The original documents are located in Box 1, folder "9/2/74 – Radio Tape for the Michigan Championship" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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RADIO TAPE FOR THE MICHIGAN CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO SPARTA, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 2, 1974

THANK YOU, GOVERNOR. (PAUSE)

SOMEHOW, THIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND HASN'T SEEMED QUITE RIGHT, WITH THE MICHIGAN CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO IN PROGRESS, WHILE I'M IN WASHINGTON.

AS YOU MAY KNOW, I HAD PLANNED TO BE WITH YOU---JUST AS I HAVE BEEN FOR EACH LABOR DAY OF THE PAST 25 YEARS---TO CROWN THE RODEO QUEEN. BUT MY PLANS WERE CHANGED ABRUPTLY A LITTLE MORE THAN 3 WEEKS AGO. AND SINCE THEN I FIND IT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO GET AWAY FROM WASHINGTON.

BUT I DO WANT TO CONGRATULATE THIS YEARS' LOVELY QUEEN,

AND TO SALUTE FLOYD SCHUT AND CLIFFORD VANDEN HOUT, AND ALL THOSE

WHO'VE DONE SO MUCH TO MAKE THIS RODEO A SUCCESS. AND TO SAY HELLO

TO THE MANY, MANY FRIENDS I'VE ENJOYED MEETING THESE PAST YEARS AT

THE RODEO.

INCIDENTALLY, I HEAR SOME RUMORS THAT THIS MIGHT BE THE LAST MICHIGAN CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO.

I HOPE THOSE RUMORS AREN'T TRUE. I HOPE THAT THE RODEO AT SPARTA WILL KEEP GOING FOR MANY YEARS. AND THAT ONE OF THOSE YEARS, FLOYD, CLIFFORD, AND THE REST OF YOU WILL INVITE ME BACK AGAIN TO CROWN THE QUEEN, AND TO MEET AND TALK WITH SO MANY OF MY VERY GOOD FRIENDS.

MY BEST WISHES TO EACH OF YOU, AND MAY YOU HAVE A MOST ENJOYABLE DAY.

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