

The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “Citizenship Message, 1976” of the Eliska Hasek Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Fellow Citizen:

There are certain unforgettable moments in everyone's life -- moments that we treasure as long as we live. I hope that for you this is one of them. It is my pleasure to welcome you most warmly to citizenship in the United States of America.

Our country stands for different things to different people. It is remarkable for its size, its beauty, and its natural and economic wealth. But what really makes it unique is the experiment of freedom that was begun here by the earliest settlers -- people who, like you, chose to come to these shores to begin a new life of liberty, challenge and opportunity.

The American experiment goes on. You are now a vital part of it.

As you share the rights and benefits of citizenship with your fellow Americans, I hope the knowledge that you are now a vital part of the Nation that Abraham Lincoln once called "the last, best hope of earth" will always be a source of pride to you.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Gerald R. Ford

