The original documents are located in Box 1, folder "Christmas Message - Men and Women of the Armed Forces, 1974" of the Eliska Hasek Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Christmas, 1974

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN VETERANS

OF THE ARMED FORCES

Christmas is a time of joy, a time to reflect on our blessings and a time for goodwill toward others. Most importantly, it is a time of peace.

Mrs. Ford and I want to convey the very best of the Season's greetings to each of you. I am sure our fellow citizens join us in these sentiments.

As one who responded to your nation's need, you have helped keep safe the heritage we cherish. Your sacrifice and unfailing dedication can never be forgotten. May it give you a special feeling of happiness and contentment to know that you begin the New Year enriched by such selfless service to our country.

Hersel R. Ford

