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**THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. . .**

**TOAST FOR DINNER IN HONOR OF**

**LUXEMBOURG PRIME MINISTER GASTON THORN**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1975**

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**MR. PRIME MINISTER, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:**

**IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU,**

**PRIME MINISTER THORN, TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND TO CONTINUE**

**THE DISCUSSIONS BEGUN IN BRUSSELS DURING THE NATO SUMMIT.**

OUR TALKS TODAY HAVE CONFIRMED MY EARLIER  
IMPRESSIONS. YOU ARE NOT ONLY A MOST ABLE SPOKESMAN  
FOR THE INTERESTS OF LUXEMBOURG BUT YOU ARE ALSO A PANEL  
OF STATESMEN EMBODIED IN A SINGLE STATESMAN.

YOU ARE:

- PRIME MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTER AND  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN COMMERCE OF LUXEMBOURG;
- PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY;
- UPCOMING PRESIDENT, AS OF JANUARY 1976,  
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY;

-- AND, TO KEEP FIT IN THE CONDUCT OF THESE MANY DEMANDING OFFICES, YOU ARE ALSO MINISTER OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS OF LUXEMBOURG.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, WE ADMIRE YOUR TALENT, YOUR VERSATILITY, YOUR ENERGY AND YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS. I AM HONORED TO CONSULT WITH YOU ON ISSUES OF SUCH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OUR COUNTRIES AND TO OUR MUTUAL INTEREST AS ALLIES.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, THE TIES BETWEEN

THE UNITED STATES AND LUXEMBOURG ARE VERY OLD AND VERY STRONG.

MANY AMERICANS, ESPECIALLY IN MY OWN MIDWEST,

LOOK PROUDLY TO THEIR LUXEMBOURG ANCESTRY.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LUXEMBOURG-AMERICANS HAVE ENRICHED

OUR NATION.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF OUR NATIONS IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC

TREATY ORGANIZATION DEMONSTRATES OUR MUTUAL BELIEF

THAT THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE MUST BUILD

A POLICY OF PEACE UPON THE FOUNDATION OF A FIRM DEFENSE.

AS THE PRIME MINISTER WILL RECALL, IN MY ADDRESS  
TO THE NATO SUMMIT THIS YEAR, I REVIEWED THE MANY CHALLENGES  
WE FACE TO SAFEGUARD AND ADVANCE OUR VITAL INTERESTS.

IN RECENT MONTHS, WE HAVE SEEN PROGRESS IN EACH OF THESE AREAS.  
THE ALLIANCE IS STRONG AND I AM CONFIDENT OF THE FUTURE.

MR. PRIME MINISTER, THE INTERDEPENDENCE  
OF OUR COUNTRIES ALSO IS REFLECTED IN TRADE, ECONOMIC  
AND ENERGY INTERESTS WHICH WE HAVE REVIEWED TODAY.

I WILL TRAVEL TO EUROPE AT THE END OF THIS WEEK  
FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH LEADERS OF MAJOR INDUSTRIALIZED  
NATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. THESE ISSUES,  
I KNOW, ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO YOU IN YOUR  
UNITED NATIONS ROLE.

AS PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR,  
YOU HAVE THE CRUCIAL TASK OF ENSURING THAT THE UNITED NATIONS  
REMAINS AN IMPARTIAL INSTRUMENT FOR THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION  
OF DIFFERENCES THROUGH THE FRANK DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS.

WE AGREE THAT THE UNITED NATIONS MUST NOT BE AN ARENA  
OF CONFRONTATION, BUT A FORUM FOR CONCILIATION.

YOUR DEDICATION TO DEMOCRATIC VALUES SERVES ALL NATIONS  
WELL AS YOU CARRY OUT YOUR VITAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

THE WIDE RANGE OF YOUR ACTIVITIES,  
MR. PRIME MINISTER, ILLUSTRATES A VERY IMPORTANT FACT  
OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. A NATION NEED NOT BE LARGE  
IN POPULATION OR AREA TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE  
ON THE WORLD STAGE.



IN NATO, IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND IN OTHER MULTILATERAL  
ASSOCIATIONS -- LUXEMBOURG AND THE UNITED STATES WORK  
CLOSELY TOGETHER. LET US CONTINUE OUR COOPERATION  
IN THE INTEREST OF A MORE STABLE AND TRANQUIL WORLD.

THE NATIONAL MOTTO OF LUXEMBOURG STATES:

"WE WANT TO REMAIN WHAT WE ARE." THAT EXPRESSION  
OF LUXEMBOURG'S SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE CHARACTERIZES  
THE RELATIONS BETWEEN LUXEMBOURG AND THE UNITED STATES.

"WE WANT TO REMAIN WHAT WE ARE" -- CLOSE PARTNERS,

FIRM ALLIES, WARM FRIENDS.

IN THAT SPIRIT, I ASK YOU ALL TO JOIN ME IN A TOAST

TO THE PRIME MINISTER, TO OUR CONTINUED CLOSE TIES,

AND TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS GRAND DUKE JEAN (JON).

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