

The original documents are located in Box 16, folder “7/04/76 - Bicentennial Events” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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F.Y.F.

Op Sail

New York News

A souvenir issue \$1.00





It was a day in which America discovered something fine about herself, and the grandest discovery took place in New York Harbor.

the skyrockets high above the Statue. But what you will remember most is the intense feeling that came off the water all day in a long, majes-

The day of the Tall Ships

If you were there, you will not forget any of it—the swelling sails of the tall ships, the pounding salutes of the Navy guns, the unfamiliar look of pride on thousands of New York faces, the uncontainable joy of

the skyrockets high above the Statue. But what you will remember most is the intense feeling that came off the water all day in a long, majestic, irresistible wave. It was a feeling that grew out of the experience of a nation's lifetime and it had many things in it: affirmation and spirit, beauty and struggle and death and dreams, and 200 years of songs and

speeches. Yet it all added up to something splendidly simple: the honoring of a dream which has lasted 200 years and is still fresh. After more than a decade of trouble, tragedy and too-frequent shame, July 4, 1976, was the day America said "Yes" again.

But of course there is no question whether you were there. Everybody was there. The Fourth of July is the people's holiday and in New York Harbor, that day, the people were the guests of honor.

Historians correctly explain to us that the motives behind our found-

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: TERRY O'DONNELL
SUBJECT: Viewing of the Fireworks
Display - July 4, 1976 - 8:45 p.m.

The following have been invited to view the Washington Monument Grounds Fireworks Display with you and Mrs. Ford from the Truman Balcony at 8:45 p.m. Sunday evening:

VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. ROCKEFELLER
Mark Rockefeller
Nelson Rockefeller
Carol Murphy
Melinda Murphy

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH ALBRITTON

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH DANZANSKY

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM WHYTE

MR. AND MRS. BRYCE HARLOW



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

View Fireworks from balcony:

Rockefellers

Bill Whyte

Allbrittons

Danzanskis

Harlows? (maybe out of town)



Call Janet Ford

~~Call Dave Kennedy~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

JULY FOURTH

BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY - JULY 4, 1976

Departure: 6:55 A.M.

From: Terry O'Donnell

BACKGROUND

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH/D. C. DEPARTURE

You and Susan will depart the South Grounds via motorcade at 6:55 a.m. en route St. John's Episcopal Church for a Special Holy Communion Bicentennial Observance Service taking place in the chapel area to the left as you enter the Church. In addition to you and Susan, several of the Senior White House Staff will be attending this special service.

Dr. Harper, while undergoing a routine physical recently, discovered a problem with his heart and is scheduled for open heart surgery on Tuesday. You and Susan may want to wish him well.

The motorcade arrives back at the White House at 7:30 p.m. and at 7:40 a.m., you and Susan board the helicopter for the 1 hour, 5 minute flight to Valley Forge State Park. Secretary Kleppe and Representative Richard T. Schulze will be guests aboard the helicopter.



VALLEY FORGE PARK, VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA

Governor Milton Shapp (D-Pa.), Senator Hugh Scott, (R-Pa.), and Senator Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.) will be on hand to greet you as your helicopter arrives at the Valley Forge Park at 8:45 a.m. You proceed onto the dais on the platform, passing in front of the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry. Governor Shapp will introduce you for remarks which will be on LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION.

At the conclusion of your remarks, Governor Shapp will invite you to visit the Wagon Train Encampment. Lt. Governor Ernest Kline will offer a narrative as you and the party view the train. At the Michigan Wagon, you will sign the symbolic Rededication Scroll, as have some 22 million Americans.

Following the tour of the encampment, you will sign H.R. 5621, making Valley Forge a National Historical Site. George Washington's desk will be used as the signing table. No remarks are required. A wagon will be behind the desk and Congressional guests will flank the table.

The Valley Forge State Park Bicentennial activities are hosted by the Bicentennial Commission of Pennsylvania. The Park has been provided as the rendezvous point for approximately 60 official wagons, one from each State plus some Pennsylvania lead wagons and chuckwagons, forming the Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage. The Pilgrimage is sponsored by commercial concerns including several of the Nation's largest corporations. The wagons are authentic replicas of the Conestoga wagon and the Prairie Schooner.

