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THIS PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. *df*

TALKING POINTS CEREMONY AT ORATORIO DE SAN PIETRO

(HELO DEPARTURE)

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1975

- 1 -

I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE AT THE ORATORIO, SPONSORED BY THE  
AMERICAN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND TO COMMEND THIS FINE INSTITUTION FOR ITS  
SERVICE TODAY AND THROUGHOUT THE FIFTY YEARS OF ITS HISTORY AS A LINK  
BETWEEN AMERICA AND ITALY.

I COMMEND THE ORATORIO FOR SPREADING AMERICAN IDEALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP, PARENT PARTICIPATION, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

ON MY FIRST VISIT TO ITALY AS PRESIDENT, I AM PROUD TO GREET THE PERSONNEL OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND THE MANY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN ROME.

EVERY AMERICAN CAN BE AN AMBASSADOR OF GOODWILL IN BROADENING THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS WE HAVE TRADITIONALLY ENJOYED WITH ITALY, JUST AS AMBASSADOR VOLPE PERFORMS HIS DAILY DUTIES.

I THANK THE AMBASSADOR AND ALL THE EMBASSY STAFF FOR THEIR HARD WORK ON THIS BRIEF BUT IMPORTANT VISIT -- WHICH I HOPE WILL PROVE A MILESTONE IN AMERICAN-ITALIAN RELATIONS.

I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF AMERICAN-SPONSORED INSTITUTIONS IN ITALY AND THEIR STUDENTS, BOTH AMERICAN AND ITALIAN, BOTH SECULAR AND RELIGIOUS.

AMONG THE STUDENTS HERE TODAY ARE SOME FROM GRAND VALLEY STATE COLLEGE, FOUNDED NEAR MY HOME TOWN, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

THEY ARE ATTENDING THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN ROME UNDER AN EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

(BILL SEIDMAN IS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GRAND VALLEY STATES COLLEGE.)

I AM NATURALLY DELIGHTED TO FIND THAT MICHIGAN'S INSTITUTIONS HAVE THEIR OWN EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN ROME.

I AM GLAD TO GREET THE STUDENTS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE,  
A GRADUATE INSTITUTION FOR AMERICAN CATHOLIC CLERGY STUDYING FOR THE  
PRIESTHOOD.

ALSO, I GREET THE DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE MANY AMERICAN STUDENTS  
STUDYING MEDICINE AND THE MANY OTHER STUDENTS AND FINE INSTITUTIONS IN THIS  
COUNTRY WHICH IS A HISTORIC CENTER OF LEARNING.

I THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TODAY AND GIVING ENCOURAGEMENT  
TO THE EFFORTS OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO WORK TOWARDS PEACE AND A BETTER  
WORLD FOR ALL HUMANITY.

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