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Office of the White House Press Secretary  
(Warsaw, Poland)

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THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF A TOAST BY THE PRESIDENT  
TO BE DELIVERED  
AT A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY  
FIRST SECRETARY AND MRS. GIEREK  
WARSAW, POLAND

Mr. First Secretary, Mrs. Gierek, ladies and gentlemen: Mrs. Ford and I are delighted to be your guests. It is a great pleasure for me to return to this great country in the very center of Europe a country which is so rich in tradition and so important in the contemporary world.

I welcome this opportunity to reaffirm the United States commitment to friendship with Poland. I am determined to strengthen this relationship.

When we met in Washington last October, First Secretary Gierek and I pledged our countries ". . . to acquire a better knowledge of their respective achievements and values." Both nations can take great satisfaction in our progress toward that goal.

We have made important advances in our bilateral relationship. This is in keeping with the spirit of the documents we signed during the First Secretary's visit. I am pleased to cite:

- the continuing efforts of both sides to increase trade and commerce;
- the visits and exchanges between our scientists, industrial and mining specialists and agricultural experts; and
- the educational and cultural programs which each year enable more Poles and Americans to know each other and to exchange ideas.

The United States recently presented "The World of Franklin and Jefferson" Bicentennial exhibition in Warsaw. It vividly depicted America's past and Poland's long and close association with us. You may remember one of Benjamin Franklin's remarks featured in the exhibition. According to Franklin, "Human felicity is produced not so much by great pieces of good fortune that seldom happen, as by little advantages that occur every day."

We have men and women of great vision in Poland and America. But we realize that real progress in the relations between countries really comes from the millions who give form and substance to the aspirations of their governments.

Distinguished hosts, ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to join me in a toast to all Polish and American citizens -- scholars, scientists, workers, farmers, writers, musicians and others -- who day by day are striving to develop the "little advantages" so important to the growing friendship between our countries.

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