The Wagon Train Pilgrimage to Pennsylvania is a replay of history in reverse with the wagons traveling from West to East to bring the country back to its birthplace. Six traveling routes in all were employed with the first train from the Northwest beginning on June 8, 1975. Over 20,000,000 Americans have affirmed their recommitment to this Nation's democratic ideals on "Rededication Scrolls" the Wagon Train Pilgrimage is delivering to Valley Forge.

Valley Forge and its history have no direct link to the wagon trains aside from the fact that it has been offered as the rendezvous point. Thus, the bill signing ceremony making Valley Forge a National Park is to be done as a special event independent of the Wagon Pilgrimage.



PHILADELPHIA

Your helicopter departs Valley Forge at 9:40 a.m. en route the 20-minute flight to Philadelphia. Guests on board will be Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa.), Senator Schweiker (R-Pa.), Governor Milton J. Shapp, and Governor Robert Ray. Mayor and Mrs. Frank Rizzo (D-Phil.) will greet you on arrival and accompany you and Susan in your car to Independence Hall (3-minutes driving time).

The program includes remarks by Charlton Heston, Master of Ceremonies, Cardinal Krol, Mayor Rizzo, Governor Shapp, Chappy James, and J. Willard Marriott. Mayor Rizzo introduces you for remarks which will be carried on LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION.

Following the Independence Hall ceremony, you and Susan will motorcade (5 minutes) to Bellevue Stratford Hotel for 35-minutes personal time followed by a head table reception and the Mayor's Luncheon. Mayor Rizzo will introduce you for remarks. You will depart prior to luncheon service, motorcade (5-minutes) to the helicopter zone for the 45-minute flight to the USS FORRESTAL.

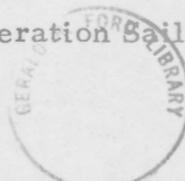
INTERNATIONAL NAVAL REVIEW / "OPERATION SAIL" 1976

Your helicopter arrives on the USS FORRESTAL flight deck at 1:45 p.m. After greeting Admiral Isaac C. Kidd, Jr., USN, CINCLANTFLT, and Captain Joseph J. Barth, USN, USS FORRESTAL Commanding Officer, you proceed through the Sideboys to "Honors" position where you are met by Secretary of the Navy William Middendorf, II, and Ambassador Emil Mosbacher, Jr. OPSAIL Chairman. After pausing for "Honors" Secretary Middendorf and Ambassador Mosbacher escort you past the Honor Guard and you proceed to the dais area for seating.

After remarks by John Warner, Bicentennial Commission Chairman, identifying the significance of the ringing of the Bicentennial Bell, you ring the Bell thirteen times, then Secretary Middendorf introduces you for remarks. As you depart en route the helicopter, Henry Catto will introduce you to members of the Diplomatic Corps. The helicopter departs at 2:35 p.m., circles Liberty Island and Ellis Island, and overflies the ships in Operation Sail '76 before landing on the flight deck of the USS NASHVILLE.

The activities aboard the USS FORRESTAL are on LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION.

SEE ENCLOSED FOLDERS on International Naval Review and "Operation Sail"



Captain William Guthrie, Amphibious Squadron Six Commander and Captain Herbert Dowse, USN, USS NASHVILLE Commanding Officer, will meet you, Mrs. Ford, and Susan as you land at 3:00 p. m. on the USS NASHVILLE and introduce you to a contingent of Operation Sail Cadets for an informal briefing on Tall Ships, then, escorted by the Cadets, you proceed to the edge of the Flight Deck to observe the passing of Tall Ships from Operation Sail. You will be joined by Cadets from each country participating in Operation Sail and you will be asked to cut a traditional cake commemorating the Bicentennial.

Following these activities, you reboard the helicopter and depart en route Newark Airport (10 minutes flying time) where you board Air Force One at 3:40 p. m. for the 45 minute flight to Washington National Airport.

The helicopter arrives on the South Lawn at 4:35 p. m.

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SEQUENCE

CHURCH SERVICES - ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6:55 a.m. EDT You board motorcade on the South Grounds and Depart en route St. John's Episcopal Church.

6:58 a.m. Motorcade arrives St. John's Episcopal Church.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

You will be met by:

Mr. Donald Gray, Usher

Escorted by Donald Gray, you proceed inside the church and are seated for a Special Holy Communion Bicentennial Observance Service.

7:00 a.m. Communion Service begins.

7:20 a.m. Communion Service concludes.

7:20 a.m. Escorted by Pastor John C. Harper, you depart church en route motorcade for boarding.

7:27 a.m. Motorcade departs St. John's Episcopal Church en route South Grounds.

