The original documents are located in Box C29, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 10/22/1975" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Jim -

I assume that DR saw this in out box --- I plan just to file in handwriting.

Trudy

[10/22/75]

THE PRESIDENT HAS SHEW.... THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

RECOMMENDED PRESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE CALL

TO:

Dr. Robert Marston, President University of Florida, Gainesville

PURPOSE:

To thank Dr. Marston for inviting you to speak at the University of Florida's Blue Key Banquet and to express your regret for not being able to attend.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Don Rumsfeld

BACKGROUND

The Annual Florida Blue Key Banquet traditionally takes place on the Friday night proceeding the University of Florida Homecoming game, this year, Duke University. The banquet will be attended by 2,000 alumni, state officials and prominent citizens from throughout the State. Following the banquet, a large rally is held with fireworks, homecoming festivities, etc.

When it became necessary for you to cancel, we asked Jim Schlesinger to take your place. He agreed and will be the keynote speaker. This will preclude the University from extending an invitation to Gov. Reagan who, at one time, was considered as the alternate speaker should you not be able to attend.

TALKING POINTS

- -- I want to thank you personally for your kind invitation to address the Blue Key Banquet. I was looking forward to the event with great enthusiasm until I came down with this bad cold and related difficulties -- unfortunately, the Doctor insisted I cancel my outside appointments.
- -- I have been told by my staff that you were very helpful in making preliminary arrangements for my visit and for that I am most grateful.
- -- I'm happy <u>Jim Schelsinger</u> will be able to attend. I'm sure he will do an excellent job.
- -- Good luck against <u>Duke</u> Saturday. I hope you have a great homecoming weekend.

TELEPHONE: 904-392-1311



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM

FOR:

TERRY O'DONNELL

FROM:

DON RUMSFELD

Make sure that the President gets a telephone proposal to phone the President of the University of Florida saying how sorry he could not be down there on Friday. That should be done today.

done

We should also send appropriate letters for the cancellations. Fast.

m process