REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE TO THE JOINT ARMED FORCES OFFICERS' WIVES' LUNCHEON WASHINGTON, D.C. MARCH 27, 1985

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THANK YOU MRS. (BRENDA) BELL (PROGRAM COORDINATOR) FOR THAT VERY WARM WELCOME. WHAT A JOY IT IS TO BE HERE TODAY, TO EXPERIENCE THE FULL PAGEANTRY OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD BAND AND THE HONOR GUARD. I THANK YOU FOR EXTENDING TO ME YOUR GRACIOUS INVITATION TO JOIN YOU AT THIS ANNUAL EVENT AND TO MEET YOU, THE WIVES OF OUR DISTINGUISHED OFFICERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES. I SALUTE YOU FOR YOUR SPIRIT AND YOUR ABILITY TO MASTER WHAT IS THE STILL THE TOUGHEST JOB IN THE MILITARY, WHETHER IT BE THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, MARINES OR COAST GUARD.

I'D LIKE TO SAY A SPECIAL HELLO TO RANDY GRACEY, WIFE OF ADMIRAL JIM GRACEY, COMMANDANT OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, I'VE COME TO ADMIRE, THE TOPNOTCH PROFESSIONALISM OF THE COAST GUARD. THE COAST GUARD TAKES JUSTIFIABLE PRIDE IN BEING OUR COUNTRY'S OLDEST CONTINUOUS SEAGOING FORCE, DATING BACK TO THE VERY EARLY DAYS OF OUR NATION. ITS REPUTATION FOR LIFESAVING IS WELL KNOWN THROUGHOUT AMERICA. SINCE BECOMING SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, I HAVE COME TO RESPECT THE COMMITMENT TO SERVICE FELT BY THE COAST GUARD -- IN ITS MANY MISSIONS, THROUGH ITS MARVELOUS PEOPLE AND THE SPIRIT THAT MOTIVATES BOTH. I TAKE PRIDE IN TELLING AUDIENCES THAT I'M THE FIRST WOMAN TO HEAD A BRANCH OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES. AS TIMES GOES BY, I DISCOVER MORE AND MORE JUST WHAT A GREAT HONOR THAT IS.

YOU HAVE EXTENDED MORE THAN A PERSONAL HONOR IN INVITING ME THIS AFTERNOON. YOU HAVE AFFORDED ME A MUCH WELCOMED OPPORTUNITY TO ECHO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S OWN ADMIRATION FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE DONE AND ARE DOING AS PARTNERS OF THOSE IN UNIFORM SERVING OUR COUNTRY.

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I ADMIRE TREMENDOUSLY THE MANY DAILY ROLES YOU FILL. YOU ARE HOMEMAKERS AND HOSTESSES; AT TIMES OUT OF NECESSITY SERVING AS BOTH MOTHER AND FATHER TO YOUR CHILDREN; AND WHEN ON FOREIGN ASSIGNMENTS, AS AMBASSADORS OF THE UNITED STATES. AND INCREASINGLY, YOU WORK AS CAREER WOMEN IN YOUR OWN RIGHT. SOME OFFICERS' WIVES ARE, IN FACT, OFFICERS THEMSELVES. THE AIR FORCE WIVES RECENTLY CHANGED THEIR ORGANIZATION'S BYLAWS TO ALLOW MEMBERSHIP TO A "SPOUSE" OF AN OFFICER. SO FAR, THEY DO NOT HAVE ANY MALE MEMBERS, BUT THAT MAY CHANGE BEFORE TOO LONG. MY HUSBAND, BOB, IS A MEMBER OF THE CABINET WIVES' LUNCHEON GROUP. HE TELLS ME IT TAKES A LITTLE GETTING USED TO, BUT HE'S LEARNING TO CALL IT THE SPOUSES' LUNCHEON.