7:30 a.m. Motorcade arrives South Grounds.

You proceed inside the Diplomatic Entrance to greet Susan and to subsequently escort her aboard helicopter.

VALLEY FORGE STATE PARK BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

7:40 a.m. You and Susan board helicopter on the South Lawn and Depart en route Valley Forge Park, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

(Flying time: 1 hour, 5 minutes)

PRESIDENTIAL GUESTS

Secretary Thomas S. Kleppe

Representative Richard T. Schulze



8:45 a.m.
EDT
Advanceman:
B. Bass

Helicopter arrives Valley Forge Park,
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION
CROWD SITUATION

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
Announcement
"Hail to the Chief"

You and Susan will be met by:

Governor Milton Shapp (D-Pa.)
Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa.)
Senator Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.)

You and Susan, escorted by the greeters,
proceed to the dais for seating.

NOTE: En route dais, you and Susan will
pass in front of the First Troop
Philadelphia City Calvary. At the end
of this Honor Guard, you will offer a
handshake to Calvary Captain Stanley
Bright III.

8:50 a.m.

You and Susan arrive dais and are seated.

8:51 a.m.

Welcoming remarks and intro-
duction of Platform Guests by
Governor Shapp, concluding in
the introduction of you.

8:55 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION

9:10 a.m.

Remarks conclude.

You return to your seat.

9:11 a.m.

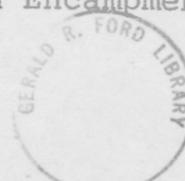
Benediction by Bishop Dominic
Ferrara.

9:13 a.m.

Governor Shapp invites you to
visit the Wagon Train Encampment.

9:14 a.m.

Musical Medley.



9:14 a.m.

You and Susan, escorted by Governor Shapp, depart dais en route Wagon Train Encampment.

NOTE: Lt. Governor Ernest Kline will offer a narrative as you and your party view the Wagon Train Encampment and participate in the subsequent Bill Signing.

9:17 a.m.

You and Susan arrive Encampment area, view the Wagons and meet the Wagon Train pilgrims.

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION

NOTE: On arriving at the Michigan Wagon, the Governor will present you with a symbolic Rededication Scroll, which you will sign, as have in excess of 22 million other American citizens.

9:27 a.m.

You and Susan depart Wagon Train area en route Bill Signing area.

9:30 a.m.

You arrive Bill Signing Area and are seated at the Signing Table.

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION

You sign H.R. 5621 (S. 1776) making Valley Forge a National Historical site.

VALLEY FORGE DEPARTURE/PHILADELPHIA ARRIVAL

9:35 a.m.

You thank the guests and depart en route helicopter for boarding.

9:40 a.m.

You and Susan board helicopter and depart Valley Forge en route Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

(Flying time: 20 minutes)

PRESIDENTIAL GUESTS

Governor and Mrs. Robert Ray
Governor Milton J. Shapp
Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa.)
Senator Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pa.)



10:00 a.m.
EDT
Advanceman:
A. Stern

Helicopter arrives Philadelphia Helo
Landing Zone (Second and Walnut Streets),
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

You and Susan will be met by:

Mayor and Mrs. Frank Rizzo (D-Philadelphia)

You and Susan, escorted by the Rizzos,
proceed to motorcade for boarding. Mayor
and Mrs. Rizzo and Susan will ride with
you.

10:05 a.m.

Motorcade departs Helo Landing Zone
en route Independence Hall.

10:08 a.m.

Motorcade arrives Independence Hall
(Sixth Street entrance).

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

You and Susan will be met by:

Mr. and Mrs. Albert V. Gaudiosi,
Philadelphia Special Events Chairman.

NOTE: Mrs. Gaudiosi will present
flowers to Susan on behalf of
the City of Philadelphia.

You and Susan arrive Independence Hall
foyer and greet platform guests.

10:12 a.m.

Introduction of the platform
guests onto dais.

NOTE: You will be asked to sign
a Commemorative Book for the
National Park Service and the
Bicentennial Commission.

10:15 a.m.

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
Announcement
"Hail to the Chief"



10:15 a.m.

You and Susan pass through the Front Door of Independence Hall en route dais for seating.

