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PRESIDENT SCHEEL VISIT:

ARRIVAL STATEMENT

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1975

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MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

IT IS A GREAT HONOR AND A PERSONAL PLEASURE,

MR. PRESIDENT, TO WELCOME YOU HERE ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN  
PEOPLE.

ALTHOUGH THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT AS FEDERAL PRESIDENT, YOU HAVE BEEN WELCOMED TO OUR COUNTRY ON MANY PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.

I THEREFORE GREET YOU NOT ONLY AS THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT, BUT ALSO AS AN OLD AND DEAR FRIEND OF AMERICA.

OVER SEVENTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE YOUR DISTINGUISHED

PREDECESSOR, THEODOR HEUSS (HOYSS), PAID US A STATE VISIT.

IN THAT YEAR, 1958, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WAS IN THE EARLY STAGES

OF THE REMARKABLE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND GROWTH WHICH CAME

TO BE SEEN AS AN ECONOMIC MIRACLE.

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WAS ON ITS WAY TO BECOMING ONE OF OUR STRONGEST ALLIES, ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNERS AND CLOSEST OF FRIENDS.

WE HAVE SEEN MANY CHANGES SINCE THE LATE 1950'S,

MR. PRESIDENT. TODAY, WE FACE NEW CHALLENGES OF UNPARALLELED COMPLEXITY, INCLUDING THOSE OF ENERGY AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS.

YET, THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF OUR FOREIGN POLICIES AND OF OUR RELATIONSHIP REMAIN SOUND AND CONSTANT. WE ARE AS STRONGLY COMMITTED AS WE WERE SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO TO SAFEGUARDING THE FREEDOM OF THE WEST. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO THE FREEDOM AND SECURITY OF BERLIN. WE SEE THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF CENTRAL EUROPE AS A TRUE TEST OF THE PROCESS KNOWN AS DETENTE.

ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO, I MADE MY FIRST VISIT TO EUROPE AS  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. IN BRUSSELS, THE HEADS OF  
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC NATIONS MET AND REAFFIRMED THE  
CONTINUING SOLIDARITY OF OUR ALLIANCE, AND THE CONTINUING STRENGTH  
OF OUR COMMITMENT TO THE GOALS THAT UNITE OUR PEOPLES.

IN THE ERA NOW BEFORE US, I CAN SAY WITH CONFIDENCE THAT  
AMERICANS ARE COMMITTED TO THIS ALLIANCE WITH RENEWED DEDICATION,  
VISION AND PURPOSE. IT IS MY INTENTION, MR. PRESIDENT, TO WORK  
IN CLOSE CONCERT WITH YOU TO SERVE OUR PEOPLES' COMMON OBJECTIVES.  
TOGETHER, OUR STRONG, FREE AND PROSPEROUS NATIONS CAN ACHIEVE  
MUCH FOR OUR OWN PEOPLES AND FOR MANKIND.

YOUR VISIT, MR. PRESIDENT, BEARS ELOQUENT TESTIMONY

TO THE FRIENDSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

AND THE UNITED STATES. IN THIS SPIRIT, I BID YOU A MOST CORDIAL

WELCOME AND I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DISCUSSIONS OF PROBLEMS OF

MUTUAL INTEREST AND CONCERN.

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