

The original documents are located in Box 38, folder “Ford, Betty - Fashion - Designers - Capraro, Albert (1)” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The item described below has been transferred from this file to:

- Audiovisual Unit
- Book Collection
- Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

Item: 8" x 10" BW photo of Albert Caparo, fashion designer

The item was transferred from: Weidenfeld; Box 38; BF-fashion -
Designers - Albert Caparo (1)

Initials/Date Ut 5/86

GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The item described below has been transferred from this file to:

- Audiovisual Unit
 Book Collection
 Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

Item: *photos of BF meeting with fashion designer,
Albert Caparo 8" x 10" color*

*WM photos: 8JA75A2701-20
8JA75A2699-07A*

The item was transferred from: *Weidenfeld, Box 38, BF - Fashion -
Designers - Albert Caparo (1)*

Initials/Date *let 5/86.*

Dear Mrs. Ford,

Here is the recipe I mentioned. This was prepared especially for Harper's budget minded issue.

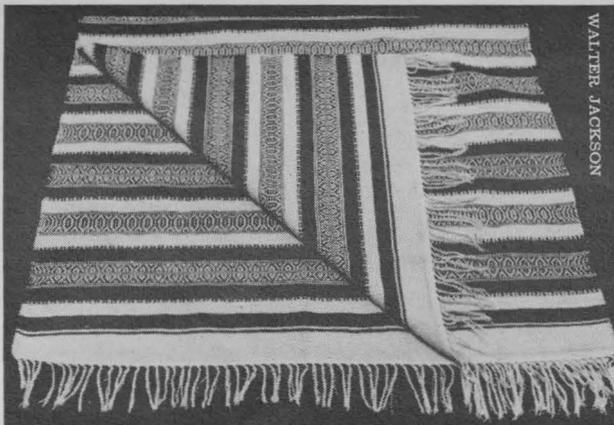
I do hope you enjoy it -

As ever,

Albert



ALBERT CAPRARO



WALTER JACKSON

▲ **\$24 ADDS DASH TO YOUR FLOOR** Or the carpet that's already there. An Indian rug in black and white. At the United Nations Gift Center, 46that 1st Ave., N.Y.C.

► **\$46 T-SHIRTING READY TO GO** A simple white T-shirt dress with a lace-up neck and the names of cities where you've been, or wish you were, printed in black. For city or country days. By Kappi. In polyester and cotton. At Bloomingdale's

◀ **\$23 EVENING BLACK; \$18 EVENING WHITE**

The envelope bag, in jet black bugle beads, is wide enough for a passport, long enough for traveler's checks, and just the right size to tuck under your arm at I. Magnin. The white-beaded bag on a chain can carry an evening's necessities. Both work evenings any time of year. Magid Handbags, Ltd. Jacobson's.

▼ **\$15 THE SUMMER SHOE EVERYONE WANTS**

The classic white canvas espadrille with a roped wedge heel. A bargain in comfort and a great summer look—wear it every day with everything. By

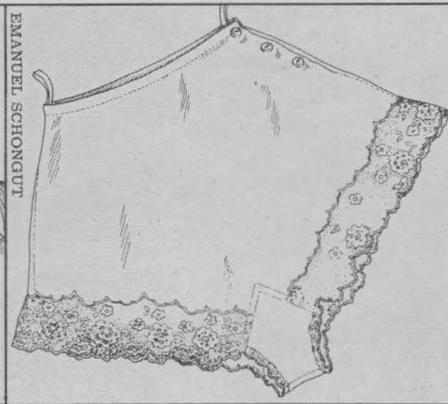




BAZAAR'S BARGAINS

LACY & FLOWERY THINGS

The prettiest looks for summer—from one-of-a-kind antique blouses and underthings, to one of this year's barest bikinis. And all of them have the kind of good-value prices that give you a lot for the money.



EMANUEL SCHONQUIT

▲ **\$25 PRETTIEST T-SHIRT** In ecru cotton, with insets and trimmings of lace. By Charlot International. At French Poodle Boutique, 1317 Connecticut Ave., Washington D.C. **\$14 LONG LACY STOLE** In sheer white rayon. By Sally Gee. At Lord & Taylor. **\$25 STEP-INS** In peach silk, a one-of-a-kind antique. At Le Grand Hotel, 471 W. Broadway, N.Y.C.



◀ **\$25 CAMISOLE** ▼ **\$44 COTTON AND LACE**

White cotton and lace. A sleeveless button-up dress in

7-20-1975

Dear Mrs. Ford,

You look radiant here!

I think you have lovely
lands - do you need to wear
gloves? Some of your terrific
jewelry would look so
much lovelier. I think your
new slim coat dresses will
give you an entirely different
look - Albert

ALBERT CAPRARO



June 16, 1975 • 40¢

People

weekly

**Ted & Joan's
Arabian nights**

**Maharaj Ji,
embattled
guru**

**The endless
summer of the
Beach Boys**

BETTY FORD

**In Europe, she passes
a grueling test
of her strength**

The First Lady
in Brussels





UP FRONT

A CONFIDENT BETTY FORD TESTS HER WINGS IN EUROPE

For months the speculation had persisted about the fragile state of Betty Ford's health. Now, for the moment, she has laid the rumors to rest.

Hardly had the slender, 57-year-old Mrs. Ford returned from a grueling four-day excursion to California than she was off again on a whirlwind jaunt to Europe, fully at ease in the role of First Lady-diplomat. While the President met with foreign leaders to shore up the wobbly North Atlantic alliance, Mrs. Ford compared notes with their wives. "Jerry wants me to become active as the wife of the President," she said. "We enjoy traveling together. We always have. The trip to California, and now here, proves my health is good. I'm having a ball!" (Since her mastectomy for cancer last fall, Mrs. Ford has undergone regular chemotherapy treatments, which will continue for more than a year.)

