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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CONGRESSMAN TREEN
CONGRESSWOMAN BOGGS
STUDENTS, FACULTY, ALUMNI AND GUESTS OF
TULANE UNIVERSITY

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ENDING WITH:)

IT IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE AND A HIGH HONOR TO BE
ASKED TO SPEAK HERE TONIGHT AT TULANE UNIVERSITY AND I
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

EACH TIME I HAVE VISITED TULANE, I HAVE COME AWAY

NEWLY IMPRESSED WITH THE INTENSE APPLICATION OF THE STUDENT

BODY TO THE GREAT ISSUES OF OUR TIME. AND I'M PLEASED TO

Interest

SEE THIS HASN'T CHANGED.

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AS WE CAME INTO THE BUILDING, I PASSED A STUDENT WHO LOOKED

UP FROM HIS BOOK AND SAID, "A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES

BEGINS WITH BUT A SINGLE STEP." I ASKED HIM, "ARE YOU

TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET TO YOUR GOAL IN LIFE?" HE

SAID, "NO. I'M TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET TO THE

SUPERDOME IN SEPTEMBER!"

WELL, THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT ALL OF YOU
WILL GET TO THE SUPERDOME --- AND I HOPE IT'S TO SEE THE GREEN
WAVE HAVE THEIR VERY BEST SEASON ON THE GRIDIRON. I HAVE
A FEELING YOU WOULDN'T MIND MAKING THIS ANOTHER YEAR IN
WHICH YOU PUT THE TIGERS IN YOUR TANK!

WHEN I SPOKE HERE IN 1968 AT YOUR "DIRECTIONS '68'"
FORUM, I HAD NO IDEA THAT MY OWN CAREER AND OUR ENTIRE
NATION WOULD MOVE SO SOON IN A NEW DIRECTION. I AM
VERY PROUD TO BE INVITED BACK.

I AM IMPRESSED BY TULANE'S UNIQUE DISTINCTION AS THE
ONLY AMERICAN UNIVERSITY TO BE CONVERTED FROM STATE-SPONSORSHIP
TO PRIVATE STATUS. AND I AM ALSO IMPRESSED BY THE TULANE
GRADUATES WHO SERVE IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND SO MANY
AREAS OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE -- TESTIFYING TO THE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
AND INSPIRATION OF THIS HISTORIC UNIVERSITY, ROOTED IN THE PAST,

WITH ITS EYES ON THE FUTURE.

JUST AS TULANE HAS MADE A GREAT TRANSITION FROM THE
PAST TO THE FUTURE, SO HAS NEW ORLEANS, THE LEGENDARY CITY
THAT HAS MADE SUCH A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA,
NEW ORLEANS IS MORE THAN WEATHERED BRICKS AND CAST-IRON
BALCONIES.

IT IS A STATE OF MIND, A MELTING-POT THAT REPRESENTS THE ^{very} BEST
OF AMERICA'S EVOLUTION, AN EXAMPLE OF RETENTION OF A VERY
SPECIAL CULTURE IN A PROGRESSIVE ENVIRONMENT OF MODERN
CHANGE.

ON JANUARY 8, 1815, A MONUMENTAL AMERICAN VICTORY
WAS ACHIEVED HERE, THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS. LOUISIANA
HAD BEEN A STATE FOR LESS THAN THREE YEARS. BUT
OUTNUMBERED AMERICANS INNOVATED AND USED THE TACTICS OF THE
FRONTIER TO DEFEAT A VETERAN BRITISH FORCE TRAINED IN THE
STRATEGY OF THE NAPOLEONIC WARS.

WE HAD SUFFERED HUMILIATION AND A MEASURE OF DEFEAT

IN THE WAR OF 1812. OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL IN WASHINGTON

HAD BEEN CAPTURED AND BURNED. SO THE ILLUSTRIOUS VICTORY

IN THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS WAS A POWERFUL RESTORATIVE TO

NATIONAL PRIDE.

YET THE VICTORY AT NEW ORLEANS TOOK PLACE TWO WEEKS
AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE ARMISTICE IN EUROPE. THOUSANDS
DIED ALTHOUGH A PEACE HAD BEEN NEGOTIATED. THE
COMBATANTS HAD NOT GOTTEN THE WORD. YET THE EPIC
STRUGGLE NEVERTHELESS RESTORED AMERICA'S PRIDE.

TODAY AMERICA CAN AGAIN REGAIN THE SENSE OF PRIDE

THAT EXISTED BEFORE VIETNAM. BUT IT CANNOT BE ACHIEVED BY

REFIGHTING A WAR THAT IS FINISHED -- AS FAR AS AMERICA IS

CONCERNED. THE TIME HAS COME TO LOOK FORWARD TO AN AGENDA

FOR THE FUTURE, TO UNIFY, TO BIND UP THE NATION'S WOUNDS

AND RESTORE IT TO HEALTH AND OPTIMISTIC SELF-CONFIDENCE.

