

The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “10/9/74 - Opening Remarks at News Conference” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Suggested Opening Remarks at News Conference

GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I NEVER PROMISED YOU A ROSE GARDEN

(PAUSE FOR CHUCKLES) BUT I GUESS RON NESSEN DID

(PAUSE FOR CHUCKLES.)

SO I HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS NEW SETTING, AND OUR

NEW FORMAT (PAUSE FOR CHUCKLES) I HOPE I ENJOY

IT TOO. (PAUSE)

(Turn page and read statement announcing visit to Mexico)

Statement on Meeting with Mexican President Echeverria

I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THIS AFTERNOON THAT

PRESIDENT ~~DE LA~~ ECHEVERRIA ~~REVERZ FLORES~~ (Eh-cheh-veh-REE-ah)

~~ALL VAST~~ OF MEXICO AND I HAVE AGREED TO HOLD A MEETING ON

THE U.S. - MEXICAN BORDER ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 21. I AM VERY

MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA IN

THE NOGALES AREA. WE PLAN TO VISIT BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER.

THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO HAVE A TRADITION OF FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS. IT IS MY HOPE THAT OUR MEETING WILL CONTRIBUTE TO MAINTAINING THAT RELATIONSHIP AND TO STRENGTHENING THE GOODWILL BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES OVER THE YEARS TO COME. AT THIS MEETING, WE WILL DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES.