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.

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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 STEUEN 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.
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