

The original documents are located in Box 33, folder “State Dinners - 3/17/76 - Ireland (1)” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files 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 Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DINNER IN HONOR OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
THE PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND
AND MRS. COSGRAVE

March 17, 1976
8:00 p. m.

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

Prior to
Arrival:

- 7:30 p. m. ... you and Mrs. Ford will be escorted to the East Room where you will pose for a photograph with the White House Military Social Aides.
- After the photograph, you and Mrs. Ford will return to the Family Quarters.

Arrival:

- 8:00 p. m. ... at North Portico Entrance ... Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave, Ambassador and Mrs. Catto.
- You and Mrs. Ford will greet.
- Photo coverage of greeting.

Yellow Oval Room:

- Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Garret FitzGerald; American Ambassador and Mrs. Walter J. Curley; Foreign Ambassador John G. Molloy; and Mr. Liam Cosgrave, Jr., son of Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave, will assemble just prior to the 8:00 p. m. arrival of Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave and Ambassador and Mrs. Catto.

NOTE: At this time, the Irish have requested a photograph with the Bicentennial Waterford piece being given to you. This is not the official gift exchange, and will only be photographed by in-house photographers.

-- Color Guard will request permission to remove Colors at approximately 8:10 p. m. ... all guests except Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave will depart at this time.

Grand Entrance:

- Approximately 8:12 p. m. ... descend Grand Staircase preceded by Color Guard.
- Pause at foot of staircase for official photograph (Prime Minister Cosgrave to your right ... Mrs. Cosgrave to your left ... then Mrs. Ford).
- Color Guard reforms and procession moves to red carpet facing East Room ... pause for Ruffles and Flourishes and announcement ... take receiving line positions (Prime Minister Cosgrave to your right ... then Mrs. Ford ... then Mrs. Cosgrave).
- Follow Color Guard into East Room when "Hail to the Chief" is played.

Receiving Line:

- Take position just inside door of East Room ... Ambassador Catto will present your guests.
- After receiving line, follow guests into State Dining Room.

Dinner:

- Round tables
- The Army Strolling Strings will play during dessert.
- No press coverage of dinner ... toasts will be piped to the press ... transcripts will be released to the press ... there will be mini-camera coverage of the toasts with a small photo pool.

After-Dinner:

- 10:00 p. m. . . . guests proceed to parlors for demitasse, liqueurs, and cigars. You and Mrs. Ford will escort Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave to the Blue Room where you will visit informally with your guests.
- 10:05 p. m. . . . after-dinner guests will be escorted to the State Floor. You, Mrs. Ford, Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave (Prime Minister Cosgrave to your right . . . then Mrs. Ford . . . then Mrs. Cosgrave) will receive the after-dinner guests from a position in the Grand Hall between the Blue Room and Green Room doors -- a Military Social Aide will present your guests -- guests will proceed to the East Room and take their seats.

Entertainment:

- After the guests are seated, you will enter the East Room through the center door and seat Mrs. Ford and Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave.
- You proceed to the stage which will be located at the North End of the East Room and introduce Ben Vereen.
- NOTE: Suggested remarks (Tab A).
- At the conclusion of the performance, you and Mrs. Ford will escort Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave to the stage to thank Ben Vereen.
- NOTE: There will be press coverage of the entertainment. Photo and mini-camera coverage will be of the last part of the program and of your thanking Ben Vereen.
- After you have thanked Ben Vereen, you and Mrs. Ford will escort Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave to the Grand Foyer and Blue Room where you will mingle informally with your guests.
- NOTE: There will be dancing in the Grand Foyer.

Departure:

- You, Mrs. Ford, Ambassador and Mrs. Catto escort Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave to the North Portico.

-- You and Mrs. Ford may wish to return for dancing or return to the Family Quarters.

-- There will be champagne, mixed drinks and dancing for the guests who remain.

NOTES:

-- The dinner and after-dinner guest lists are attached (Tab B).

-- A suggested toast is attached (Tab C).

-- Military Social Aides will be present.

-- Marine Corps Violinist will be playing in the Diplomatic Reception Room as your dinner and after-dinner guests arrive.

-- White House photographer will be present.

-- Air Force Band will be playing on the South Portico Balcony as your dinner guests arrive.

-- The demitasse served after dinner will actually be Irish coffee.

Maria Downs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 18, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

COMMUNIQUE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
AND PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND, FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS HELD
IN WASHINGTON, D.C., March 17, 1976

1. The President welcomed the Prime Minister and stressed the significance he attached to the visit in connection with the celebration of the Bicentennial of American independence. The Prime Minister agreed with this view and thanked the President for his invitation. Both the President and the Prime expressed the conviction that the visit would help to strengthen the ties of kinship, friendship, affection and mutual interest which bind their countries so closely.
2. The President and the Prime Minister discussed matters of common concern including international political developments and economic matters. The two leaders also discussed the development of the European Economic Community and Ireland's place in its progress.
3. On economic matters, both welcomed the close relations that exist between their two countries, and the Prime Minister indicated in particular the welcome of his Government for American investment in Ireland and the benefits to the two countries which could accrue from it. The President and the Prime Minister reviewed the improving economic picture on both sides of the Atlantic and, in this connection, the President underscored the importance of close consultations and cooperation between the United States and the European Community.
4. The President and the Prime Minister noted with regret the continued violence arising from the Northern Ireland situation. They deplored all support for organizations involved directly or indirectly in campaigns of violence and reiterated in particular their determination to continue and to intensify their cooperation in the prosecution of illegal activities. They appealed to the American and Irish people to refrain from supporting, with financial or other aid, this violence.
5. The Prime Minister invited the President to visit Ireland at a mutually agreeable future date, and the President accepted the invitation with pleasure.

