

March 10, 1981

EXCHANGE OF REMARKS
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND
PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU

Parliament Hill,
Ottawa, Canada

11:10 A.M. EST

PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU: Canadians are simply delighted that you have come to visit us, and we're particularly pleased that in your first visit out of the United States you chose to visit our country.

Like Americans, Canadians are used to welcoming Americans. Last year, Mr. President, some 75 million border crossings were recorded between our two countries. That's about three times, more than three times, the entire population of Canada. So Canadians know Americans and Canadians like Americans. We like you because not only we have shared this continent together with our friends and neighbors, the Americans, with our friends and neighbors, the Mexicans, who have spanned this new world from one ocean to the other. But we also enjoy this neighborhood because we share the same values, individual liberty, justice, democratic values. Mr. President, more than two centuries ago a great band of the brotherhood of man wrote the most revolutionary script since the New Testament. I'm talking of the American Constitution. And not content with that, they went on in the same sweet breath of humanity to write a Bill of Rights.

Mr. President, those two documents, the words in there, the ideas in there, were heard around the world. Indeed, more than the shot fired at Lexington it is these ideas and these values which have made America, the United States of America, the first great modern nation.

And that is why, Mr. President, the winds of freedom which first began to blow in your country and which then spread all over the world make that Canada and Canadians. As you can see from these signs and as you can hear from some of these lonely voices, Canadians expect much of Americans. But more important, Canadians have faith in the Americans. We know that our long relationship has been based on more than neighborhood. It's been based on friendship; and on a sharing of these values. That is why we are happy you have come to visit us to exchange ideas with us and to seek solutions to the problems that often