Mr. Prime Minister: Mrs. Humphrey and I wish to thank

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you for your generous and moving welcome.

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We value your gratitude and we value your loyalty and friendship. But what is more, Mr. Prime Minister, we welcome and value the efforts which you and your country, and the people of Europe, are making to build a new and

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vital community within Europe.

uniting Europe as being in conflict with our uniting and and own interests of peace.

> A strong and independent Europe is the first necessity for a strong Atlantic Partnership. For our partnership, if it is to be real and effective, must be a partnership of equals -- not of junior and

senior partners.

I thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, for your kind words about myself. I will do my best while I am here to make clear the policies of my government. And I

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look forward to the opportunity to hear from you, and the members of your government, the views and concerns which are so important to us.

When you say we are among friends.

we know that you are right. Belgium and America have always been friends and we shall always remain so.

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Toast by Vice President Hubert Humphrey Dinner by European Communities Brussels -- April 8, 1967

Thank you, President Hallstein. Less than two weeks ago you celebrated, and we celebrated, the tenth anniversary of the Treaties of Rome.

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Those treaties have been important documents in the life of Europe as they have been in the life of America. We supported the formulation of those treaties ten years ago. And we support today the European unity which has flowed from them.

The Communities you lead are the hope of the future and the new generation in Europe. This new generation, God willing, will not have to live through the experiences of our

generation. It will be able to build on the firm foundation you and your colleagues have built. I wish this evening to make it crystal clear: My government has supported, and will

continue to support, the constructive work of

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European unity. And we shall continue to support the building of a strong and lasting Atlantic Partnership -- a partnership between equals able to meet their responsibilities and carry their burdens, each in his own way.

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(6) The unity you have built -- and the unity which is still to come -- have given strength to Western values and to the movement which is now under way toward ending the old wounds and divisions in Europe. You have come a long way in ten years,

and we have come a long way with you.

If we maintain our resolve, our determination, and our partnership, who is to say where the next ten years can lead?

Mr. President, I propose a toast to you, to your colleagues, and to the Atlantic Partnership which can be such a force in the world for security, for human well-being, and for peace.

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I would like to express my deep gratitude and that of my wife for the hospitality and kindness shown to us by King Baudouin and his gracious Queen,

by numerous officials of the Belgian Government, by the commissioners of the European Community, and by the people of Belgium.

I have found my talks with leaders of the Belgian Government very helpful. My visits here and to other Western European capitals have confirmed my belief that the enterprise and undertakings which unite Europe and the United States are of vastly greater importance than the minor differences which sometimes distract us. I leave Europe

heartened by what I have seen and heard here and convinced that we must and that we shall work together to meet the problems and to realize the promise of the years ahead. # # # (5

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