

President's Trip to Boston, MA, 10/21/79

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1. MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY OF JOHN F. KENNEDY:
2. I AM HONORED TO BE HERE ON THIS OCCASION
AT ONCE SO SOLEMN-AND-SO JOYOUS --
3. THE DEDICATION OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY. /
4. LIKE A GREAT CATHEDRAL, THIS BUILDING WAS A LONG TIME COMING. ✓
5. BUT IT MORE THAN JUSTIFIES THE WAIT.
6. ITS GRACE AND DIGNITY ARE WORTHY OF THE MAN WHOSE MEMORY
IT WILL NURTURE. /
7. I NEVER MET HIM, BUT I KNOW THAT JOHN KENNEDY LOVED POLITICS;...
8. HE LOVED LAUGHTER;...
9. AND WHEN THE TWO CAME TOGETHER,
HE LOVED THAT BEST OF ALL. /
10. FOR EXAMPLE, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN MARCH, 1962,
HE WAS ASKED THIS TWO-PART QUESTION:
11. "MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR BROTHER TED SAID RECENTLY ON TELEVISION ↗
THAT AFTER SEEING THE CARES OF OFFICE ON YOU,
HE WASN'T SURE HE'D EVER BE INTERESTED
IN BEING THE PRESIDENT.
12. "I WONDER IF YOU COULD TELL US WHETHER ↗
IF YOU HAD IT TO DO OVER AGAIN
YOU WOULD WORK FOR THE PRESIDENCY, ... A
13. AND WHETHER YOU CAN RECOMMEND THE JOB TO OTHERS." M

1. THE PRESIDENT REPLIED:

"WELL, THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST IS "YES"
AND TO THE SECOND IS "NO" --
I DON'T RECOMMEND IT TO OTHERS,
AT LEAST FOR A WHILE."

2. PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S WIT AND WISDOM

IS CERTAINLY STILL AS RELEVANT AS EVER. //

3. THIS LIBRARY, THIS REPOSITORY OF FACTS AND IDEAS,

WILL FEED HISTORY WITH A PERMANENT RECORD
OF THE DREAMS OF JOHN KENNEDY
AND THE REALIZATION OF THEM.

4. IN AMERICA THE RECORDS OF A GREAT POLITICAL LEADER ↗

WILL NOT BE THREATENED BY SUCCEEDING POLITICAL REGIMES
WHICH MIGHT FEAR THEM, ...

5. FOR WE ARE A NATION COMMITTED TO FREEDOM

AND THE PURSUIT OF TRUTH. /

6. A LIBRARY IS AN ESPECIALLY FITTING TRIBUTE TO JOHN KENNEDY,

7. FOR HE WAS NOT ONLY A MAKER-OF-HISTORY,

BUT A WRITER OF IT.

8. HIS FAME AS AN AUTHOR OF BOOKS FORETOLD HIS FAME ↗

AS AN AUTHOR OF EVENTS.

9. HE SAID HE HAD FEW APPREHENSIONS ABOUT

HOW HIS PRESIDENCY WOULD FARE IN HISTORY,

10. BECAUSE HE PLANNED TO WRITE THAT HISTORY HIMSELF. ✓

1. TO OUR LOSS WE WILL NEVER READ THE BOOKS HE WOULD HAVE WRITTEN.
2. HIS DEATH IMPOVERISHED NOT ONLY STATECRAFT ✓
BUT LITERATURE AS WELL.
3. BUT IN THIS BUILDING, THE WORK OF REFLECTION AND EVALUATION ✓
WHICH HE ANTICIPATED [~~WILL THRIVE~~]
CAN BE DONE WELL BY OTHERS. /
4. PRESIDENT KENNEDY UNDERSTOOD-THE-PAST ✓
AND RESPECTED ITS SHAPING-OF-THE-FUTURE.
5. YET HE WAS VERY-MUCH-A-MAN-OF-HIS-TIME.
6. THE FIRST PRESIDENT BORN IN THIS CENTURY,
HE EMBODIED THE IDEALS OF A GENERATION
AS FEW PUBLIC FIGURES HAVE EVER DONE. /
7. HE SUMMONED OUR NATION OUT OF COMPLACENCY ✓
AND SET IT ON A PATH OF EXCITEMENT-AND-HOPE. /
8. THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS THOUSAND DAYS WERE ^{NOTABLE,} [ADMIRABLE]
9. THOUGH HIS PRESIDENCY WAS TOO SHORT FOR HIM TO FINISH
ALL THE MANY TASKS HE SET FOR HIMSELF.
10. WE HONOR HIM NOT JUST FOR THE THINGS HE COMPLETED,
BUT [~~EVEN MORE~~] FOR THE THINGS HE SET IN MOTION,
THE ENERGIES HE RELEASED,
THE IDEAS-AND-IDEALS-HE-ESPOUSED. //

