

CLINTON

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tion upon which to build the coming millennium, we should consider the vision of an American democracy in full glory as it adapts and progresses in an evermore complex world, eagerly called upon to assist, and looked upon with pride.

Truly, this next presidential term could form the spearhead of an international endeavor to become globally dynamic — organized as we increase in numbers and able to work together for the prosperity of all human-kind.

The only obstacles to an achievement of this scale are the limits we place on ourselves, or which have been placed upon us by a leadership lacking in creative pursuits. However, with new leadership poised to enter the White House, this nation stands to benefit from a new relationship between the government and the people it serves. As the United States gains confidence in this new leadership, it could be unified as never before, its

potential unleashed as never before and the world would bear witness to the true power of a healthy democracy.

Now, as we focus our thoughts on the highest office in the country, the hour approaches when we must consider the nature of our commitment to progress in this decade. This task will test our strength as a unified nation, and our wisdom as dignified individuals. It is imperative that we see beyond the disappointments of past government administrations and instill a new trust in a new generation of leadership.

In this decade, as we contemplate the new millennium, our common needs require wisdom in leadership to a degree never before so vast, never before so vital. It is to this end that we must stand united in support of leaders of merit, courage, compassion, and most of all, vision.

And then, in the years unfolding, new eyes will see and new ears will hear of a leadership that cares about the small and the large, the present and the future, the people and their planet. With such leadership,

our future will provide dignity for all who strive to sustain this world as we reverse the trends of destruction and alter our means of existence. And we will offer to our children a new Earth upon which to flourish, and to all species a new Earth upon which to evolve.

The soul of a nation can be awakened by a spark from within, and the soul of a world can be saved by the wonders of democracy. The future of our civilization is dependent upon the harnessing of our combined wisdom.

The countdown to this new millennium has already begun, and the time has come to weigh anchor and set sail for the swift waters of the 21st Century with all of us at the oars. Together we have the talent to create a golden future. And today we have the ability to take ourselves there on the winds of a new vision — on the promise of a new covenant.

Brian David Bogart is press secretary for the Lane County Clinton/Gore Campaign and is editor of the newsletter "The National Endeavor."

BUSH

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tain to provide an inferior product at a higher price. A key part of the solution lies in giving concerned parents a choice in selecting who educates their children. In the great majority of families, parents can better select a school that best meets the needs of their children than a centralized education administration can devise.

Republicans respect the basic tenets of our culture. These beliefs are rooted in Judeo-Christian values that have been passed down through western cultures for nearly 2,000 years. They also form the basis of much of our laws and political traditions. Inherent in these beliefs is commitment to individual freedom of religious expression as stated in the Bill of Rights.

When a nation ignores its moral tradition, it does so at the risk of destroying the foundation upon which all of its institutions are grounded. When individuals violate the moral imperatives of their culture, they begin the process of societal decline that, if unchecked, will lead to societal collapse. This manifests itself in increasing violence, broken families and neglected children.

George Washington's farewell address is the foundation of the foreign policy beliefs of Repub-

licans. Not only are we not to be the policeman of the world, but we should avoid unnecessary commitments of American manpower and might to intervene in foreign disputes.

At the same time, there are instances where our power must be used to protect vital American interests. A good example of this is our success in the early 1940s to counter and defeat the German drive for dominance. While we should work for the principles of freedom through the use of diplomacy, foreign aid and assistance and the promotion of democratic values, we must carefully guard against unproductive foreign entanglements. Any military action taken must be designed to meet a well thought-out objective. Conflicts like the war in Vietnam that do not involve clearly defined vital interests should be avoided.

The Republican cause is alive and well. The principles espoused have a long tradition in our nation's history. From Jefferson's limited government, Washington's caution against foreign entanglements and Lincoln's commitment to individual liberty and justice, these principles are securely rooted in our traditions and philosophy.

William D. Witt represented Oregon at the 1992 Republican National Convention as a delegate-at-large, was co-chairman of the Oregon delegation and a member of the Rules Committee.

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