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION
CROWD SITUATION

- 10:17 a.m. Welcome by Charlton Heston, Master of Ceremonies.
- 10:18 a.m. Invocation by John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia.
- 10:21 a.m. National Anthem by U.S. Armed Forces Band.
- 10:24 a.m. Pageant of Flags, narrated by Larry Kane, local television anchorman.
- 10:32 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance by Lt. Col. John Dramesi, USMC, Former Vietnam Prisoner of War.
- 10:34 a.m. Remarks by Mayor Rizzo.
- 10:40 a.m. Remarks by Governor Shapp.
- 10:46 a.m. Excerpts from the Declaration of Independence by Marian Anderson.
- 10:49 a.m. Thanksgiving by Rabbi Bzekiel H. Musleah, Congregation Mikvch Israel.
- 10:51 a.m. Remarks by City Council President George Schwartz.
- 10:52 a.m. Introduction of Guest Speakers by Charlton Heston.
- 10:53 a.m. "What America Means to Me."
J. Willard Marriott, Marriott Corporation Board Chairman
Gen. Daniel James, USA, NORAD Commander-in-Chief
Miss Lenny J. Hallgren, America's Junior Miss of 1976
- 10:59 a.m. Prayer for World Peace by Archbishop Iakoves, Primate, Greek Orthodox Church.
- 11:01 a.m. Introduction of the President by Mayor Rizzo.



11:02 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION

11:17 a.m.

Remarks conclude.

11:19 a.m.

Benediction by Reverend Leon Sullivan, Zion Baptist Church Pastor.

11:21 a.m.

"The Liberty Bell" by the All-Philadelphia Boys Choir.

11:23 a.m.

Closing remarks by Charlton Heston.

11:25 a.m.

Musical Medley.

11:25 a.m.

You and Susan, escorted by Mayor Rizzo, depart dais en route motorcade for boarding.

11:30 a.m.

Motorcade departs Independence Hall en route Bellevue Stratford Hotel. Mayor and Mrs. Rizzo and Susan will ride with you.

11:35 a.m.

Motorcade arrives Bellevue Stratford Hotel (Walnut Street entrance).

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVALYou and Susan will be met by:

Mr. Michael Chadwick, Hotel Vice President

You and Susan proceed inside en route Suite (Room 1500).

11:40 a.m.

You and Susan arrive Suite.

PERSONAL: 35 minutes.

12:15 p.m.

You and Susan depart Suite en route Head Table Reception (Crystal Room).

12:20 p.m.

You and Susan arrive Crystal Room and informally greet Head Table Reception guests.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
ATTENDANCE: 30

You and Susan will be met by:
Mayor and Mrs. Frank Rizzo

12:30 p.m. Head Table guests proceed onto dais.

12:35 p.m. "Ruffles and Flourishes"
Announcement
"Hail to the Chief"

12:35 p.m. You and Susan, escorted by Mayor Rizzo,
proceed onto Grand Ballroom dais for
Mayor's Luncheon.
PRESS POOL COVERAGE
ATTENDANCE: 1400

12:37 p.m. You and Susan arrive dais and remain standing

12:37 p.m. National Anthem by the Philadelphia
Police and Fire Band.

12:40 p.m. Invocation by Reverend Leon Sullivan

12:42 p.m. Introduction of you by Mayor Rizzo.

NOTE: The Mayor will present you with a
large silver bowl, a gift to the people of
the United States from the people of
Philadelphia.

12:44 p.m. PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS
PRESS POOL COVERAGE

12:47 p.m. Remarks conclude.
You thank the luncheon guests and you and
Susan depart dais en route motorcade for
boarding.

12:50 p.m. Motorcade departs Bellevue Stratford Hotel
en route Helo Landing Zone (Second and
Walnut Streets).
(Driving time: 5 minutes)

12:55 p.m. Motorcade arrives Helo Landing Zone.
PRESS POOL COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTURE/BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES ABOARD
USS FORRESTAL AND USS NASHVILLE

1:00 p.m. You and Susan board helicopter and depart
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, en route USS
Forrestal in New York Harbor, New York.
(Flying time: 45 minutes)



1:45 p.m.
EDT
Advanceman:
M. Fisher

Helicopter arrives USS Forrestal
Flight Deck.

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION
CROWD SITUATION

Announcement.

You and Susan will be met by:

Admiral Isaac C. Kidd, Jr., USN
CINCLANTFLT, Captain Joseph J. Barth,
USN, USS FORRESTAL Commanding Officer.

You proceed through the Sideboys to
"Honors" position.

NOTE: Susan, escorted by
Admiral Kidd and Captain Barth,
follow you.

1:47 p.m.

