

REMARKS FOR THE SWEARING-IN OF
SECRETARY ELIZABETH DOLE
MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1989

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH. IT'S GREAT TO BE HERE.
ACTUALLY, I WAS PLANNING ON COMING TO THE LABOR DEPARTMENT
SINCE THE MIDDLE OF LAST YEAR. I FIGURED IF I WON THE
ELECTION, I'D WANT TO BE HERE FOR ELIZABETH'S SWEARING-IN.
OTHERWISE, I WAS JUST GOING TO STOP BY TO ASK ABOUT
UNEMPLOYMENT FORMS. *Secretaries McLaughlin, Ussey, Brosch,*

BUT REALLY, I'VE COME HERE TO INTRODUCE THE NEW
SECRETARY OF LABOR, SOMETHING I DID BACK IN 1985 WHEN BILL

I was here last year with Sec McLaughlin
BROCK CAME TO WORK HERE. ² OUR NEW SECRETARY, I THINK
YOU'VE HEARD OF HER, IS ELIZABETH DOLE. *SAC will do well*
MY TOP ADVISER ON LABOR ISSUES ~~I THINK SHE IS~~
~~GOING TO BE JUST SUPER,~~ AND I WILL CALL UPON HER ADVICE
AND COUNSEL AS A KEY POLICY ADVISOR ON MY ECONOMIC TEAM.

AND TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS DEPARTMENT, YOU TOUCH THE
LIVES OF VIRTUALLY EVERY AMERICAN. AND IF AT TIMES YOU
FEEL LIKE YOU ARE TAKEN FOR GRANTED, LET ME JUST SAY:
WHETHER YOU ARE THE NEWEST CLERK-TYPIST WHO JUST STARTED
HERE OR WHETHER, LIKE JIM TAYLOR, ["WHERE ARE YOU, JIM?"]
YOU'VE BEEN HERE SINCE THE DAYS OF SECRETARY FRANCES

*what a
job she
did*

PERKINS, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THIS PRESIDENT DOES NOT TAKE YOU FOR GRANTED AND NEVER WILL.

WHEN PEOPLE NEED YOU, YOU ARE ALWAYS THERE. AND WHAT YOU DO IN THE LABOR DEPARTMENT IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE MANY DIFFERENT WAYS IN WHICH GOVERNMENT SERVES THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. FROM ENFORCING CHILD LABOR LAWS TO PROTECTING RETIREMENT PENSION RIGHTS; FROM JOB TRAINING TO WORKER'S COMPENSATION; YOU LOOK OUT FOR THE WORKING PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

AND I WANT THIS ADMINISTRATION TO BE ABOUT WORKING PEOPLE. PART OF THAT WILL COME FROM EXCELLENCE AND RESPONSIVENESS IN GOVERNMENT. PART OF THAT WILL BE, HOLDING THE LINE ON TAXES -- SO WORKING PEOPLE, LIKE YOU AND THE PEOPLE YOU SERVE, CAN KEEP MORE OF THE MONEY YOU EARN. AND PART OF IT WILL BE A NEW VOLUNTARISM, PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE. I KNOW A GREAT MANY OF YOU, ON YOUR OWN TIME, DO WORK FOR YOUR CHURCHES AND IN YOUR COMMUNITIES AND FOR CHARITIES, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU AND ALSO ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO GET INVOLVED. I KNOW OUR NEW

SECRETARY OF LABOR WELL; AND, BELIEVE ME, SHE IS WAY OUT FRONT ON THIS WHOLE QUESTION OF VOLUNTEERISM.

I BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE; I BELIEVE THAT IT PLAYS A VITAL ROLE. BUT IT MUST COMPLEMENT INDIVIDUAL SERVICE. AND NOTHING CAN REPLACE PERSONAL COMMITMENT, BOTH IN OUR JOBS AND IN OUR PRIVATE LIVES. MANY PEOPLE LOOK TO YOU, THE PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT, TO DO ALL THINGS AND SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS. I THINK AS A PEOPLE WE NEED TO RENEW OUR SENSE OF COMMITMENT, TO TAKE GREATER

RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY FOR OURSELVES, BUT FOR ONE ANOTHER.

JOHN KENNEDY CHALLENGED US TO ASK OURSELVES WHAT WE COULD DO FOR OUR COUNTRY. LET US ALSO EACH DAY ASK OURSELVES "WHAT CAN I DO FOR ANOTHER PERSON?" HOW CAN I MAKE SOMEONE'S LOAD A LITTLE LIGHTER? || HOW CAN I HELP THEM TO GO A LITTLE FARTHER? || HOW CAN I BE A FRIEND TO SOMEONE LONELY, OR A COMFORT TO SOMEONE IN PAIN? EACH OF US CAN MAKE THIS A KINDER AND GENTLER NATION JUST BY THE WAY WE TREAT ONE ANOTHER EACH DAY.

