH
HARD WORK AND UNITY. BY LOOKING BACK AT OUR HISTORY,
WE SHOULD BE INSPIRED TO NOT ONLY SOLVE OUR PRESENT PROBLEMS
BUT TO LOOK NOW TOWARD LONG-RANGE SOLUTIONS . . . AND TOWARD
A GREATER AMERICA BEFORE THE END OF THIS CENTURY.

DURING THE HISTORY OF THE NATION, AMERICANS HAVE
TRANSLATED IDEALS INTO WORKING REALITIES . . . AND IN THE PROCESS,
THEY HAVE MADE THE GREAT EXPERIMENT OF DEMOCRACY WORK.
WE CAN DO NO LESS.

TONIGHT, LET US RENEW OUR COMMITMENT TO THE IDEALS
ON WHICH THIS NATION WAS FOUNDED THROUGH "A BICENTENNIAL
DECLARATION."

END OF TEXT

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS
SUBJECT: Presidential videotape message to open
program on "A Bicentennial Declaration"

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: to
be shown on closed circuit television, February 20, 1975

SPEECHWRITER: Kaye Pullen

EDITED BY: Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:
Dick Lukstadt

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

- (X) OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) _____
- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) Jm
- (X) PRESS (Nessen) RHN
- () LEGAL (Buchen) _____
- () ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) _____
- () OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) _____
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- () NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) _____
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) AW
- (X) OTHER Dick Lukstadt PLM
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