

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY
SECRETARY ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
TEXAS DELEGATION BREAKFAST
DALLAS, TEXAS
AUGUST 22, 1984

WHAT A JOY IT IS TO BE WITH YOU THIS MORNING, AND THANK YOU FOR THAT TEXAS-SIZED WELCOME.

I AM DELIGHTED THAT OUR CONVENTION THIS YEAR IS IN THE LONE-STAR STATE -- YOU TEXANS REALLY KNOW HOW TO THROW A PARTY!

TEXAS IS ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF CHANGE AND A LEADER IN INDUSTRIES THAT ARE SHAPING AMERICA'S FUTURE. THE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THIS STATE OVER THE PAST DECADE IS NOTHING SHORT OF REMARKABLE. AND THE EYES OF THE NATION ARE UPON YOU TO LEARN FROM YOUR SUCCESS STORY.

THIS MORNING, I WANT TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT CHANGE, A DIFFERENT KIND OF CHANGE. FOR MUCH OF THE LAST DECADE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE GONE THROUGH SOME WRENCHING EXPERIENCES, BOTH HERE AT HOME AND ABROAD. WE WERE TESTED AND WE WERE TRIED. INDEED, THE BEST THING ABOUT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S PERFORMANCE WAS THE CURTAIN CALL. BUT THAT WAS YESTERDAY. THE FACT THAT WE NOW HAVE SUCH FINE LEADERS IN GOVERNMENT IS DUE IN NO SMALL PART TO THOSE WHO GIVE TO THE POLITICAL PROCESS THEIR HEART, AS WELL AS THEIR MATERIAL RESOURCES -- WHO SHARE THEIR TIME, THEIR ENERGY, THEIR COMMITMENT.

I'M LOOKING AT SUCH A GATHERING TODAY, AND IF I HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO IMPART, I WANT TO EXPRESS THE PERSONAL GRATITUDE THAT I FEEL ALONG WITH SO MANY OTHERS IN THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION, FOR ALL YOU DO TO MAKE WHAT WE DO POSSIBLE.

AMERICA IN 1984 IS A VERY CHANGED SOCIETY. WHEN RONALD REAGAN TOOK OFFICE, ONLY FIVE WEEKS INTO HIS NEW ADMINISTRATION, HE STEPPED UP TO THE TOUGH ECONOMIC ISSUES AND HE MADE THE HARD DECISIONS. HE DETERMINED THAT HE WAS GOING TO TURN AROUND THIS ECONOMY OF OURS. AS

YOU KNOW, INFLATION WAS THE NUMBER ONE PROBLEM IN THIS COUNTRY. PEOPLE DON'T TALK ABOUT IT ANY MORE AND THEY HAVE SORT OF FORGOTTEN WHAT IT WAS LIKE BACK THEN, BUT WE REMEMBER, DON'T WE? WE REMEMBER DOUBLE-DIGIT INFLATION. WE REMEMBER THAT INTEREST RATES WERE 21 1/2 PERCENT. WE REMEMBER THAT WE HAD THE LOWEST ANNUAL RATE OF GROWTH IN PRODUCTIVITY OF ANY MAJOR INDUSTRIAL POWER. AND WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE TAXES THAT WERE LOADED ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

THANKS TO RONALD REAGAN AND OUR REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN CONGRESS, OVER \$300 BILLION WILL STAY IN YOUR POCKETS INSTEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT'S VAULT -- BECAUSE THIS PRESIDENT INSISTED THAT TAXES SHOULD BE REFORMED. AND AT THE SAME TIME, THE GROWTH IN FEDERAL SPENDING HAS BEEN CUT BY TWO-THIRDS. IT IS PHENOMENAL -- WHAT THIS PRESIDENT HAS DONE IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. IN FACT THE SITUATION WAS SO BAD BACK THEN THAT EXPERTS SAID IT WOULD TAKE TEN YEARS OR MORE TO WRING INFLATION OUT OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY. YOU AND I KNOW THAT THOSE EXPERTS WERE WRONG.

PRESIDENT REAGAN DID IT IN TWO YEARS, NOT TEN. AND WHO BENEFITS THE MOST? WORKING MEN AND WOMEN, WHO ARE STRUGGLING TO MAKE ENDS MEET WHILE RAISING THEIR FAMILIES -- THAT'S WHO BENEFITS THE MOST. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MEASURE TODAY'S EXTRA PURCHASING POWER -- THE RESULT OF OUR VICTORY OVER INFLATION.

INFLATION IS NOW RUNNING ABOUT 4% -- INCREDIBLE. IN THE PAST QUARTER, THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT GREW AT 7.5 PERCENT -- MUCH HIGHER THAN ANYONE EXPECTED, AND UNEMPLOYMENT NOW HAS DROPPED TO 7.5 PERCENT.