1. PRESIDENT KENNEDY TOOK OFFICE UNDERSTANDING ↗
THAT THE -TEXTURE-OF-SOCIAL-AND-ECONOMIC- LIFE-WAS-CHANGING
AND THAT THE-NATION-WOULD-HAVE TO-CHANGE WITH-IT.
2. "CHANGE IS THE LAW OF LIFE," HE ONCE SAID.
3. "AND THOSE WHO LOOK ONLY TO THE PAST OR THE PRESENT
ARE CERTAIN TO MISS THE FUTURE."
4. HE HAD A VISION OF HOW AMERICA COULD MEET AND MASTER ↗
THE FORCES OF CHANGE HE SAW AROUND HIM.
5. PRESIDENT KENNEDY ENTERED THE WHITE HOUSE ↗
CONVINCED THAT -RACIAL- AND -RELIGIOUS- DISCRIMINATION
WAS -MORALLY- INDEFENSIBLE.
6. LATER THAT CONVICTION BECAME A PASSION --
A PASSION THAT HIS BROTHER ROBERT
SHARED AND CARRIED FORWARD.
7. AS A SOUTHERNER I SAW AT FIRSTHAND
HOW MORAL LEADERSHIP OF THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION
HELPED UNDO -THE- WRONGS -THAT- GREW -OUT- OF -
OUR NATION'S HISTORY.
8. TODAY THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES
IS SHIFTING FROM INEQUALITY OF LEGAL RIGHTS
TO INEQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY.
9. BUT THE -MORAL- IMPERATIVE REMAINS. //

*WE ARE ALL AMERICANS. WE ARE ALL
CHILDREN OF THE SAME GOD. RACIAL
VIOLENCE AND RACIAL HATRED CAN HAVE
NO PLACE AMONG US.*

1. PRESIDENT KENNEDY SOUGHT TO MOVE OUR FOREIGN POLICY ↘
BEYOND THE STERILITY OF THE COLD WAR. /
2. HE NEVER FAILED TO UPHOLD LIBERTY AND CONDEMN TYRANNY; ...
3. YET HE SAW VERY CLEARLY THAT THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR DESTRUCTION
HAD CREATED THE NEED FOR MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION,
WITH OUR POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES.
4. HE WARNED AGAINST TURNING THE WORLD INTO
"A PRISON IN WHICH MAN AWAITS HIS EXECUTIONER."
5. WHEN THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY WAS SIGNED IN 1963,
HE VOICED THE HOPE, ...
6. THOUGH HE DARED NOT YET VOICE THE PREDICTION, ...
7. THAT THERE WOULD SOMEDAY BE CONTROLS ON THE
NUMBERS AND TYPES OF NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS.
8. ^{*now*} ~~SIXTEEN YEARS LATER~~ THE 'SALT II' TREATY
CAN REDEEM THAT HOPE.
9. ITS RATIFICATION WILL BE A FURTHER FULFILLMENT
OF THE ^{*NEEDS*} ~~HOPE~~S OF ALL HUMANITY.
10. PRESIDENT KENNEDY ALSO KNEW ↘
THAT THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM ↘
WOULD BE INCREASINGLY BOUND UP ↘
WITH SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE ↘
11. IN WHAT HAS SINCE BECOME KNOWN AS THE THIRD-WORLD.

1. ONE BOLD EXPRESSION OF THIS VISION WAS THE PEACE CORPS --
2. WHICH, WITH ITS COMBINATION OF ACTIVISM,
IDEALISM,
AND ADVENTURE,
SUMMED UP SO MANY
OF JOHN KENNEDY'S VIRTUES. /
3. I AM PROUD THAT THIS ^{KIND OF} COMMITMENT _✓
HAS NOW BEEN VIGOROUSLY RENEWED _✓
4. AND THAT AMERICA ONCE AGAIN HOLDS OUT HER HAND
TO THE POOR,
THE SILENCED _✓
AND OPPRESSED OF EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. //
5. LIKE EVERY PRESIDENT WHO HOPES TO LEAVE THE WORLD
A BETTER PLACE THAN HE FOUND IT,
6. PRESIDENT KENNEDY CHAFED UNDER THE LIMITS-OF-HIS-POWER-TO-ACT. *THESE LIMITS
ON A PRESIDENT STILL EXIST.*
7. AS HE PUT IT DURING HIS SECOND YEAR IN OFFICE,
8. "THERE ARE GREATER LIMITATIONS UPON OUR ABILITY TO BRING ABOUT
A FAVORABLE RESULT
THAN I HAD IMAGINED."
9. YET PRESIDENT KENNEDY PERSISTED.
10. HE BECAME, AND HE REMAINS, A-SYMBOL-OF-HUMAN-ASPIRATION. //
11. PERHAPS THAT IS WHY THE OUTPOURING OF GRIEF AT HIS DEATH
HAD SUCH A SPECIAL QUALITY.

