

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY  
SECRETARY ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE  
LIBERTY BAPTIST COLLEGE  
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA  
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WHAT A <sup>joy</sup>DELIGHT IT IS TO BE WITH YOU THIS MORNING AND TO BE WELCOMED SO WARMLY BY DR. FALWELL, WHO IS BOTH A GOOD FRIEND AND OLD ACQUAINTANCE. I HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING WITH <sup>Dr. & Mrs. Falwell</sup>HIM AGAIN RECENTLY DURING THE WEEK OF THE NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST, AND HE GRACIOUSLY INVITED ME TO VISIT YOUR CAMPUS. <sup>I have the greatest respect for what Dr. Falwell</sup>~~Thomson~~ <sup>of silent prayer - tornadoes</sup>

THIS PLACE OF CHRISTIAN HIGHER LEARNING IS A FAR CRY FROM THE RURAL CHURCH AND THE LITTLE COUNTRY SCHOOLHOUSE OF YESTERYEAR, AND YET THE VALUES THAT MADE THOSE <sup>wonderful</sup>STORIES INSTITUTIONS A TREASURED PART OF OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE REMAIN EVER NEW AND FOREVER BRIGHT HERE IN THIS COLLEGE AND THROUGH YOUR OUTREACH. <sup>is doing for you and for this nation. Man of iron courage & heart.</sup>

IN AN ELECTION YEAR, WHEN IT IS PARTICULARLY FASHIONABLE TO TALK ABOUT "NEW IDEAS," I PREFER TO SHARE THE COMPANY OF PEOPLE UNITED IN PURSUIT OF TRADITIONAL VALUES. AND LET US NEVER MISTAKE <sup>is truly an inspiration.</sup>

THE TWO, OR PRESUME ANY MIRACLE POWERS ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENT.

I AM REMINDED OF A STORY ABOUT AN OLD MOUNTAINEER IN MY HOME STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. HE HAD BEEN UP ON THE MOUNTAIN SIDE VISITING HIS STILL AND LOADED HIS CAR TRUNK WITH HIS PRODUCT. HE THEN BEGAN TO DRIVE DOWN THE WINDING MOUNTAIN ROAD TO THE VALLEY BELOW TO SELL IT. A SHERIFF COMING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN SIDE NOTICED THE OLD MOUNTAINEER AND BECAME SUSPICIOUS SINCE THE CAR, WITH ITS HEAVY CARGO, WAS SINKING VERY LOW TO THE ROAD. THE SHERIFF MOTIONED HIM OVER TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD. "WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN THAT CAR TRUNK," HE ASKED THE OLD MOUNTAINEER. "IT'S NOTHING SHERIFF. IT'S ONLY BRANCH WATER." "WELL, LET'S TAKE A LOOK," REPLIED THE SHERIFF. THE MOUNTAINEER OPENED THE TRUNK. THE SHERIFF NOT ONLY TOOK A LOOK, HE TOOK A TASTE. "THIS ISN'T BRANCH WATER, HE EXCLAIMED. "THAT'S



WHISKEY!" "PRAISE THE LORD," SHOUTED THE MOUNTAINEER. "HE'S DONE IT AGAIN!"

FOR HALF A CENTURY IN AMERICA, GOVERNMENT TRIED TO WORK ANOTHER KIND OF MIRACLE -- ~~SEEKING TO GENERATE WEALTH OUT OF NOTHING;~~ ENDEAVORING TO SATISFY EVERY HUMAN APPETITE, OVERCOME <sup>*all of*</sup> SOCIETY'S ILLS, AND BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE.

IN THE PROCESS WE LOST SIGHT OF OUR BASIC PRINCIPLES. WE DULLED THE CUTTING EDGE OF FREE ENTERPRISE. WE TRIED TO PURSUADE OURSELVES THAT GOVERNMENT OWED US A LIVING.