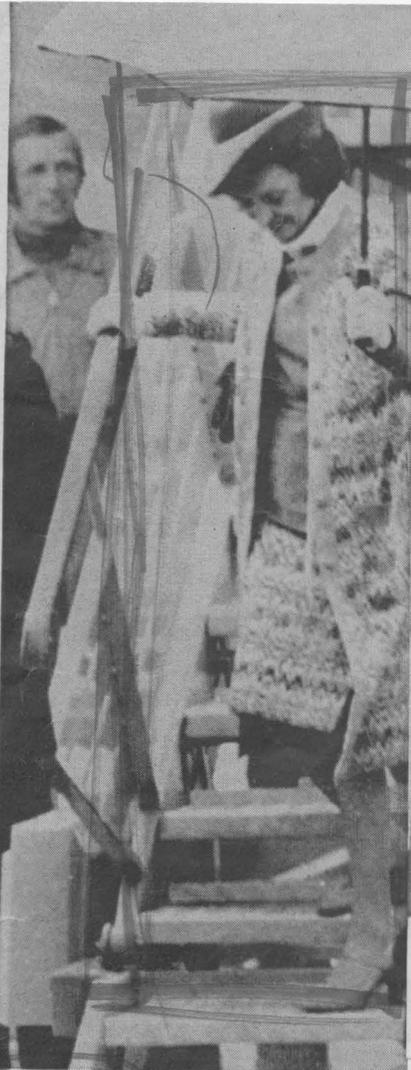
A temperate feminist, the First Lady was impressed by the character of her opposite numbers in Europe. "There is no frivolity," she said. "The wives of these leaders are very strong and very bright. They take their jobs seriously." So does she. She has changed since the early days of the Presidency. She tends to limit her comments to safe banalities: "Nice country, having a good time and, yes, he is working very hard." For the first time Betty Ford seems very much aware that she is First Lady of the land. When Ford was Vice-President, she was eager to chat with reporters and sometimes even called them up. Now she has herself become a trapping of the imperial Presidency. She certainly is not Jackie Kennedy. She avoids the visits to hospitals and orphanages that Lady Bird Johnson undertook. She is warmer and less tense than Pat Nixon. In

*Mrs. Ford,
your hair looks lovely—
and you look so trim—
H.*



Egyptian President Anwar Sadat (at right) and the First Lady enjoy a predinner giggle at Salzburg Residence in Austria.





Mrs. Ford gets a firm grip on the handrail as well as her umbrella, after the President takes a tumble while descending from Air Force One in rainy Salzburg.

Window-shopping in Brussels, the First Lady and Mrs. Leonard Firestone, wife of the U.S. ambassador to Belgium, investigate a display of precious antiquities.

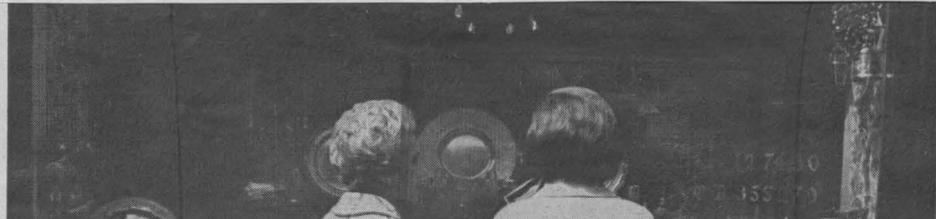
Dear Mrs. Ford,

I think your new slim looks are wonderful for your trim figure. Proportion, as you know is so very important and I feel the lesser the amount of varied proportions in one outfit, the better the look. You're right about important arrival clothes and your singling out my rain-coat-skirt and shirt is perfect.

A cape always looks good but, the coats and coat-dresses are newer - when **ALBERT CAPRARO** you find you can wear a coat-dress

instead of a cape over a dress - you should - The look suits you.

Albert





Dear

7

Mrs. Ford,
You look
lovely here! ↓

In evening finery, Mrs. Ford and Belgium's Queen Fabiola (below) arrive at the Brussels Opera House for a concert.





Charmed by the caretaker-priest of an 800-year-old chapel in Brussels, Mrs. Ford lights up with a 200-watt smile.

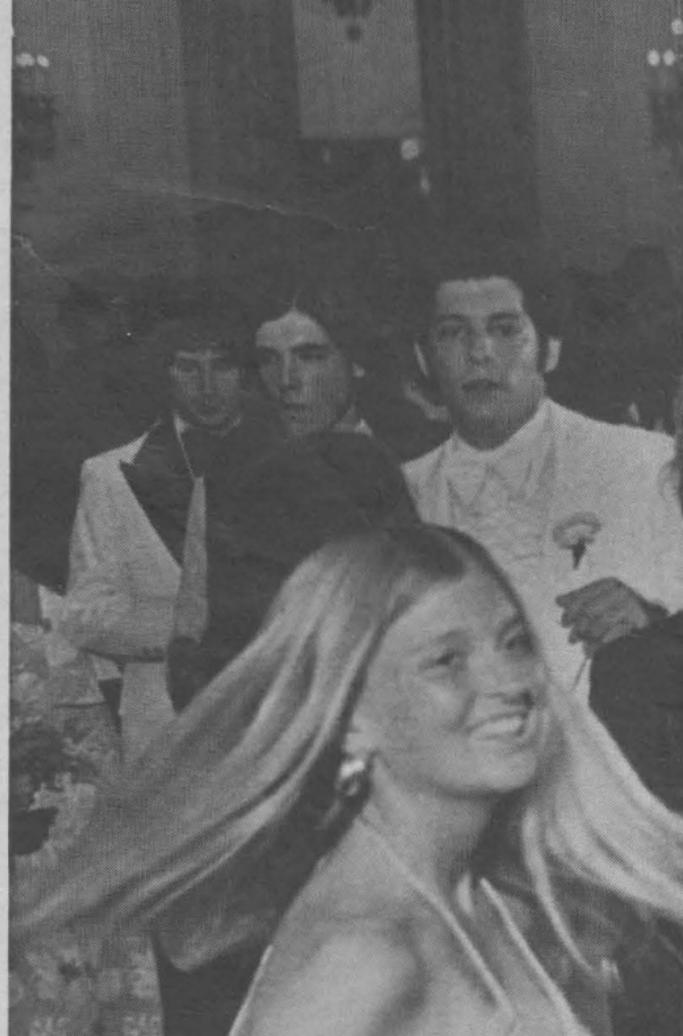
Europe Betty Ford acted like a middle-class, Middlewestern wife accompanying her husband on an important business trip.

Immaculately groomed and combed—she took along her Washington hairdresser, Jim Mercer—Mrs. Ford

royalty," the First Lady recalled. "But she didn't make me feel the least bit nervous." Margaret Trudeau, wife of Canada's prime minister, was also in Brussels. "Mrs. Trudeau was delightful and down to earth," said Mrs. Ford. "She told me she is expecting another

country she was headed for. She napped in her seat, managed five or six hours' sleep a night and ate sparingly despite the calorie-laden state dinners to which she was subjected. She weighed 130 when Ford was Vice President and is now down to 110

**HAS THAT CORSAGE BEEN
CLEARED? SUSAN FORD HOLDS HER
PROM IN THE WHITE HOUSE**



Dear Mrs. Ford,

Here is a terrific look! Simple and casual with a muffled scarf at the neck - jacket thrown over your shoulders and marvelous looking bracelets and ring.

