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Denver Post 9-15-74

# White House Visit Thrilled Violinist

Denver Post Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A command performance at the White House is more exciting than winning international competitions, young Colorado violinist Eugene Fodor said the morning

chief of protocol and an old friend of Fodor's, he said. —it was amazing. At my table someone I knew. Mr. Catto was the ambassador to El Salvador before the protocol job. I played there on tour. (The



Paul Greenberg, Syndicated Columnist: In a purely technical sense, Henry Kissinger is a most competent Secretary of State, perhaps the most competent in this century. But strange as it may seem, morality and sound policy may at times coincide. Dr. Kissinger appears to have overlooked that unlikely possibility. His foreign policy has lost contact not only with real forces abroad, but with real values at home. Cyprus is a striking example.

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Michael Padev, Foreign Editor of Arizona Republic and Indianapolis Star: U.S. policy toward Greece and the East Mediterranean seems to be leading us nowhere. This is illustrated not only by the Cyprus tragedy, but, above all, by the mounting confusion in Washington concerning the delicate problem of U.S. nuclear weapons stored on Greek territory.

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The Portland Oregonian: President Ford opened his address to the United Nations with conciliatory remarks, but he soon came to some plain talk on the lack of cooperation on the part of oil-producing nations. The global strategy for food and energy contemplated by President Ford must call on all nations to cooperate in establishing a stable world economy. President Ford has set a compelling example in that regard.

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The Portland Oregonian: Whether Nelson Rockefeller is worth \$33 million or \$330 million seems beside the point. He has a life-long public record dating back to F.D.R. that will tell far more about the man than any futile effort to estimate the value of his assets.

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Colorado violinist Eugene Fodor, after his first performance at the White House, told the Denver Post: "There's just no comparison. This was a real high point in my life." He said his biggest thrill was the introduction he received from President Ford. "The President couldn't have been more gracious," Fodor said.

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Wash Post 9/13/74 p 81



By Gerald Martineau—The Washington Post

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin toasts President Ford at last night's White House dinner in Rabin's honor.

## A Subdued Dinner For the Rabins

By Dorothy McCardle and William Gildea

In sharp contrast to the first two dinners last month, President and Mrs. Ford last night hosted Israeli Prime Minister and Mrs. Yitzhak Rabin at a White House affair marked by its subdued mood.

One of the guests, Sen. Edward Brooke (R-Mass.), commented that the atmosphere was "quite somber."

Even when President Ford introduced the young violinist, Eugene Fodor, to his after-dinner guests in the East Room, his tone was notably serious. Finally he

struggled for a moment of humor, saying that he realized that "Fiddler on the Roof" has been a great success as a play and that "it's nice to have a fiddler under the roof at the White House tonight."

Mr. Ford's guests laughed and applauded as if they were grateful for a light touch.

Fodor, who tied for second place last summer in the Tchaikovsky Violin Competition in Moscow, then

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## Virtuoso For Rabins

By Isabelle Shelton  
Star-News Staff Writer

"It's nice to have a fiddler under the roof of the White House," said President Ford last night, as he introduced Eugene Fodor, a prize-winning violinist, to play following a state dinner honoring Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

He had heard that the musical, "Fiddler on the Roof" is a special favorite in Israel, the President said, seeking to link his guests of honor and the performer.

Fodor, a 24-year-old American violinist who led the field at the renowned Tchaikovsky music competition in Moscow, played four numbers exquisitely.

**HE IS THE** first performer to star at a White House dinner during the five weeks that Gerald Ford has been President. The Fords had only dancing after their first two big dinners—one for Jordan's King Hussein, and one for Vice President-designate Nelson Rockefeller, the Cabinet and top White House staff members.

Mrs. Betty Ford has said she wants to concentrate on quality entertainment, and she certainly delivered on that promise last night.

Gently fondling a Guarnerius violin made in 1736, Fodor played with great exuberance "Gypsy Airs" by Pablo de Sarasate, "Nigun" by Ernest Bloch (which he dedicated to the Rabins) and a Scherzo-Tarantelle by Henri Wieniawski. For an encore he played Paganini's Caprice No. 24.

