

**The original documents are located in Box 11, folder “12/11/76 - Secretary of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Commanders of the Unified Commands Dinner” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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# President Ford's gift to the nation

FORD ADMINISTRATION

Put politics aside for a moment, and turned upward.  
also the presidential transition. Before The President acted as a brake on  
all attention becomes focused on a congressional spending that would

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DINNER FOR  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,  
SERVICE SECRETARIES, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
AND THE COMMANDERS OF THE UNIFIED COMMANDS

December 11, 1976

7:30 p. m.

Dress: Black tie . . . long dresses for the ladies

Arrival:

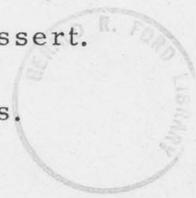
- 7:30 p. m. . . your guests will arrive through the Southwest Gate and will be escorted to the State Floor where they will be served cocktails in the Grand Hall.
- 7:35 p. m. . . you and Mrs. Ford will descend Grand Staircase . . . pause at the second landing of staircase for announcement . . . then proceed to the foot of staircase for photograph.

Reception:

- You and Mrs. Ford will join your guests for cocktails and mingle informally.
- Marine String Ensemble will be playing in the Grand Hall.
- 7:55 p. m. . . you and Mrs. Ford will invite your guests to join you for dinner.

Dinner:

- Round tables (First Floor Family Dining Room)
- The Air Force Strolling Strings will play during dessert.
- After dessert, you may wish to make brief remarks.



After-Dinner:

- 9:00 p. m. . . . you and Mrs. Ford will invite your guests to join you in the Grand Hall for demitasse, liqueurs, and cigars.
- The Navy Sea Chanters will be singing at the end of the Cross Hall in front of the East Room door.
- After the Sea Chanters' program, there will be dancing in the Grand Hall . . . the Marine Dance Combo will be providing the music.

Departure:

- You and Mrs. Ford will bid farewell to your guests and return to the Family Quarters.
- There will be champagne, mixed drinks and dancing for the guests who remain.

NOTES:

- The dinner guest list is attached (Tab A).
- Suggested remarks are attached (Tab B).
- Military Social Aides will be present.
- White House photographer will be present.
- The Army Blues will be playing in the Ground Floor Hall as your guests arrive.
- There will be no press coverage.

