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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

-- THANK YOU GLEN (STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT)

-- DR. HUBBARD

*John*

-- MR. FLOUR

*Bob*

-- MR. FLOURNOY

*Idney*

-- STUDENTS, FACULTY AND GUESTS

5x  
University of  
Southern  
California  
Speeches


IT'S GREAT TO BE HERE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN

CALIFORNIA -- HOME OF THE CONQUERING TROJANS.

I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING: I'D RATHER RUN AGAINST

JIMMY CARTER THAN RICKY BELL ANY <sup>*anytime*</sup> DAY OF THE WEEK.

I MIGHT ADD THAT I STARTED OUT WAY BEHIND, ~~AND~~ I'VE  
BEEN SWIMMING UPSTREAM EVER SINCE. BY NOVEMBER  
I HOPE TO BE KNOWN AS THE JOHN NABER OF POLITICS.



THE OPINION POLLS HAVE BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING LATELY.  
BUT AS I SAID IN KANSAS CITY A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE ONLY  
POLLS THAT COUNT ARE THE ONES THE AMERICAN PEOPLE GO TO ON  
NOVEMBER THE SECOND.

MY CAMPAIGN EXPERTS TELL ME ~~THAT~~ IF PAST  
PERFORMANCE IS ANY GUIDE, YOUR AGE GROUP WILL BE THE LEAST  
REPRESENTED AT THE POLLS ON ELECTION. *day*.

WHEN I WAS MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, I WORKED FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS TO  
LOWER THE VOTING AGE TO 18.

EVEN THOUGH SOME OF THE EXPERTS SAID YOUNG VOTERS  
WOULD VOTE AGAINST MY PARTY MORE THAN FOR IT, I WANTED  
TO OPEN UP THE SYSTEM, MAKE SURE YOU HAD A VOICE IN WHAT  
GOES ON IN YOUR OWN COUNTRY.

BUT FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, MOST PEOPLE YOUR AGE  
HAVE NEVER TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THIS NEW RIGHT. <sup>*& privilege*</sup> THE EXPERTS  
SAY THE MAJORITY PROBABLY WON'T USE IT THIS YEAR. I HOPE  
THAT FORECAST IS WRONG.

YOU HAVE THE BIGGEST STAKE IN THIS COUNTRY'S FUTURE, ~~AND~~

*you must*  
I ~~HOPE YOU WILL~~ TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE WORK OF YOUR

~~OWN~~ GOVERNMENT.

ONE REASON FOR THE LOW TURNOUT IN THE PAST <sup>is</sup> ~~MAY BE~~ THAT

POLITICS HAS DISAPPOINTED YOU SO MANY TIMES.

THROUGHOUT MOST OF YOUR LIVES, AMERICA HAS BEEN IN  
TURMOIL. SOME OF OUR MOST BELOVED LEADERS WERE  
ASSASSINATED, INCLUDING PRESIDENT KENNEDY WHO SPOKE HERE  
AS A CANDIDATE IN 1960 AND WHOSE MEMORY IS HONORED WITH  
A PLAQUE ON THIS LIBRARY.

THERE WAS A WAR THAT SEEMED TO HAVE NO END. THERE  
WERE DESTRUCTIVE RIOTS ON OUR STREETS AND CAMPUSES. WE  
SUFFERED RUNAWAY INFLATION AND THE WORST RECESSION IN  
40 YEARS. WE WERE BETRAYED BY WRONGDOING AT THE HIGHEST  
LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT.

ASSURE  
BUT LET ME ~~SUGGEST~~ TO YOU THAT THINGS ARE BETTER IN THE  
UNITED STATES TODAY. AS I SAID ON TAKING THE OATH OF  
OFFICE AS PRESIDENT TWO YEARS AGO, "OUR LONG NATIONAL  
NIGHTMARE IS OVER." IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA HAS MADE AN AMAZING COMEBACK, AND WE'RE  
NOT THROUGH YET.



IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, TRUST HAS BEEN RESTORED IN THE  
WHITE HOUSE. WE HAVE TURNED THE ECONOMY AROUND. WE  
ARE AT PEACE -- <sup>will</sup> AND I ~~INTEND TO~~ KEEP IT THAT WAY.  
WE HAVE ENTERED AN ERA OF GOOD FEELING ~~IN THE UNITED~~  
~~STATES,~~ ~~AND~~ WE HAVE GIVEN THE AMERICAN PEOPLE A FRESH START  
ON THE FUTURE.

ON JULY THE FOURTH THIS YEAR, WE CELEBRATED THE BIGGEST  
BIRTHDAY PARTY IN OUR HISTORY. AMERICA WAS 200 YEARS  
OLD, AND GOING STRONG.  
<sup>healed &</sup>  
WE FOUND OURSELVES UNITED AS NEVER BEFORE. WE FOUND  
THAT WE WERE LOOKING TO THE FUTURE AGAIN WITH FAITH, INSTEAD  
OF FEAR.

FOR ALL OUR FAULTS, FOR ALL THE TROUBLES WE HAVE HAD IN  
RECENT YEARS, WE FELT PROUD TO BE AMERICANS, PROUD OF OUR  
COUNTRY.

WE STILL HAVE OUR SHARE OF SERIOUS PROBLEMS. WE  
STILL HAVE GOALS WE HAVE NOT REACHED.

BUT WE HAVE FOUND A ~~BASIC~~ STRENGTH IN OURSELVES AND  
IN OUR NATIONAL CHARACTER THAT IS MORE POWERFUL THAN ALL  
OUR ARMAMENTS, MORE PRECIOUS THAN ALL OUR WEALTH, AND AS  
ENDURING AS THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

AS WE LOOKED BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE AMERICAN  
REVOLUTION, WE FELT THE SAME SPIRIT WHICH GUIDED THE COURAGEOUS  
MEN AND WOMEN WHO FOUNDED THIS COUNTRY.

WE REALIZED MORE VIVIDLY THAN EVER BEFORE THAT WE ARE  
THE HEIRS OF THE GREATEST, MOST CONSTRUCTIVE, MOST ENDURING  
REVOLUTION IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD.

AS WE MOVE FORWARD INTO THE THIRD CENTURY OF  
AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE, WE KNOW THAT THE CHALLENGES OF THE  
FUTURE WILL BE ~~EVEN~~ GREATER THAN THOSE WE FACED IN THE PAST.

HERE AT HOME OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE IS TO ENSURE THAT  
EVERY AMERICAN WHO WANTS A JOB CAN FIND A JOB -- A GOOD JOB  
THAT GIVES A PERSON PRIDE AS WELL AS A PAYCHECK, ~~SECURITY~~  
~~AND NOT JUST A SALARY~~ -- A JOB WITH AN OPPORTUNITY FOR  
ADVANCEMENT -- A JOB GENERATED BY THE DEMANDS OF A HEALTHY  
ECONOMY, NOT MANUFACTURED BY A BIG BROTHER GOVERNMENT.

WE MUST MAKE IT EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO BUY A HOME OF  
THEIR OWN WHILE THEY'RE STILL YOUNG ENOUGH TO ENJOY IT.

WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT OLDER PEOPLE DON'T HAVE TO GO  
BROKE JUST TO GET WELL IN THE [UNITED STATES OF] AMERICA.

WE MUST MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR EVERY YOUNG AMERICAN  
TO GET AN EDUCATION OF HIGH QUALITY / AN EDUCATION YOU CAN  
USE WHEN YOU GET OUT OF SCHOOL.

WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT OUR STREETS AND CAMPUSES  
ARE FREE FROM THE THREAT OF VIOLENT CRIME.

WE MUST TRY HARDER TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT,  
TO PURIFY THE WATER WE DRINK / AND THE AIR THAT WE BREATHE.

