The original documents are located in Box C26, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 8/28/1975 (1)" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 28, 1975

Dear Pete:

Many thanks for your letter of August 21st with the news clippings. I'm very impressed by your appearances on such prestigious shows! We haven't had a "super" Italian "shiek" since Rudolph Valentino! (But you're too young to remember him!) I'll be watching for you on the "Late, Late Show." I understand they're looking for a replacement for the "Westerns."

Congratulations to you and Lyman. You did a great job and I also appreciate your "fielding" of the questions about Betty. HOWEVER, when it comes to the last sentence in your fifth paragraph, WATCH IT! Our great and long-standing friendship could dissipate.

As of now, I'm scheduled to be in Detroit the evening of October 11th and in Grand Rapids on Saturday evening, October 12th. I'm looking forward to seeing you then.

Thanks again for your great friendship and support. Betty joins me in warmest best wishes to Joan and you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Peter SV Secchia President, Universal Forest Products, Inc. 2 mbbby The Star of Radio and TV Restaurateur Campaigner Extraordinary 3153 Three Mile Road, N. E. Grand Rapids, Michigan 49505

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UNIVERSAL FOREST PRODUCTS, INC.

3153 Three Mile Road, N.E. Grund Rapids, Mi. 49505 [616] 361-6651

H. MILPRED



August 21, 1975

The President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The "Pooh" has been busy. I don't know why the Press has singled me out, and I have attempted to turn many of their requests down...but in the last few weeks I have appeared on AM-Detroit; The Mike Douglas Show; and the Lou Gordon Show.

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The Lou Gordon Show...I was super! Many letters have come in regarding the way the debate was handled. The "Right wingers" loved my style!

The AM-Detroit Show...Also went off very well. You can tell by the comments on the enclosed article from Shirley Eder. She was there.

Then came Mike Douglas...It was me against the clock, and I had to run for an airplane. I hope it went well.

Each show brings up new problems, and as an "independent" voice...I try to let people know what you are like. It was a rough week for the First Lady, and most questions lead to her...but as her Press Aide will inform you, we spent many times going back to my "hypothetical" and "if" interpretation of how the First Lady would never advocate these social positions to which she has been tied. I am in love with her.

We also won the Fair Campaign Practices Complaint filed against Lyman Parks and me...by a unanimous decision. When that story is printed I will have my secretary forward you a copy. It might come out today. It is in

Keep up the good work...see you in October.

A. PFS/jh

RE YOU OUR GUEST ON