I feel here's an attitude of taste and confidence - doing busily what your position as First Lady requires.

Albert

ALBERT CAPRARO



I think you'll find your new brown and green velveteen hats newer and more flattering. The look closer to your head with a small turned down brim is especially attractive as opposed to one set up and higher on the head. This I feel is true after seeing you automatically knowing how to pluck the small velveteen hat down and to the side of your face -

ALBERT CAPRARO

Albert



WIDE WORLD (2)
In Salzburg Austria's Foreign Minister Erich Zeleka-Karlreutner does the honors as Henry Kissinger looks on approvingly.

① Challis shirt

① Violet shirt
w/ Violet
Print

Sweater

poplin skirt

back belt
loop no catch
both ties
when tying
back belt

Style # 499

Taupe poplin

Cape-coat over 3pc
ensemble - Sweater

Challis Shirt
Skirt

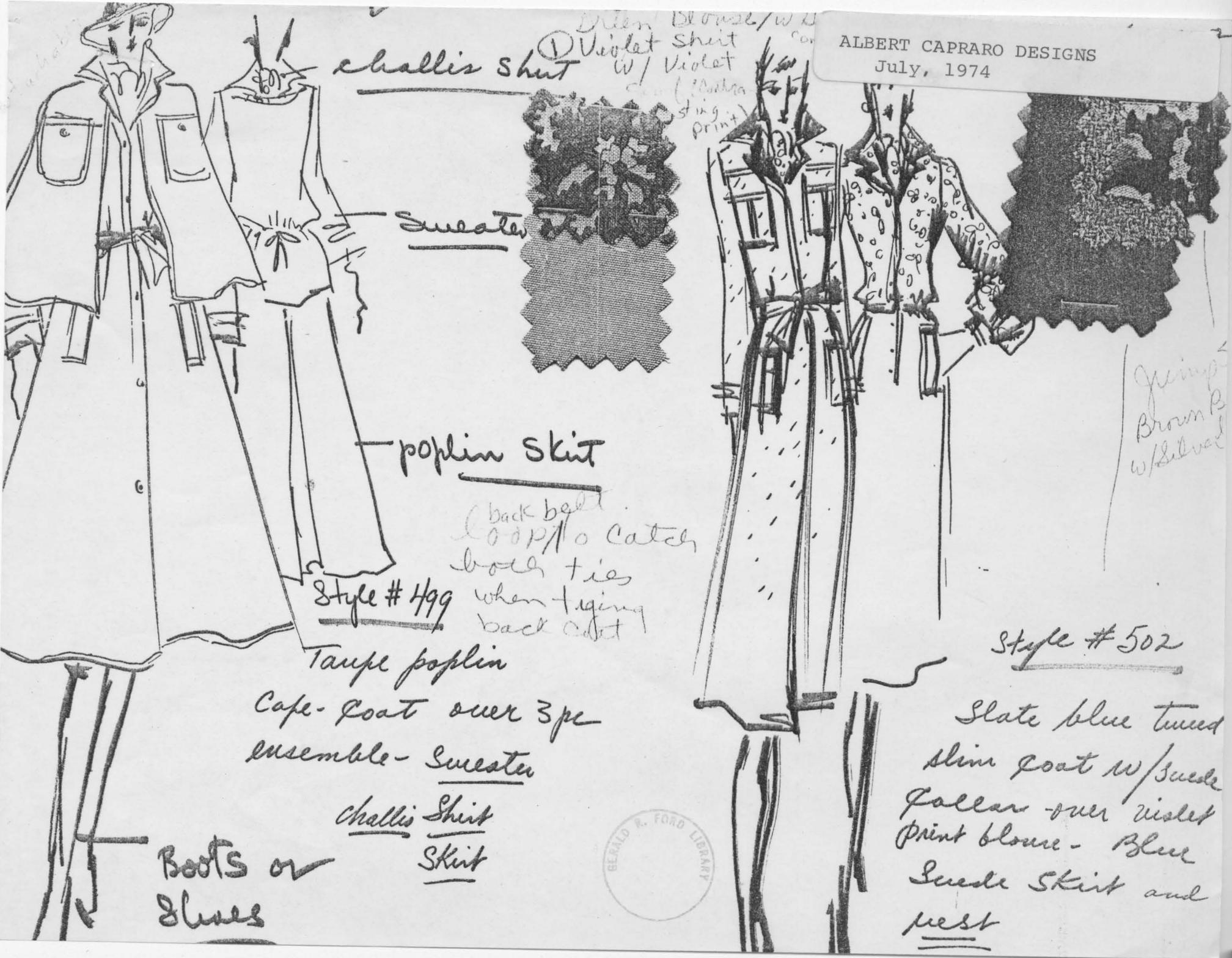
Boots or
Slues



Style # 502

Slate blue tuxed
slim coat w/ suede
collar over violet
Print blouse - Blue
Suede Skirt and
rest

Jeans
Brown B
w/ Silver





Green Bluetan
Rust Shirt
pale w/Belt
Suede Belt
also Brown Belt w/
Silver rings tied
Can flip up
cuffs w/shirt
showing
Style
407

Beige jersey
dress with hip-
tucks - Challis
Shirt & Scarf

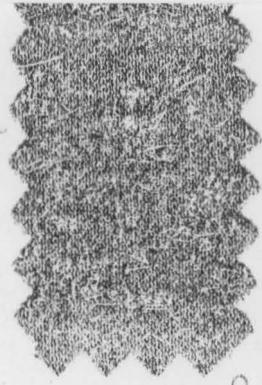
T-STRAPS

leave collar
out/in



white Blouse
sleeves up
Style # 431

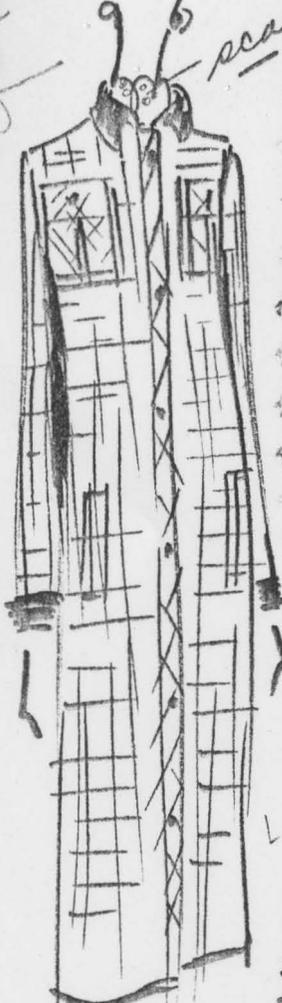
gray-jersey Tucked dress
Shirt and Scarf
easy skirt