IN NEW ORLEANS A GREAT BATTLE WAS FOUGHT AFTER A WAR
WAS OVER. IN NEW ORLEANS TONIGHT WE CAN BEGIN A GREAT
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. THE FIRST ENGAGEMENT MUST BE
WITH THE PROBLEMS OF TODAY --- AND OF THE FUTURE.

THAT IS WHY IT IS SO APPROPRIATE THAT I FIND MYSELF TONIGHT
AT A UNIVERSITY WHICH ADDRESSES ITSELF TO PREPARING YOUNG
PEOPLE FOR THE CHALLENGE OF TOMORROW.

I ASK TONIGHT THAT WE STOP REFIGHTING THE BATTLES
AND RECRIMINATIONS OF THE PAST. I ASK THAT WE LOOK NOW
AT WHAT IS RIGHT WITH AMERICA, \ AT OUR POSSIBILITIES AND OUR
POTENTIALITIES FOR CHANGE, \ AND GROWTH, \ AND ACHIEVEMENT, \
AND SHARING.

I ASK THAT WE ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LEADERSHIP AS

A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO ALL PEOPLES AND THE ENEMY OF NONE.

I ASK THAT WE STRIVE TO BECOME, IN THE FINEST AMERICAN

TRADITION, SOMETHING MORE TOMORROW THAN WE ARE TODAY.

INSTEAD OF ADDRESSING THE IMAGE OF AMERICA, I
PREFER TO CONSIDER THE REALITY OF AMERICA. IT IS TRUE
THAT WE HAVE LAUNCHED OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WITHOUT
HAVING ACHIEVED HUMAN PERFECTION.

BUT WE HAVE ATTAINED A REMARKABLE SELF-GOVERNED SOCIETY
THAT POSSESSES THE FLEXIBILITY AND DYNAMISM TO GROW AND
UNDERTAKE AN ENTIRELY NEW AGENDA -- AN AGENDA FOR
AMERICA'S THIRD CENTURY.

I ASK YOU TODAY TO JOIN ME IN WRITING THAT AGENDA.

I AM DETERMINED AS PRESIDENT TO SEEK NATIONAL REDISCOVERY OF

THE BELIEF IN OURSELVES THAT CHARACTERIZED THE MOST CREATIVE


PERIODS IN OUR HISTORY.

THE GREATEST CHALLENGE OF

CREATIVITY LIES AHEAD.

WE ARE SADDENED, INDEED, BY EVENTS IN INDOCHINA.

BUT THESE EVENTS TRAGIC AS THEY ARE, PORTEND NEITHER THE END
OF THE WORLD NOR OF AMERICA'S LEADERSHIP IN THE WORLD.



SOME SEEM TO FEEL THAT IF WE DO NOT SUCCEED IN EVERYTHING,
EVERYWHERE, THEN WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN NOTHING ANYWHERE.

I REJECT SUCH POLARIZED THINKING.

WE CAN AND SHOULD

HELP OTHERS TO HELP THEMSELVES.

BUT THE FATE OF

RESPONSIBLE MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE, IN THE FINAL

DECISION, RESTS IN THEIR OWN HANDS.

AMERICA'S FUTURE DEPENDS UPON AMERICANS --

ESPECIALLY YOUR GENERATION WHICH IS NOW EQUIPPING ITSELF

TO ASSUME THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE -- TO HELP WRITE

THE AGENDA FOR AMERICA.

EARLIER TODAY, I SPOKE ABOUT THE NEED TO MAINTAIN
OUR DEFENSES. TONIGHT, I WANT TO TALK ABOUT ANOTHER
KIND OF STRENGTH -- THE TRUE SOURCE OF AMERICAN POWER THAT
TRANSCENDS ALL THE DETERRENT POWERS FOR PEACE OF OUR ARMED
FORCES. I AM SPEAKING OF OUR BELIEF IN OURSELVES AND
OUR NATION.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASKED, IN HIS OWN WORDS,

"WHAT CONSTITUTES THE BULWARK OF OUR OWN LIBERTY AND
INDEPENDENCE?" AND HE ANSWERED: "IT IS NOT OUR
FROWNING BATTLEMENTS, OR BRISTLING SEACOASTS, OUR ARMY AND
OUR NAVY . . . OUR DEFENSE IS IN THE SPIRIT WHICH PRIZED
LIBERTY AS THE HERITAGE OF ALL MEN, IN ALL LANDS EVERYWHERE."

