

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE  
HIBERNIAN SOCIETY OF SAVANNAH  
ALEE TEMPLE  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA  
MARCH 17, 1983

THANK YOU FOR THOSE KIND WORDS EVEN THOUGH I UNDERSTAND  
SEVERAL OTHER SPEAKERS WERE APPROACHED FIRST. JESSE HELMS REFUSED  
TO FLY DOWN HERE, UNLESS HE COULD FIND A PLANE WITH ONLY A RIGHT  
WING. JOHN GLENN'S HAVING LIFT-OFF PROBLEMS. JIMMY CARTER IS  
CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN JERUSALEM. THE FORMER PRESIDENT  
WENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST TO HELP FIND THE PALESTINIANS A HOMELAND...  
CARTER RECOMMENDED THE EAST BANK...BEGIN RECOMMENDED EAST PLAINS.

I'M SORRY ELIZABETH COULD NOT JOIN ME TONIGHT. UNFORTUNATELY,  
SHE'S BUSY MAKING SURE THE ROAD RISES UP TO MEET THE AMERICAN  
MOTORIST. THESE HAVE BEEN HECTIC DAYS FOR OUR NEW SECRETARY OF  
TRANSPORTATION. THE OTHER AFTERNOON SHE COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHICH  
TO GET DONE FIRST - THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM OR HER HAIR.

YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN A RECENT STORY ON THE DOLES IN "PEOPLE"

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MAGAZINE. THEY TOOK ABOUT 500 PICTURES OF US AND ENDED UP USING ONLY THREE. ONE OF THE THREE WAS A PICTURE OF ELIZABETH AND ME MAKING THE BED WHICH CAUSED SOME GUY FROM CALIFORNIA TO WRITE AND REALLY LET ME HAVE IT. HE SAID HE DIDN'T MIND ELIZABETH GETTING THE JOB BUT I WAS SETTING A BAD EXAMPLE FOR THE REST OF MALE AMERICA. I WROTE BACK AND SAID BROTHER...YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT. THE ONLY REASON ELIZABETH WAS HELPING WAS BECAUSE THEY WERE TAKING PICTURES.

LAST MONTH ONE OF WASHINGTON'S TOP POLITICAL PUNDITS ASKED ME ABOUT PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES IN 1984...HE ASKED, IF PRESIDENT REAGAN DECIDES NOT TO RUN WHAT WOULD I THINK OF A BUSH-DOLE TICKET? I TOLD HIM HAVING ALREADY RUN FOR VICE PRESIDENT I DIDN'T THINK I'D BE INTERESTED. WELL, HE SAID, THAT'S FINE...BUT I DIDN'T HAVE YOU IN MIND.

SOMEONE ASKED ME WHAT ELIZABETH WOULD THINK OF ME ADDRESSING AN ALL-MALE AUDIENCE. TO TELL THE TRUTH, SHE THINKS I'M IN SAVANNAH TALKING TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS. ACTUALLY, THERE ARE THINGS



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EVEN A CABINET MEMBER SHOULDN'T SEE...LIKE 900 HIBERNIANS IN THEIR CUPS - I MEAN, RAISING THEIR CUPS - TO ST. PATRICK. IN HIS INVITATION, TOM DILLON ASSURED ME THAT OF THE 900 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE TONIGHT, ONLY 150 WOULD BE RESIDENT MEMBERS. NOW I KNOW THE TRUTH - THAT THERE ARE 150 RESIDENT MEMBERS WHO DRINK LIKE 900 PEOPLE.

WE IN WASHINGTON WHO BELONG TO IT LIKE TO THINK OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE AS THE WORLD'S MOST EXCLUSIVE CLUB. CONSIDERING THE LENGTH OF THE WAITING LIST TO JOIN THE HIBERNIANS, WE MAY HAVE TO RETHINK THAT CLAIM. ONE THING WE HAVE IN COMMON IS A PREFERENCE FOR THE COLOR GREEN. I WASN'T SURE THERE WAS ANY GREEN LEFT IN GEORGIA; THINKING HERSCHEL WALKER HAD TAKEN IT ALL WITH HIM. IN WASHINGTON, OF COURSE, WE'RE TOO BUSY FIGURING UP WAYS OF SPENDING THE GREEN STUFF TO WASTE TIME WEARING IT. YET EVEN IN WASHINGTON, AUSTERITY IS IN FASHION THESE DAYS. OVER AT THE PENTAGON, CAP WEINBERGER'S COME UP WITH A NEW DEFINITION OF HIS CONSTITUTIONAL

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RESPONSIBILITIES. NO LONGER, HE SAYS, DOES THAT SACRED DOCUMENT REQUIRE HIM TO PROMOTE THE GENERALS' WELFARE. OF COURSE, HE STILL HAS TO FIND SOME WAY TO PROCEED WITH DENSE PACK.