Ford, who seemed to enjoy the performance thoroughly, told reporters later that he, himself, is not a musician but that he "particularly enjoyed this music," because the artist was so animated and seemed to throw his whole body into the performance. "I understand physical things," he said.



Two heads  
of state  
exchange  
toasts  
at the  
White  
House.

## QUOTES AND NOTES

# The Wives Talk Politics, Too

Quotes and notes from Washington parties, uncovered for *The Washington Star* by Ymelda Dixon:

Leah Rabin, the wife of the visiting Israeli premier, looked up at the gray skies over the Israeli embassy garden yesterday and recalled a letter she had received at home advising her to leave politics to men.

"What was I supposed to talk to you about, the weather?" she asked. "We all know why we're here."

Indeed, she did not talk to the guests at a luncheon in her honor about the weather, but got right down to the nitty-gritty.

Dressed in a green dress with a background of gray doves, Mrs. Rabin acknowledged the welcome of Mrs. Simcha Dinitz, wife of the Israeli ambassador, by expressing the hope that "the dialogues now taking place will open the first page on a chapter to peace in the Middle East."

As she spoke, her husband was meeting with President Ford, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and other officials about Middle East problems.

The Rabins had been here before when he was the ambassador, and Leah Rabin thanked her hostess for her "remarkable memory" in assembling a group of her friends here.

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The only reserved table had Nancy Kissinger — Mrs. Rabin had warm praise for her husband — Mrs. Lloyd Bentsen, Marvella Bayh, Mrs. Warren Burger, Mrs. Potter Stewart, Mrs. Sol Linowitz and Mrs. Malcolm Toon, wife of the new U.S. ambassador to Israel.

All told, there were 115 guests, all women. They included the wives of Senators Walter Mondale, Abraham Ribicoff, Vance Hartke, Richard Stone and Charles McC. Mathias; Mrs. Sidney Yates, Mrs. Norman Bernstein, Mrs. Charles Smith, Mrs. Pat Munroe, Mrs. Florence Lowe and Mrs. Jack Coopersmith.

Mrs. Rabin will lead her country's delegation to the International Women's Year conference in Mexico City later this month, and Mrs. Anwar Sadat will lead the Egyptian delegation. This gave someone the opportunity to mess up by asking the wife of the premier of Israel, "Do you know Mrs. Sadat?"

"If you ask that, you don't know anything about the Middle East," came the tart reply.

Someone noted that she might meet the Egyptian president's wife in Mexico, since Nancy Kissinger knew both women.

"I hope I will meet her, but Henry is foreign minister of the U.S., not premier of Israel," Leah Rabin noted.

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Nancy Kissinger, as it happens, was eyeing the heavens herself, hoping that the rains would not come and spoil her dinner for Mrs. Rabin later aboard the cruiser-turned-restaurant, the Dandy.

"I hope the ship doesn't sink," she said.

Fortunately, it stayed afloat, and the dinner proceeded smoothly. The boat was docked off Prince Street in Alexandria, and limousines rapidly pulled up, dropping off their female passengers.

The guests included Cathy Douglas, wife of the ailing justice; Mrs. James Schlesinger, Mrs. Edward Levi, Mrs. William Seidman, Mrs. Winston Lord, Mrs. Helmut Sonnenfeldt, Mrs. Mike Mansfield, Mrs. Philip Burton, Mrs. F. Edward Hebert, Mrs. Jamie Whitten, Mrs. Melvin Price, Mrs. Elford A. Cederberg and Mrs. John Rhodes — in other words, a hefty portion of the wives of official Washington.

Nancy Kissinger, the guests agreed, set several notable firsts: the first secretary of state's wife to give an official dinner for the wife of a visiting head of state on a boat, wearing slacks, with most of the guests in slacks, too.

"When you recall the wives of the other secretaries of state, you can be quite sure she is the only one to have worn slacks even without checking," muttered a protocol officer.

But the guests were pleased enough. Bettie Lord spoke for all when she said: "The State Department is like a prison. Who was the architect?"

Incidentally, don't try to rent the Dandy for any more private parties. From now on, she sails only on a two-hour lunch cruise and a three-hour dinner cruise.



Leah Rabin and