

# ★ THE RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL ★ LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

## ★ SUGGESTED ANSWERS FOR EXHIBIT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS CONTINUED ★

- 4) Answers will vary. Some suggestions include because President Reagan used tail number 27000 Air Force One more than any previous or succeeding president. The Reagan Library had the space for such a large exhibit. Also, President Reagan wanted to bring the aircraft to the library and First Lady Nancy Reagan helped fulfill his dream of bringing it here. The plane is rather small, but the staff functioned in the mid-section of the fuselage and the president had a small office near the front of the aircraft. Air Force One helped define President Reagan's legacy as a strong foreign policy president because he used it to travel to summits with Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and other major leaders.
- 5) The call sign for Air Force One when the president is not on board is Special Air Mission 27000. Answers for special mission examples will include, but are not limited to, the 1985 Geneva Summit and the 1986 Reykjavik Summit. An example of domestic missions is the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.
- 6) Ronald Reagan told Gorbachev in a 1987 Brandenburg address to "tear down this wall" as a symbol of allowing East Germany to determine its own fate and reject Communism. The Western side of the wall has graffiti as a message to remove the largest symbol of the Cold War—the division of free peoples from those shackled by a Communist dictatorship. The blank side faces the East side and the lack of graffiti relates to armed guards who would shoot people who attempted to escape or vandalize the wall.
- 7) President Reagan's final resting place is shaped like a horseshoe due to his love of horses and horseback riding. Also, the shape relates to the theme of the Reagan Library's Western style architecture.