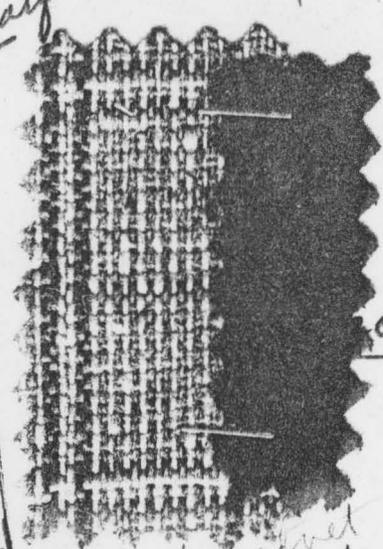
Silver/Brown
tie Chiffon. Acc
around neck

Brown Suede
Belt w/Silver
w/rings tied in
2 knots





scarf



Green velvet
Belt/Red/White
Earrings w/ Green
center -

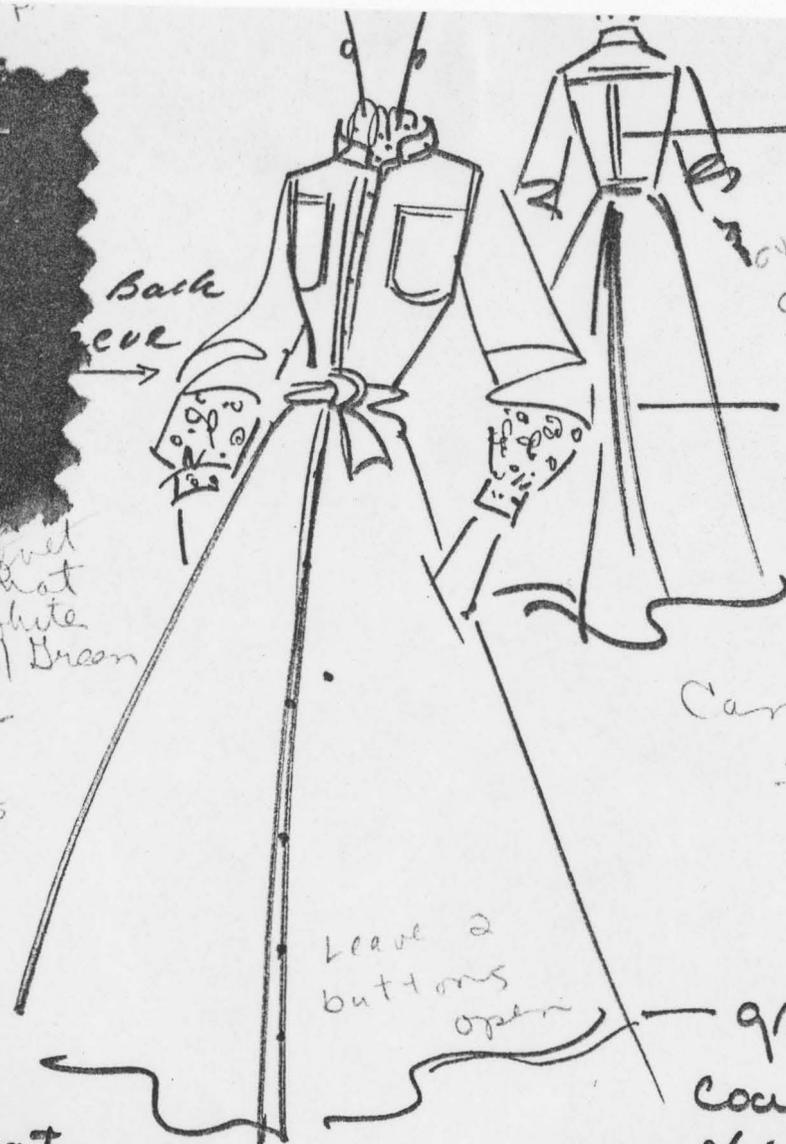
Leave 2 buttons
open

Style
#433

green and rust
plaid plim coat-
dress. green velvet
collar and cuffs -

will send clutch
bag
T-Straps (luggage)
Cinnamon

we will send
loan



Back
eye

Leave 2
buttons
open

minted pleat

Other shirts -
Grey, or Violet

minted Back pleat

Brown suede Belt
w 2/silver rings

Can wear scarf
+ tie + Belt also

style # 476

Brown Suede
hat

gray flannel shirt-waist
coat-dress - Challis print
shirt under dress w/ scarf

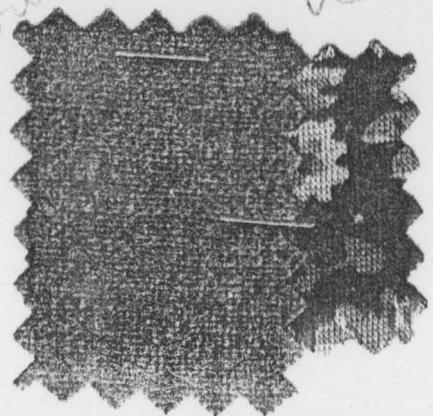
+-strap shoes

Great w/ Grey
Coat





Scarf
shirt
