The original documents are located in Box C40, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 5/10/1976" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT RAS SEEN....

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO

Lynn Lowe, GOP State Chairman, Arkansas

501-372-7301 (state headquarters)

501-773-2005

DATE

As soon as possible

RECOMMENDED BY

Rog Morton

PURPOSE

To express the President's regrets that he is unable to visit Arkansas, as previously planned,

this coming weekend.

BACKGROUND

Lynn Lowe, in the summer of 1975, came out in strong support of the President and has been his strongest supporter in the southern states. This has caused considerable problems for Lowe with his own people and has subjected him to a lot of backbiting within the Republican Party in the southern states.

Lowe was very hopeful that the President could visit Little Rock on Sunday (May 16) and he believes that a victory by the President in Arkansas is very possible. The Arkansas primary is May 25; it is an open primary (cross-overs permitted). However, due to the total reorganization of the local and county governments in Arkansas, the heavily contested Democratic races in that state are expected to keep the vast majority of Democrats voting in their own primary.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

I am very sorry I couldn't come to Arkansas prior to the primary, but we are making a big effort in Michigan because of the number of delegates (84) and because of the psychological advantage the victor has there.

I know Rog Morton is working to get advocates into your state before the May 25 primary.

Thank you for your unwavering support through the last year. I am confident that we will win the nomination because of the hard work of people like yourself.

May 10, 1976