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Item: 3 8"x10" color photos of RF and GRF at  
a Diplomatic Reception in The White House on 10/4/74

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Wash Post 10/4/74 p 82

## President's 'Blank Check'

By Dorothy McCardle

President Ford gave his 17-year-old daughter Susan a "blank check" to buy herself a new dress for her role as substitute hostess at

tually seen her do it." Susan said her mother can hold a glass and pour her own tea. "She is really fine," she added.

She said her mother

mer teacher at Holton Arms School, which she attends.

But she said she hoped to get back in time to stop by the party and greet "some of my old buddies in the

## Susan Ford — from blue jeans to hostess gown

By Karen Peterson

Washington

"HOSTESSING ISN'T all that bad, but I'd rather have Mom do it."

Eschewing her customary blue jeans for her mother's long white kid gloves, a new red chiffon evening gown, and her own string of pearls, 17-year-old Miss Susan Ford chat-

day. "I'll take care of him too. A Golden Retriever named Liberty."

SHE HAS STAYED practical financially, too. With a "blank check" from her father, she shopped around town, including a discount house, for her new dress for Saturday night. She says she knew her dad wouldn't want her to spend more than \$100, but she settled on one for \$50—a flowing, sleeveless



WOMAN IN THE NEWS: SUSAN FORD

# Stand-In First Lady

By ANNA QUINDLEN



SECTION 3 **Post** Weekend Magazine

Nicaraguan Ambassador  
Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa meets  
Susan Ford at reception last  
weekend, with President Ford  
in background.

*Dream come true?*

**F**OR WEEKS it seemed that every word written about her had to do with denim—the blue jeans she wore on the White House lawn, the blue jeans she wore around the

I was kinda upset the first time I came to the White House and they wouldn't let me in, but Susan's still the same as ever." And in most ways she is. As easily as

# People

weekly

## PRINCE CHARLES

He's turning 26  
without a future  
queen in sight

**At home with Dali:  
'I'm a better  
genius than painter'**

**Bottoms brothers, an  
acting family  
heads for the top**

**Caroline Kennedy on  
horseback: risking  
spills as Mom watches**

**George Harrison, a  
Beatle on tour again**

**Mickey Cohen's  
bizarre offer to  
rescue Patty Hearst**



# UP FRONT

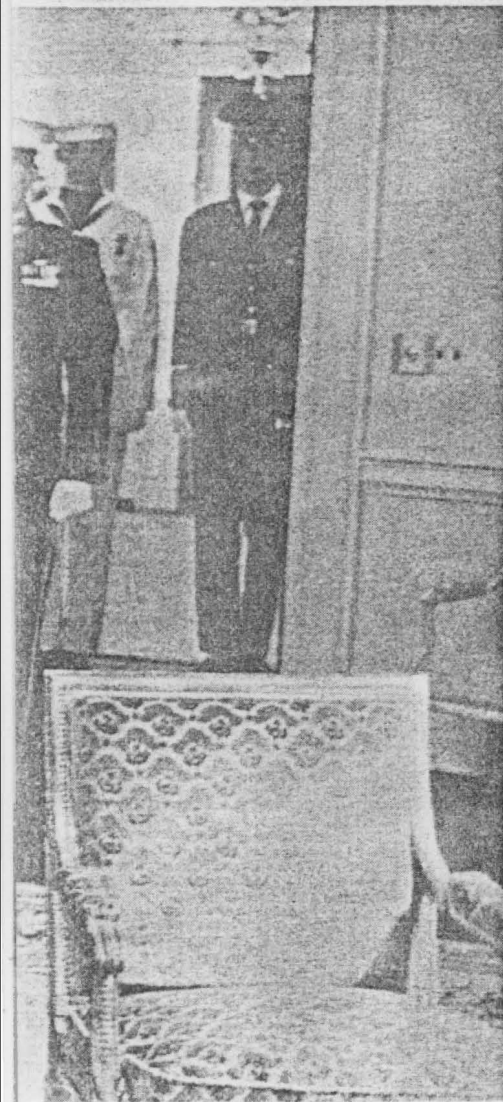
## SUSAN FORD: FROM STUDENT TO STAND-IN FIRST LADY

It was, for both, a time of slight uncertainty—and regal high excitement. For President Ford, it was his first diplomatic reception as White House host. But for his daughter Susan, it was much more. Filling in for her mother, who was recuperating from breast-cancer surgery, Susan Ford was, at 17, the youngest First Lady *pro tem* to serve as hostess at a white-tie White House bash since “Princess Alice” Roosevelt held court during her father Teddy’s administration. Susan proved worthy of the task. After some protocol briefings by a military aide (which her father also found instructive), Susan braved an hour-long receiving line in long white gloves she found uncomfortably hot, occasionally whispering, “Daddy, how many more? When is this going to stop?” Then she danced throughout the evening with a succession of im-

posingly bemedaled if not especially nimble-footed diplomats. Her favorite partner, of course, was Mr. President, and as the two of them took to the floor, the band thoughtfully played “Thank Heaven For Little Girls.” For Susan Ford, the transition from congressman’s daughter to White House resident has been swift and not without difficulty. Her mother’s mastectomy only served to thrust one more burden upon her. The reception, she said after many hours on her feet, was “not bad, but I’d rather have mother do it.” Betty Ford is on the mend at home now, reassuming some of the official obligations. But for Susan, her life as just an ordinary 17-year-old high school student ended the day her father became President. The glass-bowl visibility of the White House has made sure of that.



ing on diplomatic receiving-line protocol by navy Commander Steve Todd, a White House military aide.



Accompanied by a five-man honor guard, Susan and the President pause (left) before their entrance down a crimson carpet to the Blue Room, where the reception was held. As they were announced, he

At the dancing that followed the receiving line, Susan jokes with her presidential father (above). He later tried to talk her into dancing a jitterbug, but she declined. Susan did, however, undertake a frenetic



# President's daughter assumes hostess role with poise

By KAREN PETERSON  
Special Writer, The Oregonian

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Susan Ford, the President's daughter, prefers blue jeans, but for a few hours recently she wore her mother's long white kid gloves, a brand-new \$50 chiffon evening dress, and her own string of pearls to reign as few teenagers have.

As the youngest White House hostess anyone could remember, 17-year-old Susan

spin off and dance separately, teen-age style. She blushed with embarrassment and said, "Oh, Daddy, no!" He grinned and took her back into his arms.

Daddy didn't have to give her many pointers for the evening, and he suggested why. Swirling up to this reporter at the dance floor in the gold-and-white East Room, he commented, "I hope we raised her not to need any special tips, just to be natu-



haps in reaction to the moment. The ramrod bearing never cracked. For a young lady who last summer sold guidebooks in the White House, it was a very proud moment. Over the public address system came the words, "Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States and Miss Susan Ford." They entered the East Room to enthusiastic applause.

Following the President's welcoming re-

## Washington letter

# Ambassador is charmed by Ford, daughter-hostess

By BETTY BEALE

After almost four years of

and optimism of the American people. A man from inland America who will

dor and Mrs. Ashraf Ghorbal's dinner for Sen. and Mrs. Bill Fulbright.

sador Ghorbal revealed in his toast to Fulbright.