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT WE MUST NOW MOVE BEYOND
THE DISCORD OF THE PAST DECADE. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT
THAT I ASK YOU TO JOIN IN WRITING AN AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE.
I WELCOME YOUR INVITATION TONIGHT BECAUSE I KNOW THAT IT IS
AT TULANE AND OTHER CENTERS OF THOUGHT AND STUDY THAT MUCH
CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO THE KIND OF FUTURE (MORE)

AMERICANS WANT AND WILL WORK FOR. YOU ARE PREPARING

YOURSELVES FOR THAT FUTURE AND I AM DEEPLY INTERESTED IN

YOUR PREPARATIONS AND YOUR OPINIONS AND YOUR GOALS.

TONIGHT I WILL SHARE MY OWN VIEWS. I ENVISION

A CREATIVE PROGRAM THAT GOES AS FAR AS OUR COURAGE AND

CAPACITIES CAN TAKE US --- AT HOME AND ABROAD. MY

GOAL IS FOR A COOPERATIVE WORLD AT PEACE, USING ITS

RESOURCES TO BUILD, NOT TO DESTROY.

AS PRESIDENT, I AM DETERMINED TO OFFER LEADERSHIP
TO OVERCOME ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. MY GOAL IS FOR JOBS
FOR ALL WHO WANT TO WORK AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR
ALL WHO WANT TO ACHIEVE.

I AM DETERMINED TO SEEK SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN
ENERGY AS AN URGENT NATIONAL PRIORITY. MY GOAL IS TO
MAKE AMERICA INDEPENDENT OF FOREIGN ENERGY SOURCES
BY 1985.

I WILL PURSUE INTERDEPENDENCE WITH OTHER NATIONS

AND A REFORMED INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM. MY

GOAL IS FOR A WORLD IN WHICH CONSUMING AND PRODUCING

NATIONS ACHIEVE A WORKING BALANCE.

I WILL ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN ISSUES OF HUNGER
AND FAMINE, OF HEALTH AND HEALING. MY GOAL IS TO
ASSURE BASIC NEEDS AND AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM TO ACHIEVE
THIS.

I RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR TECHNOLOGY THAT ENRICHES

LIFE WHILE PRESERVING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT. MY

GOAL IS TO STIMULATE PRODUCTIVITY BUT USE TECHNOLOGY

TO REDEEM / NOT TO DESTROY / OUR ENVIRONMENT.

I WILL STRIVE FOR NEW COOPERATION RATHER THAN
CONFLICT IN THE PEACEFUL EXPLORATION OF THE OCEANS AND
SPACE. MY GOAL IS TO USE RESOURCES FOR PEACEFUL
PROGRESS RATHER THAN WAR AND DESTRUCTION.

LET AMERICA SYMBOLIZE HUMANITY'S STRUGGLE TO
CONQUER NATURE AND MASTER TECHNOLOGY. THE TIME HAS
NOW COME FOR OUR GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE THE INDIVIDUAL'S
CONTROL OVER HIS OR HER OWN FUTURE -- AND OF THE FUTURE
OF AMERICA.

BUT THE FUTURE REQUIRES MORE THAN AMERICANS

CONGRATULATING THEMSELVES ON HOW MUCH WE KNOW AND HOW

MANY PRODUCTS WE CAN PRODUCE. IT REQUIRES NEW

KNOWLEDGE TO MEET NEW PROBLEMS. WE MUST NOT ONLY BE

MOTIVATED TO BUILD A BETTER AMERICA, WE MUST KNOW HOW

TO DO IT.

IF WE REALLY WANT A HUMANE AMERICA THAT WILL,
FOR INSTANCE, CONTRIBUTE TO ALLEVIATION OF THE WORLD'S
HUNGER, WE MUST REALIZE THAT GOOD INTENTIONS DO NOT FEED
PEOPLE. SUCH PROBLEMS ARE COMPLEX. THERE ARE NO
EASY ANSWERS. WILLPOWER ALONE DOES NOT GROW FOOD.

WE THOUGHT, IN A WELL-INTENTIONED PAST, THAT WE
COULD EXPORT OUR TECHNOLOGY -- LOCK, STOCK, AND BARREL---
TO DEVELOPING NATIONS, BUT WE ARE NOW LEARNING THAT A
STRAIN OF RICE THAT GROWS IN ONE PLACE WILL NOT GROW IN
ANOTHER. FACTORIES THAT PRODUCE AT ONE HUNDRED PERCENT

IN ONE NATION PRODUCE LESS THAN HALF AS MUCH IN A
SOCIETY WHERE THE HUMAN TEMPERAMENT AND WORK HABITS
DIFFER.

YET, THE WORLD ECONOMY HAS BECOME
INTERDEPENDENT. NOT ONLY FOOD TECHNOLOGY BUT

MONEY MANAGEMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALL KINDS REQUIRE AN

ORGANIZED WORLD SOCIETY THAT MAKES THE MAXIMUM

EFFECTIVE USE OF THE WORLD'S RESOURCES.