1. ON THAT NOVEMBER DAY ALMOST 16 YEARS AGO A TERRIBLE MOMENT WAS FROZEN IN TIME.
2. I REMEMBER THAT I CLIMBED DOWN FROM A TRACTOR,
UNHOOKED A FARM TRAILER,
AND WALKED INTO MY WAREHOUSE TO WEIGH A LOAD OF GRAIN.
3. ^I ~~AND~~ WAS TOLD BY A GROUP OF FARMERS THAT THE PRESIDENT
HAD BEEN SHOT.
4. I WENT OUTSIDE, KNELT ON THE STEPS, AND BEGAN TO PRAY.
5. IN A FEW MINUTES I LEARNED THAT HE HAD NOT LIVED.
6. IT WAS A GRIEVOUS PERSONAL LOSS.
7. MY PRESIDENT.
8. I WEPT OPENLY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN TEN YEARS --
FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE DAY MY FATHER DIED. /
9. PEOPLE WEPT IN BOSTON AND IN PARIS,
IN ATLANTA AND IN WARSAW,
IN SAN FRANCISCO AND IN NEW DEHLI.
10. MORE THAN ANYONE HAD REALIZED BEFORE THAT DAY,
THE SPIRIT OF THIS YOUNG AMERICAN PRESIDENT ✓
HAD TAKEN HOLD OF THE HEARTS AND IMAGINATIONS ✓
OF COUNTLESS MILLIONS THROUGHOUT -
THE WORLD. //
11. DURING THE ^{MONTHS} ~~YEARS~~ THAT FOLLOWED --
IN CIVIL RIGHTS,
IN MEDICAL CARE FOR THE AGED,
IN GREATER DIGNITY FOR THE POOR --
12. HIS VISION WAS CARRIED INTO REALITY WITH THE HELP OF
A UNITED CONGRESS AND PEOPLE. //

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1. AT THE TIME, THE TRAGEDY IN DALLAS SEEMED AN ISOLATED CONVULSION OF MADNESS,
2. BUT IN RETROSPECT IT APPEARS NEAR THE BEGINNING OF A
TIME OF DARKNESS.

3. FROM VIETNAM TO CAMBODIA,
FROM LOS ANGELES TO MEMPHIS,
FROM KENT STATE TO WATERGATE --

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4. THE AMERICAN SPIRIT SUFFERED UNDER ONE SHOCK AFTER ANOTHER,
5. AND THE CONFIDENCE OF OUR PEOPLE WAS DEEPLY SHAKEN. //
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE GOOD & STRONG.
6. WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN A SOLEMN COMMITMENT TO HEAL THOSE WOUNDS,
7. AND AT LONG LAST THE DARKNESS HAS BEGUN TO LIFT.

8. I BELIEVE THAT AMERICA IS NOW READY
TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE 1980's ✓
WITH RENEWED CONFIDENCE ✓
AND A REFRESHED SPIRIT. //

9. THESE CHALLENGES, OF COURSE,
ARE NOT THE SAME ONES THAT CONFRONTED US
A GENERATION AGO.

10. THE CARVED DESK IN THE OVAL OFFICE ✓
IS THE SAME AS WHEN JOHN F. KENNEDY SAT BEHIND IT,
11. BUT THE PROBLEMS THAT LAND ON THAT DESK ARE QUITE DIFFERENT. //

12. PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS RIGHT: CHANGE IS THE LAW OF LIFE.

13. THE WORLD OF 1980 IS AS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF 1960
AS THE WORLD OF 1960 WAS FROM THAT OF 1940.
MEANS OF IMPROVING

14. OUR ~~EFFORTS TO IMPROVE~~ THAT WORLD MUST BE DIFFERENT AS WELL. //

1. AFTER A DECADE OF HIGH INFLATION AND GROWING OIL IMPORTS,
2. OUR ECONOMIC CUP NO LONGER ~~(RUNS OVER)~~ OVER FLOWS.
3. BECAUSE OF INFLATION,
FISCAL-RESTRAINT-HAS-BECOME-A-MATTER-OF-SIMPLE-PUBLIC-DUTY.
4. WE CAN NO LONGER RELY ON A RISING ECONOMIC TIDE
TO LIFT-THE-BOATS-OF-THE-POOREST-IN-OUR-SOCIETY.
5. WE MUST FOCUS OUR ATTENTION DIRECTLY ON THEM. /
6. WE HAVE A KEENER APPRECIATION OF LIMITS --
THE LIMITS-OF-GOVERNMENT,
LIMITS ON THE USE-OF-MILITARY-POWER-ABROAD,
THE LIMITS ON-MANIPULATING ↘
WITHOUT-HARM-TO-OURSELVES ↘
A DELICATE-AND-BALANCED ↘
NATURAL-ENVIRONMENT. /
7. WE ARE STRUGGLING WITH THE PROFOUND-TRANSITION ↘
FROM A-TIME-OF-ABUNDANCE
TO A-TIME-OF-GROWING-SCARCITY-IN-ENERGY.
8. WE ARE ONLY BEGINNING TO LEARN-THE-NEW-HABITS ↘
AND TO ACQUIRE-THE-NEW-TECHNOLOGIES ↘
THAT WILL CARRY US TO A-FUTURE-AGE-OF-
CLEAN-RENEWABLE-ENERGY. /