WE MUST ENLARGE OUR CAPACITY FOR RECREATION, / ENRICH  
AND PRESERVE OUR TREASURE OF NATURAL BEAUTY AND OUR  
HERITAGE OF HISTORY THROUGHOUT AMERICA.

WE MUST KEEP AMERICA STRONG AND SECURE - BUT WITH  
VOLUNTEERS AND NOT WITH A MILITARY DRAFT•

ABOVE ALL, WE MUST KEEP THE PEACE THAT AMERICA ENJOYS  
TODAY -- THE PEACE THAT FINDS NO AMERICANS IN COMBAT  
ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD•

I AM THE FIRST PRESIDENT IN 20 YEARS TO STAND FOR  
ELECTION IN A TIME OF PEACE• YOU ARE THE FIRST GENERATION  
OF COLLEGE STUDENTS IN 15 YEARS WHO DO NOT FACE THE PROSPECT  
OF GOING TO WAR• I INTEND TO KEEP IT THAT WAY•

KEEPING THE PEACE WITH FREEDOM IS THE KEY TO ALL OUR  
OTHER HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS•

WITHOUT PEACE, WE CANNOT CONCENTRATE ON IMPROVING THE

QUALITY OF LIFE IN AMERICA.

WITHOUT FREEDOM LIFE HAS NO

QUALITY AT ALL.

THEREFORE I WILL TAKE EVERY POSSIBLE STEP TO BUILD PEACE,

NOT ONLY FOR OURSELVES BUT FOR ALL THE WORLD.

WE ARE TAKING THOSE STEPS TOWARD PEACE WHERE THE

GOING IS HARDEST, BUT WHERE THE STAKES ARE HIGHEST - THE

MIDDLE EAST, SOUTHERN AFRICA, THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION

TALKS WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF WAR, WE ARE PROUD TO STAND

FOR PEACE.

WE ARE PROUD TO STAND FOR WHAT IS RIGHT IN THE

WORLD

HUMAN DIGNITY,

DECENCY,

EQUALITY AND FREEDOM.

LAST NIGHT IN THE DEBATE I SPOKE OF AMERICA'S FIRM SUPPORT

FOR THE ASPIRATIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE OF THE NATIONS OF EASTERN

EUROPE.

THE UNITED STATES HAS NEVER CONCEDED AND NEVER WILL

CONCEDE THEIR DOMINATION BY THE SOVIET UNION.



I ADMIRE THE COURAGE OF THE POLISH PEOPLE AND HAVE  
ALWAYS SUPPORTED THE HOPES OF POLISH AMERICANS FOR FREEDOM FOR  
THEIR ANCESTRAL HOMELAND.

IT IS OUR POLICY TO USE EVERY PEACEFUL MEANS TO ASSIST  
COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO BECOME LESS  
DEPENDENT ON THE SOVIET UNION AND TO ESTABLISH CLOSER TIES WITH  
THE WEST.

I AM VERY MUCH AWARE OF THE PRESENT PLIGHT OF THE  
EASTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS AND, AS I DECLARED IN THIS YEAR'S  
CAPTIVE NATIONS PROCLAMATION:

"THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE ASPIRATIONS FOR FREEDOM,  
INDEPENDENCE, AND NATIONAL SELF DETERMINATION OF ALL PEOPLES.  
WE DO NOT ACCEPT FOREIGN DOMINATION OVER ANY NATION."

WE REALLY BELIEVE, AS OUR FOUNDERS DID, THAT THESE  
ARE THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE EVERYWHERE.

WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN SHAPE OUR OWN DESTINY WITH OUR OWN

HANDS.

WE BELIEVE THAT AMERICA IS A SPECIAL COUNTRY,

THAT IN TWO HUNDRED YEARS WE HAVE PASSED FROM OPEN

REBELLION AGAINST FOREIGN MISRULE TO A PEACEFUL, CONTINUING

REVOLUTION FOR THE RIGHTS OF FREE MEN AND WOMEN.