I WANT TO TELL THE WORLD: LET'S GROW FOOD

TOGETHER. BUT LET US ALSO LEARN MORE ABOUT NUTRITION

ABOUT WEATHER FORECASTING, ABOUT IRRIGATION, AND

ABOUT THE MANY OTHER SPECIALITIES INVOLVED IN HELPING

PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES.

AND LET US LEARN MORE ABOUT PEOPLE, \ ABOUT THE
DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITIES, \ ARCHITECTURE, \ ENGINEERING,
EDUCATION, \ MOTIVATION, \ PRODUCTIVITY, \ PUBLIC HEALTH
AND MEDICINE, \ THE ARTS AND SCIENCES, \ POLITICAL, \ LEGAL
AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION.

ALL THESE SPECIALITIES AND MANY MORE ARE REQUIRED IF
YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE TO HELP THIS NATION DEVELOP
AN AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE.

I CHALLENGE THE MEDICAL STUDENTS IN THIS
AUDIENCE TO PUT ON THEIR AGENDA THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A
CURE FOR CANCER.

I CHALLENGE THE ENGINEERS TO DEVISE NEW
TECHNIQUES FOR DEVELOPING CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL ENERGY.
AND, AS ~~A~~ BY-PRODUCT, TO CONTROL FLOODS.

I CHALLENGE THE LAW STUDENTS TO FIND WAYS TO SPEED
THE ADMINISTRATION OF EQUAL JUSTICE AND MAKE GOOD CITIZENS
OUT OF CONVICTED CRIMINALS.

I CHALLENGE EDUCATION MAJORS TO DO REAL
TEACHING FOR REAL LIFE.

I CHALLENGE THE ARTS MAJORS TO COMPOSE THE
GREAT AMERICAN SYMPHONY; TO WRITE THE GREAT AMERICAN
NOVEL, TO ENRICH AND TO INSPIRE OUR DAILY LIVES.

AMERICA'S LEADERSHIP IS ESSENTIAL.

AMERICA'S RESOURCES ARE VAST. AMERICA'S

OPPORTUNITIES ARE UNPRECEDENTED.

AS WE STRIVE TOGETHER TO PERFECT A NEW AGENDA,

I PUT HIGH ON THE LIST OF IMPORTANT POINTS THE

MAINTENANCE OF ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER

PEOPLE. THESE PROVIDE A BASIS OF SHARED VALUES EVEN

AS WE STAND UP WITH DETERMINATION FOR WHAT WE BELIEVE.

THIS REQUIRES A CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO
PEACE AND DETERMINATION TO USE OUR GOOD OFFICES
WHEREVER POSSIBLE TO PROMOTE BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN
NATIONS.

THE NEW AGENDA MUST PLACE A HIGH PRIORITY ON THE
NEED TO STOP THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND TO WORK FOR
MUTUAL REDUCTION IN STRATEGIC ARMS AND CONTROL OF OTHER
WEAPONS. I REGARD MY SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS AT
VLADEVOSTOK AS JUST A BEGINNING.

YOUR GENERATION OF AMERICANS IS UNIQUELY ENDOWED
BY HISTORY TO GIVE NEW MEANING TO THE PRIDE AND SPIRIT
OF AMERICA.

THE MAGNETISM OF AN AMERICAN SOCIETY, CONFIDENT OF
ITS OWN STRENGTH, WILL ATTRACT THE GOOD WILL AND ESTEEM OF
ALL PEOPLE. AND IT WILL ENHANCE OUR OWN PERCEPTION OF
OURSELVES AND OUR PRIDE IN BEING AMERICANS.

WE CAN WRITE A NEW AGENDA FOR OUR FUTURE. I

I. AM GLAD THAT TULANE UNIVERSITY AND OTHER GREAT AMERICAN
INSTITUTIONS ARE REACHING OUT TO OTHERS IN PROGRAMS IN
DEVELOPING NATIONS.

AND I LOOK FORWARD WITH CONFIDENCE TO YOUR
PARTICIPATION IN EVERY ASPECT OF AMERICA'S FUTURE.

I URGE AMERICANS OF ALL AGES TO UNITE IN THIS
BICENTENNIAL YEAR TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEMSELVES
AS OUR ANCESTORS DID.

LET US RESOLVE TONIGHT TO REDISCOVER THE OLD VIRTUES OF
CONFIDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE AND CAPABILITY THAT
CHARACTERIZED OUR FOREFATHERS OF TWO CENTURIES AGO.

I ~~PLEDGE~~ TO DO MY PART.

LET THE BEACON LIGHT OF THE PAST SHINE FORTH FROM
HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS AND FROM TULANE UNIVERSITY AND FROM
EVERY OTHER CORNER OF AMERICA, TO ILLUMINATE A BOUNDLESS
FUTURE FOR ALL AMERICANS.

END OF TEXT