PRESIDENT FORD'S TOAST AT DINNER
FOR IRISH PRIME MINISTER
MARCH 17, 1976

PRESIDENTIAL INTRODUCTION FOR BEN VEREEN

MARCH 17, 1976

It gives me great pleasure to introduce one of America's rising talents, Ben Vereen. Ben is what we football players call a "triple-threat". By that I mean that he has shown the very highest talent as an actor, a singer and a dancer.

His talents in all three fields have been recognized not only by reviewers and critics, but by his peers. The American Guild of Variety Artists voted him their "Entertainer of the Year" award -- and also their "Rising Star" and "Song-and-Dance Star" awards -- making Ben the first performer ever to win all three.

We're very fortunate to have him with us tonight, so I won't delay any longer -- ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Ben Vereen.

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, March 16, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY TO MRS. FORD

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a black-tie dinner honoring His Excellency the Prime Minister of Ireland and Mrs. Cosgrave Wednesday, March 17 at 8:00 PM.

Ben Vereen, singer/dancer/actor, will entertain in the East Room following dinner.

Mrs. Ford has chosen centerpieces which depict "The Winners Circle" of the Kentucky Derby. Bronze sculptures of Kentucky Derby winners will be placed on beds of natural bark covered with moss and hedged with southern smilax and frosted tulip votive candles. Embedded in the moss will be shamrock, ferns and ivy accented by gerbera daisies. Flowering white quince will give the tree affect.

The round tables will be draped with tableclothes of green and white cotton plaid with a ruffled border. Tables will be set with the Johnson China, Monroe vermeil flatwear and the Kennedy Morgantown crystal.

Hanging plants of swedish ivy, tradescanthia, begonias and ferns along with ficus trees will be used in the State Dining Room. Apple blossom, flowering pear and crab apple trees will line the Grand Hall. Arrangements of white tulips, pussy willow, apple blossoms and bells of Ireland will be throughout the State Floor.

Robert King and Michael Bonnet, Floral Arts, Inc., of Washington, D.C. have coordinated the decoration. The bronzes have been loaned to the White House by the Kentucky Derby Museum at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky; Long Gallery in Houston, Texas; and from the private collection of Mr. Paul Mellon.

The menu: Poached Columbia River Salmon; Eleurons; Supreme of Royal Squab Veronique; Wild Rice; Broiled Tomatoes with Artichoke Hearts; Bibb Lettuce Salad; Brie Cheese; Baked Alaska Flambe; Black Cherries with Irish Mist; Irish Coffee.

Wines: Chappellet, Johannisberg Riesling; Saint Michelle, Cabernet Sauvignon; Schramsberg, Blanc de Blancs.

#

March 17, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY TO MRS. FORD

Gifts exchanged March 17 between the President and Mrs. Ford and the Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave of Ireland:

To the Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave from the President and Mrs. Ford:

A conversation table entitled "Gone Away" by artist/sculptor Marlene Newman. Ms. Newman is the Art Director and Designer of Chmarney Hall, Ltd. in Pennsylvania. She is known for her horse sculptures and bas reliefs. She was awarded full scholarship to Moore College of Art in Philadelphia which she is a graduate.

The conversation table contains a round bas relief bronze casting of a hunt scene 27" in diameter set in a solid cherrywood table 36" x 16" high.

"Emerald Isle" a picture of Ireland taken from space. Created by NASA using data from the electronic sensors of the Landsat II satellite, the image was produced using three separate satellite passages and a total of fifteen images. Landsat images of this type have been used by scientists for research in a wide range of disciplines, including geology, geography, hydrology, land management, and agriculture. The Landsat satellite, orbiting approximately 500 miles above the surface, moves in a near-polar orbit overflying the same area on the earth's surface at the same local time once every eighteen days.

To the President from the Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave:

Twenty-nine inch piece of Waterford Crystal with an etching of George Washington.

To Mrs. Ford from the Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave:

An Irish silver, chased bowl 7" in diameter. (Dublin 1897 by J. Smyth)



For Immediate Release
Tuesday, March 16, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY TO MRS. FORD

Singer/dancer/actor, Ben Vereen, will entertain at the White House Wednesday evening for the state dinner honoring the Prime Minister of Ireland and Mrs. Cosgrave.

Ben Vereen is perhaps best known for his performance in the broadway musical "Pippin." He was first recognized for that performance with the Drama Desk Award for Best Actor in a Musical in 1973. He later received the 1973 Tony Award, also for "Pippin," and the CLIO Award for best television commerical in 1974 for Pippin.

Vereen was voted the 1975 "Entertainer of the Year" by the American Guild of Variety Artists for his portrayal of Satchmo in ABC-TV's special "Louis Armstrong-Chicago Style." The Guild also honored him with its "Rising Star" and "Song-and-Dance Star" awards. He is the first performer ever to win all three awards.

Another performance Vereen is noted for, is the role of Judas in Jesus" Christ Superstar" for which he won the Drama Desk Award for Best Actor in a Musical in 1972.

Ben Vereen has also performed in Broadway's "Sweet Charity;" "Golden Boy" in London; "Hair;" and the Mary Tyler Moore Special for CBS-TV. Vereen hosted his own variety show on NBC last summer. His act includes sets, ballet, drama, jazz and magic.

Ben Vereen is 29, was born in Miami, Florida, and reared in Brooklyn, New York. His interest in the performing arts date back to his singing in the church choir at four years of age. He was accepted at the High School of Performing Arts and in his senior year received the Helen Tamiris scholarship for his achievement in dance. During high school, Vereen was a member of Brooklyn's Bernice Johnson Dancers.