1. AND WE FACE THESE PROBLEMS AT A TIME ↗
WHEN CENTRIFUGAL-FORCES-IN-OUR-SOCIETY
AND IN-OUR-POLITICAL-SYSTEM --
2. FORCES OF REGIONALISM,
OF ETHNICITY,
OF NARROW ECONOMIC INTEREST,
OF SINGLE-ISSUE POLITICS --
3. ARE TESTING THE RESILIENCY OF AMERICAN PLURALISM, *AND OUR ABILITY
TO GOVERN.*
4. BUT WE CAN AND WE WILL PREVAIL.
5. THE PROBLEMS ARE DIFFERENT;
6. THE SOLUTIONS, NONE OF THEM EASY, ARE DIFFERENT AS WELL. /
7. BUT IN THIS AGE OF HARD CHOICES AND SCARCE RESOURCES,
THE ESSENCE OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MESSAGE --
8. THE APPEAL FOR UNSELFISH DEDICATION TO THE COMMON GOOD --
9. IS MORE URGENT THAN EVER. /
10. THE SPIRIT HE EVOKED --
11. THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE,
OF PATRIOTISM,
OF UNSTINTING DEDICATION --
12. IS THE SAME-SPIRIT THAT WILL BRING US SAFELY-
THROUGH-THE-ADVERSITIES-WE-FACE.

1. ~~WITH EACH ERA, WITH EACH PRESIDENT,~~
~~THE TASKS BEFORE US CHANGE.~~
2. ~~THE OVER-ARCHING PURPOSE OF THE NATION REMAINS THE SAME:~~
3. ~~TO BUILD A JUST SOCIETY,~~
~~IN A SECURE AMERICA LIVING AT PEACE~~ ↘
WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.
4. THE LIBRARY WE DEDICATE TODAY IS A SYMBOL,
ABOVE ALL, OF THAT UNCHANGING PURPOSE.
5. THROUGH OUR STUDY HERE OF HIS WORDS AND DEEDS,
THE SERVICE OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY ↘
WILL KEEP ITS HIGH PLACE ↘
IN THE HEARTS OF MANY GENERATIONS ↘
OF AMERICANS. //
6. THIS LIBRARY MAY BE DEDICATED WITH THE WORDS OF A
POET FROM TENNESSEE,
7. A CONTEMPORARY OF THE PRESIDENT WHOSE NAME THE LIBRARY WILL BEAR: //
8. "TO THOSE WHO IN ALL TIMES HAVE SOUGHT TRUTH
AND HAVE TOLD IT IN THEIR ART ↘
OR IN THEIR LIVING, /
WHO DIED IN HONOR;
9. "TO THOSE WHO DIED IN THE HIGH AND HUMBLE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD:

1. "TO THOSE WHO DIED IN-SORROW,
AND IN-KINDNESS,
AND IN-BRAVERY;
TO THOSE-WHO-DIED IN-VIOLENCE SUDDENLY;.....
2. "TO THOSE WHO-DIED IN-THE-TIME
OF-THE-JOY-OF-THEIR-STRENGTH" //
3. THIS LIBRARY IS DEDICATED
TO JOHN F. KENNEDY,
35TH PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

#

A library has a special meaning in a nation ^{committed to} [which believes in] freedom and truth. This repository of facts and ideas -- ^{the record} of dreams and the realization of them -- will ^{feed} provide history with a permanence which in America ~~will~~ not [be] be threatened by succeeding political regimes which ^{might} fear the truth. This is especially significant to John Kennedy ^{who} was not only a maker of history, but a writer of it.

Hertzberg
October 16, 1979
Draft A-3

Kennedy Library remarks

I never ~~know~~ met him, but I know that

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~~Senator Kennedy,~~ Members and friends of the Kennedy

family: ~~(and fellow citizens.)~~

Age
[~ 16 years ago - wife. my son shot - prayer - not heard - could equally, 2/10/90
personal loss - my pain. (Leave a blank →)]

I am honored to be ^{here} ~~[among you today]~~ on this occasion

at once so solemn and so joyous: the dedication of the

John F. Kennedy Library. ^{Like a great cathedral,} This building was a long time

coming, but it more than ^{justifies} redeems the wait. Its grace and

dignity are worthy of the man whose memory it, ^{will nurture.} ~~[enshrines]~~

Library, freedom

~~[This Library celebrates a life well spent and a blithe spirit]~~ ⁺ [John Kennedy loved politics; he loved laughter; and when the two came together, he loved that best of all.]

* This would be omitted from the press release text.

For example, at ^a [President Kennedy's] press conference
[of] March [29], 1962, ^{he was} [a reporter] asked this two-part question:

"Mr. President, your brother Ted said recently on television
that after seeing the cares of office on you, he wasn't
sure he'd ever be interested in being the President. I
wonder if you could tell us whether if you had ^{it} to do over
again you would work for the Presidency, and whether you
can recommend the job to others."

*Speech
text
only*

The President replied: "Well, the answer to the first
is 'yes' and to the second is 'no' -- I don't recommend it
to others, at least for a while."

President: ^{Kennedy's} wisdom has is certainly relevant in our own time.

~~[President Kennedy loved Massachusetts as much as
he loved laughter.] It is fitting that this beautiful
library, dedicated to his memory, has been built here on
Boston Harbor, not far from where he was born and educated
and first elected to public office.]~~

~~[And a library is an especially fitting memorial to
this particular President. For a library is a temple to
the study of history; and John Kennedy was not only a
maker of history but a writer of it.]~~

His fame as an author of books ^{predated} ~~[presaged]~~ ^{foretold} his fame as
an author of events. He ^{said} ~~[used to say]~~ ^{came before} that he had few
apprehensions about how his Presidency would fare in history,
because he planned to write that history himself.

