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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 7, 1974

Handwritten initials and date:
10/9
(Fn)

MEMORANDUM FOR: DON RUMSFELD
FROM: WARREN RUSTAND *WR*
SUBJECT: Welcome Home for Mrs. Ford

The reception we have in mind is low-key yet genuine in its effort to welcome Mrs. Ford home. We do not feel it appropriate to go into any elaborate plans. However, a bouquet of roses and some real home-made welcome-home signs would be attractive, we think.

The Fords went out of their way to welcome the White House staff when they hosted a White House picnic recently. The staff is still talking about what a great time they had and how nice it was to have access to the President and the First Lady.

The outpouring of sympathy and interest in Mrs. Ford's operation has been abundant. We feel there is a genuine desire on the part of the staff to welcome her back. We anticipate lining the driveway and the South Portico entrance with well wishers to greet her as she gets out of her car. There will be a contingency microphone and if she wishes to say something, she can. If not, a wave will be great.

We don't want this to be a mandatory appearance for the staff. Therefore, rather than sending a memorandum to each office, we will have a telephone call made to the various offices the morning of the day of her return indicating there will be this welcome-home ceremony and inviting them to join in if they wish.

Approve *MR* Disapprove _____