#

Date Issued 3/1/76
By P. Howard
Revised _____

FACT SHEET
Mrs. Ford's Office

Event STATE DINNER
Group IN HONOR OF PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND AND MRS. COSGRAVE
DATE/TIME Wednesday, March 17, 1976 8:00 p.m.
Contact Pat Howard Phone 2927
Number of guests: Total Dinner - 120 Women x Men x Children _____
Place State Floor
Principals involved President and Mrs. Ford
Participation by Principal yes (Receiving line) yes
Remarks required yes
Background --

REQUIREMENTS

Social: Guest list yes (Social Entertainment's Office will distribute)
Invitations yes Programs yes Menus yes
Refreshments State Dinner Format
Entertainment yes
Decorations/flowers yes
Music yes
Social Aides yes
Dress Black Tie Coat check yes- DRR
Other --

Press: Reporters yes
Photographers yes
TV Crews yes
White House Photographers yes Color yes Mono _____
Other --

Technical Support: Microphones yes PA Other Rooms yes
Recording yes
Lights yes
Transportation cars (enter thru SW Gate)
Parking South Grounds
Housing --
Other -- (Risers, stage, platforms) yes

Project Co-ordinator Pat Howard Phone 2927

Site diagrams should be attached if technical support is heavy.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 8, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Usher's Office | Exec Protective Svs | Susan Porter |
| Visitor's Office | GSA (EOB) | MSgt Collins |
| WH Garage | Press Office | Exec Grounds Office |
| Social Office | USSS | Sheila Weidenfeld |
| Nell Yates | WHCA | WH Florist |

FROM: Captain L. S. Kollmorgen *K*

A full honor arrival ceremony will be held for His Excellency Liam M. Cosgrave, the Prime Minister of Ireland, and Mrs. Cosgrave, on the South Grounds at 10:30 a.m. on March 17.

The following are needed in connection with the ceremony:

- a. The review stand, associated equipment and stanchions for VIP area, positioned on the South Grounds.
- b. Overhead awning removed from the entrance to the South Portico.
- c. Furniture cleared for the receiving line and refreshments served to guests in the Blue Room.
- d. Sound set-up for South Grounds. No interpreter microphone required on platform.
- e. Car checkers with equipment available not later than 10:15 a.m.
- f. Two Social Aides report to the Military Duty Aide by 9:30 a.m.
- g. A bouquet of roses for Mrs. Ford to present to Mrs. Cosgrave be prepared and delivered to the Usher's Office by 10:15 a.m. The stems should be wrapped.

In case of inclement weather, the East Room will be used.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Her children
grew up w Pres.
What they were
doing.

Be Here until
Friday



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Fresh Asparagus
lettuce & Tomatoes -
Ice Cream -
Butter Pecan

Wahlund TV until
11:00 - Mrs. Galwin
They wahlund 
~~11:30~~ 12:00 -

Recd.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dinner - 8:00

Mrs. ^{Lil} Godwin -

Mrs. Ford's

Step Father's 2nd
wife - Grand Rapids.
85 yrs. old.

State Dinner

Broiled Ham Serves
Macaroni & cheese 8^{oz}



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 17

Mrs. Ford is wearing a light mint green
chiana Estevez. It will have bagel beads
around collar, closed collar, dress open
in front.

cape affect in back that graduates to floor

new dress

never worn before



6' - knew in H.S.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Bob Belt

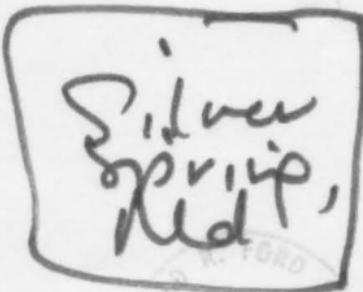
St. Louis Mis.

U. of Va

grad.

22 & 23

~~old~~ friend —
St. Anthony's



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Krater

relicen^{ce} Insur^{ance}
Comp.

Silver Spring,



Bob

- * 25
- * Univ. of Va.
Met him last yr.
when he
- * Insurance
properly insurance
- * Silver Spring, Md.
- * Known him for yr.
8
- * St. Anthony's fraternity

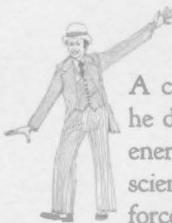






IN HONOR OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
THE PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND
AND MRS. COSGRAVE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1976



A critic has written of Ben Vereen, "He sings, he dances, he acts, and he literally simmers with energy, providing the human equivalent of what scientists call a monopole, a center of magnetic force."

For Ben Vereen, dance has been a major part of his life since he was a junior high schooler in Brooklyn, New York. Thus, even before his Broadway debut, he had achieved distinction as a performer, teacher and choreographer with several notable dance companies and in summer stock. Although already quite a "trooper," Mr. Vereen had not even seen a Broadway musical when he got his "big break," a role in *Sweet Charity*. Following his appearance in this show, and its subsequent film version, Mr. Vereen played in a number of other productions in New York and other major American cities. With each of these new and more demanding roles, including such shows as *Golden Boy*, *Hair*, *No Place To Be Somebody*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, he won increased critical acclaim and audience admiration. Mr. Vereen achieved stardom on Broadway in the Bob Fosse musical *Pippin*, for which he was awarded both a Tony and a Drama Desk Award.

The rising star of Ben Vereen is now no longer contained by the Broadway stage. He danced in the movie *Funny Lady*; made his first album and is preparing for a second; created a nightclub act that weaves together ballet, drama, jazz and magic; and starred in several television specials, including the 90-minute variety show "Jubilee" and in the drama "Louis Armstrong-Chicago Style."



