

May 14 / Administration of George Bush, 1991

Remarks Upon Receiving the Winston Churchill Award From Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom

May 14, 1991

The Queen. It gives me great pleasure, Mr. President, to present you with the Churchill Award in recognition of the leadership you have shown to the world in recent months.

The President. Thank you very much. Thank you, Your Majesty, and Royal Highness Prince Philip, and Ambassador Loeb, and friends of what is indeed this special relationship. I have prepared here about a 45-minute speech—[laughter]—but if I gave it, we would all melt. [Laughter] And we want the visit of the Queen to be the best ever.

So, I will simply say that I am very, very grateful to you, Your Majesty, for taking the time to do this; to you, Ambassador Loeb, for your leadership and what you're doing in terms of scholarships. It is out-

standing. It is wonderful.

And I'm old enough to remember, from World War II, Winston Churchill's leadership. He inspired the United Kingdom, but he inspired everybody in this country as well. And I think it's a marvelous symbol of the lasting, special relationship between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. And I am very proud and pleased and honored to receive this.

Thank you very, very much.

Note: The Queen spoke at 1:24 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. The President referred to His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Queen's husband, and John L. Loeb, Jr., president of the Winston Churchill Foundation and former U.S. Ambassador to Denmark.

Remarks at a Tree-Planting Ceremony

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Your Majesty and Your Royal Highness, ladies and gentlemen, representatives of the American Association of Nurserymen, which donated this very special tree, welcome to the White House and to an event which commemorates—whether in America or Great Britain—how trees can preserve and protect our natural resources.

Winston Churchill once said: "I am always ready to learn, though I do not always enjoy being taught." What trees teach us is how a precious inheritance can be passed from one generation to another. We see it in the forests of Nottingham and lush delta of Mississippi. We marvel at the Kew Gardens and evergreens of the Pacific Northwest. Trees form a great cathedral of the outdoors. We must nurture them, replenish them, as a family would a best friend.

Your Majesty, 54 years ago President Roosevelt did exactly that, celebrating the

British-American family by praising a friend. In 1937, two small-leaf linden trees were planted in honor of your father, King George the Sixth's coronation. For decades they stood erect and proud, like the ties that bind our nations. And then last September, a storm swept through Washington, destroying one of the lindens planted for your father. Each served to remind all of us that trees are precious, but fragile, and they need our help, as we need their beauty.

Teddy Roosevelt once called our lands and wildlife "the property of unborn generations." And so I can think of no better way to show our friendship, nor salute the children of both our countries than to plant a new linden tree. It is my honor now to dedicate this tree to a truly great and good man, King George the Sixth.

Note: The President spoke at 1:40 p.m. on the South Lawn of the White House. In his