

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER
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GIVEN BY:
ELIZABETH H. DOLE
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATING CLASS: IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE AND A DISTINCT PERSONAL HONOR TO ADDRESS THE CLASS OF 1983. I AM SO HAPPY TO HAVE JOINED THE GEORGETOWN FAMILY FOR I HAVE THE GREATEST RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR THIS FAMILY AND I AM MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE HIGH HONOR YOU HAVE BESTOWED UPON ME TODAY. IT'S BEEN SAID THAT THE LAWYER'S TRADE CONSISTS OF QUESTIONING EVERYTHING, YIELDING NOTHING AND TALKING BY THE HOUR. TODAY, I PROMISE TO TRY AND DISPROVE THAT ADAGE.

I AM REMINDED OF A STORY ABOUT A YOUNG WOMAN WHO WAS A CLERK IN A GROCERY STORE. A MAN CAME IN AND ASKED TO BUY HALF A GRAPEFRUIT. "HALF A GRAPEFRUIT" SHE SAID. "YES", HE RESPONDED. "I WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE HALF A GRAPEFRUIT." NEVER HAVING BEEN CONFRONTED WITH SUCH A REQUEST, THE CLERK HURRIED TO THE BACKROOM OF THE STORE AND SAID TO THE MANAGER, "THERE IS THIS CRAZY NUT OUT THERE -- THIS MAN WHO WANTS TO BUY HALF A GRAPEFRUIT." AS SHE SAID IT, SHE NOTICED FROM THE CORNER OF HER EYE THAT THE MAN HAD FOLLOWED HER INTO THE BACKROOM. AND WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION, SHE TURNED AND SAID, "AND THIS GRACIOUS GENTLEMAN HAS AGREED TO BUY THE OTHER HALF!"

INDEED, LIFE AFTER GRADUATION REQUIRES OF US SUCH FLEXIBILITY, CREATIVITY, AND ADAPTATION TO EVER CHANGING CONDITIONS.

IF THERE IS ONE THING THAT'S CONSTANT IN OUR DYNAMIC WORLD, ESPECIALLY WASHINGTON, D.C., IT IS CHANGE. THIS IS TRUE EVEN FOR LAWYERS -- AND I WANT TO SPEND A FEW MOMENTS PURSUING THIS THEME WITH YOU TODAY.

YOUR TIME HERE AT GEORGETOWN IS SHORT, AND I WILL PROLONG IT BUT SHORTLY. BUT BEFORE YOU LEAVE THIS CAMPUS, DO NOT FORGET WHY YOU CAME -- OR WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM ONE ANOTHER AS WELL AS YOUR PROFESSORS AND CLASSROOM INSTRUCTORS. HERE YOU HAVE BEEN ENDOWED WITH THE MAJESTY OF THE LAW -- IN THE SAME CITY WHERE LAW IS MADE OR INTERPRETED DAILY.

HERE ALSO YOU HAVE LEARNED THE PRIMARY TRUTH OF EDUCATION -- THAT SO LONG AS BOOKS ARE KEPT OPEN, THEN MINDS CAN NEVER BE CLOSED.

HISTORY ATTENDS THIS CEREMONY TODAY, AS MUCH AS FACULTY MEMBERS OR THE FAMILY WHO INVEST THEIR LOVE AND THEIR CONFIDENCE IN YOU. ON THIS SPRING DAY, I'M REMINDED THAT AMERICA HERSELF IS IN THE MIDST OF A SPRINGLIKE RENEWAL. JUST AS YOU HAVE RESPONDED TO TOUGH CHOICES AND DIFFICULT QUESTIONS IN THE CLASSROOMS OF GEORGETOWN, SO THIS 200 YEAR OLD EXPERIMENT IN POPULAR GOVERNMENT IS RETHINKING ITSELF, ITS OPTIONS, ITS POSSIBILITIES AND ITS DREAMS. ONE RECALLS THE WORDS OF A GREAT JURIST, ROBERT H. JACKSON, WHO WROTE IN 1950, "IT IS NOT THE FUNCTION

OF OUR GOVERNMENT TO KEEP THE CITIZEN FROM FALLING INTO ERROR, IT IS THE FUNCTION OF THE CITIZEN TO KEEP THE GOVERNMENT FROM FALLING INTO ERROR."