CAUGHT UP IN A CYNICAL SOCIETY, WE BEGAN TO WONDER IF INDIVIDUALS COUNTED ANY LONGER -- IF THERE WAS ~~ANY LONGER~~ ANY VIRTUE TO PUBLIC SERVICE, IN CARING FOR OTHERS OR CONCERN FOR COUNTRY. IN THE MOST PAINFUL IRONY OF ALL, A GOVERNMENT THAT REGARDED ITSELF AS

THE SOCIAL CONSCIENCE OF OUR NATION HELPED CREATE THE "ME GENERATION."

ALL OF THAT, THANKFULLY, HAS CHANGED. THE "ME GENERATION" HAS AGAIN BECOME THE "WE GENERATION," AS AMERICANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY REGAIN CONFIDENCE IN THE SPIRIT OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE HELPING HAND OF FRIENDSHIP THAT BUILT OUR GREAT NATION IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THINK FOR A MOMENT ABOUT WHO WE ARE, AND WHERE WE CAME FROM. BEFORE THERE WAS AN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, THERE WERE AMERICANS DRAWN TOGETHER IN VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS. FROM OUR EARLIEST DAYS, WE HAVE BEEN PRONE TO ORGANIZE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY. PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE, THERE WERE SONS OF LIBERTY AND COMMITTEES OF CORRESPONDENCE TO RAISE THE FLAG OF A NEW NATION. GOVERNMENT AROSE TO DEFEND OUR TERRITORY, PROMOTE OUR ENTERPRISE, AND EMBODY THE



CHARITABLE ATTITUDES OF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES. OVER THE YEARS, THE VOLUNTEER TRADITION CONTINUED: ON WESTERN PRAIRIES AND IN URBAN SLUMS, AT CHURCH SUPPERS AND COMMUNITY CHESTS.

FOR MUCH OF OUR HISTORY, AMERICANS RELIED ON THE VOLUNTARY EFFORTS OF BUSINESS, CHURCHES, FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE JOBS, INCOME, HEALTH CARE, FOOD AND HOUSING TO THOSE MOST IN NEED. WHEN DISASTER STRUCK, THE RED CROSS ARRIVED BEFORE FEDERAL LOANS. FORTY SOME YEARS AGO, WHEN AMERICAN SERVICEMEN LACKED RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, THE U.S.O. STEPPED IN TO FILL THE VOID.

WE DREW MUCH OF OUR STRENGTH AS A NATION FROM OUR MORAL COMMITMENT TO ONE ANOTHER. WHEN THE PROBLEMS GREW TOO LARGE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ADDRESS, GOVERNMENT INEVITABLY SUCCEEDED TO THE

CHALLENGE. BUT GOVERNMENT, IT HAS BEEN CONCLUSIVELY DEMONSTRATED, CANNOT BY ITSELF PROVIDE THE FULL RANGE OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO ALL WHO ARE IN NEED. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, GOVERNMENT CAN RARELY SUMMON THE ENTHUSIASM OR THE IMAGINATION THAT AROUSED PRIVATE CITIZENS CAN BRING TO BEAR ON A STUBBORN PROBLEM. IN OTHER WORDS, PUBLIC INTENTIONS CAN RARELY EQUAL PRIVATE SOLUTIONS.

WHEN WE THINK ABOUT IT, THE DOMINANCE OF GOVERNMENT IN OUR LIVES AROSE IN RELATIVELY RECENT TIMES. HISTORICALLY, WE AMERICANS HAVE NEVER NEEDED GOVERNMENT TO INSTILL IN US COMPASSION FOR OUR NEIGHBORS. IN NO OTHER LAND DOES PHILANTHROPY REST ON AS BROAD A BASE AS HERE, WHERE A FRENCHMAN, ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE, FOUND IT LOURISHING A HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO. WHILE VISITING THE SHORES OF OUR INFANT REPUBLIC IN 1826, THE GREAT FRENCH PHILOSOPHER



DISCERNED SOMETHING UNIQUELY AMERICAN. "IF I WERE ASKED...TO WHAT THE PROSPERITY AND GROWING STRENGTH OF THAT PEOPLE OUGHT MAINLY TO BE ATTRIBUTED," HE WROTE, "I SHOULD REPLY: TO THE SUPERIORITY OF ITS WOMEN... AND <sup>to</sup> THE VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION -- THAT UNIQUE AMERICAN INSTITUTION WHEREBY PEOPLE ASSOCIATE TO STRENGTHEN THEIR CAUSE AS WELL AS THEIR VOICE."

