

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

MAY 31, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary  
(Madrid, Spain)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF THE TOAST GIVEN BY THE  
PRESIDENT AT A LUNCHEON  
AT MONCLOA PALACE  
MADRID, SPAIN

Mr President, Mr. Minister, Your Excellencies:

For a quarter of a century Spain and the United States have enjoyed cordial and productive ties, characterized by our common efforts to meet the danger of aggression against the Western community of Nations, and supported by mutual respect for the aspirations of our respective peoples to secure for themselves a better life. Mindful as we have been of each others' concerns and needs, we have forged a harmonious relationship. We meet today, to reaffirm our commitment to build on this cooperation in a mutually beneficial manner.

The world has changed since the first U.S. -Spanish friendship agreement was signed in 1953. But the need for strong defenses has not lessened. Spain and the United States have in the past contributed together to the maintenance of a strong Western security. The present and future call for no less an effort. The United States remains dedicated to this task.

The cooperation being carried out, in so many fields, between our countries, demonstrates the great breadth of our interests, the depth of our friendship, and the commitment of the United States and Spain to a better life for our citizens. Spain is an important part of our Atlantic conception.

Mr. President, I raise my glass and propose a toast to this spirit of friendship. May our cooperation be preserved and strengthened. May it assure peace for Spaniards and Americans alike.

May our efforts individually and together give our citizens the progress, freedom, and well-being they desire; and may the cooperation of our two countries be further enriched by the continuing friendship between our peoples.

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