THE FACT THAT MANY IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP WORK OUTSIDE THE HOME CLOSELY MIRRORS A DRAMATIC CHANGE IN OUR SOCIETY. THIS CHANGE IS

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WHAT I LIKE TO CALL AMERICA'S "QUIET REVOLUTION," THE TIDAL WAVE OF QUALIFIED WOMEN WHO ARE ENTERING THE WORK FORCE IN RECORD NUMBERS. MORE THAN HALF OF ALL AMERICAN WOMEN NOW WORK, A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT FROM 20 YEARS AGO. TODAY, 66 PERCENT OF WOMEN WITH CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 17 WORK. THIS SIGNIFIES A TREND WITH ENORMOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR EVERY HOME IN AMERICA.

THE 53 MILLION WORKING WOMEN ACROSS THIS COUNTRY EARN \$500 BILLION A YEAR AND TAKE HOME NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF THE NATION'S PAY. BUSINESSES OWNED BY WOMEN ARE THE FASTEST GROWING SEGMENT OF THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITY, GENERATING OVER \$40 BILLION IN RECEIPTS AND GROWING AT A RATE FIVE TIMES FASTER THAN THOSE OWNED BY MEN. THE NUMBER OF WOMEN RECEIVING MASTERS DEGREES IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION HAS SOARED BY 2400 PERCENT IN THE LAST DECADE ALONE.

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IN MY OWN EXPERIENCE, I HAVE SEEN THE NUMBER OF WOMEN ENTERING HARVARD LAW SCHOOL INCREASE FROM 4 PERCENT WHEN I WAS THERE IN 1962, TO ALMOST 40 PERCENT TODAY.

I RECALL WELL MY FIRST DAY AT HARVARD LAW SCHOOL. I WAS ONE OF ONLY 25 WOMEN IN A CLASS OF 550 STUDENTS. I'LL NEVER FORGET BEING ACCOSTED BY A MALE CLASSMATE ON MY FIRST DAY AT HARVARD, 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'D GIVE THEIR RIGHT ARM FOR YOUR PLACE IN LAW SCHOOL? MEN WHO WOULD USE THEIR LEGAL EDUCATION?" OBVIOUSLY, THE INFERENCE WAS THAT I WAS TAKING THE PLACE OF A MAN. AND COME TO THINK OF IT, SOME MAY HAVE FELT THAT WAY WHEN I BECAME THE FIRST WOMAN SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION. WHEN I ARRIVED AT THE DEPARTMENT, ONE OF THE FIRST QUESTIONS I

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ASKED WAS: HOW MANY OF OUR EMPLOYEES ARE WOMEN? I WAS TOLD 19 PERCENT. THEN I ASKED, WHAT WAS THE PERCENTAGE WHEN THE DEPARTMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1967? THE ANSWER: 18.5 PERCENT. WHAT'S MORE, WOMEN IN UPPER GRADE POSITIONS MADE UP ONLY ONE PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE DEPARTMENT'S WORK FORCE. IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR US TO DESIGN A PROGRAM TO CHANGE ALL THAT. NOW WE ARE HELPING MORE WOMEN ENTER OUR WORK FORCE, AND WE'RE PREPARING MORE WOMEN THAN EVER BEFORE TO ASSUME MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPAND EXISTING SKILLS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE HELPING WOMEN ENTER THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER FIELD -- A TRADITIONALLY MALE PROFESSION -- AND TO MOVE INTO HIGHER PAYING JOBS. LONG - Takes great runner for WOMEN IN THE 1980S, COMPRISE A DIVERSE GROUP WITH VARIED INTERESTS, SOME SEEK THEIR OWN CAREERS IN BUSINESS. SOME RUN FOR

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POLITICAL OFFICE. OTHERS FOCUS ON THE HOME AND FAMILY. NO ROLE IS SUPERIOR TO ANOTHER. WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT EVERY WOMAN HAS THE RIGHT AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE THE ROLE SHE WISHES.

BUT THE MANY RESPONSIBILITIES WOMEN SHOULDER CAN, AT TIMES, GET OUT OF HAND. I THINK WRITER AND SOCIAL CRITIC MARYA MANNES DESCRIBED IT BEST WHEN SHE WROTE: "NOBODY OBJECTS TO A WOMAN BEING A GOOD WRITER OR SCULPTOR OR GENETICIST IF, AT THE SAME TIME, SHE MANAGES TO BE A GOOD WIFE, A GOOD MOTHER, GOOD-LOOKING, GOOD-TEMPERED, WELL-DRESSED, WELL-GROOMED AND UNAGGRESSIVE."

