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REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
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GOVERNORS ISLAND, NEW YORK

Mr. President, Mrs. Reagan, President Mitterrand, Madame Mitterrand, distinguished guests, and fellow Americans:

As Secretary of Transportation it is my privilege to head the Coast Guard, technically. And on behalf of the 45,000 men and women who make up the Coast Guard family, I am delighted to welcome you to Governors Island.

Having designed the statue of Liberty's interior framework, Gustave Eiffel was asked how long his creation might withstand the buffetings of nature. "It will hold," he replied. And so it has. And so it will.

For in rededicating Miss Liberty this evening, we also rededicate ourselves. We take fire from her flame and we reassert our beliefs in the divine spark illuminating every human soul.

Liberty's torch no longer serves as an aid to navigation. But the lamp first lit one hundred years ago still beckons to those who seek more Liberty -- and more out of life. But they may never have heard Bartholdi's name. But they share his faith in liberty enlightening the world. They may not know nothing of Eiffel or his mechanical genius. But they recognize the lady with the torch. And they love her for what she represents.

I am honored to join a watchful world as we rekindle a light that will never dim.

God bless you all -- and God bless America.