IN TRUTH, WE ARE STILL WHAT WE WERE THEN -- A PHILANTHROPIC FAMILY: ONE MILLION VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ROLLING UP THEIR SLEEVES INSTEAD OF TWIDDLING THEIR THUMBS; MILLIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO GAVE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN CHARITABLE DONATIONS LAST YEAR ALONE; THOUSANDS OF CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS, WHO CHIPPED IN BILLIONS MORE ON TOP OF THAT AMOUNT. AND IN AMERICA, GENEROSITY IS NOT MEASURED BY ECONOMIC ATTAINMENTS: HALF OF ALL THE GIVING IN THIS

COUNTRY COMES FROM FAMILIES WITH ANNUAL INCOMES OF LESS THAN \$20,000.

ONE OF THE PRIME OBJECTIVES OF THIS ADMINISTRATION IS TO PUT MORE DOLLARS IN THE HANDS OF SUCH GENEROUS CITIZENS. WE DO NOT INTEND TO REPLACE GOVERNMENT'S SOCIAL CONSCIENCE. WE WILL NOT RETREAT FROM SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. WE ARE, HOWEVER, COMMITTED TO REDISCOVERING A NATIONAL SENSE OF COMMUNITY, TO TAPPING THE ROOTS OF PRIVATE GIVING AND SCALING THE HEIGHTS OF PRIVATE INGENUITY. THE PRESIDENT EARLY IN HIS ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCED HIS OWN COMMITMENT TO A PROGRAM OF PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVES -- A PARTNERSHIP WITH FREE ENTERPRISE TO FIND ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF HELPING THOSE IN GENUINE NEED, NOT IN LIEU OF FEDERAL EFFORTS, BUT IN ADDITION TO THEM. THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS WAS TO RESTORE OUR ECONOMY TO GOOD HEALTH.



THAT IS RAPIDLY BEING ACCOMPLISHED, AND FAR FASTER THAN EVEN THE MOST OPTIMISTIC BELIEVED POSSIBLE. NOW WE CAN AGAIN GENERATE THE MILLIONS OF INDIVIDUAL MIRACLES THAT HAPPEN WHEN MEN AND WOMEN ARE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO CHART THEIR OWN LIVES, HARNESS THEIR OWN AMBITIONS, CREATE THEIR OWN FUTURES AND STRENGTHEN THEIR OWN FAMILIES.

TODAY WE ARE WITNESSING ALL ACROSS AMERICA A TREMENDOUS REAWAKENING; A RESURGENCE OF THOSE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES THAT GAVE CHARACTER TO OUR LAND AND REALITY TO OUR DREAMS. WE ARE RENEWING THE PROVEN IDEALS OF HARD WORK, PRIDE OF FAMILY, LOVE OF FREEDOM AND -- YES -- TRUST IN GOD. THEY REMAIN THE GREAT VALUES THEY ALWAYS HAVE BEEN.

PRESIDENT REAGAN CAME TO OFFICE SENSING A THIRST IN AMERICA FOR

*Lynchburg Lifesaving + Rescue Crew - 50 yr. anniversary - Many awards for yrs of volunteer service saving 50 many lives & giving some lives in the process.*

A RETURN TO THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF OUR FOREFATHERS. HE HAS LED AMERICA IN RESTORING FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN HER INSTITUTIONS. HE PROCLAIMED 1983 THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE, EXPRESSING HIS OWN FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S WORD. RECENTLY HE REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE REKINDLING OF RELIGIOUS VALUES, SAYING HE DOES NOT WANT THE U.S. "TO BE ANOTHER GREAT CIVILIZATION THAT BEGINS ITS DECLINE BY FORSAKING ITS GOD."

