ed. note-actual speech was much longer; see the video, partial

transcript at bottom... **Donald Trump Announcement of Candidacy Trump Tower New York, NY** 

June 16, 2015

[Remarks as Prepared for Delivery | C-SPAN video]

Our country is in serious trouble. We are not respected by

anyone. We are a laughing stock all over the world.

ISIS, China, Mexico are all beating us. Everybody is beating us. Our enemies are getting stronger and we are getting weaker.

Politicians are all talk and no action. They will never be able to fix our country. They will never bring us to the Promised Land, and I cannot sit back and watch this incompetence any longer. Ladies and gentlemen, I am officially running for President of

the United States. While I love my company and what I have built, I love my country even more. When was the last time the US won at anything? When was the last time we beat China or Japan in

trade? or Mexico at the border? or anybody in negotiation? When was the last time we had a military victory that was so complete and total that the other side just said "We Quit!" It just

doesn't happen for the US anymore. Our country needs and deserves a comeback...but, we are not going to get that comeback with politicians. Politicians are not the solution to our problems-- they are the problem. They are almost completely controlled by lobbyists, donors and the

people at heart. We will never achieve our full potential if we send yet another politician to the White House. They will grow government, not cut it--they will grow debt, not stop it. We are right now in a massive bubble that could be ready to explode—real unemployment in the range of 20%, artificially induced low interest rates, and a stock market that bears no relation to

reality-- are symptoms of something that could be catastrophic. We better have a great leader who truly understands what's going on. Our country has a debt which will soon pass \$20 trillion. We who have given up looking for work. We have 45 million Americans on food stamps and nearly 50 million Americans

have unsecured borders. There are over 90 million Americans living in poverty. Clearly, our so called "leaders" in Washington are failing us.

They have failed to honor their sacred duty to care for our veterans and their families. They have failed to keep our military strong and vibrant. Through gross incompetence, we give billions of dollars of high grade military equipment to our

enemies. Our President truly doesn't have a clue! At the same time, the world is becoming far more dangerous every day. Iran is racing towards developing nuclear weapons. China is exponentially expanding its military power, ISIS is beheading Christians simply for being Christian. In Benghazi,

Islamic terrorists killed our diplomats without any consequences. Iran and ISIS, separately, are taking over vast areas in the Middle East and with it the largest oil reserves in the world. Our President has no plan.

The America we love will continue its decline because

Washington is broken. We will never fix Washington from the inside unless we send someone to Washington from the outside. It is time for government to be run efficiently and effectively. It is time to get things done, and by done I mean properly done! This is our time to once again make our government a

to serve as your President. It is time to take our country in a bold new direction. It is time to get Americans back to work. It is way past time to build a massive wall to secure our southern border – and nobody can build a bigger and better wall than Donald Trump. A country without borders is, quite

presence that will send a clear message to our enemies that America is the leader of the free world. As President Reagan proved, there is only peace through strength. The government must honor its obligations to our seniors. We

It is essential to rebuild our military so we have a strong

but are treated as third class citizens.

my watch.

superior and at far less cost.

under President Trump.

can do that better than me.

higher level.

Father.

actually read "The Art of the Deal" and know how to make great deals for our country. It is time to close loopholes for Wall Street and create far more opportunities for small businesses.

trade deals. We will renegotiate our trade deals with the

toughest negotiators our country has... the ones who have

foreign aid to countries that hate us and use that money to

shouldn't determine what is best for our children.

against Israel is a threat against the United States.

It is time to get tough with the Chinese on currency

It is important for our allies to know they can once again

depend on us. We will no longer bow down to our enemies.

We need to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons. We cannot allow a nuclear arms race in the Middle East. It is time to defeat ISIS. With a proper plan, it can be done quickly and effectively.

manipulation and espionage. We will tax China for each bad

act, and if they continue then we will tax them at an even

bring it back bigger and better and stronger than ever before. Together we will Make America Great Again! Thank You!

**Introduction by Ivanka Trump** 

Today, I have the honor of introducing a man who needs no

accomplishments are too many to name. That man is my

a single field. My father has succeeded in many—at the

introduction. His legend has been built and his

highest level and on a global scale.

He's enjoyed success in a vast diversity of industries because the common denominator is him—his vision, his brilliance, his passion, his work ethic, and his refusal to take no for an answer. I've enjoyed the good fortune of working alongside my father

He has employed tens of thousands of people throughout his

career and has inspired them to do extraordinary things. He

has the strength to make hard decisions and motivate those

around him to achieve the impossible. He is an optimist who

leads by example and will outwork anyone in any room.