collar



Velvet hat

Grey shirt look too

Should be
worn unbelted

Style # 4/2
Blue-violet
flannel dress
w/ printed jersey
or Challis shirt

Full length

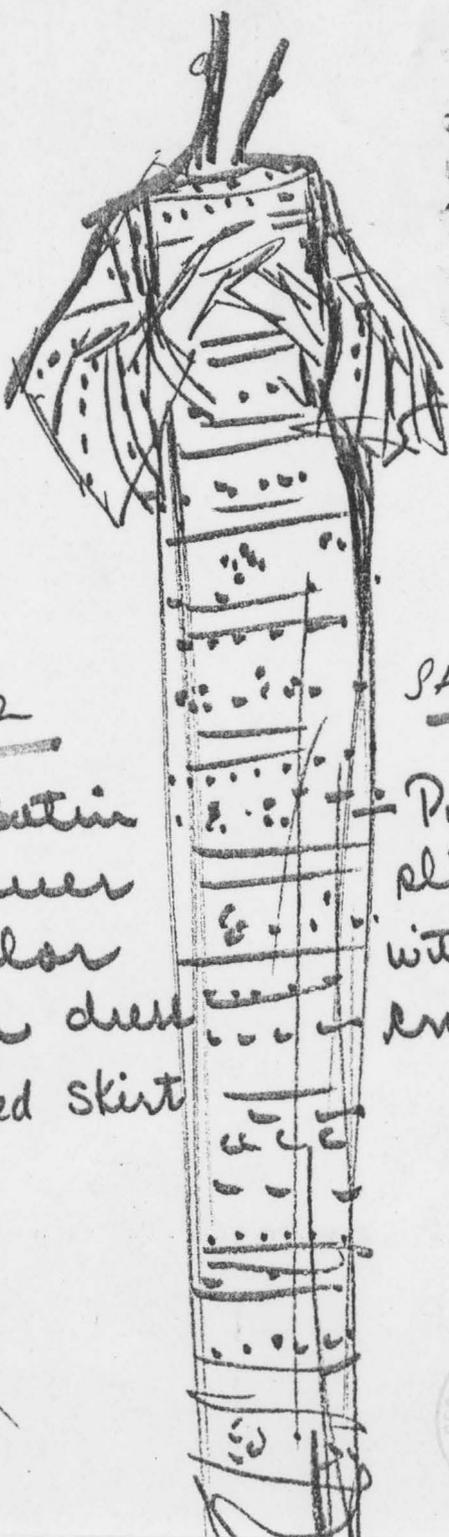
T Strap
Challis





Style # WH-2

Quilted satin
jacket over
nude color
chiffon dress
w/ pleated skirt



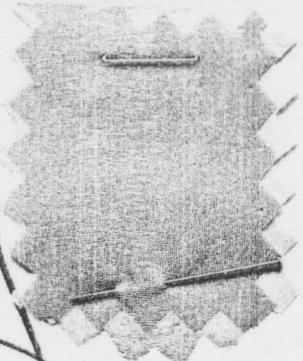
Style # WH-4

Pink chiffon
slim dress
with silver en-
crusted stripes



Style # WH-3
quilt
long.





Style # WH-7

green chiffon
long cape



Style # WH-8

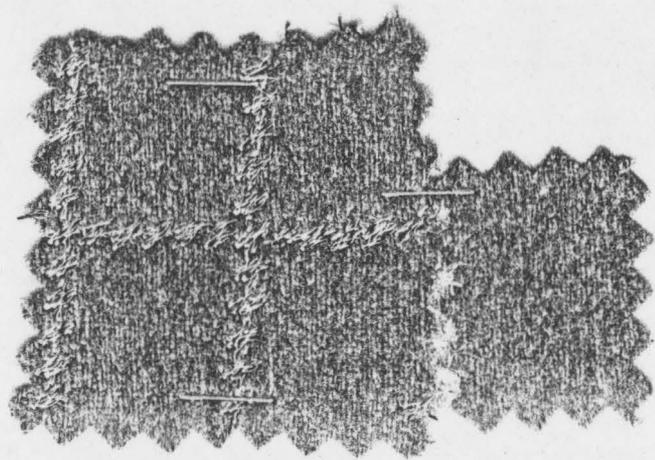
printed ruffle
evening shirt-
dress



yellow
shoes

Style
WH-9

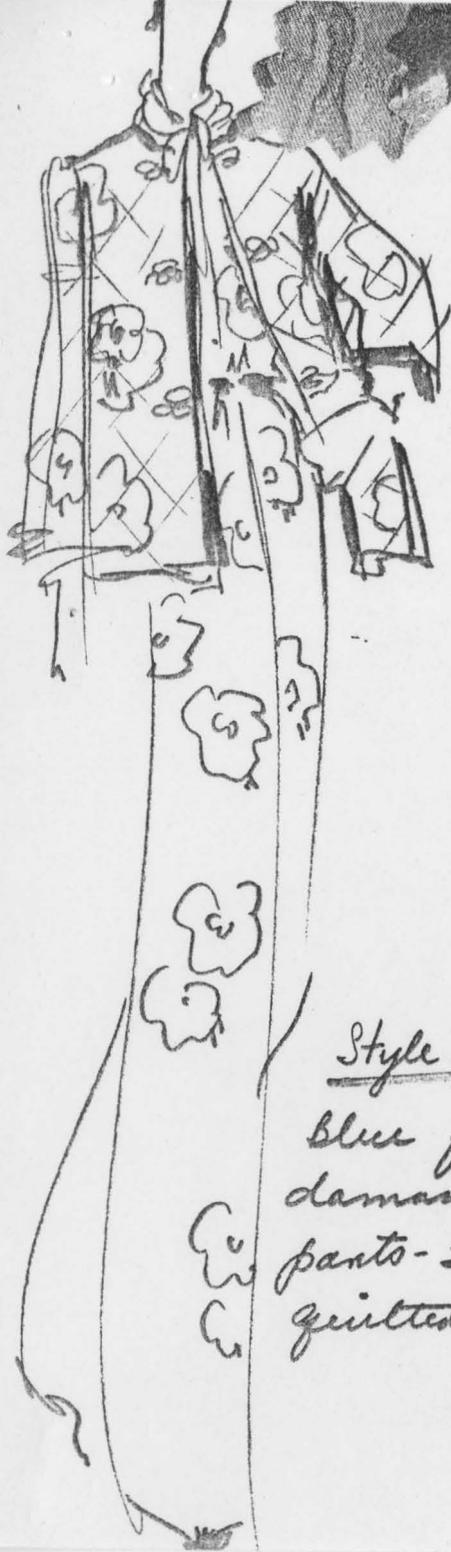




Style # 454

Silver lurex quilted flannel
jacket over white silk
chinese blouse and gray
flannel pants - also worn
with an easy bias skirt





