

The original documents are located in Box 21, “12/6/75 - Remarks Upon Proposing a Toast in Honor of President and Mrs. Marcos at the Presidential Palace in Manila, The Philippines” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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PRESIDENT AND MRS. MARCOS, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, FRIENDS:

I COME TO THE PHILIPPINES AT THE END OF A STRENUOUS BUT

EXCITING JOURNEY TO NATIONS ONCE REGARDED AS Distant, BUT NOW

ARE OUR NEIGHBORS IN A NEW AND INTER-DEPENDENT WORLD.

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ON THE WAY HOME, I HAVE STOPPED TO VISIT AMERICA'S OLD AND

GOOD FRIENDS. THE GRACIOUS AND WORLD-RENOWNED

PHILIPPINE HOSPITALITY EXCEEDS ITS REPUTATION.

THROUGHOUT THIS TRIP, I HAVE OBSERVED AN INTERNATIONAL
SENSE OF COMMUNITY, A SHARED COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND A BETTER
LIFE. I FOUND A COMMON DETERMINATION BY LEADERS OF NATIONS
TO CHART THEIR OWN COURSES -- TO SHAPE THEIR OWN CHARACTERS.

I SAW A GROWING AWARENESS THAT THIS DETERMINATION OF INDIVIDUALS
AND NATIONS TO BE INDEPENDENT AND SELF-RELIANT IS A CONSTRUCTIVE
FORCE IN THE WORLD. IT ENCOURAGES THE SENSE OF RESPECT, FOR
ONE'S SELF AND OTHERS, THAT IS THE BASIS OF A REAL COMMUNITY OF
NATIONS.

TODAY IN THE PHILIPPINES I FIND SOMETHING MORE. OUR TWO
NATIONS HAVE A UNIQUE HISTORY OF SHARED EXPERIENCES AND SIMILARITY
OF OUTLOOK. WE HAVE BOTH KNOWN THE PAIN OF WAR.

PRESIDENT MARCOS AND I ARE ONLY TWO OF MANY, IN BOTH NATIONS,
WHO FOUGHT TOGETHER IN EARLIER YEARS, ONE IN THE FORESTS AND FIELDS
OF LUZON, THE OTHER ON THE WATERS OF THE PHILIPPINE SEA.

AS INDIVIDUALS AND AS NATIONS, WE HAVE BOTH TASTED THE BITTERNESS
OF DEFEAT, THE SATISFACTION OF JOINT DEVOTION TO A COMMON GOAL AND
THE LESSON THAT VICTORY, ONCE ACHIEVED, IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF NEW
CHALLENGES.

WE HAVE ALREADY OBSERVED THAT THE COMMON DETERMINATION
OF PEOPLES THROUGHOUT ASIA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD IS TO ACHIEVE
A MORE SATISFYING LIFE. THAT DETERMINATION IS SHARED BY THE
PHILIPPINES.

WE HAVE LEARNED AS NATIONS TO RECOGNIZE THAT WE NEED NOT ALL BE
IDENTICAL TO SURVIVE. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT WE NEED ONLY TO TREAT
ONE ANOTHER, DIFFERENT OR SIMILAR AS WE MAY BE, IN A SPIRIT OF
OF GENEROSITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT.

THIS SPIRIT, WHICH OUR NATIONS SHARE, IS THE ESSENCE OF REAL
HOSPITALITY. IT IS ONE OF THE SPECIAL ELEMENTS THAT STRENGTHENS
OUR SENSE OF COMMON INTEREST IN EACH OTHER'S SECURITY AND WELL-
BEING.

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IN THAT SPIRIT, LET ME OFFER A TOAST TO THE PRESIDENT AND
PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND TO THE MUTUAL RESPECT AND SENSE
OF COMMUNITY THAT UNITE OUR TWO GREAT REPUBLICS.

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