THAT IS THE CHALLENGE AND THE GLORY, NOT ONLY OF DEMOCRACY BUT OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION ITSELF. IT IS THE ANSWER TO THOSE CYNICS WHO DISMISS OUR PROFESSION AS AN EXERCISE IN SELF-ENRICHMENT. AND IT REMAINS THE CENTRAL DILEMMA FACING THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY IN 1983.

FOR THOSE WHO GRADUATE TODAY, TOMORROW WILL BRING A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY, THE STATE AND THE NATION. YOU WILL BE ASKED TO BUILD ON A FOUNDATION PAINSTAKINGLY LAID BY YOUR ELDERS.

IT WAS THOMAS JEFFERSON, WHO, IN HIS FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS, RAISED THE ISSUE OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND MORAL RESPONSIBILITIES. "SOMETIMES IT IS SAID THAT MAN CANNOT BE TRUSTED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF HIMSELF," HE TOLD THE INFANT REPUBLIC. "CAN HE THEN BE TRUSTED WITH GOVERNMENT OF OTHERS? LET HISTORY ANSWER THE QUESTION."

THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC IS A STILL UNFOLDING ANSWER TO JEFFERSON'S QUERY. IT WAS HIS GENERATION, A BAND OF THINKERS AND PATRIOTS, WHICH PROCLAIMED A NEW GOVERNMENT. THEY FRANKLY FEARED THAT EVEN A POPULAR GOVERNMENT WAS SUBJECT TO ABUSE FINANCIAL, POLITICAL, AND MILITARY. JEFFERSON DEFINED HIS OWN IDEAL GOVERNMENT AS "WISE AND FRUGAL." IT SHOULD, HE WROTE, "RESTRAIN MEN FROM INJURING ONE ANOTHER AND LEAVE THEM OTHERWISE FREE TO REGULATE THEIR OWN PURSUITS OF INDUSTRY AND IMPROVEMENT."

FOR MOST OF OUR HISTORY, WE ADHERED TO THIS VISION. WHEN ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL FORCES ABUSED IT AND CLAIMED EXCESSIVE AUTHORITY FOR THEMSELVES, WE PASSED ANTI-TRUST LAWS, REFORMED ELECTORAL PROCEDURES, BUSTED TRUSTS AND DILUTED THE POWER OF PRIVILEGE BY EXTENDING A SUFFRAGE SEVERELY RESTRICTED IN COLONIAL TIMES. WE BECAME A TRULY POPULAR DEMOCRACY, WITH A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ACTING AS UMPIRE TO THE CONFLICTING FORCES WITHIN. ITS CHIEF ROLE, WE TOLD OURSELVES, WAS TO GUARANTEE EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY TO THOSE WHO WOULD RUN THE GREAT RACE OF LIFE. GOVERNMENT WAS SWORN TO MAINTAIN THE TRACK ON WHICH THE RACE WAS RUN. IT WAS PLEDGED TO MAKE EACH RUNNER AS NEARLY EQUAL AS POSSIBLE IN TRAINING, EVEN WHILE RECOGNIZING DISTINCTIONS IN TALENT. IT WOULD ABIDE BY THE OUTCOME; IT WOULD NOT HOLD BACK THE SWIFT NOR PRESS THE LAURELS ON A PRIVILEGED CLASS.

LIFE WAS A CONTEST IN WHICH ALL PARTICIPANTS WERE TO BE ENCOURAGED AND EDUCATION WAS MEANT TO REDRESS THE IMBALANCES OF BIRTH AND BLOOD. IT WAS FREEDOM FOR WHICH THE FIRST AMERICANS FOUGHT AND ARGUED--NOT THE FREEDOM TO STARVE, BUT THE FREEDOM TO RISE IN THE WORLD, EACH ACCORDING TO HIS OWN TALENTS AND LABORS.

