

Text of Remarks at a Dinner Hosted by President Oscar Scalfaro of Italy in Rome

June 3, 1994

Mr. President and distinguished guests, the British historian Trevelyan wrote of General Garibaldi that he would live on as “the incarnate symbol of two passions not likely soon to die out of the world, the love of country and the love of freedom.” As we commemorate this 50th anniversary of the events that returned freedom to your great country, I want to praise the work you have done, Mr. President, as also embodying your commitment to the freedom-loving Italian people and the democratic Italian state.

Italy’s transformation over the past half century is a modern miracle. From the ruins of World War II, it has become one of the world’s great economies, an anchor of transatlantic secu-

rity, and a sturdy democracy, which, like our own, is renewing its strength by pursuing reforms.

As we gather this week to pay special homage to those whose courage, vision, and sacrifice helped to create and sustain a republican Italy and a Western alliance of democratic nations, the United States salutes you, Mr. President, for your past and present efforts to safeguard Italian democracy. Mr. President, on behalf of the American people, who share so many bonds of kinship and fellowship with the Italian people, I offer a toast to you and to your country: *Viva l’Italia!*

Remarks on Arrival in the United Kingdom

June 4, 1994

Mr. Prime Minister, Hillary and I are delighted to be here. I remember well the first time I arrived in the United Kingdom. I am deeply honored to be here today representing my nation.

Fifty years ago, our two nations joined forces on the beaches of Normandy to turn back the Nazi armies that had overrun Europe. This week I have come across the Atlantic to commemorate D-Day and the many other battles of the Second World War and to honor the sacrifices borne by the war generation in all the nations.

Freedom continues to require our sacrifice and persistence. And I would like to say, on behalf of all the American people, how very sorry we are and how we offer our condolences to the loved ones of those who died in the tragic RAF helicopter accident on Thursday.

Freedom continues to require effort. When he visited the United States after World War II, Winston Churchill spoke of our two nations’

role in forging the post-war world. He urged the United States and Britain to walk together in majesty and peace. For he said, “It is in the years of peace that wars are prevented and that those foundations are laid upon which the noble structures of the future can be built.”

I look forward to working with the Prime Minister and the British people as we work together to meet those challenges. The Prime Minister has already mentioned the many things that we will be discussing today. I am glad to be back in Great Britain, glad to be honoring the sacrifices and the triumphs of the World War II generation, glad to be about the work of honoring what they have done for us by trying to preserve the peace and the future.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:48 a.m. at the Royal Air Force station, Mildenhall.