WOMEN THROUGHOUT OUR SOCIETY ARE GRAPPLING WITH TOUGH ISSUES AS THEY DO WHAT WAS ONCE CONSIDERED MEN'S WORK. FOR EXAMPLE, AT TRANSPORTATION, I AM DEALING WITH QUESTIONS RANGING FROM THE SURFACE OF RUADS TO THE HEIGHTS OUR COMMERCIAL SPACE INDUSTRY CAN REACH.

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THEY FINALLY MANAGED TO CLIMB BACK IN. THE ADMIRAL TURNED TO THE GENERAL AND SAID. "NOW, MAC, I HOPE YOU WON'T MENTION THIS TO A I'D BE DISGRACED IF THE MEN OF THE NAVY EVER FOUND OUT I SOUL. CAN'T SWIM."

AND TO THIS THE GENERAL REPLIED, "DON'T WORRY, ADMIRAL, YOUR SECRET IS SAFE. BESIDES, I'D HATE TO HAVE MY MEN DISCOVER I CAN'T WALK ON WATER."

PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS OFTEN DISCUSSED HOW WE AS AMERICANS CAN BEST PRESERVE AND PROMOTE THE DEMOCRATIC IDEALS WE HOLD DEAR, IN A DANGEROUS WORLD. WE CAN PROTECT THE VALUES WE CHERISH, HE HAS SAID, AND STRENGTHEN OUR SOCIETY BY MEETING THREE IMPORTANT CHALLENGES. WE MUST MAINTAIN STRENGTH IN OUR ECONOMY, IN OUR DEFENSE AND IN OUR MORAL FIBER.

THERE CAN BE FEW DOUBTERS IN THE STRENGTH OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY TODAY, AN ECONOMY DESCRIBED BY THE PRESIDENT IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS AS ONE THAT HAS HAD THE STRONGEST SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH IN 34 YEARS. THE TESTAMENT TO THE STRENGTH OF OUR MORAL FIBER FILLS THIS ROOM TODAY, FOR SURELY WE SHARE THE BELIEF THAT THE SOURCE OF OUR INNER STRENGTH LIES IN AMERICA'S FAMILIES WHICH HELP FORM OUR BELIEFS AND ENCOURAGE OUR ASPIRATIONS.

OUR OTHER CHALLENGE IS TO MAINTAIN A STRONG DEFENSE. SINCE TAKING OFFICE, THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT HEADWAY IN REBUILDING OUR DEFENSE AND MAKING AMERICA MORE SECURE. AND THAT COMMITMENT, I ASSURE YOU, WILL CONTINUE. WE CANNOT IGNORE THE FACT THAT SKIMPING ON A DEFENSE REBUILDING PROGRAM COULD UNDERMINE NOT ONLY OUR OWN SECURITY, BUT THE SECURITY OF OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS.

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THE COMMITMENT TO A STRONG DEFENSE IS ROOTED IN OUR COUNTRY'S ETHIC -- AND GOES AS FAR BACK AS THE DAYS OF COLONIAL AMERICA. DURING A DEBATE ON THE SUBJECT IN 1789, AT OUR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, ONE DELEGATE GOT TO HIS FEET AND MOVED THAT "THE STANDING ARMY BE RESTRICTED TO 5,000 AT ANY ONE TIME." THIS PROMPTED GEORGE WASHINGTON, AS PRESIDING OFFICER, TO SUGGEST AN AMENDMENT OF HIS OWN -- TO PROVIDE THAT NO FOREIGN ENEMY SHALL INVADE THE UNITED STATES WITH MORE THAN 3,000 TROOPS AT ANY TIME.

BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S LEADERSHIP IN CHANGING OUR NATIONAL ATTITUDES ABOUT THOSE WHO SERVE, RECOGNITION OF MILITARY SERVICE FOR WHAT IT IS -- THE PROTECTION OF OUR FREEDOM -- AND APPRECIATION FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PERFORM THOSE JOBS, HAVE GROWN RAPIDLY. OUR ENLISTMENT AND REENLISTMENT RATES ARE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED. THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS CANNOT BE EXAGGERATED. HISTORY HAS PROVED AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT THE TENACITY AND CHARACTER OF A NATION IS REFLECTED IN THOSE WHO WEAR ITS UNIFORM AND CARRY ITS ARMS.

AS SERVICE WIVES, YOU EXPERIENCE DAILY OUR NATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE SAFEKEEPING OF OUR COUNTRY. AS SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, SO DO 1. TRANSPORTATION IS VITAL TO AMERICA'S SECURITY AND TO ITS DEFENSE IN A NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY. N STRATEGIC MOBILITY AND RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF FORCES ARE KEY POINTS IN OUR DEFENSE PHILOSOPHY. TO MAKE THEM WORK, TO SUSTAIN MILITARY OPERATIONS OVERSEAS AND TO CONTINUE TO BRING IN VITAL MATERIALS, WE MUST BE ABLE TO MOVE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND PERSONNEL TO PORTS OF EMBARKATION BY AIR, RAIL AND HIGHWAY. THOSE PORTS AND THE WATERWAYS LEADING TO THEM MUST BE KEPT SECURE SO THE SHIPS CAN BE DEPLOYED QUICKLY AND WITHOUT

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INCIDENT. WHILE ALL THAT IS GOING ON OUR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MUST CONTINUE TO SERVE DOMESTIC NEEDS, BUT AT AN INCREASED PACE. I THINK YOU CAN VISUALIZE IN THAT SCENARIO IMPORTANT ROLES FOR ALL THE ELEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AND THE COAST GUARD HAVE OTHER SIGNIFICANT, THOUGH OFTEN UNHERALDED, NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES AS WELL.

WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, THE COAST GUARD HAS PROVED TO BE A GUARDIAN OF COMMERCE, PROTECTOR OF OUR LIVES AND A FRIEND TO ALL IN NEED ON OUR SEAS AND WATERWAYS. IT IS ALSO A PROUD MEMBER OF AMERICA'S DEFENSE TEAM. NO OTHER NATION HAS A MILITARY ORGANIZATION WITH SUCH CLEARLY DEFINED PEACETIME MISSIONS -- OR SO EXTENSIVE A JURISDICTION. I AM PROUD TO NOTE THE COAST GUARD HAS

OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN EVERY STATE OF THE UNION, IN ALL TERRITORIES AND MANY FOREIGN COUNTRIES AS WELL. THE COAST GUARD IN THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT PLAYS A LARGE PART HAS MY HIGHEST TRANSPORTATION -- THROUGH PRIORITY SAFFTY ---ITS EFFORTS IN ADMINISTERING AND ENFORCING RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY NATIONWIDE AND ENSURING THE SAFETY OF OUR PORTS, WATERWAYS AND COMMERCIAL THE COAST GUARD'S SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS SAVE THOUSANDS VESSELS. PREVENTS MILLIONS Y OF LIVES EVERY YEAR AND THEIR VIGILANCE PROPERTY LOSSES. NOT THE LEAST OF OUR DEPARTMENT'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IS ONE BELONGING SOLELY TO THE COAST GUARD -- AND THAT'S DRUG Colviet neeting INTERDICTION. N LAST YEAR THE COAST GUARD SEIZED 218 VESSELS. CONFISCATED TWO-AND-A-HALF MILLION POUNDS OF MARIJUANA AND THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF OTHER DRUGS, PREVENTING MORE THAN \$1.5 BILLION WORTH OF

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ILLEGAL DRUGS FROM ENTERING AMERICA'S CITIES.

