The original documents are located in Box 134, folder "June 13, 1974 - Speech, Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats, Department of State, Washington, DC" of the Gerald R. Ford Vice Presidential Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, INC.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUNE 13, 1974

Chundre Sunt Junt 1 FORD (18)

IT IS ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE THAT WE PARTICIPATE HERE

TODAY IN THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON OF THE TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN

DIPLOMATS. OUR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE ARE NOW TRAVELING

IN THE MIDDLE EAST ON A HISTORIC MISSION TO CREATE A NEW PARTNERSHIP

WITH THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD AND TO OFFER OUR GOOD SERVICES TO

RESOLVE TENSIONS AND PROMOTE PEACE.

IN VIEW OF THE EXCEPTIONAL HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO

PRESIDENT NIXON BY THE NATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE GRACIOUS WELCOME HE RECEIVED ON PREVIOUS VISITS TO OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD, I APPRECIATE THIS OPPORTUNITY TODAY TO BE WITH SO MANY DISTINGUISHED DIPLOMATS FROM ABROAD. I AM ALSO PLEASED TO GREET THE MANY LEADING AMERICANS ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND FOUNDATIONS WHO ARE DOING SO MUCH THROUGH THE TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS TO ENHANCE OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONS.

THE TRAVEL PROGRAM, PRIVATELY SPONSORED, HAS ACHIEVED

Lumerana A BREAKTHROUGH IN HUMAN TERMS. I DOUBT IF OFFICIALS AND

FUNCTIONARIES, HOWEVER WELL INTENDED, COULD EVER BRING THIS ABOUT.

THE PROGRAM HAS ENABLED FOREIGN DIPLOMATS TO MEET THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, IN THEIR HOMES, FACTORIES, SCHOOLS, STATE LEGISLATURES, AND AGENCIES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT. OVER THE LAST 11 YEARS, MORE THAN 4,000 DIPLOMATS, THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, HAVE SEEN ANOTHER DIMENSION OF AMERICA. OUR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS FORTUNATELY HAVE BEEN AUGMENTED BY HUMAN RELATIONS.

THE BEAUTY OF THIS PROGRAM IS THAT IT IS SO VOLUNTARY

AND SPONTANEOUS --- A PRIVATE ENTERPRISE TOTALLY FREE OF GOVERNMENTAL

BUREAUCRACY. IT SHOWS THAT INDIVIDUALS CAN INVOLVE THEMSELVES

AND INNOVATE UNDERTAKINGS TO BRING FOREIGN GUESTS INTO INTIMATE

CONTACT WITH THE REALITIES OF LIFE AS LIVED ON THE LOCAL LEVEL.

IT SHOWS THE AMERICAN SPIRIT IN ACTION.



THERE IS, HOWEVER, ANOTHER FACET. PERHAPS IT IS THE GREATEST ATTRIBUTE OF THIS NON-GOVERNMENTAL, PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE PROGRAM. I REFER TO THE FACT THAT IT IS A TWO-WAY STREET. NOT ONLY HAVE OUR PEOPLE --- FROM COAST TO COAST --- OFFERED HOSPITALITY TO VISITING DIPLOMATS --- BUT THEY HAVE RECEIVED IN RETURN PERHAPS MORE THAN THEY HAVE GIVEN. AMERICANS HAVE BEEN AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET MANY LEARNED AND STIMULATING INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE EARTH WHO --- BY THEIR PRESENCE AMONG US ---ENRICH OUR LIVES. OUR PEOPLE ARE LEARNING THE WISDOM AND PERCEPTIONS OF THE MANY NATIONS OF THIS EARTH.

ASPECTS OF AMERICA --- OUR PROBLEMS AS WELL AS OUR PLEASURES.

THIS PROGRAM RECENTLY TOOK SOME DIPLOMATS TO COLORADO WHERE THEY

WERE AFFORDED A CHANCE TO SEE ALL SIDES OF THE ENERGY SITUATION.

THEY HEARD AT FIRST HAND THE VIEWS OF THE OILMEN AND THE ENERGY

INDUSTRY. AND THEY ALSO VISITED AND HEARD THE CASE PRESENTED BY

THE ENVIRONMENTALISTS AND THE ECOLOGISTS.

THIS SENSE OF BALANCE IS WHAT AMERICA IS ALL ABOUT.

IT IS ALSO WHAT WE ARE SEEKING IN OUR DEALINGS WITH THE REST OF

THE WORLD --- A SPIRIT OF MEDIATION AND MODERATION.



THE CONCEPT OF PERSONAL VISITS ADVANCED BY THE TRAVEL

PROGRAM IS IN TOTAL HARMONY WITH THE CURRENT VISIT BY OUR

PRESIDENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THE TRIP IS DESIGNED TO

CONSOLIDATE THE RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE

ARAB WORLD WHILE ALSO REAFFIRMING OUR CONTINUING COMMITMENT

TO THE INDEPENDENCE AND WELL-BEING OF ISRAEL.

THE IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH KEY ARAB COUNTRIES IS A RESULT OF SEVERAL FACTORS. THE FOREMOST OF THESE HAS BEEN OUR EFFORT TO HELP NEGOTIATE A JUST AND LASTING PEACE SETTLEMENT. WE HAVE WORKED WITH BOTH SIDES TO OVERCOME ENORMOUS DIFFICULTIES AND BRING ABOUT DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENTS ON BOTH THE EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FRONTS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO GO BEYOND DISENGAGEMENT TO WORK WITH ARABS AND ISRAELIS FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE BASIC HUMAN AND TERRITORIAL PROBLEMS THAT HAVE LONG STOOD IN THE WAY OF A MIDDLE EAST PEACE.

THIS IS ALSO THE FIRST TRIP EVER BY AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT

TO ISRAEL. IT REAFFIRMS OUR LONG HISTORY OF CLOSE TIES WITH ISRAEL

AND OUR STRONG SUPPORT OF ITS INDEPENDENCE AND WELL-BEING. IT

DEMONSTRATES THAT OUR FRIENDSHIP AND COMMITMENT ARE IN NO WAY AFFECTED

BY OUR NEW TIES WITH THE ARAB WORLD.

MEANWHILE, MODERATE ARAB STATES ARE INCREASINGLY



PERSUADED THAT THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO HELP BRING ABOUT

A JUST MIDDLE EAST PEACE. IN ADDITION, THEY ARE INCREASINGLY INTERESTED

IN THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF AN EXPANDED INVESTMENT, TRADE, AND

AID RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES. AS A RESULT, THEY HAVE

BEEN ACTIVELY SEEKING TO IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONS WITH US. THEY

HAVE BEEN ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, WHICH THEY—

AND WE—VIEW AS A SYMBOL OF, AND CONTRIBUTION TO, THE NEW

RELATIONSHIP.

THIS IS A PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE TIME FOR A

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO THE AREA. THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT WILL

REINFORCE THE FAVORABLE IMPACT OF THE RECENT DISENGAGEMENT

NEGOTIATIONS ON THE OVERALL ATMOSPHERE IN THE REGION, THE PROSPECTS

FOR FURTHER ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS, THE INFLUENCE OF MODERATE

ARAB FORCES, AND THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE VISIT HELPS TO SUPPORT THE CURRENT TREND OF EVENTS IN THE

REGION TOWARD A DEFUSING OF THE TENSIONS WHICH HAVE LED IN

THEPAST TO MAJOR WARS THAT THREATEN TO DRAG IN THE BIG POWERS AND

ENDANGER WORLD PEACE. AND IT CONTRIBUTES TO THESE GOALS WHILE

ALSO REAFFIRMING OUR CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO THE PRESERVATION OF

ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE, INTEGRITY, AND WELL-BEING.