BEN VEREEN

**COMIN'
AT
YA...**

Jack French, PIANIST/CONDUCTOR

Marc Diccianni, DRUMMER

Brent Alverson, BASSIST

Richard Boukas, GUITARIST





GUEST LIST FOR THE DINNER TO BE GIVEN BY THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD IN HONOR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRIME MINISTER OF IRELAND AND MRS. COSGRAVE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1976 AT EIGHT O'CLOCK, THE WHITE HOUSE

His Excellency The Prime Minister of Ireland
and Mrs. Cosgrave
His Excellency Dr. Garret FitzGerald and Mrs. FitzGerald
Minister for Foreign Affairs
His Excellency John G. Molloy
Ambassador of Ireland to the United States
Mr. Paul J. G. Keating
Secretary-General, Department of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Dermot Nally
Assistant Secretary, Department of the Taoiseach (Prime Minister)
Mr. Ted Nealon
Head of Government Information Services
Lieutenant Colonel Sean Daly and Mrs. Daly
Aide-de-Camp to the Prime Minister
Mr. Frank Murray
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
Mr. Liam T. Cosgrave, Jr.
Son of Prime Minister and Mrs. Cosgrave

The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
Secretary of State
Mr. Justice Brennan and Mrs. Brennan
The Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Kleppe
The Honorable Russell B. Long, U. S. Senate, and Mrs. Long
(Louisiana)
The Honorable Herman E. Talmadge, U. S. Senate (Georgia)
The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy, U. S. Senate (Massachusetts)
The Honorable Robert J. Dole, U. S. Senate, and Mrs. Dole
(Kansas)
The Honorable James A. McClure, U. S. Senate, and Mrs. McClure
(Idaho)
The Honorable Jake Garn, U. S. Senate, and Mrs. Garn (Utah)
The Honorable James J. Delaney, House of Representatives
(New York)
The Honorable John Young, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Young (Texas)
The Honorable James A. Burke, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Burke (Massachusetts)
The Honorable Robert McCloskey, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. McCloskey (Illinois)
The Honorable Barber B. Conable, Jr., House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Conable (New York)
The Honorable Paul N. McCloskey, Jr., House of Representatives,
(California)
The Honorable Edward Madigan, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. Madigan (Illinois)
The Honorable George M. O'Brien, House of Representatives,
and Mrs. O'Brien (Illinois)
The Honorable Robert C. Krueger, House of Representatives (Texas)
The Honorable Brent Scowcroft
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
The Honorable William P. Clements, Jr. and Mrs. Clements
Deputy Secretary of Defense
General George S. Brown, USAF, and Mrs. Brown
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Honorable Walter J. P. Curley, Jr. and Mrs. Curley
American Ambassador to Ireland
The Chief of Protocol and Mrs. Catto

The Honorable William G. Hyland and Mrs. Hyland
Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

The Honorable Arthur A. Hartman and Mrs. Hartman
Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs

The Honorable Helmut Sonnenfeldt and Mrs. Sonnenfeldt
Counselor, Department of State

The Honorable Raymond Guest and Mrs. Guest
Former Ambassador to Ireland

The Honorable John D. J. Moore
Former Ambassador to Ireland

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goodwin
Staff Assistant, The White House

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ursomarso
Staff Assistant, The White House

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Arcaro, Miami, Florida
Jockey

Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus R. Beal, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Herrick, Smith, Donald Farley and Ketchum

Mr. Bob Belt
Escort of Miss Susan Ford

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Benedict, Bethesda, Maryland
Associated Press

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas F. Brady, New York, New York
Chairman, The Jockey Club; Dillon, Read and Co., INC.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bugas, Bloomfield, Michigan

Miss Victoria Churchville, Washington, D. C.
Guest of Rep. Robert Krueger

Miss Jan Coats, Vail, Colorado
Guest of Mr. John Purcell

Dr. and Mrs. Robert G. Cullen
Agricultural Counselor, Embassy of Ireland

Mr. Luis Estevez, Los Angeles, California
Fashion designer

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Evans, Greenwich, Connecticut

Mr. and Mrs. Nat Ferraro, Downey, California
President, Downey Venders

Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Firestone, Waterford, Virginia

Miss Susan Ford

Miss Zsa Zsa Gabor, West Los Angeles, California
Actress

The Honorable C. Thomas Gallagher III and Mrs. Gallagher
Coconut Grove, Florida

The Honorable James C. Gardner and Mrs. Gardner, Rocky Mount, N. C.
Parker Management Company

Mrs. Arthur M. Godwin, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. and Mrs. J. Peter Grace, New York, New York
Chairman, W. R. Grace & Company

Mr. and Mrs. Laddie F. Hutar, Glenview, Illinois
Mr--President, Laddie F. Hutar & Associates
Mrs--President, National Federation of Republican Women

Miss Kara Anne Kennedy
Daughter and guest of Sen. Edward Kennedy

Mr. and Mrs. William S. Kilroy, Houston Texas
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Kilroy Oil Co. of Texas

Dr. and Mrs. Shepard Krech, Jr., Easton, Maryland

Miss Celia MacFarland, Washington, D. C.
Guest of Rep. Paul McCloskey

Mr. and Mrs. Archie R. McCardell, Westport, Connecticut
President and Chief Operating Officer, Xerox Corp.

