

The original documents are located in Box 36, “7/15/76 - Remarks During Toast Honoring Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of the Federal Republic of Germany” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...▼

DINNER TOAST TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, JULY 15, 1976

MR. CHANCELLOR, MRS. SCHMIDT:

MRS. FORD AND I ARE DEEPLY HONORED TO HAVE YOU

AND YOUR PARTY WITH US THIS EVENING.

YOUR VISIT TO AMERICA DURING OUR BICENTENNIAL REMINDS

US OF THE STRONG HISTORIC BONDS LINKING OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

GENERAL VON STEUBEN STOOD WITH GEORGE WASHINGTON AT VALLEY

FORGE. GERMAN-AMERICAN STATESMAN CARL SCHURZ (SHIRTS)

SERVED AS A MEMBER OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S CABINET.

AND MILLIONS OF TALENTED, INDUSTRIOUS AMERICANS OF GERMAN

ORIGIN HAVE CONTRIBUTED IMMEASURABLY TO THE GROWTH AND

ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR NATION.

ADVOCATES OF DEMOCRACY IN BOTH OUR COUNTRIES HAVE

TRADITIONALLY INFLUENCED EACH OTHER.

AS WE CELEBRATE GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP TONIGHT,

WE CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THE OUTSTANDING FORESIGHT AND COOPERATION

OF EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN STATESMEN OVER THE PAST

QUARTER CENTURY.

IN THE NEXT QUARTER-CENTURY, OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL

FACE NEW CHALLENGES.

AS REFLECTED IN OUR TALKS TODAY, WE LOOK FORWARD TO BUILDING
BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE DEVELOPING NATIONS OF THE
WORLD.

WE MUST COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS ON ECONOMIC,
COMMODITY, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES.

THE COOPERATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES OF EUROPE,

JAPAN AND NORTH AMERICA IS CRUCIAL TO ANY LASTING SOLUTIONS

TO THESE PROBLEMS.

WITH OUR EXTENSIVE RESOURCES AND SKILLED POPULATIONS,

WE POSSESS AN UNPRECEDENTED ABILITY TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP,

TO CONTRIBUTE TO ECONOMIC STABILITY, AND TO FOSTER PROGRESS

IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY.

OUR RECENT SUMMIT MEETINGS ARE CONCRETE EVIDENCE OF OUR

DETERMINATION AND OUR ABILITY TO WORK TOGETHER TO REGAIN OUR

PROSPERITY AND TO MANAGE THE TRANSITION TO A SUSTAINED

ECONOMIC EXPANSION.

MR. CHANCELLOR, AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR COMMON
STRENGTH IS OUR DETERMINATION TO DEFEND WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED
AND OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COLLECTIVE DEFENSE OF N.A.T.O.
MEMBER NATIONS UNDER THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY.

WHILE IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC LAST SUMMER, AS YOU KNOW,

I VISITED UNITS OF GERMAN AND AMERICAN ARMED FORCES DEPLOYED

FOR OUR COLLECTIVE DEFENSE.

THEY WERE EXCELLENT UNITS --

PROUD AND WELL TRAINED.

THROUGH THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS THEY

MAKE OUR COLLECTIVE SECURITY A REALITY.

NOW, AS THEN, I COMMEND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC FOR

DOING ITS SHARE IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

NOW, AS THEN,

I REAFFIRM THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE.

AMERICA'S BASIC POLICIES TOWARD WESTERN EUROPE

HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY REAFFIRMED BY EVERY ADMINISTRATION

IN THE POSTWAR ERA.

THEY ENJOY STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

IN THE CONGRESS.

STEADFAST SUPPORT FOR N.A.T.O., AND COOPERATION WITH ALL

MEMBERS OF THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY ARE A FUNDAMENTAL PART

OF UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY.

COOPERATION AND

FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC

ARE CENTRAL TO THAT POLICY.

MR. CHANCELLOR, OUR PEOPLES WILL REMAIN TRUE TO
THE IDEALS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, OF LIBERTY AND LAW, OF ENLIGHTENED
COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS. WE WILL HELP TO PROVIDE
A BETTER WAY OF LIFE FOR ALL MANKIND.

IN THIS SPIRIT, I RAISE MY GLASS TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT

AND TO GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP.

END OF TEXT