THE CONCEPT OF A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONS OF

THE MIDDLE EAST IS PART OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF THIS ADMINISTRATION

WHICH HAS SOUGHT TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION AND THE

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND HAS ENDED AMERICAN MILITARY

INVOLVEMENT IN THE WARFARE IN VIETNAM.

JUST AS THE PRESIDENT MADE GREAT BREAKTHROUGHS TOWARD

A MORE PEACEFUL ERA IN WORLD RELATIONS WHEN HE VISITED THE SOVIET UNION AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, I HOPE THAT THE VISITS OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES HELP TO FACILITATE THE KIND OF WORLD WE ARE ALL SEEKING.

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REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, INC. DEPARTMENT OF STATE JUNE 13, 1974

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

It is especially appropriate that we participate here today in the annual luncheon of the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats. Our President and Secretary of State are now traveling in the Middle East on an historic mission to create a new partnership with the peoples of the world and to offer our good services to resolve tensions and promote peace.

In view of the exceptional hospitality extended to President Nixon by the nations of the Middle East and the gracious welcome he received on previous visits to other regions of the world, I appreciate this opportunity today to be with so many distinguished diplomats from abroad. I am also pleased to greet the many leading Americans associated with various industries and foundations who are doing so much through the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats to enhance our relations with other nations.

The Travel Program, privately sponsored, has achieved a breakthrough in human terms. I doubt if officials and functionaries, however well intended, could ever have brought this about. The program has enabled foreign diplomats to meet the people of the United States, in their homes, factories, schools, State legislatures, and agencies of local government. Over the last 11 years, more than 4,000 diplomats through this program have seen another dimension of America. Our diplomatic relations fortunately have been augmented by human relations.

The beauty of this program is that it is so voluntary and spontaneous — a private enterprise totally free of Governmental bureaucracy. It shows that individuals can involve themselves and innovate undertakings to bring foreign guests into intimate contact with the realities of life as lived on the local level. It shows the American spirit in action.

There is, however, another facet. Perhaps it is the greatest attribute of this non-governmental, people-to-people program. I refer to the fact that it is a two-way street. Not only have our people — from coast to coast — offered hospitality to visiting diplomats — but they have received in return perhaps more than they have given. Americans have been afforded the opportunity

Page 2

to meet many learned and stimulating individuals from all corners of the earth who -- by their presence among us -- enrich our lives. Our people are learning the wisdom and perceptions of the many nations of this earth.

I hope that the foreign diplomats see all aspects of America — our problems as well as our pleasures. This program recently took some diplomats to Colorado where they were afforded a chance to see all sides of the energy situation, They heard at first hand the views of the oilmen and the energy industry. And they also visited and heard the case presented by the environmentalists and the ecologists.

This sense of balance is what America is all about. It is also what we are seeking in our dealings with the rest of the world — a spirit of mediation and moderation.

The concept of personal visits advanced by the Travel Program is in total harmony with the current visit by our President to the Middle East. The trip is designed to consolidate the recent improvement in our relations with the Arab world while also reaffirming our continuing commitment to the independence and well-being of Israel.

The improvement in our relations with key Arab countries is a result of several factors. The foremost of these has been our effort to help negotiate a just and lasting peace settlement. We have worked with both sides to overcome enormous difficulties and bring about disengagement agreements on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts. We are committed to go beyond disengagement to work with Arabs and Israelis for solutions to the basic human and territorial problems that have long stood in the way of a Middle East peace.

This is also the first trip ever by an American President to Israel. It reaffirms our long history of close ties with Israel and our strong support of its independence and well-being. It demonstrates that our friendship and commitment are in no way affected by our new ties with the Arab world.

Meanwhile, moderate Arab states are increasingly persuaded that the United States is committed to help bring about a just Middle East peace. In addition, they are increasingly interested in the economic benefits of an expanded investment, trade, and aid relationship with the United States. As a result, they have been actively seeking to improve their relations with us. They have been enthusiastic about the President's visit, which they — and we — view as a symbol of, and contribution to, the new relationship.