Mr. and Mrs. Kent B. McGough, Columbus, Ohio
State Chairman, Republican State Central and Executive
Committee of Ohio

Dr. and Mrs. John J. McMullen, Montclair, New Jersey
Chairman, John J. McMullen Associates, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Murphy, Washington, D. C.
Pres., Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers International
Union of America

Mr. and Mrs. Pat O'Brien, Los Angeles, California
Actor

Mr. and Mrs. Peter D. Pelham, Washington, D. C.
President, Mount Vernon College

Mr. and Mrs. Gregor Piatigorsky, Los Angeles, California
Cellist

Mr. John Purcell, Vail, Colorado

Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Rahilly, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. Dominic P. Renda, Los Angeles, California
Escort of Miss Zsa Zsa Gabor

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas W. Shanks, Jackson, Mississippi
President Ford Committee Chairman for Mississippi

Mr. and Mrs. Davis Thurber, Nashua, New Hampshire

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel G. Van Cleef, Esmont, Virginia

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Vereen, New York, New York
Entertainer

Princess Diane von Furstenburg, New York, New York
Guest of Mr. Luis Estevez



ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES : Ó SHEIRBHÍSÍ EOLAIS AN RIALTAIS Tel: (01) 767571 Telex: 5800

ON BEHALF OF

Department of the Taoiseach,
Dublin 2.
Tel. (01) 767571.

THAR CEANN

Roinn an Taoisigh,
Baile Átha Cliath 2.
Tel. (01) 767571.

NOT FOR RELEASE BEFORE: 9 p.m. (WASHINGTON TIME) 17 MARCH, 1976
2 a.m. (IRISH TIME) 17 MARCH, 1976.

Speech by the Taoiseach (Prime Minister of Ireland) Mr.
Liam Cosgrave, T.D., at White House Dinner on 17 March,
1976.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I am very grateful to you for your kind words of welcome. My wife and I and our companions from Ireland greatly appreciate the warmth and courtesy which you have extended to us this evening. We feel very much at home.

In fact, we have felt completely at home since our arrival in the United States. Our American friends have fully lived up to their old traditions of hospitality. However, this evening is something special for us because this is the day of St. Patrick, a day which always serves to remind us in a special way of the happy relations which exist between our countries.



St. Patrick died a thousand years before the discovery of the New World. Yet his feast day is celebrated today throughout this land and not only by those millions of Americans who are of Irish descent. This is a remarkable phenomenon and, may I say, a heart-warming one. It is, of course, mainly a tribute to the contribution made by the Irish to the building of this great country. It is a mark of what they achieved here and of the place which they won for themselves in American life.

St. Patrick himself would no doubt have been surprised to know that he would, in the course of time, become the very symbol of the friendship between Ireland and a great new country beyond the seas as yet undiscovered. His arduous labours in Ireland left him little time for such speculations. In fact, such was his activity that many historians now believe that there were two St. Patricks, not one. Perhaps we should not pursue this further, Mr. President. It raises the delicate question of whether we should have two St. Patrick's Days every year.

I have referred to the discovery of the New World. Of course, we in Ireland give public credit for this to Columbus. After all, Italy is a good friend and partner of ours in the European Community and we do not wish to give any offence. However, in this private circle, I would wish to confide to you that there is an old Irish tradition that our St. Brendan - he was called St. Brendan the Navigator - landed in America in the sixth century. There is a medieval text which backs up this story.



I am not saying that I believe it. However, I refuse to express disbelief. After all, it would have been a very fitting and appropriate thing to **have happened**.

What I like particularly about the St. Brendan story is that the sturdy saint is held to have returned to Ireland from America. Considering the primitive open boats which he had available to him in the sixth century, I think that his return was indeed a mark of his devotion to his native land. Let it be an encouragement to all American tourists to visit us in these days when safer and more comfortable transportation is available.

Even if we concede Columbus's claim, we can say that, in a certain sense, many thousands of Irishmen were subsequently to discover America. Certainly Williamsburg where we had the honour and the pleasure of spending last night seems to have been discovered very soon by them. Bishop Berkeley - the philosopher who had the trouble with the cherry tree in Trinity College, Dublin - could say that the town was "entirely populated by our race in 1734". I do not make this as a claim to that exquisite place. I simply quote it to show the good taste and sense of location of my countrymen even in those difficult days.

America was a real discovery for them, coming as they did from conditions of oppression and distress at home. This was



Mr. President, our pleasure in being here tonight is enhanced by the fact that this is your Bicentennial Year. This is a timely point at which to look back upon America's achievements. We in Ireland recall those of our race who settled here, the part that they played in your life and the fact that the memory of the old country is still with their descendants today. We must recall too that during our own past political struggles at home, America symbolised for us the political freedom which we sought for ourselves. Our mutual devotion to freedom constitutes a solid bond between the two peoples today and, if this is also a point of time for looking forward to the future, it must be our hope and prayer that the values and systems which both peoples cherish will prevail and prosper in the admittedly difficult years that lie ahead.

It is a pleasure for me to be able to say that the old friendship between our two countries is reflected today in practical and mutually beneficial economic links. American industry has contributed substantially to our economy; in trade and tourism there has been continuing and satisfactory development. We in Ireland look forward confidently to further developments in these fields.

In Ireland we will be celebrating your Bicentennial in a variety of ways. It is an opportunity for us to demonstrate the regard in which we hold the American nation. We hope that this year's celebrations will serve to bring home to you the respect which we



and the world have for your great achievements. It is sometimes good in moments of self questioning to know that you have friends - and that their affection and admiration for your great country have, if anything, grown with the years.

Mr. President, our/grandchildren will inherit the right and the privilege to celebrate your Tricentennial. Let us hope that these hundred years to come will see a full realisation of the ideals which inspired your foundation, that it will bring peace and happiness to our peoples and to all peoples' and that it will see a further consolidation of the close bonds of friendship between the United States and Ireland.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I think I can propose no better toast than: "The next hundred years".



