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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

LUNCHEON TOAST

BELEGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 1975

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MR. PRESIDENT, MADAME BROZ, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

AS OUR VISIT IN YUGOSLAVIA DRAWS TO A CLOSE,

MRS. FORD, OUR SON, JACK, AND ALL THE AMERICAN PARTY JOIN ME

IN THANKING YOU ONCE MORE FOR THE WARM HOSPITALITY AND FRIENDSHIP

YOU HAVE SHOWN US. WE HAVE HAD A MARVELOUS TIME IN BELGRADE.

MR. PRESIDENT, I ESPECIALLY APPRECIATE HAVING HAD THIS CHANCE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS ON BILATERAL QUESTIONS AND ON ISSUES AFFECTING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. I APPRECIATE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND WISDOM REFLECTED IN EACH OF THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED DURING OUR CONVERSATIONS HERE.

I HAVE VALUED OUR DISCUSSIONS, COMING AS THEY DO IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE IN WHICH BOTH YOU AND I PARTICIPATED. I AM PLEASED, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU AND I ARE AGREED ON THE NEED FOR ALL PARTICIPATING STATES TO IMPLEMENT ITS DOCUMENTS FULLY AND IN GOOD FAITH.

IF WE DO SO WE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO GREATER STABILITY, INCREASING
CONTACTS BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES, AND GREATER COOPERATION THROUGHOUT
EUROPE. WE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPORTANT GOAL WE BOTH SHARE --
A WORLD IN WHICH ALL PEOPLES ENJOY PEACE, PROSPERITY AND SECURITY.

I AM PLEASED THAT OUR VIEWS HAVE BEEN CLOSE ON MANY OF THE MATTERS
FACING OUR TWO PEOPLES AND ALL MANKIND.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE NOW WORK TO BROADEN OUR OWN SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT TO ACHIEVE A BETTER REALIZATION WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF HUMAN SOCIETIES AND THEIR PROBLEMS. THE NEED FOR COOPERATION IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO THESE UNIVERSAL PROBLEMS IS CRITICAL.

MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR COUNTRY, WITH ITS OWN COURAGEOUS DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE, CAN FULLY APPRECIATE THE IMPORTANCE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF OUR CELEBRATION OF TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF FREEDOM. IT IS A TIME FOR AMERICANS TO REFLECT UPON THE BASIC VALUES THAT BROUGHT SUCCESS TO THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONIES' STRUGGLE FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT.

WE ARE PROUD OF THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION, THROUGH THE YEARS,
OF YUGOSLAV-AMERICANS TO OUR NATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

THEY CONSTITUTE A BRIDGE OF UNDERSTANDING,

GOOD WILL AND KINSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

LET THIS VISIT EXPAND THAT BRIDGE.

I RAISE MY GLASS, IN A TOAST TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT,

AND TO YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP.

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