

*Distribution: 10 copies to Mr. Ford only M Office Copy*

AN ADDRESS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICH.  
AT GRADUATION EXERCISES OF THE GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., POLICE ACADEMY  
AT UNION HIGH SCHOOL  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN  
8 P.M. FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1970

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

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The Virginia Bill of Rights declared: "Government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation or community; of all the various modes and forms of government, that is best which is capable of producing the greatest degree of happiness and safety, and is most effectually secured against the danger of maladministration."

We in America are concerned about safeguards against corruption and oppression in government, and we have legislated to the end that the people shall be protected against such maladministration. We are also concerned, and rightfully so, with the public safety and the proper administration of justice.

The members of this graduating class will assist in the achievement of one of government's most vital functions -- that of attaining the highest possible degree of public safety.

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As you go about your peace-keeping tasks, please remember that for every detractor and revolutionary who shouts foul names at you there are thousands of supporters who are grateful for your efforts and thank God that there are still men today who are courageous enough to stand between the constructive law-abiding citizen and outright anarchy.

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are creating situations which could lead to the very oppression they falsely complain of.

Members of the Congress are anxious to help strengthen local law enforcement. At the same time, they are taking every precaution against the creation of a national police force.

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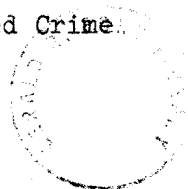
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You will make our communities safe and guard our liberty against the invasions of anarchy and the invasions of central power.

As you discharge your duties, there are some among our citizenry who will call you names.

I feel sure you will not lose your cool when you consider that what the letters P, I, and G really stand for are Pride, Integrity and Guts.

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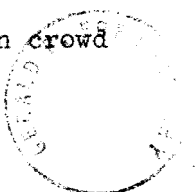
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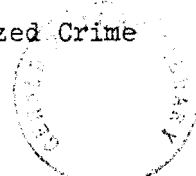
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(more)

fields of human relations and community relations. I personally feel that we in Grand Rapids can rely on your judgment and discretion.

I think I speak for the entire community when I say you have our active support and our respect. We know that you will serve faithfully in your duty posts. We know that you will give the people of this community the kind of service of which you and they can be proud. I, for one, am grateful -- and on behalf of all of the people of Grand Rapids, I thank you. Congratulations!

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