95 min

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

"I'll Play for You" 3:12

"Goodtime Lady's Day"
(PIPPIN) 1:28

"As Time Goes By" 2:40

"Bert Wm. Soga" NO PRESS
→ (Dramatic) 16:30

5 min
etc etc

~~I'm Still Too Shy~~



Dream
Picasso
Baby

730
Rehearsal

Greek
Moby Dick
(1) all by
Arts

CLIO - Am+TV+Rad
Commercial
Coms. Festival

① Ben Vereen, singer/dancer/actor, will entertain at the White House Wednesday evening for the state dinner honoring the Prime Minister of Ireland and Mrs. Cosgrave.

is perhaps best known
Ben Vereen won recognition for his performance in the broadway musical "Pippin," by receiving the Drama Desk Award for Best Actor in a Musical in 1973. For that same performance, his awards include: the Tony Award, in 1973; also for "Pippin," and CLIO Award for best television commercial in 1974, (for Pippin).

② Ben Vereen won the 1975 "Entertainer of the Year" award by the American Guild of Variety Artists, as well as their "Rising Star" and "Song-and-Dance Star" awards. Ben is the first performer ever to win the triple crown. all three awards.

③ Other awards are: Los Angeles Newspaper Critics award for Best All Around Performer in a musical (Hair-1967-68); Drama Desk Award for Best Actor in musical (Jesus Christ Superstar-1972).
Vereen Perhaps another perf. Vereen → 6-11-1975.

④ Ben has also performed in Broadway's "Sweet Charity;" "Golden Boy" in London; Mary Tylor Moore Special for CBS-TV; and ABC-TV's special "Louis Armstrong Chicago Style" in which he portrayed Satchmo.

Ben Vereen travels over the country with his nightclub act that includes sets, ballet, drama, jazz and magic.

Ben is 29, married with four children. He was born in Miami, Florida, and reared in Brooklyn, New York. His interest in the performing arts date back to his singing in the church choir at four years of age and in High School became a member of Brooklyn's Bernice Johnson Dancers. He was accepted to the High School of Performing Arts, where he performed in several pieces by Helen Tamiris. At the end of his senior year, he received a scholarship for his achievement in dance.

1 bid award
Rehearsal
→ 4 yr. HS
NYC



WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

| FORM OF DOCUMENT | CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE | DATE | RESTRICTION |
|------------------|--|------|-------------|
| Notes | Handwritten notes regarding the dinner for Prime Minister of Ireland and Mrs. Cosgrave. (1 page) | ND | C |

File Location:

Sheila Weidenfeld Files, Box 33, Folder: 3/17/1976 - Ireland (1)

SD 2/7/2017

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by applicable Executive order governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- (C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- 67-68 Hair
LA Newspaper Critics
Award) Best All
around Perf. in a
musical
- 72 Drama Desk Award
Best Actor in Musical
JCS Star
- 73 Pippin - some
- 73 Tony-Pippin
- 74 CIO Award
for Commercial
for Pippin
- 75 Ent v e award
AVGA



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1st Broadway Sweet Charity

London Golden Boy

S.F. ————— Hair
·72 ————— jeans & Secretary pads
Broadway Pippin ~~feathered jeans + pants~~

NBC of Show

Louis Armstrong Show 75

Nightclub act c "me



The Pres. i MF i g qv Ben Vereen to
enter i r with wed of 17

BV a singer, dancer, actor performs
- nightclubs c " - country. His act
includes sets, ballet, drama, jazz
& magic.

(Ben is well-known for his ^{leading} role in the
Broadway play "Pippin" in 1972. He
went on to then some of his Broadway
shows include: Sweet Charity in '65-
He's first,

Ben Vereen's experience on the stage
includes: the Pulitzer Prize-winning
Charles Gordone drama "No Place to
→": Hair (San Francisco); Sweet Charity
on Broadway; Golden Boy;
Jesus Christ Superstar and Pippin. He
acted for his leading



Los Angeles Times

VIEW

PART IV

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1976



BEN VEREEN
... Satchmo reincarnate



LOUIS ARMSTRONG
... topic for TV show

TELEVISION REVIEW

Vereen as Satchmo: Hello, Jazz

BY CECIL SMITH
Times Television Critic

A couple of musicians got into an argument on the set when they were filming "Louis Armstrong—Chicago Style." One of them, who said he'd played with Satchmo, swore that voice on the old songs on the soundtrack had to be Louis' with Ben Vereen simply mouthing the words. The other disagreed. They went to Vereen to settle it. "Hell, man," said the delighted Ben. "That's me!"

It's hard to believe when you see the film, which ABC is offering as its prestigious Sunday Night Movie (Channel 7, 9:30-11). That gravelly voice doing "When the Saints Go Marchin' In" and "Aint Misbehavin'" and the rest of Louis' songs is pure Satchmo.

Moreover, Vereen does a most convincing job of duplicating the great trumpeter in the flesh on that little screen. Particularly when he's playing. He shoves that golden horn up toward heaven with that ever-present white handkerchief fluttering and the sweat pouring down that glistening black face, the eyes closed soulfully, the body twisting and writhing to the music as if he wanted to push all of himself through the mouthpiece of that trumpet—ah, that's the young Louis reincarnate.

It's a remarkable performance, particularly

coming as it does on the heels of Ben Vereen's sensational dancing Satan that he played on Mary Tyler Moore's wild musical fling Thursday night. Yet Ben Vereen, the dancing musical star, winner of Broadway's Tony, is a known factor; Ben Vereen, the actor, is something else.

So, by the way, is this film. In a season clogged with biographical dramas from "Eleanor and Franklin" to The Adams Chronicles, this Dick Berg production is something very special.

It's been directed with a marvelous sense of style and period by Lee Philips, whose love for jazz is implicit in every frame. Working with a superb jazz score by Benny Carter and with jazz critic Leonard Feather as consultant, Philips has literally geared the movie to a jazz beat.

The time is 1931, bread lines, bootleg gin and Chicago—a gangster shooting gallery. The young Satchmo on the threshold of greatness is playing in a dingy black-and-tan club owned by an old friend (Lee De Broux). There's a vivid sequence to demonstrate the excitement of jazz when trumpet players white and black pour into the club to challenge Louis from their tables—and he blows them out into the street.

