

The original documents are located in Box 19, “11/2/75 - Talking Points: Stopover at Jacksonville Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS ~~SEEN~~.....

TALKING POINTS: STOPOVER AT JACKSONVILLE

NAVAL AIR STATION, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA,

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1975

- 1 -

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR VERY WARM WELCOME HERE TODAY.

AS YOU KNOW, I AM ON MY WAY TO CONTINUE MY TALKS WITH
PRESIDENT SADAT OF EGYPT.

- 2 -

BUT I CONSIDER THIS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE TO
SAY THANKS TO YOU HERE AT THE JACKSONVILLE NAVAL AIR
STATION WHO CONTRIBUTE SO MUCH TO AMERICA'S STRENGTH.

- 3 -

IN THIS PART OF OUR COUNTRY, THERE IS A UNIQUE
BLEND OF AMERICA'S OLDEST AND NEWEST.

THIS SHOULD HAVE SPECIAL MEANING TO PRESIDENT SADAT,
BECAUSE HE HEADS A NATION WHOSE RECORDED HISTORY EXTENDS
DEEP INTO ANTIQUITY AND WHOSE QUEST IS FOR HIS COUNTRY'S
FULL ENTRY INTO MODERN TECHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

NEAR JACKSONVILLE, IS ST. AUGUSTINE, THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
ON THE NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENT AND AMERICA'S OLDEST
CITY.

AND HERE IN MODERN AND PROGRESSIVE JACKSONVILLE ARE BASED
SOME OF OUR NATION'S MOST IMPORTANT MILITARY UNITS. THESE
INCLUDE YOUR AIRCRAFT AND NUCLEAR-POWERED SHIPS -- BOTH
OF WHICH PROVIDE OUR NATION WITH VERY IMPORTANT WAR-
DETECTING CAPABILITY.

OUR CONTRAST OF OLD AND NEW, WHILE NOT AS
SPECTACULAR AS THAT IN EGYPT, IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER
AS WE FACE THE FUTURE. OUR HISTORY SHOWS THAT STRENGTH
AND VIGILANCE ARE ESSENTIAL.

WE KNOW THAT RATIONAL PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND STRENGTH OF
MILITARY ARMS ARE ABLE TO REASON TOGETHER AND FIND THE
PATHS TO PEACE.

AS WE APPROACH OUR 200TH BIRTHDAY AS A NATION,
THE GOAL OF THE UNITED STATES IS THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE
FOR OURSELVES AND FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD. I AM PROUD
OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF EACH OF YOU TOWARD THAT NATIONAL GOAL.

I AM PROUD OF YOUR ANTI-SUBMARINE HELICOPTER COMMUNITY . . .
OF YOUR LONG-RANGE SUBMARINE PATROL COMMUNITY . . . AND OF
YOUR OUTSTANDING WORK IN OVERHAULING OUR FLEET AIRCRAFT.

I AM ALSO PROUD OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE OF JACKSONVILLE
WHOSE FAITH IN THE NAVY AND THIS AIR STATION HAS BEEN MORE
THAN JUSTIFIED.

- 12 -

THIS STATION IS ESTABLISHED ON LAND DONATED BY LOCAL
CITIZENS. THE GOOD PEOPLE OF DUVAL COUNTY PURCHASED
THIS LAND AND GAVE IT TO THE NAVY. I COMMEND THEM
FOR THEIR GENEROSITY.

- 13 -

WHEN THE NAVY CELEBRATED ITS 200TH BIRTHDAY RECENTLY, THE
JACKSONVILLE NAVAL AIR STATION WAS CELEBRATING ITS 35TH
ANNIVERSARY. BUT THEY HAVE BEEN 35 IMPORTANT YEARS. I WISH
YOU MANY MORE YEARS. THANKS FOR TAKING TIME OUT OF THIS
LOVELY SUNDAY TO COME OUT HERE TODAY.

END OF TEXT