

Remarks Prepared for Delivery by Gov. Tommy G. Thompson
Public Event with President Clinton and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl
Pere Marquette Park — Milwaukee, Wis.
May 23, 1996

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTRODUCTION, MAYOR NORQUIST.

PRESIDENT CLINTON...CHANCELLOR KOHL...

ISN'T IT GREAT TO BE IN WISCONSIN?

AND ISN'T IT GREAT TO BE IN MILWAUKEE?

BUT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ISN'T IT ALWAYS GREAT TO BE IN MILWAUKEE,
WISCONSIN?

CHANCELLOR KOHL, YOU'VE NO DOUBT HEARD ABOUT OUR WONDERFUL
WISCONSIN HOSPITALITY...BUT NOTHING COULD EXPRESS THE WARMTH OF
MILWAUKEE AND WISCONSIN LIKE THE CROWD THAT'S GATHERED FOR YOU
TODAY.

THIS, MR. CHANCELLOR, IS WISCONSIN. WILKOMMEN. WELCOME.

I KNOW THERE WERE IMPORTANT MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING YOUR
VISIT. BUT FOR THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN...THIS IS A DAY TO CELEBRATE.

TODAY, ALL OF US IN WISCONSIN CELEBRATE OUR STATE'S DEEP ROOTS IN
GERMANY.

THOSE ROOTS...PLANTED BY GERMAN IMMIGRANTS OVER A CENTURY AND A
HALF AGO HERE ON LAKE MICHIGAN'S SHORES...HAVE MADE WISCONSIN
WHAT IT IS TODAY: STRONG...HARD WORKING...AND PROSPEROUS.

AND IT'S IN THOSE ROOTS THAT WE FIND THE BASIS FOR THE FRIENDSHIP
WE'VE ENJOYED WITH GERMANY AND THE GERMAN PEOPLE SINCE EVEN
BEFORE WISCONSIN BECAME A STATE.

THE INFLUENCE OF THAT FRIENDSHIP CAN BE SEEN IN EVERY CORNER OF
WISCONSIN...AND IN THE FACES OF ITS PEOPLE.

IT CAN BE SEEN IN THE WAY WE EDUCATE OUR CHILDREN...AND IN THE WAY
WE RUN OUR GOVERNMENT.

Source: Marquette University Libraries; Tommy G. Thompson Collection; Series 2: Gubernatorial Speeches

IT'S BEEN FOSTERED, IN PART, THROUGH OUR SISTER STATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE STATE OF HESSEN. THAT PARTNERSHIP MARKS 20 YEARS OF MEANINGFUL, PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGES THIS SEPTEMBER.

WE'RE PROUD OF OUR FRIENDSHIP. WE'RE PROUD OF WHAT IT MEANS FOR WISCONSIN AND ITS PEOPLE.

AND WE'RE PROUD, MR. CHANCELLOR, THAT WE CAN CELEBRATE THAT GREAT FRIENDSHIP WITH YOU TODAY.

NOW, ANY STATE WOULD TAKE PRIDE IN HOSTING THEIR PRESIDENT AND A DISTINGUISHED WORLD LEADER.

BUT WHEN THE STATE IS WISCONSIN AND THE WORLD LEADER IS FROM GERMANY...THAT'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

THAT'S CAUSE FOR REAL CELEBRATION.

WELCOME TO YOU BOTH, PRESIDENT CLINTON AND CHANCELLOR KOHL.

AND MR. CHANCELLOR, THANK YOU FOR GIVING US CAUSE TO CELEBRATE THE GREAT FRIENDSHIP WE SHARE WITH THE PEOPLE OF YOUR COUNTRY.