

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “Christening of Pan American 747 SP, Indianapolis, Indiana, April 30, 1976” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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**MRS. FORD'S REMARKS
CHRISTENING OF PAN AMERICAN 747SP**

April 30, 1976

THE FIRST TIME I EVER FLEW IN AN AIRPLANE

I

WAS AT A CIRCUS IN GRAND RAPIDS.

IT WAS ONE OF THOSE SINGLE-ENGINE PLANES

WITH THE PILOT AND ONE PASSENGER.

WHAT A WONDERFUL THRILL!

TO SEE THIS MAGNIFICENT MACHINE,

2.

WHICH WILL BE OFF TOMORROW

TO ATTEMPT AN AROUND-THE-WORLD RECORD,

IS TO REALIZE HOW FAR AVIATION HAS COME.

I'M TRULY PLEASED TO JOIN

THE TRADITION OF FIRST LADIES

WHO HAVE CHRISTENED PAN AMERICAN CLIPPERS.

TO CLIPPER LIBERTY BELL

AND ITS FUTURE PASSENGERS:

BON VOYAGE!

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PROPOSED REMARKS

Christening of Pan American 747SP, Indiana, April 30, 1976

The first time I ever flew in an airplane was at a circus in Grand Rapids. It was one of those single-engine planes with the pilot and one passenger. What a wonderful thrill!

To see this magnificent machine, which will be off tomorrow to attempt an around-the-world record, is to realize

~~how far aviation has come.~~ *the tremendous progress aviation has made*

I'm truly pleased to join the tradition of First Ladies who have christened Pan American Clippers. To Clipper Liberty Bell and its future passengers: Bon voyage!

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