IF YOU'VE EVER WONDERED, BY THE WAY, HOW DENSE PACK GOT ITS NAME, YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO A CONGRESSIONAL HEARING, AND SPEAKING OF DENSE PACKS, I UNDERSTAND BERT LANCE HOSTED A DINNER IN ATLANTA LAST WEEK FOR ALL THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

LIKE IT OR NOT, THE SPARRING OVER 1984 HAS ALREADY GOTTEN UNDER WAY. LIKE SAINT PATRICK, WHO DROVE ALL THE SNAKES OUT OF IRELAND, PRESIDENT REAGAN IS TRYING TO DRIVE ALL THE LIBERALS OUT OF WASHINGTON. THE DEMOCRATS ARE WEARING GREEN WITH ENVY. AND OVER AT EPA, THEY'RE COMMEMORATING THE HOLIDAY BY DYING THE SLUDGE GREEN. MEANWHILE, THE CAPITAL REVERBERATES TO THE ORATORICAL EQUIVALENT OF SHERMAN'S ARMY...LAYING WASTE TO COMMON SENSE AND SEVERELY TRYING THE PATIENCE OF A TOLERANT PEOPLE.

#### LESS POLITICS AND MORE PRAYER

PERHAPS LESS POLITICS AND MORE PRAYER WOULD BE A BETTER ANTIDOTE



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TO THE ILLS OF THE MODERN AGE. PERHAPS MEMBERS OF BOTH PARTIES MIGHT DO WELL TO STOP POINTING FINGERS, AND FOLD THEM INSTEAD. PERHAPS ALL THE DELUGE OF PROBLEMS, LARGE AND SMALL, THAT INUNDATE US ON THE FLOOR OF CONGRESS, THE ARENA OF PUBLIC DEBATE, EVEN THE PRIVACY OF OUR OWN HOMES - PERHAPS THESE TOO WOULD ASSUME THEIR RIGHTFUL DIMENSION IF MATCHED AGAINST THE LESSONS OF THE GREATEST TEACHER WHO EVER LIVED. THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT THE MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH. THAT LETS OUT MOST OF WASHINGTON, BUT ALL IS NOT LOST. EVEN NOW, AMIDST THE PAIN OF RECESSION, THE ANGUISH OF AN ECONOMY UNDERGOING FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE, THE DANGERS OF A WORLD MADE TENSE BY TROUBLE: EVEN NOW, THE GOODNESS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SHINES THROUGH. YOU CAN SEE IT IN CHARITABLE GIVING UP 21.7% OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS - IN TENS OF MILLIONS OF YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO DONATE TIME TO VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY - AND IN YOUR HISTORIC BENEVOLENCE THAT HAS BRIGHTENED THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS

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EVER SINCE 44 SAVANNAHIANS FIRST GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE FESTIVAL OF ST. PATRICK, AND DRINK 31 TOASTS IN THE PROCESS. THE WORLD HAS TURNED OVER MANY TIMES SINCE THAT MARCH EVENING IN 1812. FOR ONE THING, WE CONFINE OURSELVES TO JUST TOASTS THIS EVENING. FOR ANOTHER, WE MEET HERE, IN THE ALEE TEMPLE, AND NOT AT THE INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WHERE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY DINNER WAS HELD. BACK IN THOSE EARLY DAYS, THERE WASN'T A SINGLE IRISH CATHOLIC ON THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER. TODAY, THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY IS A FAITHFUL REFLECTION OF A DIVERSE AND DEVOUT COMMUNITY.

BUT BENEVOLENCE - THAT HAS NOT CHANGED ONE IOTA. NOT SINCE THE NIGHT IT WAS FIRST PLACED ON THE SEAL OF THIS SOCIETY, ALONGSIDE THE MOTTO THAT STILL CAPTURES THE ESSENCE OF WHAT IT IS TO BE AN AMERICAN.

"NOT FOR OURSELVES," IT READS, "BUT FOR OTHERS."

