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THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AND
QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

KANSAS CITY MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

6:22 P.M. CDT

THE PRESIDENT: It is delightful to be in this part of the country. We love it, and we are coming back next August and we are looking forward to a very successful Convention. We are just delighted to have the opportunity to be here in the Middle West.

QUESTION: Mr. President, can I ask you why you dropped the reference about holding America hostage in the last part of your speech in St. Louis?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't recall any -- you mean in the comments to the White House Conference? I decided that I had followed the script sufficiently in various speeches, and I thought I would incorporate some shortened version, give the people more opportunity to ask questions, and so I just condensed it.

QUESTION: Do you still feel that way, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: I feel that what I said was the thing I wanted to say, and I felt it was better that more people had an opportunity to ask questions than for me to make a speech.

It is really nice to see you all.

END (AT 6:24 P.M. CDT)