

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY  
(San Diego, California)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
UPON HIS DEPARTURE FROM  
LINDBERGHFIELD

8:32 A.M. .PDT

I have an announcement this morning before taking off for Washington and Oregon.

I am pleased to announce that the Secretary of Commerce will designate 36 counties along our border with Mexico--in California, Arizona, but Mexico and Texas-- as the Southwest Border Economic Region. This region is being established in a response to a request by Governor Brown, together with the Governors of New Mexico, Arizona and Texas.

The request has been analyzed by the Department of Commerce, which has recommended establishment of this development region to me. I am convinced that organizations of a regional commission, as authorized by an amendment to the Public Works and Economic Development Act, passed in 1975, will make a major contribution to promoting economic development in the border counties.

California counties to be included in this development region are San Diego, Riverside and Imperial. As an economic development region, the Southwest border area will become eligible for Federal assistance in organizing projects to develop local economic resources. This ties in with my personal philosophy that the proper role of the Federal Government is to help regions and communities work out solutions on their own problems.

Thank you very much. We have enjoyed it here. It is a wonderful part of California and, of course, we love California.

Thank you very much.

END

(AT 8:35 A.M. PDT)