THE RECORD OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION LEAVES NO DOUBT THAT ~~THE~~ <sup>our</sup> FOUNDING FATHERS WERE SUSTAINED BY THEIR FAITH IN GOD, AND THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ITSELF AFFIRMS THAT ALL MEN ARE "ENDOWED BY THEIR CREATOR WITH CERTAIN INALIENABLE RIGHTS." GEORGE WASHINGTON ONCE SAID, "OF ALL THE DISPOSITIONS AND HABITS WHICH LEAD TO POLITICAL PROSPERITY, RELIGION AND MORALITY ARE INDISPENSABLE



SUPPORTS."

LIKEWISE, OUR HISTORY OF SOCIAL REFORMS HAS DEEP SPIRITUAL UNDERPINNING. JOHN WESLEY PIONEERED SOCIAL REFORMS IN ADDITION TO PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL. WILLIAM WILBERFORCE LED THE MOVE TO ABOLISH SLAVERY. GENERAL WILLIAM BOOTH PREACHED SALVATION -- AND FOUNDED THE SALVATION ARMY. LIKE OUR FOUNDING FATHERS WHO SHAPED OUR POLITICAL HISTORY, THESE WERE PEOPLE OF SPIRITUAL STRENGTH.

I KNOW <sup>each of has</sup> YOU ~~HAVE~~ MADE A PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO THINGS OF THE SPIRIT. YOU ~~WOULD NOT~~ <sup>wouldn't</sup> BE ENROLLED IN THIS COLLEGE IF YOU HAD NOT. I INVITE YOU TODAY TO CONSIDER ANOTHER COMMITMENT -- TO PUBLIC SERVICE. THE TWO, I HAVE FOUND, GO HAND IN HAND. AND BOTH CAN BE TREMENDOUSLY FULFILLING.

A RECENT NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE REPORTED THAT I DEBATED SEVERAL

DAYS WHETHER TO ACCEPT MY CURRENT POSITION AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET. I DID -- BUT NOT FOR THE REASONS GIVEN IN THE ARTICLE. IT WAS A GREAT SOURCE OF JOY TO ME THAT I WAS LED TO SEEK, WITH SEVERAL CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, GOD'S WILL FOR MY LIFE. I COULD NOT IMAGINE UNDERTAKING SUCH A TASK IF IT WERE NOT WITHIN HIS PLAN FOR ME -- FOR I KNEW IT WOULD REQUIRE STRENGTH, WISDOM AND COURAGE BEYOND MY OWN.

TOGETHER WE PRAYED, CONSULTED SCRIPTURE AND SOUGHT TO UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF GOD THROUGH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, AN EXPERIENCE WHICH WAS EXTREMELY HELPFUL AND REASSURING IN TAKING ON SOME VERY HEAVY CHALLENGES.

MY CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE OFFERS DAILY OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OTHERS, TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THEIR LIVES, AND IT OFFERS



A PLATFORM FROM WHICH I CAN WITNESS. IN FACT, THIS SUNDAY I WILL DELIVER THE SERMON AT MY HOME CHURCH IN SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA.

YES, EACH OF US HAS A MINISTRY. IT NEEDN'T BE HOUSED IN A CHURCH OR GARBED IN ROBES. WHATEVER CAREER PATHS YOU CHOOSE, YOUR INFLUENCE COULD MEAN THE DIFFERENCE IN SO MANY LIVES -- AND EACH OF US MOST CERTAINLY HAS A CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE. THE WORLD IS RIPE AND READY FOR MEN AND WOMEN OF FAITH WHO RECOGNIZE THAT THEY ARE NOT IMMUNE FROM THE PREDICAMENTS OF THE DAY, MEN AND WOMEN WILLING TO ACCEPT THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING AND WHO ARE READY TO SEE THAT THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD MAY HAVE BROUGHT THEM TO SUCH A TIME AS THIS.