He is the opposite of politically correct—he says what he

means and means what he says. My father is also the best

chases big dreams and sees potential where others do not. He

Most people strive their entire lives to achieve great success in

negotiator I have ever met. Countless times, I've stood by his side and watched him make deals that were seemingly impossible to get done. He has the discernment to understand exactly what the other party needs and then get exactly what

## creating a championship public golf course for the City of New York, or redeveloping the iconic, but underutilized, Old Post Office Building on Pennsylvania Avenue, my father succeeds, time and time again, where government has failed before him.

a positive contribution to society. Here today, my father is again leading me by example. My generation finds itself at a crossroads. Our leadership has been mired in bureaucracy of its own creation. If we don't adapt politically and economically our country will be left behind.

that he will seek the 2016 Republican nomination for President of the United States: "I'm pleased to welcome Donald Trump into the race for the 2016 Republican nomination for President of the United States. His experience as a successful businessman and job creator will prove crucial to ensuring the eventual GOP nominee is not only well-equipped to defeat Hillary Clinton in November, but also to make America great again." **Democratic National Committee** 

**DNC Statement on Donald Trump 2016 Announcement** 

Washington, D.C. – With Donald Trump's announcement that

"Today, Donald Trump became the second major Republican

lacking from the GOP field, and we look forward hearing more

candidate to announce for president in two days. He adds

some much-needed seriousness that has previously been

he is running for president, DNC National Press Secretary

Holly Shulman released the following statement:

**Cruz Welcomes Donald Trump to Presidential Race** 

HOUSTON, Texas -- U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, issued the

following statement following Donald Trump's announcement

**Press Contact:** Hope Hicks

I don't think it's going to happen.

GOP candidates.

It's true. And these aren't the best in the finest. When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're not sending you. [gesturing to audience] They are not sending you. [pointing to audience]

The U.S. has become a dumping ground for everybody else's

And in 19-- And I will tell you this, and I said it very strongly years ago I said -- and I love the military and I want to have the strongest military that we've ever had and we need it now more than ever -- but I said don't hit Iraq because you're going to totally destabilize the Middle East. Iran is going to take over the Middle East. Iran and somebody else will get the oil. And it turned out that Iran is now taking over Iraq. Think of it. Iran is taking over Iraq, and they're taking it over big league. We spent \$2 trillion in Iraq. Two trillion. We lost thousands of

they leave it. Last week I read 2,300 Humvees--these are big vehicles--were left behind for the enemy. Two thous-- you would say maybe two, maybe four. 2,300 sophisticated vehicles. They ran and the enemy took them. [audience member shouts: We need Trump now!] You're right.

Last quarter, it was just announced, our gross domestic product, a sign of strength, right? But not for us. It was below zero. Who ever heard of this? It's never below zero. Our labor participation rate was the worst since 1978. But think of it. GDP below zero. Horrible labor participation rate. And our real unemployment is anywhere from 18-20%. Don't believe the 5.6. Don't believe it.

June 25, 2015

Our enemies are getting stronger and stronger by the day, and **Fallout** over remarks about Mexicans in speech. July 27, 2015 ADLF Files Complaint Following Possible Donald Trump **Violation** Copyright © 2015 Eric M. Appleman/Democracy in Action. All rights reserved

statistic that's full of nonsense.

**DEMOCRACY IN ACTION** 

They've become rich. I'm in competition with them. They just built a hotel in Syria. Can you believe this? They built a hotel. When I have to build a hotel I pay interest. They don't have to pay interest because they took the oil that when we left Iraq I said we should have taken. So now ISIS has the oil, and what

simply, not a country. Mexico is not our friend. They are beating us at the border and hurting us badly at economic development. They are sending people that they don't want the United States is becoming a dumping ground for the world. It is of primary importance to take care of our veterans and their families -- to make sure that every veteran has access to great medical care and attention. Our veterans are our heroes

must protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, without cuts...there will no longer be any waste, fraud and abuse on ObamaCare must be repealed and replaced with something far Likewise, we must greatly simplify our tax code. Our middle class, which has been totally forgotten, will thrive once again It is time to stop sending jobs overseas through bad foreign

It is necessary that we invest in our infrastructure, stop sending rebuild our tunnels, roads, bridges and schools—and nobody We have to stop Common Core. We must keep education local and under parental control. Unelected Washington bureaucrats We must stand by Israel. We will remind the world that a threat

Quite simply, it is time to bring real leadership to Washington. The fact is, the American Dream is dead -- but if I win, I will

(New York, NY) June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Yesterday, Donald Trump declared his candidacy for President of the United States of

anymore. We used to have victories, but we don't have them. When was the last time anybody saw us beating, let's say China in a trade deal? They kill us. I beat China all the time, all the time. When did we beat Japan at anything? They send their cars over by the millions-and what do we do? When was the last time you saw a Chevrolet in Tokyo? It doesn't exist, folks. They beat us all the time. When do we beat Mexico, at the border? They're laughing at us, at our stupidity. And now

lives, thousands in Iraq. We have wounded soldiers who I love, I love; they're great. All over the place thousands and thousands of wounded soldiers. And we have nothing.