Style # 446

Blue floral
damask 3pc
pants-shirt and
quilted jacket

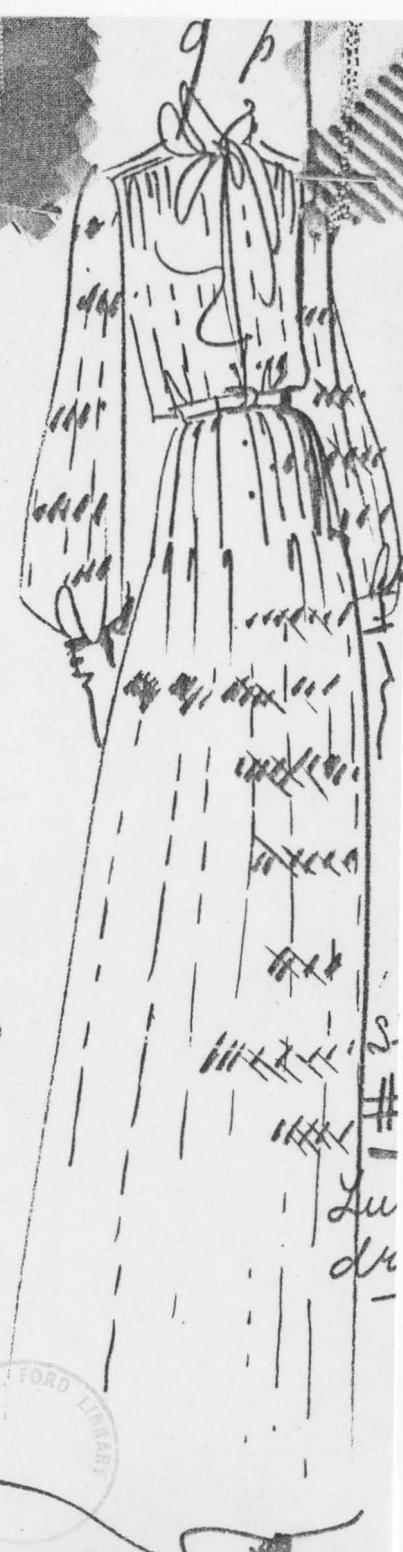


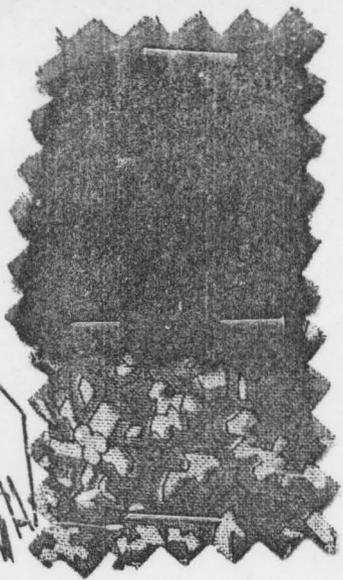
Style # 406

Violet jersey
drawstring skirt
Lurex blouse
and quilted
Violet jersey
jacket



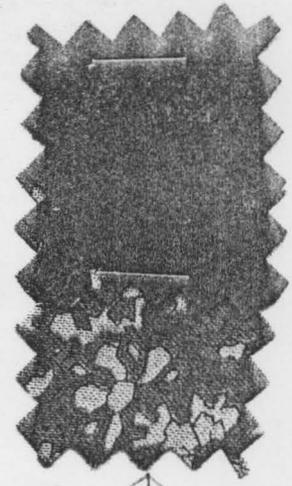
Style #
WH-1





Style # 400

Brown velvet jacket over ginger printed challis dress



Scarf

Roll up sleeve

Dark Brown Suede belt

Style # 247

ginger Suede Skirt and jacket with ginger print Challis shirt

Green velvet hat - 1/2 in hat - 1/2 in eyebrow
Green Bro + in jersey shirt



Request.

File

From: Eleanor Lambert, Inc.
32 East 57 Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

1974-75

MU 8-2130

ALBERT CAPRARO

Designer for Jerry Guttenberg Ltd.

Albert Capraro has always thought, as he says himself, in multiples.

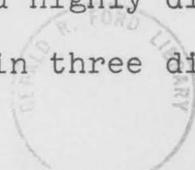
"I never like to concentrate on one area of clothes," he explains.

"Everything I visualize has more than one purpose. Its only essential is that it is soft, and terribly pretty."

When he recently decided to go out for himself after eight years as associate designer with Oscar de la Renta and before that as associate with Lily Dache, Albert quite naturally became a member of a team. It comprises himself as designer and vice-president, Ben Shaw and Jerry Guttenberg, well-known fashion executives as President and Executive vice-president respectively, and Tony Sciano as secretary-treasurer and administrator. The new firm dedicated to "romantic but casual clothes combining luxury and comfort at a wonderful price" showed its first collection in September and is already a skyrocketing success on Seventh Avenue.

Albert, a born New Yorker and a graduate of Parsons School, attributes his life-long fascination with romantic and exquisite clothes to his love for his grandmother, "a divine old-world beauty", she instilled in him both a respect for the beauty of clothes and an interest in how they were made. "She taught me to love objects and to have an eye," he says.

He lives his philosophy in more ways than one. His New York apartment attests to his compulsion to collect beautiful things of any era, and his eye enables him to make the melange into a cohesive and highly distinguished collection. The apartment recently was shown in three different issues of the same home furnishings magazine.



People

2/3/75

The first lady's new handpicked designer, Albert Capraro, plans to dress her in soft fabrics like this rust-on-peach chiffon.

A shirt-jacketed suit (below) in fake suede instantly appealed to Betty Ford, a long-time fan of easy sportswear.



IN

STYLE

THE NEW MAN IN BETTY FORD'S LIFE —DESIGNER ALBERT CAPRARO



When Betty Ford announced last November that, as her small contribution to the battle against inflation, she would no longer spend money on expensive designer clothes, it won her no WIN buttons in the fashion world, which then sat back to see just exactly what the First Lady would buy. Apparently Mrs. Ford, long a devotee of stylish

March 11, 1975

Dear Mrs. Curwin:

Thank you for your recent letter and your kind words for Mrs. Ford.

Albert Capraro is associated with Jerry Guttenberg Ltd. which is located at 550 - 7th Avenue in New York City.

I hope the information is helpful.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. M. Curwin
42 - 93d Street
Brooklyn, New York 11209

SRW:pjm:ncc



Patti

1/18/75

Curwin, M.

Dear Mr. Curwin -

I am happy to read the
Mrs. Ford is feeling better.

I have also read that
she is enjoying her Spring
vacation. She is really
about Capaco. Would you be
kind enough to let me
know how I can get in
touch with her.

His design seem to be
pressed right.

