

**The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “1/26/75 - National Press Club Swearing in Ceremony Remarks” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...*156*

**NATIONAL PRESS CLUB**

**SWEARING-IN CEREMONY REMARKS**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1975**

LET ME THANK YOU FOR ASKING ME TO BE A PART OF  
THIS VERY SUSPICIOUS OCCASION . . .

I'M SURE BILL BROOM WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT PRESIDENT.  
HE'S VIGILANT -- HE'S ALERT -- AND HE HAS FAR REACHING VISION.  
THEN AGAIN, THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID ABOUT THE LOOKOUT AT  
PEARL HARBOR.

BELIEVE ME, BILL, IT ISN'T EASY BEING PRESIDENT.

THEY ASK IMPOSSIBLE THINGS OF YOU.      FIRST THEY TAKE AWAY

YOUR SWIMMING POOL -- AND THEN THEY WANT YOU TO COME

CLEAN.

AND NOW, BILL, IF YOU WILL RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND  
AND PLACE YOUR LEFT HAND ON THIS COPY OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT,  
WE WILL PROCEED WITH THE SWEARING IN.

FOR THE RECORD, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE OPENING

WORDS OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT ARE: "CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO

LAW . . ." AND THERE ARE SOME WHO BELIEVE THE COUNTRY

WOULD BE BETTER OFF IF IT HAD STOPPED RIGHT THERE . . .

NEVERTHELESS, BACK TO THE SWEARING IN.

WILLIAM W. BROOM, DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT  
YOU WILL UPHOLD, DEFEND, AND PROTECT THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB  
AGAINST ALL THE ENEMIES, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, THAT IT HAS  
ACCUMULATED PRIOR TO AND BECAUSE OF YOUR ELECTION.

THAT YOU WILL SERVE OUT AS MUCH OF YOUR TERM OF  
OFFICE AS THE MEMBERSHIP OF THIS CLUB WILL PERMIT;

THAT YOU WILL CURB WASTEFUL SPENDING PRACTICES  
WHEREVER POSSIBLE, EXCEPTING ONLY IN SUCH ESSENTIAL SOCIAL  
SERVICES AS THE MEMBERS' TAPROOM, THE 64 BAR, AND THE EAST  
LOUNGE;



THAT YOU WILL PRESERVE THE SACRED TRADITION OF  
RE-DECORATING THE CLUB PREMISES ONCE EACH YEAR IN A STYLE AND  
TASTE DICTATED BY THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT'S WIFE;

THAT YOU WILL CONTINUE THE EFFORTS OF YOUR  
PREDECESSORS TO BALANCE THE CLUB DEFICIT;

THAT YOU WILL MEET WITH THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS,

FROM TIME TO TIME, UPON WRITTEN REQUEST;

THAT YOU WILL FAITHFULLY PURSUE A POLICY OF  
COMMUNICATION, CONCILIATION, COMPROMISE, AND COOPERATION  
WITH THE SAME BOARD OF GOVERNORS UNTIL YOU HAVE THEM CORNERED,  
CONTAINED, CONFUSED, AND COMPLIANT, SO HELP YOU GOD . . .

END OF TEXT