That's right. A lot of people up there can't get jobs. They can't get jobs because there are no jobs, because China has our jobs and Mexico has our jobs. They all have our jobs. But the real number, the real number is anywhere from 18, 19 and maybe even 21% and nobody talks about it because it's a

special interests—they do not have the best interests of our

be a very loyal friend. When it comes to building bridges, he Throughout his career, my father has repeatedly been called save long-stalled, grossly over-budget public projects. Whether building a skating rink in Central Park, meticulously restoring

the exterior façade of Grand Central Terminal, enabling the

I consider myself fortunate to have learned from the best—

both as an entrepreneur, and, most importantly, a parent. My

father is a man who is deeply grounded in tradition. He raised

my siblings and me to work hard and strive for excellence in all

that we do. He taught us that we have a responsibility to make

development of NYC's Jacob Javits Convention Center,

We need action! We need execution! We need someone who successfully creating, building and running large, dynamic and complicated organizations—and in the process enabling many have in your corner when you are facing tough opponents or

about his ideas for the nation." ### Trump Smashes Social Records Following Presidential **Announcement** Trump First Candidate to Announce on Periscope While Trending Worldwide on Twitter and Facebook During Declaration Speech

America. Immediately following his historic announcement, Mr.

candidate in every state in the country. 3.4 million Facebook

the launch of his campaign, the highest by far, among all 2016

users in the US generated 6.4 million interactions regarding

Google Trends is reporting that in addition to being the most

Mr. Trump has a tremendous audience across the country and

he will continue to utilize his reach via various social media

platforms to share his vision to Make America Great Again.

Visit <u>donaldjtrump.com</u> for more information and follow

Follow Mr. Trump at Facebook.com/DonaldTrump.

Partial Transcript (beginning of speech...)

@realdonaldtrump via Twitter, Periscope and Instagram.

Wow. That is some group of people. Thousands. So nice.

And I can tell you, some of the candidates, they went in, they

didn't know the air conditioner didn't work. They sweated like

dogs. They didn't know the room was too big because they

Our country is in serious trouble. We don't have victories

they're beating us economically. They are not our friend,

believe me, but they're killing us economically.

[shout from attendee] Thank you.

didn't have anybody there. How are they going to beat ISIS?

Thank you very much. That's really nice. Thank you.

searched republican candidate in every state in the US

Trump was the most searched Republican Presidential

It's great to be at Trump Tower. It's great to be in a wonderful city, New York, and it's an honor to have everybody here. This is beyond anybody's expectations. There's been no crowd like

what we're getting. And it only makes common sense. It only makes common sense. They're sending us not the right people. It's coming from more than Mexico. It's coming from all over South and Latin America, and it's coming probably, probably from the Middle East, but we don't know because we

have no protection and we have no competence. We don't

know what's happening. And it's got to stop, and it's got to

Islamic terrorism is eating up large portions of the Middle East.

We can't even go there. We have nothing, and every time we give Iraq equipment, the first time a bullet goes off in the air,

government of the people, by the people and for the people. That is why today I am declaring my candidacy for President. I will Make America Great Again! We will change Washington together and defeat the special interests. I am not a politician. I can't be bought. I won't be running around the country begging people for money for my campaign. I won't owe anybody anything. I won't be beholden to anyone except to you, the American people, if you elect me

for 10 years now and I've seen these principles in action daily. I remember my father telling me as a little girl, "Ivanka, if you're going to be thinking anyway, you might as well be thinking big." That's how he approaches any task he undertakes—he thinks big.

he wants. My father knows how to be a fierce opponent, but also how to can do so figuratively, but also has the rare ability to do so literally—on time and under budget. upon by both local and federal governments to step in and

To address the many challenges we face, we don't need talk. is bold and independent, with a proven track record of Americans to better their lives. I can tell you that there is no better person than my father to making hard decisions. He is battle-tested. He is a dreamer, but, as importantly, he is a doer. Ladies and gentlemen, it's my honor to introduce to you today,

a man who I have loved and respected my entire life, my

father, Donald J. Trump.

**Cruz for President** 

yesterday, one hour after his announcement his search interest was at 87%. Comparatively, another GOP candidate also launching his campaign this week, registered just 13% interest the previous day. Additionally, Mr. Trump was the first 2016 candidate to use Periscope to announce his candidacy.

They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with us. They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists, and some, I assume are good people, but I speak to border guards and they tell us

stop fast.

they don't have, Iran has.

problems.

this.