This is a particularly appropriate time for a Presidential visit to the area. The President's visit will reinforce the favorable impact of the recent disengagement negotiations on the overall atmosphere in the region, the prospects for further Arab-Israeli negotiations, the influence of moderate Arab forces, and the position of the United States. The visit helps to support the current trend of events in the region toward a defusing of the tensions which have led in the past to major wars that threaten to drag in the big powers and endanger world peace. And it contributes to these goals while also reaffirming our continuing commitment to the preservation of Israel's independence, integrity, and well-being.

The concept of a new partnership with the nations of the Middle East is part of the philosophy of this Administration which has sought to normalize relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China and has ended American military involvement in the warfare in Vietnam.

Just as the President made great breakthroughs toward a more peaceful era in world relations when he visited the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, I hope that the visits of foreign diplomats within the United States help to facilitate the kind of world we are all seeking.

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Annual Luncheon

Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats

With

Guest of Honor

THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

Department of State Washington, D.C.

Thursday, June 13th, 1974 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats, Inc.

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Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives

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ROBERT B. ANDERSON
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IB THOMSEN, President
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DeWITT WALLACE, Co-Founder The Reader's Digest



Foreign leaders assigned to Embassies and International Agencies in Washington, D.C. or United Nations Missions in New York City have little opportunity to know Americans outside official circles, or to see the country beyond these two Eastern cities. If their view of America is limited to the experiences of two untypical cities, they are likely to have an inaccurate picture.

Since 1962, the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats has been trying to broaden this picture by inviting foreign leaders to travel across the land. They live with American families and share family participation in community life. Local businessmen show them the economy; parents and teachers show them schools; civic leaders show them the role of community organizations; farmers take them to plow fields or round up livestock; government officials discuss issues with them. They take part in a range of activities designed to introduce them to our land, people, institutions and economic system. And, in turn, these representatives of governments throughout the world bring to their American hosts a better understanding of their countries.

Since 1962, nearly four thousand foreign leaders of all ranks, from every area of the world, have visited Americans in thirty-seven of our fifty states, under the auspices of the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats. From its inception, the Travel Program has been endorsed by the State Department, but is a private, tax-exempt corporation, supported entirely by contributions from America's business community, foundations and concerned individuals.





The Pineapple

A Symbol of Hospitality

In the 18th Century when ships returned from the West Indies carrying cargoes of fruits and spices, a pineapple was placed atop a post in front of ship owners' houses as a signal and invitation for friends to come in and partake of the imported delicacies. Traditionally, since that time, the pineapple has been a symbol of hospitality.

Two sponsors of the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats have extended extraordinary hospitality to our guests from throughout the world. In recognition of their contributions, a crystal Tiffany vase, upon which is etched the traditional pineapple, is presented to the following:

William Randolph Hearst, Jr.

J. C. Penney Company, Inc.

PROGRAM

Luncheon Chairman

The Honorable Melvin R. Laird Senior Counsellor for National and International Affairs Reader's Digest Association

Presiding

The Honorable Kenneth Rush Counsellor to the President for Economic Policy

Introduction

The Honorable Wilbur D. Mills Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives

Address

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford

The Vice President of the United States

Presentation of Awards By

The Honorable Robert B. Anderson President, Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats and

Mrs. Gwendolyn D. Cafritz

President, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation

Remarks

His Excellency Ashraf Ghorbal Ambassador, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Closing

The Honorable Melvin R. Laird

TABLE 1

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The Vice President of the United States
Ambassador Ole Algard
Mission of Norway to the United Nations
The Honorable Robert B. Anderson
Robert B. Anderson & Co., Ltd.

Robert B. Anderson & Co., Ltd.

Mrs. Gwendolyn D. Cafritz, President
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Thomas C. Page, President
Philco-Ford Corporation
H.E. Dr. Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa
Ambassador, Embassy of Nicaragua
Robert L. Stone, Chairman
The Hertz Corporation

The Honorable Melvin R. Laird

TABLE 2

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TABLE 3

The Honorable Wilbur D. Mills Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives Harris Ashton, Chairman General Host Corporation John M. Christie, Chairman, The Riggs National Bank of Washington, D.C. Mrs. Katharine Graham, Publisher The Washington Post arl D. Hilburn, President The Western Union Telegraph Company Ambassador M. Khir Johari Embassy of Malaysia David A. Meeker, Chairman Hobart Corporation Edward N. Ney, President Young & Rubicam International Inc. Ib Thomsen, President

Goodyear International Corporation

Earl G. Tyree, President

Glenbrook Laboratories

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TABLE 5

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H.E. Sir Patrick Shaw, C.B.E.

Northeastern National Bank of Pennsylvania

Ambassador, Embassy of Australia

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Kim Hallamore Lear Siegler, Inc.

Thomas L. Hughes, President
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

The Honorable Carol C. Laise
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Department of State

Marshall McDonald, *President*Florida Power & Light Company
The Honorable Francis T. P. Plimpton

Debevoise, Plimpton, Lyons & Gates
Guy Vanhaeverbeke, Deputy Director of
Information Service, Delegation of
European Communities (Common Market)

Mrs. Martha R. Wallace

Vice President & Executive Director
The Henry Luce Foundation

Count Wilhelm Washtmeister

H.E. Count Wilhelm Wachtmeister Ambassador, Embassy of Sweden

TABLE 8

The Honorable William B. Buffum
Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International
Organization Affairs, Department of State
Joseph V. Charyk, President

Communications Satellite Corporation
The Honorable Albert Gore, Chairman

Island Creek Coal Company Girard B. Henderson, President Alexander Dawson, Inc.

Donald L. McKinney, Managing Editor McCall's Magazine

Royden C. Sanders, Jr., Chairman Sanders Associates, Inc.

Ambassador Felix Schnyder Embassy of Switzerland

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Ellen Stoutenberg, Executive Director

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W. F. McCormick, Chairman

Cresap, McCormick and Paget, Inc.
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Gannett Co., Inc.
George Reynolds, Alternate Executive Director
International Monetary Fund

Hans G. Rudofsky Embassy of Austria

Nicolas M. Salgo, Chairman Piper Aircraft Corporation

John C. Sawhill, Administrator Federal Energy Office

Robert M. Schneider

Assistant to the Chairman

Xerox Corporation

Helen Thomas
United Press International

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TABLE 11

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TABLE 14

James E. Cushman, President **Cushman Corporation** John Diebold, Chairman The Diebold Group, Inc. The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson Ambassador-at-Large and Chief of U.S. Delegation to SALT Placido L. Mapa, Jr. Alternate Executive Director, World Bank Charles D. Nash, Vice President & Director The Dornbush Company Benjamin H. Read, President German Marshall Fund of the U.S. William H. Ruffin David K. Wilson, Chairman Cherokee Equity Corporation C. Robert Yeager Corporate Director and Trustee Ambassador Ardeshir Zahedi Embassy of Iran

TABLE 15

Henry G. Catucci, Vice President Western Union International, Inc. William B. Dale, Deputy Managing Director International Monetary Fund Ambassador Toma Granfil Embassy of Yugoslavia Clement Granoff, Senior Vice President Thatcher Glass Manufacturing Company Edward C. Larson, President The Anderson Company Aaron P. Levinson, President Levinson Steel Company Jere Patterson, President Jere Patterson & Associates Dr. Alvaro Rizo Castellon Embassy of Nicaragua Kurt Shaffert, Esq. Shaffert, Miller & Browne Stanford C. Stoddard, President Michigan National Corporation

TABLE 16

Walter E. Beer, Jr. Lankenau Kovner Bickford Abrons & Beer Senator William E. Brock, 3rd Tennessee Ambassador Triloki Nath Kaul Embassy of India Graham Loving, Jr., General Partner Graham Loving & Company onald B. Marron, President Mitchell, Hutchins Inc. Harald Svanoe Midttun Embassy of Norway Gerald S. Parshalle, President Koss Corporation Neil Stewart, Vice President Western Air Lines Admiral John M. Will American Export Lines David H. Winton, Vice President & Director Johnson & Higgins

TABLE 17

Owen D. Bekkum, Executive Vice President Northern Illinois Gas Company Donald C. Curry, Vice President Underwood Jordan Associates Sidney Hawkes Mead Corporation W. Frederick Luckenbach, Vice President Foote Mineral Company Malcolm Mever Certain-teed Products Corporation Hugh Paine, Jr. William Prickett Prickett, Ward, Burt & Sanders Andre Rahir Embassy of Belgium Hal F. Reynolds U.S. Alternate Executive Director World Bank Ambassador Takeshi Yasukawa Embassy of Japan

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TABLE 19

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TABLE 20

Miss Leila Chehab Embassy of Lebanon Michael F. Chilton Embassy of New Zealand George M. Cohen Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton Ambassador N. G. Dimitriou Embassy of Cyprus Robert Hartmann, Chief of Staff Office of The Vice President Frederick Drum Hunt Foreign Trade Consultant Ambassador Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah Embassy of Mauritania Melvin Samet Daniel E. Samet & Company Ambassador François-Xavier Tchoungui Embassy of Cameroon

Marshall Wright, Vice President

Eaton Corporation

TABLE 21

Norman J. Snow

Rohr Industries, Inc.

James Archibald Embassy of Australia David Biltchik Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Ambassador J. S. F. Botha Embassy of South Africa Joaquin Cervino, Charge d'Affaires, A.I. Embassy of Spain Michael Dougherty, Assistant Vice President Chemical Bank Andrew N. Grass, Jr. Windels & Marx Erle A. Kightlinger Kightlinger Young Gray & DeTrude Estelle Linzer Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats, Inc. Henry J. Ridgely Ridgely & Ridgely

TABLE 22

Curtis C. Bailey, Esq. John Demian Embassy of Lebanon Jay V. Grimm, President Grimm & Davis, Inc. Ambassador L. O. Kibinge Embassy of Kenya Robert Huntington Knight Shearman & Sterling Abdelhag Lahlou Embassy of Morocco Bob Marsh Head of International and Defense Affairs Office of The Vice President Saturnin Soglo Embassy of Dahomey Pierre Tabatoni Embassy of France Zdravko Telalbasic Embassy of Yugoslavia

TABLE 23

Alfred P. Fenech Embassy of Malta Alan M. Grosman, Esq. Counsel, New Jersey World Trade Committee Tsutomu Hotta Embassy of Japan Miss Marina Mayo Embassy of Panama Ghebevehou Mekbib Embassy of Ethiopia Paul Miltich, Press Secretary Office of The Vice President F. Hoirup Mortensen Embassy of Denmark Otto John Munz, Esq. Patent Attorney Banyat Skolpadungket Embassy of Thailand Leo Storm Embassy of Belgium Saad Eddin Taib

Embassy of Morocco

Table listings subject to change.



TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, INC.

330 East 46th Street
Room 5N
New York, New York 10017
Tel. 867-4275



REMARKS VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R, FORD

TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, INC.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUNE 13, 1974

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

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SERALD BENEVO

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The beauty of this program is that it is so voluntary and spontaneous ---- a private enterprise totally free of Governmental bureaucracy. It shows that individuals can involve themselves and innovate undertakings to bring foreignmental into intimate contact with the realities of life as lived on the local level. It shows the American spirit in action .

