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FOR RELEASE: 7 October 1971

92-300

FROM: Kika de la Garza

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- KEEP REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN U. N. -- I agree, and I am sure South Texans will generally agree, with the Administration's support of the Republic of China in the matter of membership in the United Nations. That membership must be retained. For the Republic of China to be expelled while Communist China is admitted would flagrantly violate the principles and spirit of the U.N. Charter. I do not believe this will happen. Most Americans thoroughly approve of the resolution offered by the United States and other nations in support of the Republic of China. We cannot let our friends down.

* * *

MORE TEXAS-MEXICO TRADE -- An event of special interest to our area is the opening by the State of Texas of its first International trade center in Mexico City.

Purpose of the center is to increase sales of Texas manufactured goods and to locate products and services in Mexico which are needed by our own industries. As South Texans are well aware, Mexico's growing population and expanding economy offer a great potential for increased sales of Texas commodities. The Mexico City trade center, which is the result of a survey made in 1970 and a trip by Texas industrialists to study the market there, can become a fine show window for South Texas and the entire state.

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HOUSING PROGRAM MEETS NEEDS -- Rural housing loans are being approved by the Farmers Home Administration at a rapid rate in this fiscal year, which began July 1. This program, well known in South Texas, is designed to provide adequate homes for low-to moderate income families in towns of up to 10,000 population as well as in the open countryside.

In Texas, 605 such loans totaling \$7.5 million were approved in July and August. Texas has been high on the list of the 10 most active states under the rural housing program since it was started in 1949. Loans since that year in our State totaled 25,188.

To qualify for a housing loan, a family must be without safe, decent housing, and be unable to obtain financing from regular commercial credit sources on reasonable terms and conditions. However, the family must have sufficient income to meet house payments, insurance premiums, taxes, maintenance, and other living expenses. FHA also operates programs for home-site development, self-help housing and farm labor housing.

* * *

THE NINTH DAY -- Recently at a Joint Session of the Congress we paid tribute to the Apollo 15 Crew. I had been honored to be in Hawaii when they first set foot on land and was greatly impressed by their humility, dedication to their job and devotion to their country. At the session they enhanced this thinking on my part. Please allow me to quote from their talks:

Colonel David R. Scott: "Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, Members of Congress distinguished guests, it is with a great deal of pride and humility that I stand before you today. Pride, because I have had the privilege of representing this great country in an expedition to the furthest reaches of a new frontier, an expedition which was conducted in peace, before the eyes of the world and for the benefit of the entire human race. I stand in humility because I have a new appreciation for the magnitude and scope of our lives and endeavors.... But let us not think in terms of millions of years to understand this paradox of time; let us think of time in terms of days. The Book of Genesis records 7 days for the creation of the heavens and the earth. Thereafter came the emergence of man as an intelligent being seeking to constantly improve his numbers and his aspirations for the future. Consider this the eighth day. Now the moon has shifted the tides of life once again, and, gentlemen, I believe this great country is leading mankind into the dawn of the ninth day."

Colonel Alfred M. Worden: ". . . . Our horizons were not limited to the area around us during the flight. We saw the earth as a single planet. There is a oneness about the earth that we do not see from the ground. We do not see any boundaries from that particular vantage point; we do not see any differences in race or religion or political beliefs. The thought struck me that there was an analogy between the earth and between Endeavour. We were a team of three living in a spacecraft called Endeavour. We are all billions of people living on spacecraft Earth. We had to work as a team to survive and maintain our own household during the flight. We must work as a team to maintain our household and to maintain our home called Earth. . . "

Col James B. Irwin: ". . . . The proudest moment of my life was when I saluted our American flag that we had planted on the plain at Hadley-Apennine -- proud that I was an American and proud of the thousands of people that had supported our mission and made it a success. . . "

* * *

MAIL FOR SERVICEMEN -- Nobody needs to be reminded that U. S. military personnel serving overseas look forward eagerly to packages from home. From the Postal Service, I have obtained information designed to help insure speedy delivery and possibly save money on packages mailed to servicemen overseas. Here are some special rules:

Parcel airlift -- for packages weighing up to 30 pounds and no more than 60 inches in combined length and girth. Pay regular parcel post rate to the coastal city where the APO or FPO is located, and for an extra \$1 fee, the package will go all the way by air.

Air parcel post -- for packages weighing two pounds or less. Cheaper even than parcel airlift, and also goes all the way by air.

Space-available mail -- for parcels up to five pounds and 60 inches in combined length and girth. Pay regular parcel rate to the port city. The package goes by land to the coastal city, then by air to destination.

Also, letters bearing the correct five-digit number after the APO or FPO go by air from point of mailing to destination.

If you need more information check with your local Postmaster.

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VISITORS -- Visiting my office this week were Dr. Arnulfo Oliveira and Mr. Albert Besteiro, both of Brownsville; Mr. Tony Ramirez, of Harlingen; Dr. Bruno M. Trevino of Rio Grande City, currently working in Washington, D. C.; and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Moody of San Benito.

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