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-17830455 Presidential Remarks: Indefendence Day Celebration in Youngstown, Ohio, Jul 4 96

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RESPONSE:

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Staff Secretary Ext. 6-2702

Acknowledgments: Mayor Patrick Ungaro; Rep. Jim Traficant; Clare Maluso, event coordinator. Com David Eugle Stant-Stanworks 15th - REV. ELIZABETH BOWELL

Thank you for welcoming me to Youngstown. I am especially happy to be here since, as you know, space aliens blew up my house! [reference to "Independence Day"]

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

- soluleaslan

In 1992 our campaign bus caravan almost ran into the wedding of Judy and Mario Riccardi. I was so taken by them that they joined me onstage during my rally here. They have had one child since then and another is on the way. I understand they are here today, and I would love for them to stand and be recognized. Bruer Zoran Fransorder 125 May Dandpung this -

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON 200TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO THE RIVERFRONT JULY 4, 1996 96 JUL 3 P9: 32

Acknowledgments: Mayor Patrick Ungaro; Rep. Jim Traficant; Clare Maluso, event coordinator.

Thank you for welcoming me to Youngstown. I am especially happy to be here since, as you know, space aliens blew up my house! [reference to "Independence Day"] In 1992 our campaign bus caravan almost ran into the wedding of Judy and Mario Riccardi. I was so taken by them that they joined me onstage during my rally here. They have had one child since then and another is on the way. I understand they are here today, and I would love for them to stand and be recognized.

Today, all Americans celebrate the birthday of the world's oldest democracy. It is a day for celebration, for family and friends, for softball and barbecues and music. It is also a day to remember that even though we sometimes take the blessings of liberty for granted, millions of people around the world do not share those blessings. So I wanted to share with you some joyous news from halfway around the world.

The people of Russia have just finished voting in their election for President.

Millions of Russians returned to the polls and cast a free and open vote for Russia's democratic future. And with most of the ballots counted, it appears that President Yeltsin has won. On behalf of the American people, I want to congratulate President Yeltsin and the Russian people for this milestone in their journey toward liberty and reform.

We have fought for our democracy for two centuries, but sometimes we take it for granted. Today, as we celebrate 220 years of American democracy, let us salute the Russian people as they struggle to build their own democracy.

I am honored to be able to join you as you celebrate not just the birth of America but the 200th anniversary of the birth of Youngstown. Two centuries ago, at another time of great challenge and change, a group of Revolutionary War veterans were given this patch of land in uncharted wilderness. They were told: go, take this land, cut the path to the West and to our future, take the responsibility to seize the opportunity offered by a young democracy. They were pathfinders into a new land and trailblazers for a new nation. And their work helped to build the greatest, strongest and most prosperous nation in the world.

Throughout your history, Youngstown and the Mon Valley have been at the heart of our nation and its life. When America's great steel mills and factories built the world's greatest industrial power, Youngstown led the way. When the forces of democracy joined to defeat fascism and then communism, Youngstown led the way. Your hard work and enduring values have made America great. Now those same virtues and values will bring this region back and carry America into the new century.