

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “Family of Man Dinner, New York City, November 6, 1975” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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(Friedman)

REMARKS FOR MRS. FORD

RESPONSE TO DINNER CHAIRMAN GRANVILLE

ACCEPTING MEDALLION OF BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT

MR. GRANVILLE, THIS IS A SPECIAL MOMENT IN MY
LIFE. I GRATEFULLY ACCEPT THE FAMILY OF MAN MEDALLION
FOR 1975 ON BEHALF OF MY HUSBAND. THIS AWARD, AND THE
VERY KIND WORDS YOU HAVE JUST SPOKEN, TOUCH ME DEEPLY.

YOU HAVE SHOWN REAL UNDERSTANDING OF MY HUSBAND'S TRUE
NATURE -- AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND AS A
WARM AND LOVING HUMAN BEING.

THIS AWARD TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE PEOPLE OF
NEW YORK CITY HAS A PERSONAL MEANING FOR ME. I HAVE
LONG HAD A DEEP ATTACHMENT FOR THE CREATIVITY AND CULTURE
AND ALL THE WONDERFUL QUALITIES OF NEW YORKERS.

THROUGHOUT MY LIFE, I HAVE FELT A SENSE OF RENEWAL AND
EXCITEMENT EVERY TIME I VISITED YOUR CITY AND CAME IN
CONTACT WITH THE UNIQUE SPIRIT THAT IS NEW YORK.

I DEEPLY REGRET THE PROBLEMS THAT NOW CONFRONT
THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK. WHEN WE THINK OF A CITY WE
SOMETIMES FORGET ABOUT ITS PEOPLE AS INDIVIDUALS -- ABOUT
THE MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN -- WHO MAKE UP AMERICA'S
GREATEST CITY.

WHEN I THINK OF NEW YORK, I THINK OF THE
INSPIRING PEOPLE I HAVE MET ON MANY VISITS, OF THE BEAUTY
OF THE CITY, OF ITS HUMAN QUALITIES AS A COMMUNITY THAT
FACED AND OVERCAME MANY CHALLENGES IN THE PAST.

I REMEMBER THE MANY ACTS OF LOVING KINDNESS,
AND THE MANY MAGIC MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS THAT I EXPERIENCED
IN NEW YORK. AND, MOST OF ALL, I WILL REMEMBER
THE LOVE THAT YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED TONIGHT AND
YOUR OWN REMARKS, MR. GRANVILLE.

IN THE WORDS OF THE HOLY BIBLE, "A WORD SPOKEN
IN DUE SEASON, HOW GOOD IT IS!" (PROVERBS 15:23)

AS SOON AS I LEAVE THIS DINNER, I WILL PHONE
MY HUSBAND AND SHARE WITH HIM THE INSPIRATION I FEEL
FROM THE GOOD DEEDS OF ALL OF YOU.

HE SINCERELY REGRETS NOT BEING HERE TONIGHT.

HE ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS PERSONAL APPRECIATION.

I WOULD NOW LIKE TO READ A LETTER THAT THE
PRESIDENT WROTE AND ASKED ME TO BRING TO YOU:

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO

MR. MAURICE F. GRANVILLE, CHAIRMAN

1975 FAMILY OF MAN ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

THE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

NOVEMBER 6, 1975

DEAR MR. GRANVILLE:

I DEEPLY REGRET THAT I AM UNABLE TO BE PRESENT AT
TONIGHT'S DINNER TO ACCEPT IN PERSON THE FAMILY OF MAN
MEDALLION WITH WHICH YOU HAVE SO GRACIOUSLY AND SO
GENEROUSLY HONORED ME. AS PRESIDENT, I ASPIRE TO MERIT
THE FAITH YOU ARE DEMONSTRATING IN MY LEADERSHIP DURING THIS
TRYING PERIOD OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

IT IS PARTICULARLY GRATIFYING TO ME THAT MY WIFE COULD
ATTEND AND ACCEPT YOUR AWARD ON MY BEHALF -- ESPECIALLY SO
BECAUSE OF HER LONG-STANDING AFFINITY FOR THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK
AND YOUR CITY'S GREAT CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL QUALITIES.