Thank you for your
consideration

Mrs M. Curwin
42 93rd St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11209



Fashion-Captain

ALBERT CAPRARO

ALB
Albert
Capraro

June 28, 1975

Dear Mrs. Ford,

I enjoyed our telephone conversation very much and I'm happy you liked me on the Barbara Hatter's show. Enclosed you'll find sketches, notes and swatches of your new winter wardrobe and the designs I've done in your fabrics. I've checked off the ones I think can be ready and also suitable for your trip. Please let me know if they meet with your approval.

Also enclosed you will find the three swatches necessary for dyeing your shoes. I will keep in touch and let you know when the new fittings will be ready. I will try to have as many of your new



clothes as possible by July 19th.

also, Mrs Ford, I am working on sketches for your blue fabric.

~~Mrs. Ford, I've just spoken to my friend, June Weir (Women's Wear Daily).~~

~~She mentioned she had written to you in reference to the interview which I had helped to set up last March.~~

I realize because of your health it was postponed. Mrs. Weir has

not had any response and said she realizes you must receive tons of mail. She has asked me if we could set up the interview again. I did tell her I'd write and ask you.

Is it possible to let Mrs. Weir know one way or another if she might still have this interview?

If you wish, Mrs. Ford, I can let her know or you might prefer to have your office



page three

contact her. I think this important interview would mean a continued boost on your part to our fashion industry. Thank you, Mrs. Ford —

I think you and the President might find my newest ventures of interest. Presently, negotiations are underway where my clothes (American made) will be marketed internationally! West Germany has already bought and we are now dealing with Paris, London and Mexico. I attribute this all to your interest in me and American fashion. Again my heart felt thanks.

Mrs. Ford, I am looking forward to our next meeting —

Warmest regards!

Albert

Fashion

Sheila

HC
Capraro

November 13th



Tel: 01-499 7070
Chataigne, London, W.1.

The Connaught,
Carlos Place,
London, W1Y 6AL

Dear Mrs. Ford,

I was so happy to hear you have accepted to receive the Parsons School award next spring! I have just arrived in London en route to Germany for business. Yesterday I had a fantastically successful show for the "Girls Town of Italy": The charity which you are a co-chairman. I hope you saw some of the exciting publicity on it. When I return I'll send you some of the recent ones. I'm still hoping to hear from you about your fitting, Susan's black gown and the fashion please for china.

I've been involved in so

from Albert Capraro

Sheila

Carolyn brought
FYI -

Do you know about?



FULL RATE
(STRAIGHT TELEGRAM)
DAY LETTER
NIGHT LETTER

The White House
Washington

File

STRAIGHTWIRE - March 23, 1976

Mr. Albert Capraro
Martin's West
6817 Dogwood Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

Please accept my sincere congratulations for being named the "Outstanding National Designer for our Country's Bicentennial Year" by the Baltimore County Bicentennial Committee. I am delighted to join with your many, many friends in sending warmest regards to you on this exciting occasion.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

*Carolyn is holding
any suggestion.*



APPROVED FOR DISPATCH

Dear Mrs. Ford,
I must admit
I did say you had
"a marvellous figure and
terrific legs" — this
editor got a bit carried
away — Hope you enjoy!
Fondly, Albert

NEW ORLEANS STATES-ITEM
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
D. 127,887 SAT. 112,226

JUN 25 1976 *EF*



Ford legs inspire designer

By AMANDA
Fashion Editor

NEW YORK — "Betty Ford has the sexiest legs I've ever seen on anyone and I like to design clothes for her that show them off to advantage."

That's what the man said. He should know, he's Albert Capraro, the man who designs most of her clothes.

During a conversation just before he showed his collection to the press, the

me, as far as business is concerned. It also made me a better designer, as it boosted my ego, so that I dared to be more adventurous in my designing."

Informed that his clothes are sold in a number of New Orleans stores, Capraro said, "I would like to see your city. While I can't make an appearance at one store only at the risk of offending my other good customer stores, I would show my collection for a charity benefit."

The layered look is so dominant in the

wool known as Agnone, costing \$80 a yard wholesale.

While this is a skinny woman's world, Miss Trigere, who realizes that the well-padded woman can also be well-heeled customer, announced that her coats now run in a size 4 to 20 range.

This being a man-tailored suit season, Trigere has commissioned a manufacturer of men's suits to produce her jacket, vest and skirt or pants teams in gray flannel or worsted for day, and suits that

signers. It shines in every major collection.

In addition to his demure little sheer wools with christening-dress pin tucking, a specialty of the house, Albert Nipon does little velvet suits and velvet skirts escorted by matching coats for the luncheon to cocktail shift.

Other Nipon gems are mohair coats coordinated with dresses and evening tunics over matching silk skirts and pants. Orleanians, by the way, are loyal

APR 11 1976

Capital glitter

Betty Ford is looking more glamorous every day

BETTY BEALE

If only Muhammad Ali could share some of his mountainous confidence with world leaders, everything might come up roses. There he was, radiating self-assurance at the state dinner President Ford gave for King Hussein of Jordan while the President and the King were worrying about the worsening

situation in the Middle East. Ali, who makes much more money than either of the other two, was saying that he will make \$6 million fighting a wrestler in Japan, and if he doesn't win he'll just say, "I'm no wrestler." He's got it made and everyone within a radius of 20 feet could sense it.

Moses was at the dinner for the Arab king, too. Only he

looked more like Charlton Heston. In fact, when Heston told Jordanian Prime Minister Zeid Rifai how much he admired the courageous Hussein and Rifai promptly invited him to Jordan, Heston said, "I am so identified with the other side." But Rifai said he should come anyhow because "we have Moses' burial place on our side."

Heston was strikingly handsome in his black dinner jacket with a white stock. "I saw some

that's how Reagan decided on the exact time of his inauguration. "He was inaugurated just past midnight on Jan. 3, 1967. Whoever heard of being inaugurated at midnight?"

Among the celebrated invited to the White House affair were Gloria Vanderbilt Cooper and husband Wyatt, the David Rockefeller, the great guitarist Charlie Byrd who gave the concert, the Joe Garagiolas and Willie Shoemaker, one of the

adopted daughter at the Jordanian Embassy luncheon in her honor. The mother of a son, three months, and daughter, one and a half years, Alya insisted on bringing from the hospital to her palace the baby girl found half-dead after an airplane crash. Both parents had been killed and the doctors told the Queen the baby would die or be mentally defective. But Alya nursed the child back to health herself and now at

[Handwritten scribbles]

P.S.
↑
It's True!!
A.



