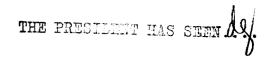
The original documents are located in Box 7, folder "4/16/75 - White House News Photographers Association" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Digitized from Box 7 of President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



THE WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1975

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE WHITE HOUSE NEWS

PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION -- SURVIVORS OF VAIL -- GUARDIANS OF THE FRONT GATE AT BURNING TREE -- FOLLOWERS OF ERIC ROSENBERGER -- AND MY VERY GOOD FRIENDS. AS I LOOK ABOUT ME TONIGHT, ALL I CAN SAY IS: I'VE HEARD OF STAKE-OUTS --BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS!

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TONIGHT AT THIS FIFTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION. IT'S A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU ALL SO RELAXED AND UNRUSHED. IN FACT. I THINK ONE OF YOUR MEMBERS WAS TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT MY SCHEDULE. HE SAID IT'S EASY TO TELL A WHITE HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER THESE DAYS BECAUSE YOU ALL CARRY A LITTLE CARD IN YOUR WALLET. IT SAYS: I AM A WHITE HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER. IN CASE OF ACCIDENT, DON'T DO A THING. I NEED THE REST!

INTRODUCTION. PRESIDENT BOSTON -- THAT REALLY HAS A RING TO IT, DOESN'T IT? PRESIDENT BOSTON AND I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER TONIGHT, BUT WE DID EXCHANGE A FEW WORDS BEFORE THE AWARDS.

LET ME THANK PRESIDENT BOSTON FOR THAT VERY KIND

•

.

I ASKED PRESIDENT BOSTON, "DO YOU SKI?"

HE SAID, "NO." I SAID, "DO YOU PLAY GOLF?" HE SAID, "NO." I SAID, "HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED FOOTBALL?" HE SAID, "NO." I SAID, "DO YOU MAKE YOUR OWN BREAKFAST?" HE SAID, "NO." I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE ANY TROUBLE -- BUT LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASK YOU -- THIS IS A PRESIDENT?

,

I'M ONLY FOOLING. PRESIDENT BOSTON HAS DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION. IN FACT, HE WAS TELLING ME THAT HE RECENTLY COMPLETED HIS FIRST TERM AS PRESIDENT, AND HAS JUST BEEN RE-ELECTED -- UNOPPOSED -- TO HIS SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT. BERNIE, ALL I CAN SAY IS -- YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO HURT A FELLA!

AS YOU ALL KNOW, PHOTOGRAPHY IS BOTH AN ART AND A SCIENCE -- AND ITS PRACTITIONERS ARE ALWAYS STRIVING FOR THE ULTIMATE -- FOR THE PERFECT PHOTOGRAPH. IN FACT, MY FAVORITE PHOTOGRAPHIC STORY WAS TOLD TO ME BY FRANK BORMAN, THE ASTRONAUT. HE SAID WHEN HE WAS FIFTY-THOUSAND MILES UP, HE REACHED FOR HIS CAMERA AND TOOK A PICTURE OF THE ENTIRE EARTH AND ALL THE PEOPLE ON IT. I ASKED FRANK, ''HOW DID IT COME OUT?'' HE SAID, "NOT SO GOOD. SOMEBODY MOVED!"

WELL, AT THE WHITE HOUSE, I FEEL WE ALSO HAVE

A RICHNESS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC TALENT. THERE'S AN OLD SAYING

THAT ONE PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS.

Home IN DAVE KENNERLY,

I GET BOTH!

.

I'M SURE YOU'RE ALL FAMILIAR WITH DAVE KENNERLY --

THE ANSEL ADAMS OF "M" STREET. . . . DAVID KENNERLY IS ONE OF THE FINEST, MOST TALENTED, MOST CREATIVE, MOST GIFTED PHOTOGRAPHERS THIS NATION HAS EVER KNOWN. AND THAT'S NOT JUST MY OPINION. IT'S <u>HIS</u> TOO!

BUT AS I LOOK ABOUT ME TONIGHT, I SEE SO MANY GREAT PHOTOGRAPHIC LUMINARIES. THERE'S CLEVE RYAN, WHO WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT BY EXECUTIVE ORDER I HAVE JUST NAMED HIM POSTMASTER -- OF AIR FORCE ONE

٠

ON ANY JOB -- UNTIL WE GOT HIM ON SKIS AT VAIL

AND GEORGE TAMES, WHO IS PERHAPS BEST KNOWN FOR THE WORK DONE

BY HIS MOST FAMOUS AND MOST CELEBRATED PUPIL -- MATTHEW BRADY.

١

٠

PERSONALLY, I'VE ALWAYS ENJOYED BEING WITH YOU ALL BECAUSE EXCITING THINGS ALWAYS SEEM TO HAPPEN AROUND NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS. LAST YEAR, I WAS IN SAN FRANCISCO AND SUDDENLY THE FLOOR STARTED TO TREMBLE, THE WALLS STARTED TO SWAY, AND THE CEILING STARTED TO CRACK. I TURNED TO WALLY MCNAMEE AND ASKED, ''SAN FRANCISCO? EARTHQUAKE?'' HE SHOOK HIS HEAD. HE SAID, ''RODDY MIMMS -- JOGGING!''

٠

WELL, TONIGHT LET ME SALUTE RODDY AND ALL YOU OTHER HEAVYWEIGHTS IN THE WORLD OF PHOTOGRAPHY. YOU ARE THE FREE SPIRITS WHO CAPTURE THE MOMENT AND LIBERATE THE IMAGINATION. THROUGHOUT MY ENTIRE POLITICAL LIFE AND BEFORE, I HAVE ALWAYS PLACED MY CONFIDENCE IN PHOTOGRAPHY AS A MEDIUM TO GET ANY MESSAGE ACROSS.

AND NOW AS PRESIDENT. I KNOW THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION, ALONG WITH MEMBERS OF OUR OWN WHITE HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT, ARE (CREATING A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESIDENTIAL RECORD. A VITAL, DAY BY DAY, HOUR BY HOUR, AND OFTEN MINUTE BY MINUTE PORTRAYAL OF EVENTS ON THEIR WAY TO BECOMING HISTORY. YOUR EFFORTS TODAY WILL BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO THE TEXTBOOKS OF TOMORROW. YOU LEAVE NOT FOOTPRINTS, BUT COLOR PRINTS IN THE SANDS OF TIME.

.

ON A MORE PERSONAL LEVEL, BETTY AND I THANK YOU ALL FOR THE KINDNESS AND COURTESY YOU HAVE SHOWN US. IN THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS, WE HAVE SHARED MANY HAPPY MOMENTS AND A FEW SAD ONES AS WELL. BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOUR GOOD WILL AND YOUR GOOD WISHES HAVE MEANT TO US. MY WISH TONIGHT IS THAT IT WILL ALWAYS CONTINUE SO --

AND THAT AS PHOTOGRAPHERS, AND AS FRIENDS, YOU WILL NEVER

HAVE CAUSE TO TAKE A DIM VIEW OF THE WHITE HOUSE.

THANK YOU AND GOOD NIGHT.

¢

END OF TEXT