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LUNCHEON TOAST IN MADRID

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1975

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MR. PRESIDENT, MR. MINISTER, YOUR EXCELLENCIES:

FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE ENJOYED CORDIAL AND PRODUCTIVE TIES, CHARACTERIZED BY OUR COMMON EFFORTS TO MEET THE DANGER OF AGGRESSION AGAINST THE WESTERN COMMUNITY OF NATIONS, AND SUPPORTED BY MUTUAL RESPECT FOR THE ASPIRATIONS OF OUR RESPECTIVE PEOPLES TO SECURE FOR THEMSELVES A BETTER LIFE.

MINDFUL AS WE HAVE BEEN OF EACH OTHER' CONCERNS AND NEEDS,  
WE HAVE FORGED A HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP.

WE MEET TODAY, TO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO  
BUILD ON THIS COOPERATION IN A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL MANNER.

THE WORLD HAS CHANGED SINCE THE FIRST U.S.-SPANISH  
FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED IN 1953. BUT THE NEED FOR  
STRONG DEFENSES HAS NOT LESSENERD.

SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE IN THE PAST CONTRIBUTED

TOGETHER TO THE MAINTENANCE OF A STRONG WESTERN SECURITY. THE

PRESENT AND FUTURE CALL FOR NO LESS AN EFFORT. THE UNITED STATES

REMAINS DEDICATED TO THIS TASK.

THE COOPERATION BEING CARRIED OUT, IN SO MANY FIELDS,

BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES, DEMONSTRATES THE GREAT BREADTH OF OUR

INTERESTS, THE DEPTH OF OUR FRIENDSHIP, AND THE COMMITMENT OF

THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN TO A BETTER LIFE FOR OUR CITIZENS.

SPAIN IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR ATLANTIC CONCEPTION.

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MR. PRESIDENT, I RAISE MY GLASS AND PROPOSE A TOAST

TO THIS SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP. MAY OUR COOPERATION BE PRESERVED

AND STRENGTHENED. MAY IT ASSURE PEACE FOR SPANIARDS AND

AMERICANS ALIKE.

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MAY OUR EFFORTS INDIVIDUALLY AND TOGETHER GIVE OUR CITIZENS THE

PROGRESS, FREEDOM, AND WELL-BEING THEY DESIRE; AND MAY THE

COOPERATION OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES BE FURTHER ENRICHED BY THE

CONTINUING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES.

END OF TEXT