WE ARE ADMONISHED IN THE SCRIPTURES TO BE DOERS OF THE WORD, NOT HEARERS ONLY. PUBLIC SERVICE EQUALLY DEMANDS OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD AROUND US. WE MAY SERVE IN SOME OFFICIAL CAPACITY. WE

MAY ALSO SERVE EFFECTIVELY AS VOLUNTEERS. *And we may do both.*

~~FOR EXAMPLE~~, THOSE WHO FIRST SPOKE OUT AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING WERE VOLUNTEERS. MOST OF THEM -- LIKE CANDY LIGHTNER, FOUNDER OF MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING -- SUFFERED THE LOSS OF A CHILD. THEY STEPPED FORWARD. THEY MADE THEMSELVES HEARD. THEY LABELED DRUNK DRIVING A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY, UNACCEPTABLE IN A SOCIETY THAT REVERES LIFE. I AM PRIVILEGED TO BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THEM IN A MASSIVE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO RID OUR HIGHWAYS OF EVERY LAST DRUNK DRIVER. I MEET AS WELL WITH YOUNG PEOPLE WHO SHARE MY CONCERN OVER TEEN-AGE DRINKING AND DRIVING. THESE RESPONSIBLE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT ALCOHOL-RELATED ACCIDENTS ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE 15-TO-24 AGE GROUP. THAT IS AS SAD AS IT IS TRAGIC. AND I <sup>have</sup> ~~am~~ GREAT ADMIRATION FOR



YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE COURAGE TO JOIN TOGETHER IN AN ORGANIZATION CALLED SADD (STUDENTS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVERS) TO REACH THEIR PEERS WITH THE MESSAGE THAT DRINKING AND DRIVING CAN BE DEADLY. THERE ARE NOW MORE THAN 6,000 CHAPTERS OF SADD NATIONWIDE - AND THEIR IMPACT IS BEING FELT ~~IN THE COMMUNITY, SO MUCH~~ *all across this land.*

SINCE 1980, TRAFFIC FATALITIES HAVE DECLINED BY MORE THAN 15 PERCENT. THE 1983 HIGHWAY DEATH TOLL WAS THE LOWEST IN 20 YEARS AND THE FATALITY RATE -- THE NUMBER OF DEATHS PER MILLION MILES TRAVELED -- 22 PERCENT BETTER THAN IN 1980, AND THE LOWEST EVER RECORDED IN OUR COUNTRY. I KNOW YOU CAN'T ATTRIBUTE ALL OF THAT ACHIEVEMENT TO THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING, BUT ALONG WITH OUR EMPHASIS ON SAFETY BELTS AND CHILD SAFETY SEATS, THAT CAMPAIGN HAS HEIGHTENED PUBLIC AWARENESS OF SAFETY ISSUES AND CONTRIBUTED TO SAFER TRAVEL.

I HAVE MADE SAFETY IN ALL FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION THE HIGHEST PRIORITY OF MY SERVICE AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION. I HAVE PLACED SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON OUR HIGHWAYS WHERE 92 PERCENT OF FATALITIES OCCUR. THIS IS A MAJOR PART OF MY COMMITMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES.

*job* ~~SERVICE~~ SOMETIMES IT SEEMS THAT THE DEMANDS AND CHALLENGES OF MY ~~SERVICE~~ ARE OVERWHELMING. AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, I MANAGE 102,000 EMPLOYEES AND A BUDGET OF 28 BILLION DOLLARS. I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR A MULTI-YEAR 10 BILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM TO MODERNIZE OUR AIRSPACE -- DOUBLING THE CAPACITY OF OUR AIRWAYS, ~~IMPROVING~~ *proving our airways,* WEATHER ~~INFORMATION~~ AND PROVIDING NEW AND MORE PRECISE LANDING SYSTEMS; ALL OF WHICH WILL MAKE AIR TRAVEL, ALREADY SAFE, EVEN SAFER.