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### PROBLEMS AND POTENTIAL

WE HAVE PROBLEMS IN THIS COUNTRY. WE HAVE PEOPLE OUT OF WORK WHO WANT TO WORK. WE HAVE POVERTY WHERE THERE SHOULD BE ABUNDANCE, HOPELESSNESS WHERE HOPE SHOULD TAKE ROOT, AND A FEELING THAT PERHAPS THE FUTURE WON'T BE AS BRIGHT FOR OUR CHILDREN AS IT WAS FOR US. WE HAVE PROBLEMS. BUT DON'T LET ANYONE FOR ONE MOMENT TELL YOU THAT THEY OUTWEIGH OUR POTENTIAL. DON'T LET ANYONE TELL YOU THAT THIS RECESSION IS PERMANENT, OR THAT PROSPERITY IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES. IT NEVER WILL BE, NOT SO LONG AS AMERICANS ARE FREE TO THINK, TO INNOVATE, TO RENEW AND REPLENISH THE STOREHOUSE OF INGENUITY. DON'T LET ANYONE TELL YOU THAT THIS AGE DOMINATED BY SILICON CHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS MIRACLES, IS ANYTHING LESS THAN THE MOST EXCITING TIME EVER.

DON'T LET THE PROPHETS OF GLOOM PAINT OUT THE BRIGHT COLORS OF A RECOVERY ALREADY SIGHTED. WITHIN THE LAST FEW WEEKS, WE'VE



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SEEN THEM SPRINGING UP LIKE CROCUSES IN A SAVANNAH GARDEN. INFLATION IS DOWN, DRAMATICALLY AND ENDURINGLY. UNEMPLOYMENT HAS REACHED ITS PEAKS AND IT, TOO, IS HEADED LOWER. CONSUMER CONFIDENCE IS RISING, ALONG WITH HOUSING AND AUTO SALES, BUILDING PERMITS AND THE STOCK MARKET. THE ORDEAL OF RECESSION IS BEHIND US. NOW WE MUST FIND WAYS - BIPARTISAN WAYS - TO SUSTAIN A RECOVERY, AND TO CONTROL CHANGE, OR ELSE CHANGE WILL MOST CERTAINLY CONTROL US. WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE A FUNDAMENTAL SHIFT IN PRIORITIES, A RETURN TO THE AVERAGE CITIZEN OF MORE AUTHORITY TO DECIDE, AS WELL AS MORE DOLLARS TO SPEND. WE MUST FIND NEW AND IMAGINATIVE WAYS OF FILLING THE GAPS THAT A SMALLER FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LEAVE IN ITS WAKE. IN OTHER WORDS, TO EXTEND THE SAME SPIRIT OF BENEVOLENCE THAT FILLS THIS ROOM TO OTHER CORNERS OF THE AMERICAN HOUSE.

WE MUST NOT CONFUSE ~~RE~~RENCHMENT BY GOVERNMENT WITH RETREAT FROM ITS BASIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES. WHERE THERE ARE PEOPLE IN NEED, GOVERNMENT CANNOT TURN ITS BACK. BUT NEITHER SHOULD



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WE. IN OTHER WORDS, I LOOK UPON THE SO-CALLED REAGAN REVOLUTION AS MUCH MORE THAN AN EXERCISE IN BUDGET-CUTTING, TAX REDUCTION OR STRUCTURAL REFORM, IMPORTANT AS THEY MAY BE.

STEWARDS OF DEMOCRACY

I LOOK AT IT AS AN EXERCISE IN IDEALISM, A REQUEST BY GOVERNMENT FOR ALL OF US TO JOIN IN THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE, FOR JOBS, AND FOR A FAIRER DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICA'S BOUNTY. FOR TOO LONG, WE ABDICATED TO WASHINGTON, D.C. OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SERVE AS STEWARDS OF DEMOCRACY. AND WASHINGTON SAID IT WOULD BE GLAD TO SPEND OUR MONEY IN PURSUIT OF OUR DREAMS. BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, PRIORITIES GOT CONFUSED. DREAMS GOT CONFUSED WITH SLEEPWALKING. GOOD INTENTIONS WERE UNDERMINED BY BAD ADMINISTRATION. TWENTY YEARS AGO, THE ENTIRE NATIONAL BUDGET AMOUNTED TO LESS THAN WHAT YOU AND I WILL SPEND IN INTEREST ON TODAY'S NATIONAL DEBT. TWENTY

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YEARS AGO, AMERICANS SPENT NEARLY TWICE AS MUCH ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AS ON SOCIAL PROGRAMS. TODAY, THAT RATIO IS NEARLY REVERSED.

TWENTY YEARS AGO, NO ONE QUESTIONED OUR POWER OR OUR PURPOSE. TODAY, WE ARE DEBATING BOTH IN OUR LIVING ROOMS AND CHURCH PEWS.

