Reagan pledges 'healthy economy'

By Jori Lynn Scofield

Under sunny skies, and against a backdrop of the West Front of Capitol capped with red, white, and blue, an historic Chief Justice Warren Burger of the Supreme Court administered the presidential oath to Ronald Reagan Tuesday at 11:57am.

"I, Ronald Wilson Reagan, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, so help me God," declared Reagan before an estimated strong of 200,000 spectators. The crowd, the largest ever to assemble to view a Presidential inauguration, was aided by the decision to conduct the ceremony outdoors, more spacious.

This girl scout was one of many lining the parade route handing out flags to wave as the President passed by. (Photo by Kevin Osborn)

End of crisis is relief for all

By Richard Saye

"My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is finally over." Although first used by then-President Gerald Ford to describe the end of Watergate, this phrase is highly applicable as a description of the hostage crisis resolution as well.

The crisis became a national obsession. For over 14 months, flags were flown at half-mast, the media recorded each day of the captivity, and obtaining the release became the paramount — if not only — objective of US foreign policy. Americans have been held hostage before — the crew of the ill-starred Pueblo was held for 11 months before their 1968 release — but never with so much attention.

A large reason was the coverage the media accorded the situation. With daily stories as detailed as the conventional soap opera, the media brought the hostage story right into the homes of millions, and many Americans, for the first time, took a real interest in international affairs.

Yet we also had the opportunity to act with restraint when necessary. Throughout his handling of the hostage crisis, President Reagan adopted a soothing tone, balancing a looser approach with the substantive rhetoric or irresponsible calls for brashness and impetuosity, could have led to the breakdown of the situation. We must not allow the attack on the US Legation in Peking to lead us into the thoughtlessact.

In his delivery.

The Irish were well aware of this. Their adroit manipulation of the media (the Christmas films, for example) would put a Madison Avenue ad-man to shame. The pictures of Americans being flown in on a backdrop of the West Front of a flaming red dress, stood beside the world, and heightened our shame. The pictures of Americans being flown in on a backdrop of the West Front of a flaming red dress, stood beside our nation, and heightened our shame. The pictures of Americans being flown in on a backdrop of the West Front of a flaming red dress, stood beside our nation, and heightened our shame.

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