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“THE REAGAN REVOLUTION CONTINUES”

SECRETARY ELIZABETH DOLE PROMOTES THE REAGAN LEGACY DURING PRESIDENT REAGAN’S 99TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

(SIMI VALLEY, CA) From under a cloudy sky at The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library on Saturday, February 6, 2010, Corporal Phillip A. Brockamp, Honor Guard Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, bellowed, “READY...AIM...FIRE” and the rifle detail from the United States Marine Corp Base (MCB) Camp Pendleton answered with a 21-gun salute. The man being honored? President Ronald Wilson Reagan on the occasion of his 99th birthday. With 1,000 people looking on including, including 100 sailors from the U.S.S. Ronald Reagan and Lemoore Naval Air Station, a ceremony befitting of our nation’s fortieth president celebrated his life and his legacy.

During the keynote address, President Reagan’s Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole remarked, “The principles of the Reagan Revolution are never mere nostalgia. The same compass that guided him still points true – as it will in a hundred years, and a hundred years beyond. Whenever government forgets its proper bounds...whenever America doubts her moral purpose...whenever liberty requires defenders...we will need a great rediscovery. As we need it today. The Reagan Revolution will never grow old – because the promise of freedom is always new.”

During the program, John Heubusch, executive director for The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation announced plans for President Reagan’s upcoming centennial celebration. “Next year marks the hundredth anniversary of Ronald Reagan’s birth,” he said. “Throughout 2011 the Foundation and Library will look back on President Reagan’s life and achievements – his rise from modest beginnings to the heights of his professions, his entry into political life, his governorship, and of course his presidency. We will remember his leadership in reviving the American economy, winning the Cold War, inaugurating a new era of peace among nations, and restoring the American spirit.” He concluded, “At a moment of freedom’s peril, Ronald Reagan assumed the presidency and insured liberty’s success. Most of all next year, we will honor that triumphant achievement and rededicate ourselves to carrying freedom forward for the generations to come.”

As part of the Centennial Celebration, Mr. Heubusch announced that the original Museum galleries, originally opened in November of 1991, would all be transformed. Wes Smith, Vice-Chairman of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation remarked during the program, “With the 100th birthday celebration approaching of our nation’s 40th president, we at the Reynolds Foundation wondered if there wasn’t more we could do to help promote the legacy of a man who continues to inspire millions of people to believe in their country, believe in themselves, and to become better leaders even years after his passing.” Announcing a \$12.75 million gift to help fund the renovation, Mr. Smith continued, “The Museum’s new state-of-the art interactive gallery displays will provide engaging, entertaining and educational exhibits which exemplify the

important role President Reagan had on the world and in all of our lives. This gift will impact and inspire Museum visitors for years to come.”

Following the speeches a presidential wreath was laid at the gravesite while echo taps played in the background. As the event came to a close and the 25-piece 1st Division Marine Band played *The Marines Hymn*, audience members enjoyed a slice of birthday cake and remembered the man who championed American freedom and inspired the Reagan Revolution.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the promotion of the legacy of Ronald Reagan and his timeless principles of individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy, and national pride. It sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center and The Air Force One Pavilion. Located in Simi Valley, California the Library houses 63 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It now also serves as the final resting place of America’s 40th President. www.reaganfoundation.org

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