IF WE ARE TO BE TRUE TO OUR HERITAGE, AMERICANS MUST

CONTINUE TO HAVE THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE CAN CONTROL OUR OWN

LIVES, THAT WE CAN LEAVE OUR CHILDREN A BETTER WORLD THAN WE

FOUND, THAT GOVERNMENT WILL BE UNDER OUR CONTROL ~~AND NOT THE~~

~~OTHER WAY AROUND~~ -- A CAPABLE SERVANT AND NOT A MEDDLING

MASTER.

WE DID NOT THROW OFF THE BONDS OF AN OPPRESSIVE

GOVERNMENT IN THE 18TH CENTURY ONLY TO CREATE ONE FOR

*two centuries later*

OURSELVES IN THE 20TH CENTURY.

AMERICA'S FOUNDERS KNEW, AS WE MUST KNOW TODAY, THAT

A GOVERNMENT BIG ENOUGH TO GIVE US EVERYTHING WE WANT IS

A GOVERNMENT BIG ENOUGH TO TAKE FROM US EVERYTHING WE HAVE.

THE GREATEST DANGER I SEE IN AMERICA TODAY IS THE

OVERWHELMING OF THE INDIVIDUAL BY THE MASSIVE INSTITUTIONS OF

GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, LABOR, COMMUNICATIONS, AND EVEN

EDUCATION.

I SEE GOVERNMENT GROWING TOO LARGE, TOO POWERFUL,  
TOO COSTLY, TOO REMOTE, ~~AND YET~~ TOO DEEPLY INVOLVED IN OUR  
DAILY LIVES.

THE MOUNTING TROUBLES IN GREAT BRITAIN, OUR OLD AND  
HONORED ALLY, OFFER COMPELLING EVIDENCE THAT WE CANNOT KEEP  
RELYING ON GOVERNMENT ALONE TO SOLVE ALL OUR PROBLEMS.

FACED WITH THE GRAVEST FINANCIAL CRISIS IN THE  
~~ILLUSTRIOUS~~ HISTORY OF BRITISH DEMOCRACY, PRIME MINISTER  
*before a recent <sup>conversion</sup> of his Labor Party*  
JAMES CALLAGHAN HAD THE COURAGE TO SAY, AND I QUOTE HIM,  
1  
THAT "BRITAIN FOR TOO LONG HAS LIVED ON BORROWED TIME,  
BORROWED MONEY AND BORROWED IDEAS.

WE WILL FAIL IF WE THINK WE CAN BUY OUR WAY OUT OF OUR

PRESENT DIFFICULTIES BY PRINTING CONFETTI MONEY AND PAYING

OURSELVES MORE THAN WE EARN."

I ~~DON'T WANT TO BE PRESIDENT WHEN SOMEONE HAS TO STAND~~  
~~UP AND SAY ABOUT THIS COUNTRY WHAT JAMES CALLAGHAN HAS SAID~~  
~~ABOUT GREAT BRITAIN'S PRESENT PLIGHT.~~

*in America.*  
WE MUST NOT LET THAT HAPPEN ~~TO THE UNITED STATES~~

~~OF AMERICA.~~

*letter* WE ~~CAN~~ AVOID IT.      *can* WE'D ~~BETTER~~ AVOID IT -- AND AS

LONG AS I AM PRESIDENT WE WILL AVOID IT.

WE MUST HAVE A NEW GENERATION OF FREEDOM IN AMERICA

NOT THE FREEDOM TO SHIRK OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND LET THE

GOVERNMENT ASSUME THEM, BUT THE FREEDOM TO DO WHAT WE WANT

TO DO AND WHAT WE OUGHT TO DO -- WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S HELP

BUT NOT AT THE GOVERNMENT'S DIRECTION.

THAT IS THE KIND OF AMERICA I WANT. THAT IS WHY

*a candidate*  
I AM RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT IN 1976, AND WHY I ASK FOR

YOUR HELP ON NOVEMBER 2ND.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT