

**The original documents are located in Box 127, folder “Nov. 27, 1973 - Speech, Seafarer's International Union Convention, Washington, DC” of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 26, 1973  
1:00 pm

MEMORANDUM FOR: VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD

FROM: W. DEWEY CLOWER 

SUBJECT: YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE SEAFARER'S  
INTERNATIONAL UNION CONVENTION  
Statler Hilton Hotel  
Tuesday, November 27, 1973

Attached at TAB A is your schedule for participation in the subject event. The Convention Sessions are being held in the Congressional Room, which is where the Union historically holds its biennial convention.

BACKGROUND

Participants will represent between 200-300 delegates representing workers employed aboard U.S. flag ships in foreign commerce and coastwise service, in inland waterways and harbors, fishermen, cannery workers, and allied maritime trades. The union membership is approximately 85,000.

Paul Hall, President of the Seafarer's Union and a Vice President of the AFL-CIO, refused to support George Meany's resignation resolution at the AFL-CIO convention and has stated many times that the President and his administration have done more for the maritime industry than any previous President.

PROGRAM

As has been the case in previous years when you addressed the group, the room will be seated "school-style," creating a workshop type of environment. The group gave the President an

excellent reception when he addressed the convention on Monday morning. Time and again, the officers of the Union have mentioned that they considered you to be amongst their finest friends.

The composition of the Welcoming Committee has yet to be decided, but will probably consist of four members.

The officers you will meet on the dais are as follows:

Paul Hall, President  
John Yarmola, Executive Vice President  
Norm Wisberger, Secretary  
Joseph Digiorgio, Treasurer

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE

VICE PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE GERALD FORD'S ATTENDANCE  
AT SEAFARER'S INTERNATIONAL UNION CONVENTION

Statler Hilton Hotel  
Tuesday, November 27, 1973

ATTIRE: Business Suit

10:20 am  
(EST)

Advanceman:  
John Gartland

ARRIVE Main Entrance, Statler Hilton  
Hotel.

You will be met by:  
Welcoming Committee of SIU  
Members.

PRESS PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

Proceed to Congressional Room, escorted  
by the Welcoming Committee.

10:25 am

ARRIVE outside Congressional Room and  
await announcement of your arrival by  
Paul Hall, President of SIU.

10:26 am

Announcement

Proceed to head table area to meet with  
the Union Officers seated at the head table.

10:28 am

Introductory remarks by Paul Hall,  
President of SIU.

10:30 am

Vice President-Designate Gerald Ford  
remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

10:50 am

Remarks conclude.

DEPART Congressional Room en route  
motorcade for boarding.

10:55 am

DEPART Statler Hilton Hotel via motorcade.