To our loss, we will never read the books he would
have written. His death ~~impoverished~~ not only statecraft
but literature as well. But in this building, ^{his anticipated} ~~the~~ work of
reflection and evaluation ~~[to which he had looked forward]~~
will thrive.

President Kennedy understood the past and respected
its ^{stamp} ~~[hold]~~ on the future. Yet he was very much a man of his
time. The first President born in this century, he embodied

the ideals of a generation as few public figures have ever done. He summoned ^{our nation} ~~his country~~ out of ^{its} ~~the~~ complacency ~~of the 1950's~~ and set it on a path of excitement and hope.

~~His~~ Presidency, ~~so cruelly cut off,~~ was too short for him to finish ^{all} the ~~many~~ tasks he set for himself. ~~Yet~~ the accomplishments of his thousand days were ^{admirable, but} ~~very great~~. We honor him not just for the things he ~~saw to completion in the time he had~~, but even more for the things he set in motion, the energies he released, the ideas and ideals he ^{so that} ~~encouraged~~.

President Kennedy ^{to} ~~came to~~ office ^{understanding} ~~committed to change~~. ~~He understood~~ ^{The texture of social and economic life was} that ~~times were~~ changing and that the Nation would have to change with them. "Change is the law of life," he once said. "And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future." ~~He saw the coming transformation of national and international life,~~

and] He had a vision of how America could meet and master the forces of change he saw around him.

President Kennedy entered the White House [~~with a conviction~~ ^{and religious} conviction] that racial discrimination was morally indefensible. [~~Toward the end of his life,~~ ^{later,} that conviction became a passion -- a passion that ^{his brother} Robert [Kennedy] shared and carried forward.

[~~As a native of the South,~~] I saw at first hand how moral leadership of the Kennedy Administration helped undo the wrongs that grew out of our history. Today, [~~as we strive to overcome the lingering effects of past discrimination,~~ ^{problem} the spectrum] of human rights [~~problems~~ ^{is shifting} ~~has shifted~~] in the United States from inequality of ^{legal} rights to inequality of opportunity. But the moral imperative remains.

President Kennedy sought to move ^{our} [American] foreign policy beyond [~~its preoccupation with~~ ^a ~~an increasingly~~] sterile

~~draw~~
Cold War. He never failed to ~~[draw]~~ the ~~distinction between~~

upheld

condemn
liberty and, tyranny; yet he saw very clearly that ~~[in the~~

nuclear
~~sphere of nuclear weapons,~~ the threat of ~~[mutual]~~ destruction

had created the need for mutual accomodation. ~~[The alternative,~~

He warned

against turning
~~as he warned, would be to turn]~~ the world into "a prison in
which man awaits his executioner."

At *When the*
~~[When President Kennedy announced]~~ the signing of the

was signed in

nuclear test ban treaty ~~of~~ 1963, he voiced the hope -- though

he dared not yet voice the prediction -- that there would

some day
~~[eventually]~~ be controls on the numbers and types of nuclear

armaments. Sixteen years later, the SALT II treaty ~~[has~~

can

redeem
~~redeemed]~~ that hope. Its ratification will be a further

fulfillment of the hopes of all humanity.

~~[President Kennedy saw that for peace to flourish, so~~

must trade. His Trade Expansion Act launched the successful

round of trade negotiations that bore his name. ~~[~~ *and this year*

~~Trade Agreements Act of 1979,~~ we have taken another long

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~~step along the path he charted.~~]

President Kennedy also ^{knew} ~~saw~~ that the future of freedom ~~in the West~~ would be increasingly bound up with social, political and economic justice in what has since become known as the Third World.

One ^{bold} expression of this was the Peace Corps -- which, with its combination of activism, idealism and adventure, summed up so many of John Kennedy's virtues. ~~In this and in other ways, President Kennedy put the United States firmly on the side of democracy, development and reform.~~]

~~[By the beginning of the present decade, our government had slipped away from that commitment.]~~ ^{This commitment} I am proud that ~~it~~ ^{to democracy, development and reform} _{vigorously} has now been renewed ~~[-- and that it is vigorously expressed]~~ through American support for human rights, ~~American~~ encouragement of democratic reforms, and ^{our} ~~American~~ efforts to help meet the basic human needs of the world's poorest people.

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Like every President who hopes to leave the world a better place than he found it, President Kennedy chafed under the limits of his power to ^{act.} ~~speed the changes he knew were needed~~. As he put it ~~in an interview~~ during his second year in office, "There are greater limitations upon our ability to bring about a favorable result than I had ^{persisted, and he stands today as a} ~~imagined.~~" Yet President Kennedy ~~remained, and remains,~~ a symbol of ~~limitless~~ human ^{& aspiration} ~~possibility~~.

Perhaps that is why ~~when he was taken from us,~~ the outpouring of ^{at his death} ~~grief that followed~~ had such a special quality.

