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

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 9, 1975



MEMORANDUM FOR: MRS. FORD  
VIA: RED CAVANEY   
FROM: PETER SORUM   
SUBJECT: YOUR VISIT TO D.C. VILLAGE  
Monday, July 14, 1975

Attached at TAB A is the proposed schedule for the subject event.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

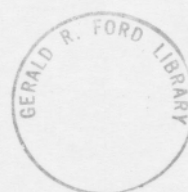
BACKGROUND

D.C. Village is dedicated to the care and rehabilitation of the indigent elderly in the District of Columbia. The emphasis is on personal attention and programs that will lessen the isolation and loneliness that often afflicts the elderly. D.C. Village was established in 1801 as the Poorhouse of Washington. Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt visited the facility in 1940 as First Lady to draw attention to the insensitive care provided to poor at that time. While conditions are greatly improved today, your visit will call attention to the methods of helping the elderly to sustain their identity and self-esteem.

You will be joined for this visit at the White House by Flip Wilson.



TAB  
A



7/9/75  
4:00 pm

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

MRS. FORD'S VISIT TO  
D.C. VILLAGE

Monday, July 14, 1975



10:05 am Mrs. Ford and Flip Wilson board motorcade on South Grounds.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route D.C. Village.

[Driving time: 25 minutes]

10:30 am MOTORCADE ARRIVES D.C. Village.

Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson will be met by:  
Dr. Frank Shuford, Director of D.C. Village  
Dr. Tzi-Minkao, Chief of Treatment  
Dr. William St. John, Medical Officer  
Mrs. Kathryn Carroll, Chief Nurse

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

Mrs. Ford and Flip Wilson proceed to library.

NOTE: A press pool will accompany Mrs. Ford through the tour of the facilities.

10:35 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson arrive library to greet patients and volunteers.

10:40 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson depart library en route Recreation Hall.



10:42 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson arrive Recreation Hall to observe music session.

NOTE: The patients will sing "Happy Birthday" in honor of the President.

10:48 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson thank song leaders and depart Recreation Hall en route Occupational Therapy Room.

10:50 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson arrive Occupational Therapy Room to greet patients and volunteers.

NOTE: Mrs. Ford will receive a gift made by the patients.



10:58 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson depart Occupational Therapy Room en route Motivational Stimulation demonstration area.

11:00 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson arrive motivational stimulation area for demonstration.

11:10 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson depart demonstration area en route Day Care area.

11:15 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson arrive Day Care area to greet patients and volunteers.

11:20 am Mrs. Ford & Flip Wilson depart Day Care area en route motorcade for boarding.

11:25 am MOTORCADE DEPARTS D.C. Village en route South Grounds.

[Driving time: 25 minutes]

11:50 am MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.

VISIT OF MRS. FORD AND FLIP WILSON  
TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VILLAGE

July 14, 1975  
10:30 - 11:30 am

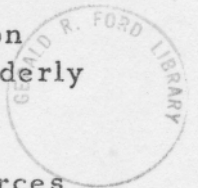
PRESS RELEASE

In 1906 the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia officially opened the first public institution for the care of the aged and infirm residents of the District of Columbia. The first inhabitants were a hodge-podge of aged, infirm, indigent, alcoholic and mentally retarded individuals. The institution through dramatization of a woeful situation by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1940's, ventured into a more modern program for the care of the aged and infirm. Throughout subsequent years, each First Lady in turn, Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Eisenhower, Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Nixon expressed an interest in D. C. Village and its elderly residents.

D. C. Village is a component of the Department of Human Resources in the District of Columbia. It includes a 200-bed hospital complex and 10 cottage units which provide comprehensive care for 500 patients in the specialized field of geriatrics. The average age of patients at D. C. Village is 76 years. According to the latest figures there are 90,000 old residents in the District of Columbia who are 65 years or older. Five percent of the elderly over 65 require institutionalization.

The total effort of the professional staff at D. C. Village is directed toward helping the patients maintain their self-esteem, pride and the awareness that he or she has not been forgotten by the community. Through group activities the institution can maintain an important facet of the patient's socialization. The Community Activities Program seeks to effectively counteract the effects of institutional living by providing stimulating social, recreational and religious activities, ideally helping the patients to reach full potential in terms of personal fulfillment and contentment.

Many volunteers from surrounding communities donate their energy and service to the elderly by supplying and sharing new experiences. Regular visiting volunteers enable some of the patients to grow from acquaintanceship to concerned friends. The main goal is that perhaps some of the elderly patients will regain their confidence and security and return to their communities and neighborhoods and function as productive citizens.





## FACT SHEET

1. 21.8 million Americans, or one out of every 10 citizens, is over the age of 65.

2. About 1 million, or five percent, of the nation's elderly live in nursing homes.

3. The average life expectancy is 71.3 years, indicating a higher percentage of elderly citizens as time goes on.

4. A disproportionate number of the American aged are women, who outnumber the men by 143 to 100. Women tend to outlive men by seven years.

5. A great many older Americans are plagued by poverty. 4.75 million of the nation's aged exist on \$2,000 or less a year which is well below the Federal Government's poverty line.

6. Medical care for the aged should emphasize the prevention of illness and preservation of health while keeping the aged in their communities and avoid institutionalization.

7. Society is urged to make better use of the elderly, drawing on their experience and talents and giving them a greater voice in matters that concern them.

8. The reservoir of talent tapped from the elderly has been utilized in the following ways:

1. The Foster Grandparent Program, which pays oldsters for supervising dependent and neglected youngsters.

2. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) which pays out-of-pocket expenses for the elderly to entertain the handicapped and visiting homebound patients.

3. The Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) which reimburses retired executives for expenses incurred while counseling small businesses and community organizations.

9. Government programs for assistance to the aged include the following:

1. Financial assistance - through Social Security programs.

2. Health care - which includes Medicare and Medicaid.

3. Nutrition - food stamps and programs enabling the elderly to have at least one hot meal a day.

4. Housing - The National Council on the Aging publishes a directory of special housing benefits for the aged.

5. Legal services - legal services are available for the elderly for legal assistance and protection of their rights and possessions.