I WILL TREASURE THIS MEDALLION AS A SYMBOL OF THE
NOBLE CAUSE SERVED BY YOU -- THE MANY DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY
LEADERS PRESENT AND ALL THE OTHER PEOPLE OF THE GREAT METROPOLITAN
CENTER OF NEW YORK WHO ARE DEVOTED TO THE FAMILY OF MAN.●

IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE RESOURCES YOU HAVE GENERATED
ARE USED TO SUPPORT THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE OF THE COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

THIS WORTHY COMMITMENT IS IN FULL HARMONY WITH THE HIGHEST
HUMANITARIAN ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK AND YOUR
SPIRITUAL LEADERS. YOU HAVE HELD FORTH A TORCH OF
INSPIRATION TO THE WORLD -- A SYMBOL OF COMPASSION AND
FREEDOM.

TODAY, NEW YORK IS A FAMILY OF MAN IN THE TRUEST
SENSE -- A FAMILY WHICH HEEDS A RELIGIOUS VISION AND STANDS
GUARDIAN OVER EVERY ONE OF THE CITY'S CHILDREN, THE ELDERLY,
THE POOR, THE DISADVANTAGED, AND ALL THOSE CREATED BY GOD.

YOU HAVE ENRICHED HUMAN EXISTENCE IN AMERICA'S

GREATEST CITY. I GRATEFULLY ACCEPT YOUR AWARD IN A SPIRIT

OF HUMILITY AND WILL STRIVE TO BE WORTHY OF YOUR TRUST.

SINCERELY,

GERALD R. FORD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THANK YOU AND , I LOOK FORWARD TO

[REDACTED]

SHARING WITH MY HUSBAND

[REDACTED] THE INSPIRATION I FEEL

FROM THE GOOD DEEDS OF ALL OF YOU. WHEN I RETURN HOME.

November 5, 1975

REMARKS OF DINNER CHAIRMAN MAURICE F. GRANVILLE IN
PRESENTING MEDALLION FOR THE PRESIDENT TO MRS. FORD

Thank you, Governor Shafer (M. C.) and now as all of you have so eagerly anticipated the time has come to present the principal award of the evening.

It is a great honor for me to present the Family of Man medallion for 1975 for distinguished public service to the man who serves today as the leader of the United States of the Whole Family of man, President Gerald Ford.

Mr. Ford is the fifth President to receive this award which was established in 1963. The Society for the Family of Man has thus recognized the pivotal role of the President of the United States in dealing with the broad range of problems affecting all Americans. It is generally recognized that you have to have someone at the head of any organization -- yes, of our Nation itself. Officially the principal job of the President of the United States

would serve both as Chief of State and head of government. Symbolically, the President serves as the representative of the entire constituency of the American people.

Today's economic and social problems present one of the most trying periods in American history and we can all appreciate the magnitude and complexity of the challenges confronting the President. Quite apart from any political considerations we can also be grateful for the energy, openness and dedication that Mr. Ford has given to meeting those critical challenges.

One of the premises of the Society for the Family Man is that people gifted with qualities of leadership have a special responsibility to the whole family of man. He has shown as the Nation approaches its bicentennial that he recognizes the merits of individual freedom and the working of the free enterprise system upon which America was built and has prospered.

But, whatever our political persuasion, I think we can all agree that if America is to move forward we need unswerving determination, objective discussion of issues, innovative solutions to problems, and plain hard work.

We need national policies that benefit, not just special interest groups, but the whole family of man.

We extend our prayers and best wishes to President Gerald Ford in the hope that he will help bring such policies to fruition. It is a signal honor to present the 1975 Family Man Medallion to our Nation's Chief Executive, President Gerald Ford.

(Friedman)

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when I lived here.

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