GOVERNMENT IN AMERICA ENCOURAGED SUCH TRENDS. IT CHEERED ON THE RISK-TAKERS; IT EXTENDED A HELPING HAND TO THOSE ABANDONED TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF HOPE ... THEN, HALF A CENTURY AGO, THE RULES OF THE RACE WERE CHANGED FOREVER BY THE GREAT DEPRESSION. DESPERATE PEOPLE TURNED TO WASHINGTON FOR FOOD, FOR HOUSING, FOR JOBS AND FOR HOPE. WASHINGTON RESPONDED, AND GOVERNMENT GRADUATED FROM A MERE UMPIRE TO

AN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP ON THE TEAM ITSELF. AND WHATEVER THE IDEALOGY INVOLVED, IT REFLECTED OUR OWN COMPASSION AND GRIT. LAWYERS BECAME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THAT NEW REGULATORY SOCIETY.

BUT NATIONS EVOLVE. THE STANDARDS APPROPRIATE TO AN EMERGENCY CAN BECOME THE SHACKLES PLACED UPON A SUCCEEDING GENERATION. GOVERNMENT CAN SUPPLANT THE GOVERNED IN ORDERING PRIORITIES. IT CAN PLACE THE CART OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AHEAD OF THE ECONOMIC HORSE, DENYING THE ROLE OF A HEALTHY PRIVATE SECTOR IN UNDERLYING OUR SENSE OF SOCIAL COMMITMENT. WHEN GOVERNMENT, FOR INSTANCE, INFLATES OUR CURRENCY, IT HURTS MOST THOSE IT CLAIMS FOR ITS SPECIAL CONCERN, THE POOR AND THE DISADVANTAGED. FOR THEY MUST SPEND A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THEIR MEAGER INCOME ON THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE. AND THEY MUST BEAR THE BRUNT OF HARD TIMES WHEN HIGH TAXES OR INSUFFICIENT CAPITAL DISCOURAGE NEW PLANTS, MORE COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS AND, ULTIMATELY, A WEALTH MORE BROADLY DISPERSED THROUGHOUT SOCIETY.

AND IF GOVERNMENT IS IMPERFECT, THEN WHAT OF THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM IT SEEKS TO REGULATE? ITS RESPONSIBILITIES ARE NO LESS GREAT. AND YET, CAPITALISM, LIKE ANY OTHER SYSTEM, INCLUDING DEMOCRACY, IS A FAITHFUL REPRODUCTION OF THOSE WHO GIVE IT LIFE. IT HAS PRODUCED ROBBER BARONS AS WELL AS VISIONARIES. IT HAS EXPLOITED AS WELL AS APPEALED TO THE CONSUMER. IT HAS INVITED GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL WITHOUT ALWAYS EMULATING EITHER ITS EFFICIENCY OR ITS MORAL CONSCIENCE. TODAY'S CAPITALIST FACES A NEW CHALLENGE -- TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE ECONOMIC TOOLS PROVIDED, TO CREATE NEW JOBS WHILE COMBATING OLD EVILS OF POVERTY, NEGLECT AND URBAN DESOLATION. WE SEEK TO ENCOURAGE SUCH RISK TAKERS ONCE MORE. BUT WE CANNOT SLIGHT THOSE WHOSE PRIMARY CONCERN IS SECURITY OR SURVIVAL ITSELF.

