

**The original documents are located in Box 34, “6/2/76 - Remarks at Toast to King Juan Carlos I of Spain with his Wife the Queen” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...-

STATE DINNER TOAST FOR KING JUAN CARLOS OF SPAIN

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1976

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...-

YOUR MAJESTIES, YOUR EXCELLENCIES,

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES

AND SPAIN:

WE ARE DEEPLY HONORED BY THE PRESENCE THIS EVENING  
OF YOUR MAJESTIES THE KING AND QUEEN OF SPAIN.  
AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN, YOU ARE ALWAYS  
WELCOME IN OUR COUNTRY. YOU ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME  
DURING THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SPAIN TO THE NEW WORLD  
ARE TO BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.  
SPANISH EXPLORERS VENTURED INTO THE UNCHARTERED WILDERNESS  
OF OUR CONTINENT LONG BEFORE AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE.

MANY AMERICAN TOWNS AND CITIES BEAR SPANISH NAMES.

MUCH OF OUR ARCHITECTURE REFLECTS THE DISTINCTIVE QUALITY OF

SPANISH ARTISTRY. MANY THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS PROUDLY

BEAR NAMES REFLECTING THEIR SPANISH HERITAGE. YOUR

MAJESTIES, WE RECOGNIZE THE HAND, THE HEART, AND THE SPIRIT

OF SPAIN IN OUR COUNTRY.

OUR BICENTENNIAL PROMPTS US TO PAY FULL TRIBUTE

TO THE IMPORTANT ROLE SPAIN HAS PLAYED IN OUR OWN DEVELOPMENT.

BUT OUR CELEBRATIONS FOCUS OUR ATTENTION ON THE FUTURE

AS WELL AS THE PRESENT.

AS WE ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY,

WITH THE HIGHEST EXPECTATIONS FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE,

WE HAVE THE HIGHEST EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF SPAIN

UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP•

THIS IS OF IMPORTANCE BILATERALLY;

IT IS OF EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THE SHARED OBJECTIVES

OF THE NATIONS OF THE WEST• ALL AMERICANS WISH YOU WELL

ON THE COURSE ON WHICH YOU ARE EMBARKED•

IN 1953, THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN EMBARKED  
ON A RELATIONSHIP DESIGNED TO FURTHER THE COOPERATION  
AND SECURITY OF OUR PEOPLES. OVER THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY,  
OUR NATIONS HAVE BENEFITTED GREATLY FROM THIS.

OUR JOINT DETERMINATION TO BUILD ON AND STRENGTHEN  
THIS COOPERATION TODAY IS CLEARLY STATED IN OUR NEW TREATY  
OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR  
MOST WELCOME VISIT, OUR NATIONS ENJOY GROWING FRIENDSHIP.  
OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS BROAD SUPPORT AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
AND IN THE CONGRESS.

THROUGH CLOSER TIES AND GREATER COOPERATION,  
THERE IS MUCH THAT OUR TWO NATIONS CAN DO TO SAFEGUARD THE PEACE  
AND SURMOUNT THE MODERN CHALLENGES OF AN INCREASINGLY  
INTER-DEPENDENT WORLD -- SUCH COMMON PROBLEMS AS  
ECONOMIC PROGRESS, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

WE MUST PROVIDE FOR OUR PEOPLES THE BENEFITS  
OF PEACE, PROSPERITY AND FREEDOM. I KNOW OF YOUR  
CONFIDENT VISION OF SPAIN'S FUTURE ROLE IN OUR  
TRANS-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

IN 1492, COLUMBUS CLAIMED AMERICA FOR THE  
SPANISH KING AND QUEEN. TODAY, NEARLY 500 YEARS LATER,  
A KING AND QUEEN OF SPAIN HAVE THEMSELVES COME TO AMERICA,  
NOT TO CLAIM IT, BUT TO JOIN WITH US IN AFFIRMING THE COMMON  
IDEALS WHICH MAKE ALL OF US CITIZENS OF THE WESTERN WORLD.  
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO HAVE YOU VISIT US.

YOUR MAJESTIES, I LIFT MY GLASS TO YOU,  
TO THE SPANISH PEOPLE, AND TO THE FRIENDSHIP  
OF THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

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