FOR MOST AMERICANS THE COMBINATION OF LESS TAXATION AND MUCH LESS INFLATION MEANS A HEFTY SPURT IN WHAT THEY CAN BUY AND INVEST, AND THEIR CONFIDENCE HAS HELPED FUEL THE MOST DRAMATIC ECONOMIC RECOVERY

SINCE WORLD WAR II. IN THE LAST 20 MONTHS THERE ARE ABOUT 6.4 MILLION MORE PEOPLE WORKING. AGAIN, IT'S ASTOUNDING!

AMERICA IS BACK, AS THE PRESIDENT HAS TOLD US, BUT MORE THAN THAT, AMERICA IS MOVING FORWARD. BY AND LARGE THERE HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE RESURGENCE OF LIFE IN OUR ECONOMY OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS.

WHAT REMAINS IS TO LOWER DEFICITS AND MOVE TOWARD NATIONAL RENEWAL AND EXPANSION. I WANT TO URGE EACH OF YOU TO DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO SEE THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO JUST THAT. YOU CAN HELP BY WORKING TO ELECT PHIL GRAMM TO THE SENATE FROM THIS GREAT STATE. WE ARE PROUD TO HAVE PHIL AS A MEMBER OF OUR PARTY, AND WE SURE COULD USE A MAN LIKE PHIL TO FOLLOW IN THE TRADITION OF JOHN TOWER. AND WE NEED TO WORK TO ELECT MORE REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMEN AND

LEGISLATORS AT EVERY LEVEL THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF TEXAS.

NOW SPEAKING OF CHANGE, THERE'S ANOTHER MESSAGE THAT NEEDS TO BE HEARD WITH THE SAME CLARITY THAT OUR ECONOMIC MESSAGE HAS BEEN PERCEIVED. THE TIME HAS COME, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TO TURN UP THE VOLUME ON WHAT THIS PRESIDENT IS DOING FOR AMERICAN WOMEN. IT IS THIS PRESIDENT WHO APPOINTED THE FIRST WOMAN TO THE SUPREME COURT -- SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR. SHE WAS OFFERED A LEGAL TYPIST'S JOB IN 1952 -- AND WENT ON TO BREAK THE TYPE AND INTERPRET THE LAW OF THE LAND IN THIS NATION'S HIGHEST COURT. HELENE VON DAMM WAS THE FIRST WOMAN TO HEAD ALL OF PRESIDENTIAL PERSONNEL FOR THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT AND NOW IS AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES TO AUSTRIA. THIS IS THE FIRST CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO APPOINT THREE WOMEN TO THE CABINET. I'M PLEASED TO BE ON THE FRONTIER IN TRANSPORTATION, AND I'VE DISCOVERED MY OWN FOOTNOTE IN HISTORY. I AM THE FIRST WOMAN TO HEAD A BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES -- THE COAST

GUARD.

BUT I KNOW PERSONALLY HOW HARD IT IS TO CHANGE PUBLIC ATTITUDES. I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT DAY BACK IN SEPTEMBER 1962 WHEN I ENTERED HARVARD LAW SCHOOL. I WAS ONE OF 25 WOMEN IN A CLASS OF 550. MY FIRST DAY AT HARVARD, I WAS ACCOSTED BY A MALE CLASSMATE, A YOUNG MAN WHO DEMANDED TO KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING THERE. "DON'T YOU REALIZE," HE SAID, IN TONES OF MORAL OUTRAGE, "THAT THERE ARE MEN WHO WOULD GIVE THEIR RIGHT ARM TO BE IN THIS LAW SCHOOL, MEN WHO WOULD USE THEIR LEGAL EDUCATION?"

OBVIOUSLY THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT I WAS TAKING THE PLACE OF A MAN. AND COME TO THINK OF IT, SOME MAY HAVE THOUGHT THAT WHEN I WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION. WHEN I FINISHED LAW SCHOOL IN 1965, ONLY 30 PERCENT OF WOMEN WERE IN THE WORKFORCE. AND TODAY, SOME 54 PERCENT OF WOMEN ARE WORKING. AND WHAT'S EVEN MORE ASTOUNDING, 66 PERCENT OF WOMEN WITH CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 17 ARE IN THE WORKFORCE TODAY. AGAIN, NOTHING SHORT OF REVOLUTIONARY. THE UNFORTUNATE RISE IN DIVORCES MEANS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A GROWING NUMBER OF WORKING MOTHERS RAISING THEIR CHILDREN ALONE.