AND SO, WE CONFRONT THE OLD QUANDRIES IN NEW FORMS. CAN WE MAKE THE MARKETPLACE REFLECT SOCIAL AS WELL AS COMMERCIAL VALUES? CAN WE HARNESS THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO SERVE OUR PEOPLE, RATHER THAN THE OTHER WAY AROUND? CAN SPACE COLONIES, GENETIC ENGINEERING, LASER BEAMS AND INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS CO-EXIST IN A WORLD WHERE HUMAN VALUES STILL PREDOMINATE? CAN WE CELEBRATE THE COMPUTER CHIP WITHOUT SACRIFICING THE SOUL OF MODERN MAN AND WOMAN? CAN THE SOCIAL FORCES NOW PROPELLING MILLIONS OF WOMEN INTO THE WORKFORCE BE USED TO PRY OPEN GENUINE OPPORTUNITY -- EMPLOYING WOMEN IN EXECUTIVE AND DECISION-MAKING ROLES AS WELL AS THE LOWER PAYING JOBS IN WHICH THEY ARE SO OFTEN CONCENTRATED.

I CAN IDENTIFY WITH THE FRUSTRATIONS MARJORIE KAROWE MUST HAVE FELT WHEN, AS A YOUNG ATTORNEY, SHE STOOD BEFORE THE BENCH TO ENTER A NOT GUILTY PLEA ON BEHALF OF HER CLIENT, A MAN ACCUSED OF A MINOR CRIME. "WELL, WHO ARE YOU?" THE JUDGE DEMANDED, "HIS MOTHER?"

TODAY, MARJORIE KAROWE IS A PARTNER IN A NEW YORK LAW FIRM AND PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

I CAN IDENTIFY, TOO, WITH SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR, WHO, UPON COMPLETING LAW SCHOOL, WAS OFFERED A JOB AS A LEGAL SECRETARY AND, OF COURSE, WENT ON TO BREAK THE TYPE -- AS THE FIRST WOMEN APPOINTED TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. I REMEMBER VIVIDLY A DAY IN SEPTEMBER 1962 WHEN I ENTERED HARVARD

LAW SCHOOL, ONE OF 25 WOMEN IN A CLASS OF 550 EAGER STUDENTS. I'LL NEVER FORGET BEING ACCOSTED BY A MALE CLASSMATE ON MY VERY 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 TO BE IN THIS LAW SCHOOL? MEN WHO WOULD USE THEIR LEGAL EDUCATION?" OBVIOUSLY, HE FELT I WAS TAKING THE PLACE OF A MAN. AND COME TO THINK OF IT, SOME MAY HAVE FELT THAT WAY WHEN I BECAME SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

YES, MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE THEN. MUCH OF THE CHANGE HAS BEEN DICTATED, NOT BY GOVERNMENT EDICT, BUT BY THE MARKETPLACE. FOR INSTANCE, THE DOUBLE DIGIT INFLATION OF THE 1970'S FORCED MANY WOMEN INTO THE LABOR MARKET FOR THE FIRST TIME. DIVORCED WOMEN JOINED THE ECONOMY AT THE SAME TIME, UNTIL, IN 1982, WE REACHED THE POINT WHERE 63 PERCENT OF WOMEN WITH CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 6 AND 17 YEARS WERE IN AMERICA'S LABOR FORCE. DURING THE LAST DECADE ALONE, THE NUMBER OF FEMALES RECEIVING MASTERS IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEGREES HAS SOARED BY NEARLY 800 PERCENT, AND WOMEN MAKE UP MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE CURRENT ENROLLMENT IN LAW SCHOOLS.

AND MORE OF THE SAME IS IN STORE. FOR AS OUR ECONOMY EVOLVES FROM ITS TRADITIONAL RELIANCE ON SMOKESTACK INDUSTRIES, AS WE COME TO PLACE OUR FAITH IN SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS, THEN WOMEN WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY BARRED FROM STEEL MILLS AND AUTO FACTORIES WILL FIND THEMSELVES IN EVER GREATER DEMAND. IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, WE WILL HOPEFULLY EVEN GRADUATE FROM THE MISGUIDED PERFECTIONISM BEST DESCRIBED BY AUTHOR AND SOCIAL CRITIC MARYA MANES, WHO WRITES. . . "NOBODY OBJECTS TO A WOMAN BEING A GOOD WRITER OR SCULPTOR OR A 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."

