TRANSCRIPT OF SPEECH BY THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. LEE KUAN YEW, AT THE DINNER GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR BY THE CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, HERR WILLY BRANDT, AT BONN ON 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1970

Herr Chancellor, Frau Brandt, Your Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I thank you for the very warm and sincere welcome which you have given my wife, my colleagues and myself.

I have looked forward to this visit, not only because it gives me an opportunity to renew our friendship but, also, in order that I can try and learn something about the German miracle.

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Everybody knows what a stupendous achievement it was for a people to have been squeezed into a smaller area, completely and absolutely laid desolate as a result of the war. And after 25 years, their economic and scientific advance and potential are such as to have astounded the world. I hope to learn from this. Insofar as it is innate in the German character and nature, well, I shall have to do without those virtues. But insofar as it has to do with human organisation,

training, skills, values, attitudes, I hope, as in my other journeys, to be able to pick up a few hints on how to get the spring wound tighter in Singapore in order not just to generate more prosperity and comfort for ourselves but also, as you have so pointedly mentioned, in order that the whole region in which we live can be that much the better off.

I am particularly pleased to have come to Bonn after your successful journey to Moscow. We met many years ago, and on that occasion I recall saying that at the time of the Berlin crisis, I did not know how much it meant to the rest of the world, which I subsequently discovered.

I am older and I hope wiser, and I know that an easing of tension in Europe must mean more resources into economic development. It means a shifting of the rivalry, natural amongst nations, from one of military dominance to economic performance; from one of military conquest to one of economic co-operation, not only within the region but between regions.

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Finally, may I ask my friends and colleagues to drink to the good health of my friend, Herr Willy Brandt, Frau Brandt, and also to the growing economic, cultural and many other ties which I am sure will be of benefit to all of us.