~~Because President Kennedy lived his life so intensely, its end confronted us with the mystery of mortality and the everlasting fragility of the human condition.~~

move to top
 [On that terrible afternoon -- fifteen years, eleven months and two days ago -- the world's business abruptly ~~halted.~~ ^{and} People wept in Boston, ~~in Chicago,~~ in Atlanta, ~~in~~

~~San Francisco~~ -- ~~and~~ in Paris ^{and} in Warsaw, in New Dehli and
in Tokyo. More than anyone had realized before that day,
the ^{spirit} ~~shimmering figure~~ of this young American President had
taken hold of the hearts and imaginations of countless
millions throughout the world.]

In the years that followed, ^{his dreams became reality} ~~many of the seeds~~
~~President Kennedy had planted grew to fruition.~~ ⁱⁿ ~~In~~ civil
rights, in medical care for the aged, in ~~the fight for~~
greater dignity for the poor -- ~~in these and many other~~
~~areas,~~ his vision has been carried into reality with the
help of a united Congress and people.

^{decade} ~~Yet the [dozen-years] after [President] Kennedy's death~~
^{John}
^{was} ~~were] a very painful period for our country.]~~ At the time, ⁷
^{his death,}
the tragedy in Dallas seemed an isolated convulsion of
madness,
~~unreason] in the generally tranquil aspect of our national~~
^b ~~life.]~~ But in retrospect it appears ^{near} ~~as~~ the beginning of a

time of darkness. From Vietnam to ^{Cambodia,} [Watts], [from Los Angeles
to Memphis,] from Kent State to Watergate, the American
spirit suffered under one shock after another. [For a
shameful interval in our history, the ideals that John F.
Kennedy had brought to government seemed no longer welcome
there], and the confidence of our people ^{seemed to be} [was] deeply shaken.

^{We}
I have undertaken a solemn commitment to [help] heal
those wounds, [As John F. Kennedy's compatriot and successor,
I have struggled to restore to the Presidency of the United
States the ideals of decency, honor and service which must
distinguish the government of a free people.]

^{and}
I believe that America is now ready to ^{meet} tackle the
challenges of the 1980s with renewed confidence and a
refreshed spirit.

Those challenges, of course, are not the same as those
that confronted us ^{in 1963.} [a generation ago] The carved desk in

is the same as
the Oval Office [~~looks just as it did~~] when John F. Kennedy
sat behind it, ^b but the problems that land on that desk
^{quite}
are different.

President Kennedy was right: change is the law of life.

The world of 1980 is [~~very different from that of 1960, almost~~]
^{from that of 1960}
as different, as the world of 1960 was from that of 1940.

Our efforts to ^{improve} ~~shape~~ that world must be different as well.

[After a decade of high inflation and growing oil imports,
our economic cup no longer runs over. Because of inflation,
fiscal restraint is no longer a matter of ideological
preference but of simple public duty. We can no longer
take productivity, investment or innovation for granted.
We can no longer rely on a rising economic tide to lift
the boats of the poorest in our society.

5 P-9

We have a keener appreciation of limits -- the limits
of government [~~wisdom at home~~]; the limits of ^{military} [~~American~~] power

abroad; the limits of human ability to manipulate without harm a natural environment we now see as a delicate and balanced whole.

We are struggling with the profound transition from a time of abundance to a time of ^{growing} scarcity in energy.

We are only beginning to learn the new habits, and to acquire the new technologies, that will carry us to a future age of clean, renewable energy.

And we face these problems at a time when centrifugal ^{and our political system} forces in our society, -- forces of regionalism, of ethnicity, of narrow economic interest, of single-issue politics -- are testing the resiliency of American pluralism.

The problems are different; the solutions, none of them easy, are different as well. ^{*} But in this age of hard choices and scarce resources, the essence of President

*This bracketed insert is optional if you wish to approach the position of Stu and Lloyd Cutler as outlined in Draft B-3.

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Kennedy's message -- the appeal for unselfish dedication to the common good -- is more urgent than ever. The spirit he evoked -- the spirit of sacrifice, of patriotism, of unstinting dedication -- is the same spirit that will bring us safely through the adversities we face.

President

With each era, with each ~~Administration~~, the tasks before us change. ~~Old solutions give rise to new problems, or uncover problems long neglected.~~ Yet the overarching purpose of the Nation remains the same: ~~That purpose is to build the building of~~ a just society, in an America living in ~~and at~~ peace ~~and~~ security, with the other countries of the world.

The library we dedicate today is a ^{{symbol} token, above all, ^{the study here of his words and deeds,} of that ^{our} unchanging purpose. Through it the example of President Kennedy will ^{keep} take its high place in the hearts of many generations of Americans. ~~The millions who enter here will hear John Kennedy say, in the words of his favorite poet, Robert Frost:~~

They would not find me changed

from him they knew --

Only more sure of all I thought was true.]

Agce

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Members and friends of the Kennedy Family:

of John F.

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I am honored to be here, on this occasion at once so solemn and so joyous: the dedication of the John F. Kennedy Library. Like a great cathedral, this building was a long time coming, But it more than justifies the wait. Its grace and dignity are worthy of the man whose memory it will nurture.