LET US HOPE THIS DOUBLE STANDARD IS ABOUT TO GO THE WAY OF HOOP SKIRTS AND HORSELESS CARRIAGES! IT IS THAT EVOLVING NATURE OF THE WORK FORCE, AN INCREASING ACCEPTANCE THAT ONE'S SEX OR RACE OR CREED NEED PLAY NO PART IN AN INDIVIDUAL'S OPPORTUNITIES, WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO MY OWN GOOD FORTUNE IN PUBLIC SERVICE.

AND SPEAKING OF CHANGE, I HAVE FOUND AT D.O.T. MY OWN LITTLE FOOTNOTE IN HISTORY. I AM THE FIRST WOMAN TO HEAD A BRANCH OF THE ARMED SERVICES, FOR THE COAST GUARD COMES WITHIN MY RESPONSIBILITIES. I HASTEN TO ASSURE YOU THAT IF, HEAVEN FORBID, WE WERE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN WAR, I WOULD NOT BE LEADING THE TROOPS INTO BATTLE, FOR THE COAST GUARD IN THAT INSTANCE TRANSFERS TO THE NAVY DEPARTMENT. AND, INDEED, CHANGE IS THE ORDER OF THE DAY AT MY DEPARTMENT. ONE OF MY PRIORITIES IS THE MODERNIZATION OF OUR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND NAVIGATION SYSTEM DESCRIBED AS THE BIGGEST UNDERTAKING SINCE THE APOLLO MAN-ON-THE-MOON PROGRAM. THE NEW SYSTEM WILL EVENTUALLY DOUBLE OUR CAPACITY IN THE AIR THROUGH THE YEAR 2,000 AND PROVIDE THE SAFEST POSSIBLE AIR SYSTEM.

AND WE ARE CHANGING BEHAVIOR, THROUGH A MASSIVE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING, THE MAD KILLER OF 26,000 PEOPLE EACH YEAR ON OUR HIGHWAYS. FOR TOO MANY YEARS WE SEEMED TO REGARD DEATH ON THE HIGHWAYS AS A TRAGIC TRUISM, AS LAX LAWS AND LENIENT JUDGES LET IRRESPONSIBLE MOTORISTS LITERALLY GET AWAY WITH MURDER. THAT, TOO, THANK GOD IS

CHANGING. AND WHO KNOWS -- ALONG WITH OUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AIR, WATERWAYS, RAILROADS, BUSES, TRUCKS AND BARGES, WE MAY SOON BE OVER-SEEING SPACE TRAVEL.

YES, THOSE WHO GRADUATE TODAY HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR A NEW AND DIFFERENT WORLD. EVEN AS YOU LEAVE GEORGETOWN, YOU WILL FIND YOURSELVES CAUGHT UP IN A COUNTRY AWASH IN CHANGE, IN SELF-DISCOVERY, IN EXCITEMENT, AND IN THE THROES OF REBIRTH.

AND AS THE PACE OF CHANGE ACCELERATES, SO WILL THE NEED TO GRAPPLE WITH A HOST OF CAUSES THAT HAVE RAMIFICATIONS FAR BEYOND THE COURTROOM. THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES AND SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES PRO- NOUNCE THEIR CASELOAD IMPOSSIBLY HIGH. WILL THEY ACHIEVE CHANGE IN THE FORM OF A NEW NATIONAL APPEALS COURT? YOU WILL HELP MAKE THAT DECISION; YOU MOST CERTAINLY WILL LIVE WITH WHATEVER IS DECIDED.

