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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

LUNCHEON TOAST

BONN, GERMANY

JULY 27, 1975

MR. CHANCELLOR:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VERY KIND REMARKS.

MRS. FORD AND I ARE DELIGHTED TO VISIT BONN AS THE FIRST  
STOP ON THIS TRIP TO EUROPE.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY  
THIS MORNING TO MEET WITH YOU AGAIN FOR A REVIEW OF THE  
BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF CURRENT IMPORTANCE TO  
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED STATES.

AS A RESULT OF OUR SEVERAL MEETINGS DURING 1974 AND 1975,

I HAVE COME TO VALUE NOT ONLY OUR PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP BUT

ALSO YOUR VIEWS ON THE GREAT ISSUES CONFRONTING OUR

COUNTRIES -- INCLUDING THOSE OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE.

THESE CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS ARE OF FUNDAMENTAL  
IMPORTANCE TO OUR EFFORTS, AS FRIENDS AND ALLIES, TO  
ACHIEVE A MORE PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS WORLD FOR PEOPLE  
EVERYWHERE.

MR. CHANCELLOR, ON JULY 30, WE WILL MEET AGAIN  
IN HELSINKI FOR THE THIRD STAGE OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY  
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE. DURING THIS TRIP, I WILL  
ALSO MEET WITH LEADERS OF SOME OF THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN  
EUROPE. THIS ITINERARY IS A SIGN OF OUR TIMES.

IT SYMBOLIZES THE RESOLVE OF BOTH EAST AND WEST TO LESSEN  
THE DANGER OF HOSTILITIES, TO INCREASE CONTACTS AND TO  
WORK TOWARD GREATER COOPERATION. THESE ARE TIMES IN  
WHICH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS PLAYED A  
LEADING ROLE.

I WOULD LIKE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THAT ROLE, AND TO THE CREATIVE LEADERSHIP OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS.

I RAISE MY GLASS TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND TO THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE GERMAN AND AMERICAN PEOPLES.

END OF TEXT