Insert A →

~~A library has a special meaning in a nation committed to freedom and truth.~~ ^{library, this} This repository of facts and ideas ~~++~~ ^{the of John Kennedy} the record of dreams, and the realization of them, ~~++~~ will feed history with a permanence, ^{the records of a great political leader} which in America will not be

~~threatened by succeeding political regimes which might fear them,~~ ^{for we are a nation committed to freedom and the pursuit of truth.} ~~the truth.~~ ^{A library} This is, especially significant ^{fitting tribute to} to John Kennedy, for he who was not only a maker of history, but a writer of it.

Does not fit

Insert A

For example, at a press conference in March, 1962, he was asked this two-part question: "Mr. President, your brother Ted said recently on television that after seeing the cares of office on you, he wasn't sure he'd ever be interested in being the President. I wonder if you could tell us whether if you had it to do over again you would work for the Presidency, and whether you can recommend the job to others."

The President replied: "Well, the answer to the first is 'yes' and to the second is 'no' -- I don't recommend it to others, at least for a while."

I never met him, but I know that John Kennedy loved politics; he loved laughter; and when the two came together, he loved that best of all.

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*all
Insert
A*

~~(Insert A)~~ *for TART only; not
for press release*

wit and
President Kennedy's wisdom is certainly *still re*levant
as ever,
in our own time.

His fame as an author of books foretold his fame as an author of events. He said he had few apprehensions about how his Presidency would fare in history, because he planned to write that history himself.

To our loss, we will never read the books he would have written. His death impoverished not only statecraft but literature as well. But in this building, his *which he* anticipated *The* work of reflection and evaluation will thrive.

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President Kennedy understood the past and respected its ^{shaping of} ~~stamp on~~ the future. Yet he was very much a man of his time. The first President born in this century, he embodied the ideals of a generation as few public figures have ever done. He summoned our nation out of ~~its~~ complacency and set it on a path of excitement and hope.

The accomplishments of his thousand days were admirable, ^{though} ~~but~~ his Presidency was too short for him to finish all the *many* tasks he set for himself. We honor him not just for the things he completed, but even more for the things he set in motion, the energies he released, the ideas and ideals he ~~birthed~~ espoused, encouraged.

President Kennedy took office understanding that the texture of social and economic life was changing and that the nation would have to change with ^{it} ~~them~~. "Change is the law of life," he once said. "And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future." He had a vision

of how America could meet and master the forces of change he saw around him.

President Kennedy entered the White House convinced that racial and religious discrimination was morally indefensible. Later that conviction became a passion -- a passion that his brother Robert shared and carried forward.

As a Southerner

I saw at first hand how moral leadership of the Kennedy

Administration helped undo the wrongs that grew out of our
nation's
history. Today the problem of human rights in the United States is shifting from inequality of legal rights to inequality of opportunity. But the moral imperative remains.

President Kennedy sought to move our foreign policy
The sterility of the
beyond ~~[a sterile]~~ Cold War. He never failed to uphold liberty and condemn tyranny; yet he saw very clearly that the threat of

of nuclear destruction had created the need for mutual accommodation. He warned against turning the world into a "prison in which man awaits his executioner."

When the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was signed in 1963, he voiced the hope -- though he dared not yet voice the prediction -- that there would someday be controls on the numbers and types of nuclear armaments. Sixteen years later, the SALT II Treaty can redeem that hope. Its ratification will be a further fulfillment of the hopes of all humanity.

President Kennedy also knew that the future of freedom would be increasingly bound up with social, political and economic justice in what has since become known as the Third World.

One bold expression of this^{vision} was the Peace Corps -- which^h, with its combination of activism, idealism and adventure, summed up so many of John Kennedy's virtues.

I am proud that this commitment has now been vigorously
and that America once again holds out her hand
 renewed, ~~[through American support for human rights, encouragement~~
to the poor, the silenced and oppressed of every
~~of democratic reforms, and our efforts to help meet the~~
country in the world.
~~basic human needs of the world's poorest people.]~~

Like every President who hopes to leave the world a
 better place than he found it, President Kennedy chafed under
 the limits of his power to act. As he put it during his second
 year in office, "There are greater limitations upon our ability
 to bring about a favorable result than I had imagined."
 Yet President Kennedy persisted, *He became, and he remains,*
~~[and he stands today as]~~ a
 symbol of human aspiration.

Perhaps that is why the outpouring of grief at his
 death had such a special quality. ^(B) People wept in Boston and
Paris in ~~Atlanta~~, *Atlanta* and in Warsaw, in *San Francisco* and in
 in ~~Atlanta~~, in ~~Paris~~ and in New Dehli, ~~[and in Tokyo]~~

More than anyone had realized before that day, the spirit of
 this young American President had taken hold of the hearts and
 imaginations of countless millions throughout the world.

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P-6

(B)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

On that November day,
almost 16 years ago a
terrible moment was frozen in time. I remem-
ber that I climbed down from a
tractor, unhooked a farm
trailer load of peanuts and
walked into my warehouse
to weigh ~~the~~ ^a load of grain,
peanuts, and was told by
a group of farmers that
the President had been shot.
I went outside, ^{kneel on} the steps,
and began to pray. In a
few minutes I learned that
he had not lived. It was
a ^{grievous} personal loss. My President.
I wept openly, for the
first time in more than
ten years. ^{for the first time since} ~~since~~ the day
my father died.

