

**The original documents are located in Box 34, “6/3/76 - Remarks at Toast for King Juan Carlos I of Spain and his Wife the Queen During a Reciprocal Dinner at the Spanish Embassy” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.~~

YOUR MAJESTIES, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, DISTINGUISHED  
GUESTS AND FRIENDS OF SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

THANK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY, FOR YOUR KIND WORDS.

MRS. FORD AND I ARE HONORED AND PLEASED TO JOIN YOU HERE  
TONIGHT TO ENJOY YOUR GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY AND UNIQUE DELIGHTS  
OF THE SPANISH CULINARY ARTS.

SPAIN CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE BUILDING AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRY AND OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE.  
EXPLORERS SAILING UNDER THE SPANISH FLAG DISCOVERED THIS  
CONTINENT. AMONG THE PEOPLE OF EUROPE WHO RISKED THEIR  
LIVES TO COME TO THE AID OF OUR NEW BORN REPUBLIC WERE  
GALLANT SPANISH SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

THE EARLY SPANISH EXPLORERS LEFT A PERMANENT  
CULTURAL IMPRINT ON AMERICA. THEY BROUGHT PRINTING PRESSES  
AND UNIVERSITIES TO THE NEW WORLD. WE SEE THE SPANISH  
HERITAGE TODAY IN ST. AUGUSTINE THE OLDEST PERMANENT  
EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT IN AMERICA IN COUNTLESS MISSIONS IN  
THE SOUTHWEST, IN REGIONAL FESTIVALS AND IN THE RODEO.

SPANISH INFLUENCE IS REFLECTED IN THE CULTURE  
AND EVEN THE COMMON LAW OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST.  
THROUGHOUT AMERICA, MILLIONS OF CITIZENS SPEAK SPANISH.  
MANY OF OUR TELEVISION AND RADIO STATIONS TRANSMIT  
THE LANGUAGE AND HERITAGE OF SPAIN.

IN THIS CENTURY, FOR NEARLY 25 YEARS,  
SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE STOOD TOGETHER TO MEET  
THE CHALLENGES CONFRONTING THE WESTERN WORLD.  
WE HAVE BUILT A STRONG AND HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP.  
THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP IS REFLECTED  
IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION  
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THIS TREATY RECOGNIZES  
THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF SPAIN TO THE DEFENSE OF THE WEST.  
IT OPENS THE WAY TO IMPROVED DEFENSE COOPERATION.  
THIS TREATY ALSO MARKS THE INCREASING COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE SPANISH AND AMERICAN PEOPLES IN A GROWING NUMBER OF FIELDS  
RANGING FROM URBAN DEVELOPMENT, TO THE ARTS, TO AGRICULTURE,  
SCIENCE AND EDUCATION.

AS WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THE PAST AND PRESENT,  
WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE. IN MAN'S EXPLORATION OF THE UNKNOWN,  
WE HAVE MOVED FROM THE AGE OF SAIL AND HORSEBACK TO THE  
AGE OF SPACE. YOUR MAJESTY'S INTEREST IN AMERICA'S SPACE  
PROGRAM IS WELL KNOWN. IT IS INDICATIVE, NOT ONLY OF THE  
COMMON INTERESTS WE SHARE BUT OF THE FORWARD LOOKING  
QUALITIES YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO THE LEADERSHIP OF SPAIN.  
THESE QUALITIES WILL SERVE BOTH OUR COUNTRIES WELL.  
LET US BUILD ON OUR BILATERAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND WORK  
TOGETHER TO INCREASE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

I HAVE NO DOUBT OF THE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE  
SPAIN WILL PLAY IN THE WORLD AND, PARTICULARLY, IN THE WEST.  
SPAIN IS A PART GEOGRAPHICALLY AND HISTORICALLY  
OF EUROPE AND OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

YOUR MAJESTY, IN YOUR REMARKS UPON ARRIVAL AT  
THE WHITE HOUSE YESTERDAY YOU EXPRESSED THE WISH THAT YOUR  
VISIT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO REINFORCING THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP  
BETWEEN US FOR THE GOOD OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND ALL THOSE  
WHO ASPIRE TO ATTAIN THE IDEALS OF FAITH, FREEDOM AND JUSTICE.

SPEAKING FOR ALL HERE I WOULD ASSURE YOU BEYOND  
ANY DOUBT THAT YOUR WISH HAS BEEN REALIZED.

OUR DISCUSSIONS AT THE WHITE HOUSE, YOUR ADDRESS TO THE  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND YOUR PARTICIPATION TOGETHER WITH  
YOUR GRACIOUS QUEEN IN OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION HAVE  
MARKED AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR  
COUNTRIES. WE WISH YOU WELL AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR VISIT  
TOMORROW TO NEW YORK, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR NEXT  
VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

YOUR MAJESTIES, I PROPOSE A TOAST TO YOU AND TO  
ALL THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN.

VIVA ESPAGNA! (vee-vah ESS-pan-ya!)

END OF TEXT