Ladies: In their fashion

BABE PALEY — the Fashion Goddess —

wife of William S. Paley, powerful head of CBS, stands out from the best dressed ladies because she leads. She doesn't follow trends, she inspires them. She can wear a caftan to a museum opening; others follow. She appears in skunk and squirrel these ecology-minded days; it becomes a new trend. Her newest direction is handpainted silks and ancient Mandarin robes. She runs gracious homes on Long Island and in Nassau, loves to garden and for three years has been studying sculpting.

What Babe Paley says about fashion:

"Neatness — which is grooming after all — is definitely the most important requirement."

Her figure:

A model size 6 or 8, she is over 5 feet 8 inches. She likes to accent her slim body with narrow shapes and high set-in armholes. She has long legs, beautiful hands and feet.

Her favorite designers

Halston, Mary McFadden, Adolfo, Givenchy and, occasionally, St. Laurent.

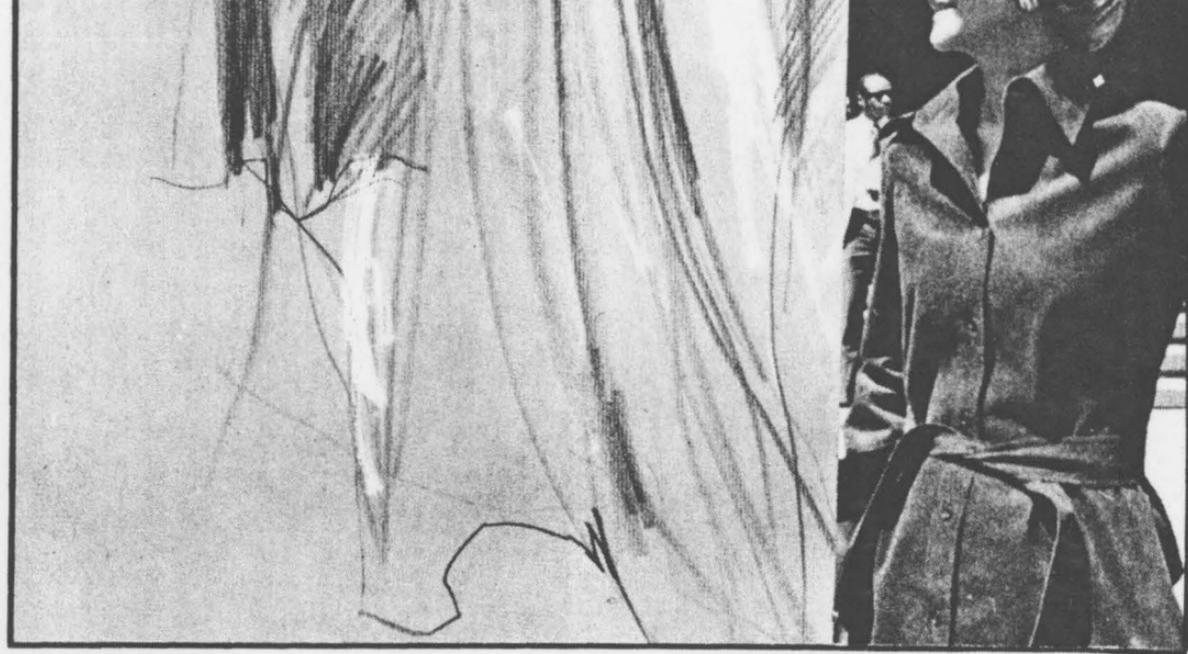
What she likes for day:

She doesn't like prints or mid-calf skirts and hardly ever wears a belt. She likes straight pants, slightly flared ones for evening. Her skirts for day are just below the knee. Her coats in leather or wool are skinny, but full when they are in furs such as sable, squirrel or skunk.

What she likes for evening:

Her concept about restaurant dressing — a woman should fade into the ambience and not stand out. She likes classic clothes, mostly black when dining out. For at home, she likes color. Her favorites are peach, strong yellow, jade green, true red and lime green. She doesn't like bare necklines. She prefers deep Vs filled in with jewels or a scarf. Her biggest desire is always to have something that no one has. She wants to be different. If she knows any of her friends have ordered a dress, she won't take the same one. She likes things that float and is good at handling stoles, since she moves gracefully and is very feminine. During her holiday trip to Nassau she wore Halston's bright yellow





KAY GRAHAM — The Super Businesswoman —

head of the Washington Post, Newsweek and a host of other communication properties, ranks as one of the most powerful women in America.

Why Kay Graham says about fashion:

"It's an inner flair. I don't think it can really be cultivated. Some people such as Evangeline Bruce and Babe Paley just have it. I have a long-standing craze to be comfortable. One of my prerequisites is to have clothes that are easy to wear. I have to look well at many public and semi-public meetings. I never know where I may be next and I don't have time to shop."

Her figure:

She is 5 feet 8, wears a size 10. She has a very feminine figure, a fuller bosom than some women her size, very



BETTY FORD — the Outspoken First Lady —

What Betty Ford says about fashion:

"I have always loved clothes."

Her figure:

She is a size 6 and 5 feet 5½ inches tall, weighs 106 pounds — a result of constant dieting and daily exercise. She has a lovely long neck, pretty legs, slim hips and beautiful posture.

What she likes for day:

She understands layering, often wears a shirtwaist dress with sleeves rolled up over silk or wool challis

Dear Mrs. Ford,

Hope you saw
my Winter Collection
please —

A.



ALBERT CAPRARO

ALBERT CAPRARO

The black and white evening Chesterfield coat, vest and pants



The gray flannel poncho over the pinstripe tunic dress and pants



The rose mohair sweater vest over the rose metallic chiffon tunic dress and pants



The ombred blue blanket-striped dirndl and blanket shawl with the drawstring blue mohair sweater.



WWD photos by Tony Palmieri

**LA GINESSA
QUANALA**

The plum cape over the hooded mauve silk jacquard tunic coat and violet jumpsuit



The gray blouson dress in frosted brushed acrylic.



The heather peach flannel reefer coat and wrap skirt with peach velvet vest



ALBERT CAPRARO

Dear Mrs. Ford,

I thought you'd enjoy
seeing what my newest
line looks like.

Truly,

Albert





Albert Capraro, like many others on Seventh Ave., has a romantic view of spring. His shell pink organza (left), complete with a camellia, is typical. His shorts (right) are truly short, but his wrap skirts are both long and full.

News photos by Gene Kappock



It will be a long, full spring

By KATHY LARKIN

"Eenie, meenie, mini, mo . . .
Shorts, okay. But minis — NO!"

That's the word, toward the end of the second