I BELIEVE IN GOVERNMENT THAT IS EXCELLENT AND PEOPLE WHO ARE COMPASSIONATE. I THINK OF THE MINE SAFETY EXPERTS FROM THIS DEPARTMENT WHO AFTER THE MEXICAN EARTHQUAKE WERE ABLE, WITH THEIR SPECIAL SKILLS, TO FIND PEOPLE -- STILL ALIVE -- WHO HAD BEEN TRAPPED UNDER THE RUBBLE. BUT I ALSO THINK OF THE SECRETARY WHO AFTER A DAY AT THE OFFICE TAKES THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER AND HELP A CHILD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD LEARN HOW TO READ.

NOW, THE POSITION OF LABOR SECRETARY IS A VERY IMPORTANT ONE, AND THE OUTGOING SECRETARY, ANN McLAUGHLIN,

CERTAINLY LEFT BIG SHOES TO FILL. ALL OF YOU HAVE BEEN DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB IN SO MANY WAYS, AND THERE IS A LOT TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT ON THE LABOR FRONT. THE ECONOMY IS GROWING, PRODUCING JOBS AND OPPORTUNITY. THOSE OF YOU HANDLING UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS CAN SEE THOSE ROLLS GOING DOWN, AND I WANT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY WITH SOUND, PRO-GROWTH ECONOMIC POLICIES.

BUT THERE ARE IMPORTANT TASKS THAT LIE AHEAD, AND I DON'T THINK THAT WORKING PEOPLE COULD HOPE TO HAVE A

GREATER CHAMPION THAN ELIZABETH DOLE. SHE IS SMART, SHE IS EFFECTIVE, AND SHE CARES ABOUT PEOPLE.

YOU KNOW, EARLY IN HER CAREER SHE WORKED AS A LAWYER. HER FIRST CASE WAS TO DEFEND A FELLOW ACCUSED OF ANNOYING ANIMALS IN THE ZOO. || AMONG OTHER THINGS, HE WAS CHARGED WITH, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, PATTING A LION. BUT ELIZABETH WON THE CASE BY ARGUING THAT "WITHOUT THE LION IN COURT AS A WITNESS THERE WAS NO WAY TO TELL WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS ANNOYED" BY THAT. || NOW FROM THAT BEGINNING SHE MADE A CAREER OUT OF STANDING UP FOR THE LITTLE FELLOW AGAINST

THE LIONS OF THIS WORLD. AT THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION AND AT THE WHITE HOUSE, SHE SHOWED REAL LEADERSHIP AND EFFECTIVENESS.

AND IN HER 4-1/2 YEARS IN THE CABINET, SHE DISTINGUISHED HERSELF: ELIZABETH DOLE WAS AMERICA'S LONGEST-SERVING SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AND CERTAINLY ONE OF THE VERY FINEST. SHE TOOK THE LEAD ON TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SHE MADE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA. AND I KNOW THAT SHE WILL BE AN EXCELLENT SECRETARY OF LABOR.

AMERICA FACES IMPORTANT CHALLENGES AS WE PREPARE OUR WORKFORCE FOR THE ECONOMY OF TOMORROW. THERE WILL BE JOBS IN ABUNDANCE, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR WORKERS HAVE THE ABUNDANT SKILLS THEY NEED TO FILL THOSE JOBS WITH EXCELLENCE. WE HAVE A NEW GENERATION OF WORKERS, A NEW GENERATION OF FAMILIES, WHO ARE FINDING NEW WAYS OF BALANCING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORKPLACE AND THE HOME.

AND THERE ARE NEW COMPETITIVE FORCES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY THAT DEMAND A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE FROM EVERY

AMERICAN WORKER SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO LEAD AMERICA INTO THE NEXT CENTURY. I CAN THINK OF NO ONE BETTER QUALIFIED TO HEAD THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR DURING THIS EXCITING AND CHALLENGING TIME THAN ELIZABETH DOLE.

ELIZABETH, IT WILL BE A GREAT PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU IN MY CABINET. NOW WE'RE GOING TO WATCH YOU TAKE THE OATH ONE MORE TIME. [WITNESS CEREMONIAL SWEARING-IN OF SECRETARY DOLE.]

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