There is however, another facet. Perhaps it is the greatest attribute of this non-governmental, people-to-people program. I refer to the fact that it is a two-way street. Not only have our people --- from coast to coast --- offered hospitality to visiting diplomats --- but they have received in return perhaps more than have given. Americans have been afforded the opportunity to meet and from the many learned and stimulating individuals from all corners of the earth who --- by their presence among us--- enrich our lives. Our people are learning the wisdom and perceptions of the many nations of this earth.

I hope that the foreign diplomats travelling see all aspects of America --- our problems as well as our pleasures. This program recently took some diplomats to Colorado where they were afforded a chance to see all sides of the energy situation.

They heard at first hand the views of the oilmen and the energy industry. And they also visited and heard the xixxx case presented by the environmentalists and the ecologists.

This sense of balance is what America is all about. It is also what we are seeking in our dealings with the rest of the world ---- a spirit of mediation and moderation.



The concept of personal visits advanced by the Travel Program is in total harmony with the current visit by our President to the Middle East. The trip is designed to consolidate the recent improvement in our relations with the Arab world while also reaffirming our continuing commitment to the independence and well-being of Israel.

(Regin here with Point 2 of NSC brief Point 1 is incorporated

ante the transition paragraph above .)

MORE

(Prepared for VP by NSC at White House with request that he follow this approach)

TALKING POINTS FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

1. The President's current trip to the Middle East is designed to help consolidate the recent improvement in US relations with the Arab world while also reaffirming our continuing commitment to the independence and well-being of Israel.

The improvement in our relations with key Arab countries is a result of several factors. The foremost of these has been our effort to help negotiate a just and lasting peace settlement. We have worked with both sides to overcome enormous difficulties and bring about disengagement agreements on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts.

We are committed to go beyond disengagement to work with Arabs and Israelis for solutions to the basic human and territorial problems that have long stood in the way of a Middle East peace.

This is also the first trip ever by an American President to Israel. It reaffirms our long history of close ties with Israel and our strong support of its independence and well-being. It demonstrates that our friendship and commitment are in no way affected by our new ties with the Arab world.

Meanwhile, moderate Arab states are increasingly persuaded that the United States is committed to help bring about a just Middle East peace. In addition, they are increasingly interested in the economic benefits of an expanded investment, trade, and aid relationship with the United States. As a result, they have been actively seeking to improve their relations with us. They have been enthusiastic about the President's visit, which they--and we--view as a symbol of, and contribution to, the new relationship.

This is a particularly appropriate time for a Presidential visit to the area. The President's visit will reinforce the favorable impact of the recent disengagement negotiations on the overall atmosphere in the region, the prospects for further Arab-Israeli negotiations, the influence of moderate Arab forces, and the position of the United States. The visit helps to support the current trend of events in the region toward a defusing of the tensions which have led in the past to major wars that threaten to drag in the big powers and endanger world peace. And it contributes to these goals while also reaffirming our continuing commitment to the preservation of Israel's independence, integrity, and well-being.

The concept of a new partnership with the nations of the Middle East is part of the philosophy of this Administration which has sought to normalize relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China and the partnership with the nations administration which has sought to normalize relations with the Soviet Union and the people's Republic of China and the partnership with the nations

Just as the President made great breakthroughs toward a more peaceful era in world relations when he visited the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China , I hope that the visits of foreign diplomats within the United States help to facilitate the kind of world we all are seeking .

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REMARKS VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD

TRAVEL PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, INC.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUNE 13, 1974



It is especially appropriate that we participate here today in the annual luncheon of the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats. Our President and Secretary of State are now travelling in the Middle East on a historic mission to create a new partnership with the peoples of the world and to offer our good services to resolve tensions and promote peace.

In view of the exceptional hospitality extended to President Nixon by the nations of the Middle East and the gracious welcome he received on previous visits to other regions of the world, I appreciate this opportunity today to be with so many distinguished diplomats from abroad. I am also pleased to greet the many leading Americans associated with various industries and foundations who are doing so much through the Travel Program for Foreign Diplomats to enhance our relations with the other nations.

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