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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BILL NICHOLSON

FROM:

JIM CONNOR

JEC

The attached letter was returned in the President's outbox.
It is forwarded to you for appropriate handling.

cc: Dick Cheney
Jim Field

Attachment:

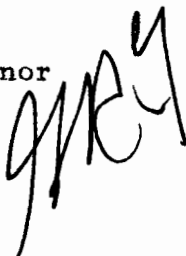
Letter from Roy B. Keppy
dated 9/21/76

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MR PRESIDENT:

The attached is for your information.
It will be handled in a routine manner
unless you indicate otherwise.

Jim Connor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Connor", written in a cursive style.

President Ford Committee

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 457-6400

September 21, 1976

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I very much appreciated the brief visit with you yesterday in the Oval Office.

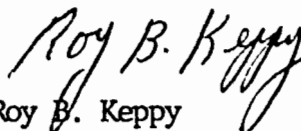
I am proud and honored to serve as National Chairman of Farmers for Ford. It is my firm intent to convey in the best way I possibly can to the farm and rural people of this nation your determination to maintain a free and profitable environment for agriculture.

In my district in Iowa 70% of the income is directly related to the income of farmers. Nationwide, agriculture is important. They tell me that in New York State agriculture is the largest single industry and in the nation's most populous state, California, agriculture provides one out of every four jobs. We need to tell the story of the importance of the agricultural industry to not only rural people but to all of the people in this nation.

I intended to extend an invitation to you to visit my eastern Iowa farm when I was in the Oval Office yesterday, but with the pressure of your time schedule decided to take this approach instead. Your visit would be most welcome and I believe the location of the Keppy farm would be an excellent one. It is near to the border of Illinois and truly in the heartland of America.

Again, Mr. President, please accept my thanks for the honor that has been extended to me. I hope to earn it.

Sincerely,


Roy B. Keppy

RBK:bb

President Ford Committee

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20038 (202) 457-6400

September 21, 1976

Reasons for a possible Presidential visit to the Keppy farm:

1. Moline, Illinois is only 12 or 15 miles away. There is an Iowa Air National Guard helipad within a mile of the farm and it might be possible for him to come there in a helicopter with Governor Ray.
2. Davenport, Iowa and that quad city area is the farm machinery capital of the world.
3. This area is the center of the cornbelt with farms which are totally representative with corn, soybeans, cattle feeding, and hogs in ample evidence throughout.
4. This could be a drawing of people and interest from Iowa, Illinois, and also from Wisconsin which is only 70 miles north.
5. An event on the farm which was designed to draw a crowd could be accommodated with ample parking and other necessary facilities available.