I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NEARLY ONE MILLION MILES OF ROADS AND BRIDGES THAT MAKE UP OUR FEDERAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM, AND WE ARE PUTTING FUNDS TO WORK ON THE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF THAT SYSTEM AT A FASTER RATE AND IN LARGER AMOUNTS THAN EVER BEFORE. I OVERSEE THE LIFE-SAVING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD -- AND IN THAT CAPACITY I AM THE FIRST WOMAN TO HEAD A BRANCH OF OUR ARMED SERVICES.

THE CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION -- CONRAIL -- IS ALSO A PROPERTY OF MY DEPARTMENT. WITH 15,000 ROUTE MILES IN 15 STATES, IT'S THE LARGEST RAILROAD IN THE NORTHEAST. IT'S NOW SHOWING A PROFIT, I'M PLEASED TO SAY, AND MY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO RETURN IT TO

THE PRIVATE SECTOR *to sell it and move toward getting the Federal govt out of the RR business.*

I AM ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY IN ALL FORMS OF

TRANSPORTATION; IN FACT, FOR EVERYTHING THAT MOVES.

YES, THE CHALLENGES ARE ENORMOUS; THE DEMANDS, HEAVY. SO WHERE DOES THE POWER COME FROM TO SEE THE RACE TO ITS END? ERIC LIDDLE, SCOTLAND'S BELOVED OLYMPIC RUNNER, BOTH ASKED THAT QUESTION AND ANSWERED IT. THE POWER, AS PORTRAYED SO BEAUTIFULLY IN CHARIOTS OF FIRE, COMES FROM WITHIN. *And I'm the person pushing for deregulation in all forms of transp. Because that's the traveler public's choice, lower fares, better choices, a finer service when the govt chooses to regulate.*

I DRAW MY STRENGTH FROM SUCH PASSAGES AS ISAIAH 40:31, WHERE GOD HAS PROMISED US THAT "THOSE WHO WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS LIKE EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN AND NOT BE WEARY; THEY SHALL WALK AND NOT FAINT."

AS I WRESTLE WITH TOUGH PROBLEMS, WHERE THERE ARE NO EASY ANSWERS, MY EYES FALL ON THE WORDS OF PROVERBS 3:5-6 WHICH I KEEP ON MY DESK. "TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART, AND LEAN NOT UNTO



THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING. IN ALL THY WAYS, ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AND HE ~~shall~~ <sup>will</sup> DIRECT THEY PATHS." AS THOSE WORDS SINK IN, I KNOW I CAN STOP MY WRESTLING. I CAN LET GO AND LET GOD PROVIDE THE GUIDANCE I NEED.

THE PRESIDENT TELLS A POIGNANT STORY I'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU <sup>in closing.</sup> A FEW YEARS AGO IN NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, THERE WERE SOME LOVELY BEACHFRONT HOMES THAT WERE THREATENED BY AN ABNORMALLY HIGH TIDE AND HEAVY SURF -- HOMES IN DANGER OF TOTAL DESTRUCTION. AND ALL THROUGH A COLD WINTER DAY AND NIGHT, VOLUNTEERS WORKED FILLING AND PILING SANDBAGS IN AN EFFORT TO SAVE THE HOMES. ABOUT 2 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING A NEWSCASTER GRABBED A YOUNG FELLOW IN HIS TEENS, ATTIIRED ONLY IN WET TRUNKS. ALONG WITH SEVERAL HUNDRED OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE, HE'D BEEN WORKING DAY AND NIGHT. NO, HE TOLD THE REPORTER, HE DIDN'T LIVE IN ONE OF THOSE HOMES THEY WERE TRYING TO SAVE. YES,

HE WAS COLD AND TIRED. WHY THEN, WERE HE AND HIS FRIENDS DOING THIS, THE REPORTER WANTED TO KNOW. THE YOUNG MAN STOPPED FOR A MINUTE AND THEN HE ANSWERED, "WELL, I GUESS IT'S THE FIRST TIME WE EVER FELT LIKE WE WERE NEEDED."