Please Turn to Page 19, Col. 1

ROGERS & COWAN, INC.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

415 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017
(212) PLAZA 9-6272

WNY 1.9/1
CABLE ADDRESS ROCOPUB
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

BIOGRAPHY OF BEN VEREEN

"He sings, he dances, he acts, and he literally simmers with energy, providing the human equivalent of what scientists call a monopole, a center of magnetic force." - John J. O'Connor, The New York Times.

The brilliant actor-singer-dancer has created his own personal fourth of July fireworks with a barrage of awards and television appearances that have rocketed him into the heart of America.

{ Ben Vereen won the "Entertainer of the Year" Award voted upon by his peers in the American Guild of Variety Artists, as well as their "Rising Star" and "Song-and-Dance Star" Awards - the first performer ever to win the triple crown.

He scored a triumph on television with his first dramatic role in the heralded ABC-TV special "Louis Armstrong-Chicago Style." He won the major reviews for his guest-star appearance on the Mary Tyler Moore special for CBS-TV. He was nominated for a "Golden Globe" award in the category of "first performance in a feature film" for his six-minute dance sequence in "Funny Lady" with Barbra Streisand.

He stars with such outstanding personalities as Liza Minnelli and Bing Crosby in the 90-minute NBC-TV special sponsored by AT&T titled "Jubilee."

Ben reached stardom on Broadway in Bob Fosse's "Pippin," for which he won the Tony Award for "Best Actor in a Musical" and the "Drama Desk Award" in the same category.

His four week NBC series received national critical acclaim, making Ben a new and exciting TV personality.

{ Ben continues bringing Broadway into a nightclub, with an act that includes sets, ballet, drama, jazz and magic.

...more



Ben's first album, "Ben Vereen Off-Stage," was released by Buddah Records and a hit single resulted, "Stop Your Half-Steppin' Ma, Ma." Buddah will also record his second album consisting of ballads and love songs.

→ Ben is the proud possessor of a CLIO, the award given by the advertising industry for his "Pippin" television commercial.

// It was while attending junior high in Brooklyn that Ben really became interested in the performing arts. He sang in his god-father's church choir and in the school glee club. He became a member of Brooklyn's Bernice Johnson Dancers and dance became a major part of his life. He was accepted to the High School of Performing Arts, where he performed in several pieces by Helen Tamiris. Ben also was the first black to dance in the ballet, "El Cid." At the end of his senior year, he received a scholarship for his achievement in dance.

While he continued to participate in dance programs, Ben also started making the rounds of auditions. After several months he landed a job as understudy to one of the leads in the 1965 short-lived off-Broadway show, "The Prodigal Son."

Then, with no jobs in the offing and things getting rough, Ben made a decision he thought would change the course of his life: he went off to study for the Pentecostal ministry.

"My father was a deacon and my uncle a minister but if there was any inspiration involved, it was from my godfather, who was a great influence on me. Things were bleak--desperate--and I needed to be somewhere...but it wasn't the seminary. I stayed six months and that was it. I guess I wasn't cut out for it."

{ Ben then joined the Ron Davis Dancers where he choreographed
concerts and taught dance technique. He also toured with the
Arthur Mitchell Dance Company.

In 1966, Ben auditioned for summer stock and got a small part in "West Side Story" which he performed so well in Tannersville, Pa. that he was asked to stay on for the season. In one of the last plays, "Annie Get Your Gun," Ben not only played a feature part but directed the choreography.

Returning to New York in September, Ben went back to teaching dance. Still making the rounds, he tried out for "Sweet Charity."

...more

"It was just one of those things I did to keep in shape," he says. "I figured if you want to be an actor, you've got to keep at it. Never in my wildest dreams did I think anything would come of it. I had always liked Bob Fosse's work and thought it was certainly worth a try."

Ben not only landed a job in the chorus, but it began a friendship with Fosse that led right up to the much acclaimed "Pippin."

Says Ben of "Sweet Charity": "It was my first Broadway musical--as a matter of fact, I had never even seen a Broadway show before. It was exciting and wild--and a great experience."

Ben appeared in the Las Vegas company at Caesars Palace and in the San Francisco engagement, as well as a role in the Fosse-directed film version, which starred Shirley MacLaine and Sammy Davis Jr.

As a result of their work together in the film, Vereen and Davis became good friends and Davis took Ben to Chicago and London with him as his understudy in "Golden Boy." On a couple of occasions in London, Davis was taken ill and Ben went on in his place.

{ When "Golden Boy" closed in London, Ben returned to New York without a job. A friend suggested that he try out for "Hair," the show which had already taken Broadway by storm. He auditioned for the Los Angeles company and won the part. His performance as Berger won him the Los Angeles newspaper critics' award as "Best All Around Performer in a Musical."

He came back to New York to play Berger in the Broadway company and appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show with the "Hair" cast.

Tom O'Horgan, the innovative director of "Hair," and Ben were now close friends and O'Horgan asked Ben to join a repertory company he was forming to tour festivals, colleges and Europe. The actor then headed to San Francisco where he starred in that city's production of "Hair" and also in the Pulitzer Prize-winning Charles Gordone drama "No Place To Be Somebody." Ben then toured military bases with Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland in their FTA (Free The Army) shows.

...more

{ About this time, O'Horgan came in as director of "Jesus Christ Superstar" and he called Ben in to audition for the role of Judas. Ben was signed that day. Ben won raves from the press, the Theatre World Award for his portrayal, and a nomination for the prestigious Tony Award. He turned down re-enacting the role in the film version to go on to star in "Pippin." The rest is history.

