The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “2/5/75 - Introduction of Billy Taylor” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FOR

BILLY TAYLOR

STATE DINNER FOR PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1975
THE LATE LOUIS ARMSTRONG ONCE SAID THAT "IF YOU HAVE TO ASK WHAT JAZZ IS, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW." SO I DON'T PROPOSE TO TRY TO DESCRIBE IT TO OUR DISTINGUISHED AND FOREIGN GUESTS THIS EVENING.
I will only point out that it is perhaps the most unique and durable product ever invented in America -- that it has made friends everywhere it has gone in the world.
IT IS A PART OF OUR HISTORY, OUR TRADITION AND OUR FOLKLORE.

BUT IT IS ALSO A LIVING FORM -- STILL GROWING, STILL EXPANDING -- THANKS TO BRILLIANT CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS LIKE OUR GUEST PERFORMER THIS EVENING.
MR. BILLY TAYLOR -- TECHNICALLY, I SHOULD SAY

DOCTOR TAYLOR, SINCE HE HAS BEEN AWARDED TWO HONORARY

DOCTORAL DEGREES IN MUSIC -- IS BOTH A THEORIST AND A

PRACTITIONER IN JAZZ. HE COMPOSES, HE CONDUCTS AND HE

PLAYS, AND HAS DELIGHTED LITERALLY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE THROUGH

HIS CONCERTS, AND RADIO AND TELEVISION PERFORMANCES.
HE ALSO TAKES HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AS A CITIZEN VERY SERIOUSLY, AND IS ACTIVE IN A NUMBER OF CIVIC AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS, AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE BRIEF BIOGRAPHY IN YOUR PROGRAM NOTES. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME HIM HERE TONIGHT -- AN OUTSTANDING AMERICAN ARTIST, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

MR. BILLY TAYLOR.

END OF TEXT
TO: THE PRESIDENT
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS
SUBJECT: Introductory Remarks for Entertainment at Bhutto Dinner

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE:
Wednesday, February 5, 1975, at the White House

SPEECHWRITER: Bakshian
EDITED BY: Theis

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