THERE ARE SOME WHO WOULD LIMIT THE COURT'S JURISDICTION IN AREAS OF CONTROVERSY. STILL OTHERS CALL FOR WHOLESAL REFORMS IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM -- IN THE WAY WE PROVIDE BAIL, OR ADMINISTER THE INSANITY DEFENSE, OR DEAL WITH THE COMPLEXITY THAT ALLOWS CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS TO DRAG ON FOR YEARS WHILE A FRIGHTENED PUBLIC INCREASINGLY BARRICADES ITSELF BEHIND LOCKED DOORS AND SHUTTERED WINDOWS. THAT PUBLIC HAS NOW RESORTED TO JUDICIAL RECALL AS AN EXPRESSION OF ITS FRUSTRATION. AND A SIMILAR SENSE OF ANGER IS SOMETIMES DIRECTED EVEN AT INSTITUTIONS THAT TEACH THE LAW. FOR IF THEY APPEAR TO BE IVORY TOWERS -- OR WORSE YET, BASTIONS OF PRIVILEGE -- THEN THE LEGAL PROCESS ITSELF WILL BE TAINTED AND THE PUBLIC'S FAITH IN THAT PROCESS DEEPLY WOUNDED.

FORTUNATELY, YOU HAVE PREPARED YOURSELVES IN A VERY DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT. HERE, SURROUNDED BY THE SYMBOLS OF POPULAR GOVERNMENT AND THE RULE OF LAW, YOU HAVE BEEN READIED TO SERVE BOTH. THIS IS ESPECIALLY CRUCIAL NOW, WHEN SO MANY INSTITUTIONS ARE STRUGGLING TO ACCEPT AND MOLD CHANGE.

I COULD HARDLY LEAVE TODAY WITHOUT ISSUING MY OWN INVITATION TO EACH OF YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE JOY OF PUBLIC SERVICE -- THE PANOPLY OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.

CONTENTIOUS AND COLORFUL AS IT IS, IT REMAINS THE BEST WAY TO MAKE LIFE BETTER -- AND THUS TO ME, THE BEST WAY TO MAKE A LIVING. SO I ASK YOU TO BECOME PARTISANS FOR DEMOCRACY, TO BECOME A PART OF HISTORY IN THE MAKING. AND I ASK YOU AS WELL TO EMBRACE CHANGE, WITH ALL ITS UNCERTAINTY AND ALL ITS POTENTIAL FOR ABUSE. I ASK YOU TO MANAGE IT WELL AND TO MAKE IT FIT WITHIN UNCHANGING VALUES AND LASTING TRUTHS.

NOT FAR FROM HERE, WOODROW WILSON LIES BURIED BENEATH A CRUSADER'S CROSS AT OUR NATIONAL CATHEDRAL. HIS WORDS ARE CUT INTO THE STONE WHICH COMMEMORATES HIS COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND HUMAN POTENTIAL. THEY DESERVE TO BE READ OFTEN. THEY DESERVE TO BE ACTED ON CONSTANTLY.

"THE STAGE IS SET," SAID WILSON IN SUBMITTING A PEACE TREATY TO THE SENATE AT THE CLOSE OF WORLD WAR I. "THE DESTINY DISCLOSED. IT HAS COME ABOUT BY NO PLAN OF OUR CONCEIVING, BUT BY THE HAND OF GOD, WHO LED US INTO THIS WAY. WE CANNOT TURN BACK. WE CAN ONLY GO FORWARD, WITH LIFTED EYES AND FRESHENED SPIRIT, TO FOLLOW THE VISION."

WILSON BELIEVED THAT AMERICA COULD SHOW THE WAY. HIS BELIEF
OUTLIVED ITS ELOQUENT CHAMPION. IT GUIDES US STILL. YOU STAND
TODAY IN THE REFLECTED LIGHT OF A RISING SUN. YOUR DAY IN THE COURT-
ROOM AND IN THE HALLS OF GOVERNMENT IS JUST DAWNING. YOU HAVE BEEN
GIVEN A GREAT LEGACY AT GEORGETOWN; YOU HAVE SAMPLED FOR YOURSELVES
THE ELOQUENCE OF THE LAW. I URGE YOU TO GUARD THAT LEGACY, DEFEND
IT AND USE IT TO LEAVE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION.
THOSE WHO HAVE SENT YOU HERE EXPECT IT. THOSE WHO WILL FOLLOW IN YOUR
WAKE DESERVE NOTHING LESS.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND CONGRATULATIONS!

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