#

ROGERS & COWAN, INC.
415 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017



FIRST CLASS MAIL

PHOTOS
DO NOT BEND

From:

KATHIE BERLIN
ROGERS & COWAN, INC.
415 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

Ms. Sheila Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford
THE WHITE HOUSE
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C.

NASA made all of the arrangements.

"Emerald Isle"

Image from Space

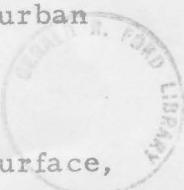
Using data acquired by the Landsat II satellite, a composite image of Ireland has been created. *by NASA*

The colors employed are produced during processing of the electronic image, and do not represent actual colors which would be seen by the human eye at the vantage point of the satellite. The purplish tones represent built-up urban areas with very little vegetation, while the near-white, light green and darker green areas in the north, east and south, respectively, represent areas of sparse, moderate, and heavy vegetation. Dublin can be seen on the central eastern coast; and Galway Bay is clearly visible to the west.

→ This image of Ireland was produced using three separate satellite passages and a total of fifteen images. The eastern portion was obtained during early summer 1975 with relatively cloud-free conditions. Substantial cloud coverage existed, however, in late summer 1975 when the satellite again passed, and this is shown by the large white mass overlying central Ireland. The western portion was obtained during February 1976 when, because of the lower sun angle, noticeable shadows occurred behind hills, in valleys and in low-lying areas.

→ Landsat images of this type have been used by scientists for research in a wide range of disciplines including geology, geography, hydrology, urban planning, land management, cartography and agriculture.

→ The Landsat satellite, orbiting approximately 500 miles above the surface, employs electromagnetic sensing equipment to detect radiation in four bands:



red, blue, and two infrared bands just below the visible spectrum. The
~~satellite~~
~~satellite~~ moves in a near-polar orbit, overflying the same area on the
earth's surface at the same local time once every eighteen days.

#####

NASA $20'' \times 24''$



Susie Dolibots





DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 17, 1976

FRAN:

THANKS SO MUCH !!!

GIFTS BEING PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT AND MRS FORD:

To the President: 29" piece of Waterford Crystal
with etching of George Washington

To Mrs. Ford: Silver bowl (after the presentation
at 3:00 p.m. today, I will call with a better
description!)

GIFTS BEING PRESENTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND MRS. COSGRAVE:

Conversation table by Marlene Newman
Photograph and information on the table and artist.
Attached... (Mr. & Mrs. Newman will be after dinner
image guests tonight)

Composite photograph of Ireland via satellite
(Photo 17"x21") description attached.
Will be presented in frame with description
(let's talk about this one!!)

Susan



Chmarnsy: Hall
LTD.

1 Box 163A • Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355 • (215) 933-3454

'GONE ON' *Away*
a marlene newman bronze

Marlene Newman, horse owner, rider, artist, has captured the moment enjoyed by those who have experienced the thrill of the hunt.

The bas relief is cast in bronze and set in a solid cherry wood conversation table. This heirloom for the hunt family is available as an edition limited in the United States to one hundred forty-one, equivalent to one for each Organized Hunts of America.

Certification of numbered and signed bronze in solid cherry handcrafted and hard finished table is provided in leather bound folder. Complete satisfaction upon receipt is, of course, guaranteed for complete, unquestioned, refund.

The bas relief bronze casting measures twenty-seven inches in diameter and weighs sixty pounds. The table is thirty-six inches square by sixteen inches high. Depth of relief to one-half inch.

The price is \$1,800 F.O.B. Malvern, Pennsylvania. Delivery in Pennsylvania add six percent state sales tax. Insurance provided.

Reservation deposit required \$600. Balance due upon notification of artist's approval of finished casting and table.

Delivery five weeks. Order acceptance upon notification only. Offering is subject to availability within edition limit.

Artist proof # 1



Chmarney: Hall

LTD.

1 Box 163A • Malvern, Pennsylvania 19355 • (215) 933-3454

March 5, 1976

Ms. Susan Dolibois
Office of Protocol
Room 1238
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Ms. Dolibois:

I have reviewed the previous information sent and wish to make a few important corrections so that whatever is carried in the press release is correct.

My November 13th letter stated that the bas relief piece set in the table was cast in French Sand by Paul King Foundry. This was done, however the quality was not satisfactory to the artist. We are now having the hurt relief pieces case by the "cere perdue" or lost wax process. The foundry is Tallix in Peakeskill, New York.

~~Tallix President, Richard Pollock, will interestingly enough be in Washington, Monday, March 8, 1976. The French Embassy called the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art to locate a quality bronze casting firm. They recommend Tallix who was subsequently commissioned by the French government to create a bronze from a marble sculpture located in the White House.* Apparently, they intend to present the piece as a gift to the city of Savanna.~~

(* It will be moved to the Smithsonian Where Dick will create a mold.)

~~Tallix is unusual in that it is run by an engineer who has his masters degree from MIT in Metallurgy. Their clients are worldwide and include artists, galleries and some of the world's great museums, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.~~

~~In addition to the pieces you have seen in the brochures sent, Marlene Newman's latest piece is a bronze of Wild Mustangs. This piece will be offered in a limited edition of 366 (each dated a day of the Bicentennial year). This effort is in conjunction with the Wild Horse Organized Assistance Inc. WHOA is a non-profit company with over 12,000 members who is trying to preserve America's wild horses from slaughter. Federal Legislation, which achieved this goal, has been challenged and will be decided by the Supreme Court in the near future. WHOA hopes to raise over \$50,000 through this joint effort to further enhance their ability to protect the animals. It is hoped that high school and college classes will select this peice as a gift to their school and exhibit the sculpture in the library. This will introduce many others to bronzes, good art and the present plight of the horses.~~