During
[~~It~~] the years that followed ⁱⁿ in civil rights, in medical care for the aged, in greater dignity for the poor -- his vision ^{was} [has been] carried into reality with the help of a united Congress and people.

At the time, [~~of his death,~~] the tragedy in Dallas seemed an isolated convulsion of madness, But in retrospect it appears near the beginning of a time of darkness. From Vietnam *from Los Angeles to Memphis,* to Cambodia, ^{from} from Kent State to Watergate, the American spirit suffered under one shock after another, and the confidence of our people [~~seemed to be~~ ^{was}] deeply shaken.

We have undertaken a solemn commitment to heal those *at long last the darkness has begun to lift.* wounds, and ^I I believe that America is now ready to meet the challenges of the 1980s with renewed confidence and a refreshed spirit.

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These challenges, of course, are not the same ^{ones} [as these] ^{a generation ago.} that confronted us ~~[in 1963.]~~ The carved desk in the Oval Office is the same as when John F. Kennedy sat behind it, but the problems that land on that desk are quite different.

President Kennedy was right: change is the law of life. The world of 1980 is as different from that of 1960, as the world of 1960 was from that of 1940. Our efforts to improve that world must be different as well.

After a decade of high inflation and growing oil imports, our economic cup no longer runs over. Because of inflation, fiscal restraint ^{has become} ~~is~~ ^{not} ~~[no longer]~~ a matter of ~~[ideological preference~~ but of] simple public duty. ~~[We can no longer take productivity, investment or innovation for granted.]~~ We can no longer rely on a rising economic tide to lift the boats of the poorest in our society. *We must focus our attention ^{directly} on them.*

We have a keener appreciation of limits -- the limits
on the use
of government; ~~the~~ limits₁ of military power abroad; the limits
on manipulating
[of human ability to manipulate] without harm_^ *to ourselves* a natural
environment, ~~[we now see as]~~ a delicate and balanced ~~[whole]~~

We are struggling with the profound transition from
a time of abundance to a time of growing scarcity in energy.
We are only beginning to learn the new habits_x and to acquire
the new technologies that will carry us to a future age of
clean renewable energy.

And we face these problems at a time when centrifugal
forces in our society and our political system -- forces of
regionalism, of ethnicity, of narrow economic interest, of
single-issue politics -- are testing the resiliency of
American pluralism.

But we can and we will prevail.

This library ~~can~~^{may} be dedicated with the words of a ~~an~~ American poet, ^{from Tennessee,} a contemporary of the President whose name the ^{library} will bear:

* "To those who in all times have sought truth and have told it in their art or in their living, who died in honor

"To those who died in the high and humble knowledge of God

"(T)o those who died in sorrow, and in kindness, and in bravery; to those who died in violence suddenly

"(T)o those who died in the time of the joy of their strength "

~~["To those living and soon to die who tell truth or tell of truth, or who honorably seek to tell, or who tell the truths of others~~

~~"To those who know God lives, and who defend him. . . .~~

*Extracts from James Agee's own Dedication to his first book of poems, "Permit Me Voyage."

The problems are differ^cent; the solutions, none of them easy, are different as well. But in this age of hard choices and scarce resources, the essence of President Kennedy's message -- the appeal for unselfish dedication to the comⁿ good -- is more urgent than ever. The spirit he evoked -- the spirit of sacrifice, of patriotism, of unstinting dedication -- is the same spirit that will bring us safely through the adversities we face.

With each era, with each President, the tasks before us change. Yet the overarching purpose of the nation remains the same: to build a just society, in ^{a secure} ~~an~~ America living ^{at} in ~~[security and at]~~ peace with the other countries of the world.

The library we dedicate today is a symbol ~~[token]~~, above all, of ^{that} ~~[our]~~ unchanging purpose. Through ^{our} ~~[the]~~ study here of his words and deeds, the ^{service} example of President Kennedy will keep its high place in the hearts of many generations of Americans.

~~"To those who know the high estate of art, and who
defend it. . . ."~~

This library is dedicated
to John F. Kennedy, thirty-fifth
President of the United States of America.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10-20-79

To Joly -

This is total
text - Distribute
what you wish -

J

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for Preservation Purposes

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I never met him, but I know that John Kennedy loved politics; he loved laughter; and when the two came together, he loved that best of all.

For example, at a press conference in March, 1962, he was asked this two-part question: "Mr. President, your

brother Ted said recently on television that after seeing the cares of office on you, he wasn't sure he'd ever be interested in being the President. I wonder if you could tell us whether if you had it to do over again you would work for the Presidency, and whether you can recommend the job to others."

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President Kennedy's wit and wisdom is certainly still as relevant as ever.

This library, this repository of facts and ideas, will feed history with a permanent record of the dreams of John Kennedy and the realization of them. In America the records of a great political leader will not be threatened by succeeding political regimes which might fear them, for we are a nation committed to freedom and the pursuit of truth. A library is an especially

fitting tribute to John Kennedy, for he was not only a maker of history, but a writer of it.

His fame as an author of books foretold his fame as an author of events. He said he had few apprehensions about how his Presidency would fare in history, because he planned to write that history himself.

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