~~Each of~~ YOU <sup>are</sup> ARE NEEDED. I AM NEEDED. THE PRESIDENT HAS PUT THE COUNTRY BACK ON TRACK, BUT GOVERNMENT'S RESOURCES -- GREAT THOUGH THEY ARE -- REMAIN LIMITED.

BUT THERE ARE NO LIMITS ON PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELVES. YOU KNOW WHO IS IN NEED, AND YOU KNOW THEM AS HUMAN BEINGS, NOT STATISTICS. WHAT WASHINGTON CALLS A SOCIAL PROBLEM, INDIVIDUAL AMERICANS SEE FOR THEMSELVES AS A BREADWINNER WITHOUT A JOB, OR AN ELDERLY WOMAN ALONE WITH HER MEMORIES, OR A COLLEGE STUDENT STRUGGLING TO FIND FINANCING FOR THAT IMPORTANT SENIOR YEAR.



THERE ARE NO LIMITS ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR, ON THE CREATIVITY OR THE TALENT OF ONE MAN OR WOMAN FIRED WITH AN IDEAL OR FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY, TOO, ARE NEEDED.

FOR IN THE END, SOCIETY IS JUDGED BY HOW IT ACTS ON ITS DEEPEST CONVICTIONS. ONE AMERICAN WHO GAVE ELOQUENT VOICE TO OUR NATIONAL CREDO OF INDEPENDENCE ENTWINED WITH GENEROSITY WAS THE GREAT NOVELIST OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER, WILLA CATHER. SHE WAS BORN IN VIRGINIA, RAISED IN NEBRASKA, AND HAD HER ARTISTIC FLOWERING IN A CROWDED CORNER OF NEW-YORK CITY. BUT SHE NEVER ABANDONED HER ADHERENCE TO A WAY OF LIFE THAT WAS INDIVIDUALLY STRONG BECAUSE IT WAS SOCIALLY COMPASSIONATE.

CATHER'S HEROES AND HEROINES WERE ORDINARY AMERICANS: COWBOYS AND BOHEMIAN IMMIGRANTS, SOUTHWESTERN MISSIONARIES AND RURAL CLERKS.

MOST WERE POOR: MANY SUFFERED FROM BEING STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND. YET ALL OBTAINED A KIND OF NOBILITY BY WORKING HARD AND CARING DEEPLY. AND WHEN MISS CATHER DIED, SHE WAS BURIED, AT HER REQUEST, ON A NEW HAMPSHIRE HILLSIDE, BEHIND A WHITE-STEEPLED MEETINGHOUSE THAT WAS ITSELF RAISED BY A CONGREGATION OF YANKEE CARPENTERS AND LABORERS. ON HER TOMBSTONE, SHE HAD INSCRIBED WORDS FROM HER CLASSIC NOVEL, MY ANTONIA.

"THIS IS HAPPINESS." IT SAYS, "TO BE DISSOLVED INTO SOMETHING COMPLETE AND GREAT."

THERE IS ANOTHER LINE, LESS POETIC BUT NO LESS VALID. YOU ONLY BEGIN TO LIVE WHEN YOU BEGIN TO GIVE. GOD HAS GIVEN TO US FREELY OUT OF HIS ABUNDANCE. WE HONOR HIM WHEN WE GIVE OF OURSELVES TO



OTHERS. AS CHRISTIANS, IT IS OUR REASONABLE SERVICE. AS  
AMERICANS, IT IS OUR TRADITION.

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