WHAT THE COAST GUARD DOES SO WELL IN TERMS OF SAFETY AT SEA AND ON OUR WATERS I AM ATTEMPTING TO DO ACROSS ALL MODES -- IN AVIATION AND ON RAILROADS, FOR EXAMPLE -- AND IN EVERY ASPECT OF TRANSPORTATION. PERHAPS OUR BIGGEST CHALLENGE IS ON OUR NATION'S HIGHWAYS, WHERE EVERY YEAR 22,000 AMERICANS DIE IN THE FRONT SEATS 1005 of 10005 22 SERIOUSLY INJURED. CARS ARE THIS TRAGEDY IS AND UU) I ASK YOU TODAY TO JOIN US -- IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY --AVOIDABLE. IN OUR CAMPAIGN TO CONVINCE MORE PEOPLE TO USE THEIR SAFETY BELTS. SAFETY BELTS DO SAVE PRECIOUS LIVES. B. Thandred

WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE SUCCESS OF A-SHMILAR CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE CHILD SAFETY SEATS. JUST LAST MONTH WE REACHED OUR DESIRED GOAL. I AM PROUD TO SAY THAT ALL 50 STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HAVE ENACTED CHILD SAFETY SEAT LAWS. WE HAVE FOUND THAT CHILD SAFETY SEATS ARE ABOUT 60 PERCENT EFFECTIVE IN REDUCING DEATHS AND BETWEEN 80 TO 90 PERCENT EFFECTIVE IN REDUCING SERIOUS INJURIES. IT IS GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT OUR YOUNGEST CHILDREN WILL RIDE PROTECTED:

RECENTLY, MICHIGAN BECAME THE FIFTH STATE TO ENACT A SAFETY BELT USE LAW, JOINING NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, ILLINOIS, AND MISSOURI IN PASSING THIS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION. NEW MEXICO HAS PASSED SIMILAR LEGISLATION AND THE BILL IS AWAITING SIGNATURE BY THE GOVERNOR. WITH ITS NEW LAW, NEW YORK HAS EXPERIENCED A DRAMATIC INCREASE IN SAFETY BELT USE --FROM 16 TO 70 PERCENT. DURING THE FIRST MONTH THE LAW WAS IN EFFECT, DEATHS DECLINED BY 38 PERCENT IN NEW YORK. THAT IS TRULY A GOAL WORTH WORKING TOWARD.

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LAST MONTH, I MET WITH PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER DURING HER VISIT TO WASHINGTON. SHE TOLD ME THAT IN GREAT BRITIAN, SAFETY BELT USE INCREASED FROM 40 TO 90 PERCENT AND FATALITIES DECLINED 25 as an organization to join me in this effort always been a force on WHICH AMERICANS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COUNT. UPON. SERVICE WIVES ARE LIKE THE PIONEER WOMEN WHO USED TO PLANT FLOWER SEEDS ALONG TRAILS UHil Heli night ON THEIR JOURNEY WEST. THEY KNEW THEY WOULD NEVER SEE THEM BLOOM, KAG41 they IT WOULD MAKE IT BETTER FOR THOSE WHO FOLLOWED. And I FREQUENTLY THINK OF A WOMAN IN AMERICAN HIS BUT of course Much of HISTORY WHOSE ACTED OUT IN A QUIET CORNER OF CONSTANT WAS A DISLAN SHE-NEVER WORKED IN AN OFFICE, NEVER RAISED A FAMILY, NEVER ROOM WON A HEADLINE. THE ONLY POWER SHE WIELDED LAY IN HER POETRY, BUT

HER ARTISTRY AND HER VISION HAVE INSPIRED MILLIONS.

"WE DWELL IN POSSIBILITY," EMILY DICKINSON WROTE NEARLY 150 YEARS AGO.

THIS GATHERING WAS BILLED AS A SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN WOMAN. AFTER MEETING WITH YOU, I KNOW IT'S REALLY A SALUTE BY WOMEN TO AMERICA. AS LONG AS WE CAN COUNT ON THE PATRIOTISM OF GROUPS SUCH AS YOURS, THEN OUR COUNTRY CAN DWELL SECURE IN THE HOUSE OF FREEDOM -- THE HOUSE OF OPPORTUNITY -- AND, YES -- THE HOUSE OF POSSIBILITY.

AS A PUBLIC SERVANT, I APPLAUD YOU. AS A WOMAN, I ADMIRE YOU. AS A FELLOW AMERICAN, I THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

God bless you all. # # # #