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:

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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 UNCHARTED 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 BENEFITED 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.