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Max S. Baucus

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REMARKS BY SENATOR MAX BAUCUS BEFORE THE BUTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL MEETING

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR INVITING ME TO YOUR ANNUAL MEETING THIS YEAR. IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE BACK IN BUTTE. AS I LOOK AROUND THE ROOM, I SEE A LOT OF OLD FRIENDS, AND A LOT OF ALLIES WHO HAVE BEEN VERY IMPORTANT TO ME THROUGHOUT MY LIFE.

OCTOBER 12, 1983

BUT PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT, I SEE THAT THE SPIRIT OF
BUTTE IS STILL ALIVE. THROUGHOUT BUTTE/SILVER BOW, THERE IS
A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND ENTHUSIASM WHICH IS UNIQUE. I DON'T
THINK I HAVE EVER SEEN ANOTHER AREA OF OUR COUNTRY WHICH IS
QUITE SO FORWARD LOOKING, AND WHICH HAS TAKEN SUCH POSITIVE
CONTROL OF ITS DESTINY AS THE PEOPLE OF BUTTE.

THE STRENGTH OF BUTTE'S CHARACTER HAS ALWAYS BEEN REFLECTED IN ITS COMMUNITY LEADERS. I'D LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON CHOOSING RAY TILMAN TO SERVE AS YOUR PRESIDENT. RAY RECENTLY ACCOMPANIED ME ON A TRIP TO MINNESOTA, AND I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE IMPRESSED. RAY IS JUST THE SORT OF PERSON WE NEED IN MONTANA TO HELP US SHAPE OUR OWN DESTINIES.

I'D ALSO LIKE TO WELCOME JIM MARVIN, PRESIDENT OF THE ANACONDA MINERALS COMPANY. JIM, IN A LOT OF WAYS, YOU'VE COME BACK HOME FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING. IN SO MANY WAYS, THE HISTORY OF BUTTE, AND THE HISTORY OF ANACONDA MINERALS ARE INEXTRICABLY INTERTWINED. I THINK A NUMBER OF US HOPE THAT OUR FUTURES WILL ALSO BE LINKED, IN WAYS THAT ARE POSITIVE FOR BOTH THE COMMUNITY, AND FOR YOUR FINE COMPANY.

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, I THINK THERE IS A LOT WE CAN DO TO STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMY IN BUTTE AND SILVER BOW. JUST RECENTLY, I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AT A SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER ORGANIZED BY CONTROL DATA CORPORATION IN GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA.

GRAND RAPIDS IS IN THE HEART OF THE MINNESOTA IRON RANGE -- AND THEY HAVE ECONOMIC CYCLES AND PROBLEMS WHICH ARE ANALAGOUS TO THOSE WE FACE HERE IN BUTTE.

THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER HELPS NEW BUSINESSES GET STARTED AND COPE WITH CHANGES IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY. THE SAME PROGRAM MIGHT HELP US HERE.

I'M NOT CERTAIN THAT THE CONTROL DATA FORMULA IS EXACTLY RIGHT FOR BUTTE OR ANACONDA -- BUT I WAS ESPECIALLY ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH CITIES WERE WILLING TO ACCOMPANY ME ON THIS FACT FINDING TOUR TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT THE IDEA MADE SENSE FOR US.

IT WAS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF YOUR OPEN MINDEDNESS. FOR ONE THING THAT IS CERTAIN ABOUT OUR FUTURE: WE WILL NEED TO LISTEN TO NEW IDEAS, AND WE WILL NEED TO BE CREATIVE TO REVITALIZE OUR COMMUNITIES.

QUICK SOLUTIONS ARE UNLIKELY TO APPEAR. FOR EXAMPLE,
THE GRAIN TERMINAL, WHICH DON PEOPLES AND THE CONGRESSIONAL
DELEGATION WORKED SO HARD TO FUND THIS YEAR, DID NOT MATERIALIZE -DESPITE POSITIVE EFFORTS ON ALL OUR PARTS. UNFORTUNATELY,
PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS ARE BEGINNING TO BE FELT THROUGHOUT
MOST GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

BUT I THINK THERE ARE SOLUTIONS TO OUR PROBLEMS, AND WITH THE OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, YOUR COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY SUCH AS MR. MARVIN, I LOOK FORWARD TO BEING A PART OF THOSE SOLUTIONS.

THANKS AGAIN FOR HAVING ME HERE TONIGHT.