

STATEMENT BY SENATOR ROBERT MORGAN
BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
CAPITOL STEPS
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It is a great pleasure to have a small part in North Carolina's Day marking the nation's Bicentennial here in the District of Columbia. And it is my privilege to join in bringing you greetings from the five million and more people of North Carolina who already have begun celebrating the birthday of our great country.

We in North Carolina can look back in this 200th year and be proud of the contributions that our state has made to the nation's history. We are proud to have been one of the original thirteen colonies.

The first child born to English parents in the New World was born in North Carolina as Virginia Dare first saw America in 1587.

And in 1903, at Kitty Hawk, man first flew when the Wright Brothers coaxed their tiny plane into the air from the sands of North Carolina's shores.

Between those two dates and, indeed, up to this very minute, North Carolina has played a vital part in the exciting progress that has been peculiarly American.

And though our state leads the nation in the production of textiles, furniture and brick, as well as being the tobacco capital of the world, our people have always adhered to our state motto, "Esse Quam Videre", which means "To Be Rather

to Seem."

So as one of the original thirteen colonies, North Carolina greets her sister states today and pledges that she will do her part and more in perpetuating the well being and advancement of this nation.

Because as this 200th anniversary causes us to take a look backward at our past, it also gives us the opportunity, more importantly, to look forward and to renew the spirit that in just two-hundred years has turned 13 weak, infant colonies into the greatest and strongest nation in the world.

A look at our past should give us courage to face the future without fear. For if those few settlers who revolted

from tyranny and established this Republic could survive the hardships which confronted them, then we, with our industry, our resources and our technology, should be ready to meet whatever arises.

In 1776, our forefathers, by word and by deed, proclaimed their independence to the world and established the greatest democracy on earth.

Two hundred years later that democracy survives.

Through years of war and peace, our free government has lived.

Through years of plenty and years of economic disadvantage, our nation has survived and grown stronger.

As our strength and our standing among nations has grown, the record shows that we have not sought gain at the expense of others but rather, as a nation of compassionate people, we have given of our bounty to help those less fortunate.

And when the world's freedom was threatened on two occasions, we sacrificed our blood to defend human rights and defeat would-be tyrants.

So let us in this year take joy in our accomplishments, for they have been gratifying.

But let us resolve -- every one of us -- that the future will be even greater and that we will face it, unafraid, secure in the knowledge that we want justice and freedom to

prevail, and that we must not and cannot fall.

Franklin Roosevelt, a great President, told us,

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today."

Let us, on our two-hundredth national birthday, look to our heritage, dispel any doubts and step boldly into the future.