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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

TAPING:

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

MERRY CHRISTMAS! THESE TWO WORDS CONJURE UP

ALL OF THE GOOD FEELINGS THAT MANKIND HAS EVER HELD FOR ITSELF

AND ITS CREATOR: REVERENCE, TENDERNESS, HUMILITY,

GENEROSITY, TOLERANCE -- LOVE. THESE ARE THE STARS WE

TRY TO FOLLOW. THESE ARE THE MOST ENDURING TREASURES

WE CAN BRING TO OUR WORLD.

I CAN REMEMBER A FEW CHRISTMASSES IN MY OWN YOUTH
WHEN JUST ABOUT THE ONLY THING WE HAD TO OFFER EACH OTHER
AS A FAMILY WAS THE LOVE WE SHARED AND THE FAITH THAT
TOGETHER WE COULD SEE THINGS THROUGH TO A BETTER FUTURE.

AND IT DID. IT MADE US WORK HARDER, STUDY HARDER,
TRY HARDER -- AND IT BROUGHT OUT QUALITIES AND DEPTHS OF
STRENGTH AND CHARACTER THAT NONE OF US IN THOSE DAYS
THOUGHT WE HAD.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS IS AGELESS, IRRESISTABLE

AND KNOWS NO BARRIERS. IT REACHES OUT TO ADD A GLOW TO

THE HUMBLEST OF HOMES AND THE STATELIEST OF MANSIONS.

IT CATCHES UP SAINT AND SINNER ALIKE IN ITS WARM EMBRACE.

IT IS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY -- BUT TO BE SILENT AND PRAYERFUL AS

WELL.

I KNOW THIS WILL BE A PARTICULARLY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

FOR ME. I CELEBRATE IT SURROUNDED BY THOSE I LOVE AND

WHO LOVE ME. I CELEBRATE IT BY JOINING WITH ALL OF OUR

CITIZENS IN OBSERVING A CHRISTMAS WHEN AMERICANS CAN HONOR

THE PRINCE OF PEACE IN A NATION AT PEACE.

THE FORD FAMILY WISHES YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A
CHRISTMAS THAT BRINGS ALL OF THE JOY, THE FULFILLMENT,
AND THE INSPIRATION OF THIS MOST PRECIOUS OF SEASONS.
MAY GOD'S BLESSINGS BE WITH YOU ALL.

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