You arrive "Honors" position and pause.

You will be met by:

Honorable William Middendorf II, Secretary
of the Navy
Ambassador Emil Mosbacher, Jr., OPSAIL
Chairman

"Ruffles and Flourishes"
"Hail to the Chief"
21-gun Salute

Escorted by Secretary Middendorf and
Ambassador Mosbacher, you proceed past
the Honor Guard en route dais area.

NOTE: Susan, escorted by
Admiral Kidd and Captain Barth,
will proceed directly to dais
for seating. Mrs. Ford will
have arrived and will be there
also.

1:50 p.m.

You arrive dais area and are seated.

1:51 p.m.

Welcoming remarks by Ambassador
Mosbacher.



1:54 p.m. National Anthem.

1:57 p.m. Remarks identifying the significance of the ringing of the Bicentennial Bell by John Warner, Bicentennial Commission Chairman.

1:58 p.m. Escorted by John Warner, you proceed to the Bicentennial Bell.

2:00 p.m. You ring the Bicentennial Bell thirteen (13) times.

NOTE: The Bicentennial Bell, signifying the commemoration of the 2:00 p.m., July 4th, 1976 ringing of the Liberty Bell, begins the simultaneous ringing of bells across America.

2:02 p.m. Escorted by John Warner, you return to your dais seat.

2:05 p.m. Introduction of you by Secretary Middendorf.

2:08 p.m. PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS.
LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION

2:15 p.m. Remarks conclude.
You remain at the podium to receive a brief "thank you" by Secretary Middendorf.
You, Mrs. Ford, and Susan, escorted by Secretary Middendorf and Ambassador Mosbacher, depart dais en route Diplomatic Corps Receiving Line.

2:18 p.m. You, Mrs. Ford and Susan arrive Diplomatic Receiving Line and are introduced to the members of the Diplomatic Corps by Ambassador Henry Catto en route helicopter for boarding.

LIVE NATIONWIDE TELEVISION



2:35 p.m.

Helicopter departs USS FORRESTAL
en route USS NASHVILLE, New York
Harbor.

(Flying time: 25 minutes)

PRESIDENTIAL GUESTS

Ambassador Emil Mosbacher, Jr.
Senator Jacob Javits
Secretary William Middendorf II

NOTE: En route USS NASHVILLE, helicopter
will circle Liberty Island (Statue of
Liberty) and Ellis Island, followed by
an overflight of the ships in Operation
Sail '76.

3:00 p.m.

Helicopter arrives USS NASHVILLE
Flight Deck.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

Announcement

You, Mrs. Ford and Susan will be met by:

Captain William Guthrie, Amphibious
Squadron Six Commander
Captain Herbert Dowse, USN, USS NASHVILLE
Commanding Officer

3:02 p.m.

You, escorted by Captains Guthrie and
Dowse, proceed through the Sideboys.

3:05 p.m.

You, Mrs. Ford and Susan are introduced
to a contingent of Operation Sail Cadets
for an informal briefing on Tall Ships.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

3:10 p.m.

You, Mrs. Ford and Susan, escorted by
the Cadets, proceed to the edge of the
Flight Deck to view the passing of Tall
Ships from Operation Sail.

NOTE: You, Mrs. Ford and Susan will be
joined by Cadets from each country
participating in Operation Sail.
Additionally, you will be asked to cut
a traditional cake commemorating the
Bicentennial.



3:20 p.m.

You, Mrs. Ford and Susan, escorted by Captains Guthrie and Dowse, thank the Cadets and proceed to helicopter for boarding.

NOTE: You will receive "Ruffles and Flourishes" as a departing honor from the USS NASHVILLE.

3:25 p.m.

You depart USS NASHVILLE en route Newark Airport, Newark, New Jersey.

(Flying time: 10 minutes)

3:35 p.m.

Helicopter arrives Newark Airport.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE
CLOSED ARRIVAL

3:40 p.m.

You, Mrs. Ford and Susan proceed to Air Force One for boarding.

You depart Newark Airport en route Washington National Airport, Washington, D.C.

(Flying time: 45 minutes)

4:25 p.m.

AIR FORCE ONE arrives Washington National Airport.

EDT

You, Mrs. Ford and Susan proceed to helicopter for boarding.

4:30 p.m.

Helicopter departs Washington National Airport en route South Lawn.

(Flying time: 5 minutes)

4:35 p.m.

Helicopter arrives South Lawn.