THIS IS NOT THE OCCASION FOR POLITICAL DISCUSSION, OR ORATORICAL PLATFORM BUILDING. IT IS, HOWEVER, AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THOUGHTFUL MEN TO ASK THEMSELVES WHERE WE WENT ASTRAY IN THE LAST GENERATION. IT IS A CHANCE TO ASK WHERE WE ARE HEADED IN THIS ONE. FOR MYSELF, I AM CONVINCED THAT AMERICA IS BACK ON TRACK. YOU CAN MEASURE OUR PROGRESS BY LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS, BY FALLING INTEREST RATES AND RISING ORDERS FOR MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS. YOU CAN MEASURE IT IN THE SPIRIT OF BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT - ALSO KNOWN AS STATESMANSHIP - WITH WHICH ELECTED OFFICIALS OF BOTH PARTIES HAVE RALLIED TO RESCUE THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM. YOU CAN FEEL IT IN THE SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES. THEY WERE ASKED TO SACRIFICE - AND THEY READILY COMPLIED. THEY WERE ASKED TO TIGHTEN THEIR BELTS - AND THEY WENT



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WITHOUT. NOW THAT THEIR SACRIFICE AND BELT-TIGHTENING ARE PAYING OFF, THEY ARE ENTITLED TO FEEL PRIDE IN THEIR COURSE. THEY ALSO HAVE A RIGHT TO DEMAND THE SAME SELF-DISCIPLINE FROM THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES.

IN THE MONTHS TO COME, THIS IS THE TEST WE WILL FACE. CAN WE, AS A SELF-GOVERNING PEOPLE, SUMMON THE STRENGTH TO SAY NO WHEN POLITICAL POPULARITY ALONE DICTATES EASY ACQUIESCENCE? CAN WE CURTAIL THE URGE TO SPEND, AND FOSTER A RESOLVE TO SAVE? CAN WE PROTECT THE NATIONAL SECURITY WITHOUT BANKRUPTING THE NATIONAL ECONOMY? CAN WE OVERCOME MUTUAL HOSTILITY AND YEARS OF DISTRUST, TO NEGOTIATE A VERIFIABLE REDUCTION IN THE STOCKPILES OF DEATH THAT DEFACE THIS GLOBE AND MOCK OUR CLAIMS TO GOD'S FAVOR.

WE WOULD DO WELL TO RECALL THE WORDS OF ANOTHER GEORGIAN OF IRISH ANCESTRY, A WOMAN WHO DEVOTED HER LIFE TO UNRAVELING THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE THROUGH HER OWN GENIUS FOR LITERARY CREATION. HER NAME WAS FLANNERY O'CONNOR, AND THIS IS WHAT SHE SAID IN A PRAYER TO SAINT RAPHAEL...

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"LONELY AND TIRED, CRUSHED BY THE SEPARATIONS AND SORROWS OF LIFE, WE FEEL THE NEED OF CALLING YOU AND OF PLEADING FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUR WINGS, SO THAT WE MAY NOT BE AS STRANGERS IN THE PROVINCE OF JOY, ALL IGNORANT OF THE CONCERNS OF OUR COUNTRY. REMEMBER THE WEAK, YOU WHO ARE STRONG, YOU WHOSE HOME LIES BEYOND THE REGION OF THUNDER, IN A LAND THAT IS ALWAYS PEACEFUL, ALWAYS SERENE AND BRIGHT WITH THE RESPLENDENT GLORY OF GOD."

FLANNERY O'CONNOR DIED YOUNG, NOT YET FORTY YEARS OF AGE. ON THE TABLE BESIDE HER DEATH BED WAS FOUND A FINAL LETTER, UNMAILED. OSTENSIBLY IT WAS WRITTEN TO PROVIDE REASSURANCE FOR A FRIEND BOTHERED BY AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL. IN A LARGER SENSE, IT SERVES AS A WARNING TO ALL OF US, NOT ONLY IN THIS ROOM, BUT TO EVERY AMERICAN WHO CONFRONTS A FUTURE FILLED WITH UNCERTAINTY. "COWARDS CAN BE JUST AS VICIOUS AS THOSE WHO DECLARE THEMSELVES," O'CONNOR WROTE OF THE UNKNOWN CALLER. "DON'T TAKE ANY ROMANTIC ATTITUDE TOWARD THAT CALL. BE PROPERLY SCARED AND GO ON DOING WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO."



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MY FRIENDS, I SUGGEST THAT WE SHOULD ALL BE PROPERLY SCARED,  
AND GO ON DOING WHAT WE HAVE TO DO. FOR HUMILITY IS THE NECESSARY  
PROLOGUE TO RENEWAL. AND FEAR CAN OFTEN BE CONVERTED INTO COURAGE.  
NOW IS THE TIME FOR SUCH A CONVERSION IN OUR OWN LIVES, AND IN  
THE NATIONAL LIFE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.