IN FACT, IN THE LAST DECADE THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE OF 55 PERCENT IN SINGLE HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS, MOST OF WHOM ARE WOMEN. THIS TIDAL WAVE OF QUALIFIED WOMEN COMING INTO THE WORKFORCE IS WHAT I CALL THE "QUIET REVOLUTION" -- ONE WHICH HAS CREATED A WHOLE NEW SET OF PROBLEMS ANY PRESIDENT IN THE OVAL OFFICE WOULD FACE TODAY. GIVEN THE MEDIAN INCOME OF WOMEN TODAY -- AND THAT'S ONLY \$13,000, THERE ARE WOMEN IN OUR SOCIETY WHO ARE TRULY IN NEED OF HELP. AND I AM CONVINCED THAT MANY WOMEN AND MEN ARE WATCHING TO SEE HOW WE ADDRESS THESE NEEDS

HOUGH THEY, THEMSELVES, ARE NOT IN THE TARGET GROUPS. I ALSO BELIEVE THAT IF RONALD REAGAN'S RECORD FOR WOMEN WERE FULLY UNDERSTOOD, WE WOULD SEE THE GENDER GAP BEGIN TO CLOSE.

FOR INSTANCE: HOW MANY AMERICANS KNOW THAT IT IS THIS PRESIDENT WHO SPONSORED LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT ACTION AGAINST FATHERS WHO FAIL TO PAY COURT-ORDERED CHILD SUPPORT? THE BILL SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT LAST WEEK SHOULD HELP COLLECT THAT NEARLY \$4 BILLION IN DELINQUENT PAYMENTS DUE TO MILLIONS OF MOTHERS WHO ARE TRYING TO RAISE THEIR CHILDREN ALONE.

IT IS THIS PRESIDENT WHO IS HELPING TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE OLDER WOMEN WHO MAY HAVE DEVOTED HERSELF ENTIRELY TO THE ROLE OF MOTHER AND HOMEMAKER -- PERHAPS THE MOST AMBITIOUS AND IMPORTANT OF CAREERS -- THE SAME WOMEN WHO FINDS HERSELF IN THE FASTEST GROWING SEGMENT OF POOR AMERICANS. IT IS THIS PRESIDENT WHO HELPED TO CHANGE SOCIAL SECURITY LAWS TO EQUALIZE BENEFITS. A BILL PASSED THIS MONTH AND SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT WILL GUARANTEE EQUAL PENSION BENEFITS AND ENSURE THAT WOMEN WHO ARE DEPENDENT ON THEIR SPOUSE'S PENSION CAN NO LONGER BE SURPRISED BY ITS TERMINATION; A HUSBAND CAN NO LONGER WAIVE PENSION RIGHTS WITHOUT THE WIFE'S AGREEMENT IN WRITING.

THIS IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKING WITH CONGRESS AND GOVERNORS TO ELIMINATE VESTIGES OF DISCRIMINATION FROM OUR FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS. TOGETHER WITH THE CONGRESS, THIS PRESIDENT STRUCK HARD AT THE SO-CALLED "MARRIAGE TAX" PENALTY THAT UNFAIRLY PENALIZED WORKING WOMEN. THANKS TO OUR PRESIDENT AND OUR PARTY, MILLIONS OF WOMEN STAND TO GAIN FROM THE VIRTUAL ELIMINATION OF THE ESTATE TAX, PERMITTING FOR THE FIRST TIME A SPOUSE TO KEEP A FARM

OR SMALL BUSINESS INSTEAD OF HAVING TO SELL IT TO PAY TAXES.

THANKS TO RONALD REAGAN, AND OUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, THERE ARE IMPROVED IRA ACCOUNTS FOR HOMEMAKERS AND SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN TAX CREDITS FOR DEPENDENT CARE EXPENSES. I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME OUR MESSAGE ON WOMEN IS HEARD. AND THAT'S WHERE YOU AND I CAN SURELY HELP. I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO HELP ME GET OUR RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT ACROSS TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THIS NOVEMBER. FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN'S RECORD IS ONE THAT HE AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY CAN BE PROUD OF.

SO AGAIN, I URGE YOU TO PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS. THERE IS STILL A LOT OF IMPORTANT WORK TO BE FINISHED. AND WE NEED TO JOIN HANDS AND WORK TOGETHER TO RE-ELECT PRESIDENT REAGAN AND ELECT REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS ALL ACROSS THIS NATION.

ONE OF THE GREATEST OF AMERICANS WAS A WOMAN WHO NEVER ENTERED A VOTING BOOTH. SHE NEVER HELD PUBLIC OFFICE.

YET HER SPIRIT AND HER EXAMPLE HAVE INSPIRED MILLIONS. HER NAME WAS HELEN KELLER -- AND SHE SUMMED UP HER PHILOSOPHY IN A SINGLE SENTENCE. "ONE CAN NEVER CONSENT TO CREEP," SHE SAID, "WHEN ONE FEELS AN IMPULSE TO SOAR." NO ONE OF US CAN CONSENT TO CREEP THROUGH THIS ELECTION. WE NEED TO SOAR; THE PRESIDENT AND ALL OUR REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES DESERVE IT. HISTORY DEMANDS IT. AND OUR CHILDREN WILL REWARD IT.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.