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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. *dy*

ARRIVAL STATEMENT
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1975

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YOUR MAJESTIES, PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS, SECRETARY

GENERAL LUNS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WARM AND GRACIOUS WELCOME TO

BRUSSELS. IT IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO RETURN TO THE CITY THAT

MANY KNOW AS THE CAPITAL OF EUROPE.

THIRTY YEARS AGO, WESTERN EUROPE WAS THE VICTIM OF

WARTIME DEVASTATION, FACING HOSTILE FORCES SEEKING TO DOMINATE

THE ENTIRE CONTINENT. THE COURAGEOUS LEADERS ON BOTH SIDES

OF THE ATLANTIC RESPONDED BY CREATING THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY

ORGANIZATION. OUR ALLIANCE HAS WITHSTOOD THE CHANGES AND TESTS

OF THE PAST TWENTY-SIX YEARS.

IT HAS HELPED SECURE FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY FOR THE WESTERN WORLD.

IT IS FITTING THAT THE PURPOSE OF MY FIRST TRIP TO EUROPE,

AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, IS TO PARTICIPATE IN A NATO

SUMMIT. I WANT MY NATO COLLEAGUES AND THE PEOPLE OF EUROPE TO

KNOW:

-- THAT OUR GREAT ALLIANCE REMAINS STRONG. TO
GUARANTEE THAT VITALITY, WE MUST VIGOROUSLY ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS
CONFRONTING US.

-- THAT THE UNITED STATES IS CONVINCED THAT DETENTE WITH
THE EAST CAN ONLY PROCEED ON A FOUNDATION OF STRONG AND SECURE
ALLIANCE DEFENSES.

-- THAT NATO IS THE CORNERSTONE OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY
AND HAS THE UNWAVERING SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND OF
OUR CONGRESS.

-- AND THAT OUR COMMITMENT TO THIS ALLIANCE WILL NOT
FALTER.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I WILL MEET WITH MY COLLEAGUES
IN NATO TO DISCUSS ISSUES OF DIRECT CONCERN TO THE PEACE, SECURITY
AND PROSPERITY OF OUR ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

IT IS ALSO IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I RESPOND, YOUR MAJESTY,
TO YOUR WELCOME. BELGIUM'S HOSPITALITY AS HOST TO NATO AND
TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES HAS MADE IT THE HEART OF BOTH THE
EUROPEAN AND THE ATLANTIC WORLDS.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND BELGIUM REMAIN CONFIDENT AND

MATURE. I KNOW THAT WE WILL CONTINUE AS CLOSE FRIENDS AND

ALLIES.

THANK YOU.

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