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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *df*

**RADIO AND TELEVISION CORRESPONDENT'S ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL DINNER**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1975**

I HAVE ONLY ONE THING TO SAY ABOUT A PROGRAM THAT  
CALLS FOR ME TO FOLLOW BOB HOPE: <sup>Bob</sup> WHO ARRANGED THIS?

SCOOP JACKSON?

*tonight*

IT'S RIDICULOUS.

BOB HOPE HAS ENORMOUS STAGE

PRESENCE, SUPERB COMEDY TIMING, AND THE FINEST WRITERS

IN THE BUSINESS. I'M STANDING HERE IN A RENTED TUXEDO --

WITH THREE JOKES FROM EARL BUTZ!

(ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)

BEFORE I BEGIN, \ LET ME ASK YOU TO JOIN WITH ME IN A  
SHORT, BUT RATHER SOLEMN CEREMONY, WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL --  
WOULD ALL THE T-V NEWSCASTERS IN THE ROOM PLEASE STAND --  
FACE TOWARD RON NESSEN, AND REPEAT AFTER ME: \ "THERE,  
BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD, GO !!"

D/

I'M VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR INVITATION BECAUSE MY  
ASSOCIATION WITH RADIO AND T-V CORRESPONDENTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN  
AN ENLIGHTENING AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. IT'S TAUGHT ME  
SO MANY THINGS. FOR ONE THING, IT TAUGHT ME ALWAYS TO WEAR  
A HELMET -- WHEN TAKING A QUESTION FROM TOM BROKAW.

I AM VERY HONORED TO BE HERE BECAUSE, AS WE ALL KNOW,  
THERE ARE ONLY THREE MAJOR VEHICLES TO KEEP US INFORMED AS  
TO WHAT IS GOING ON IN WASHINGTON: THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA,  
THE PRINT MEDIA, AND DOONESBURY . . . . NOT NECESSARILY  
IN THAT ORDER.

I'M GOING TO KEEP THIS VERY SHORT TONIGHT . . . .

BUT BEFORE I CLOSE, I HAVE BEEN ASKED BY MA-RYE-YA McLAUGHLIN

TO MAKE ONE ANNOUNCEMENT. SHE WANTS ALL OF YOU TO HOLD

ON TO YOUR TICKET STUBS FOR TONIGHT'S DRAWING OF PRIZES ---

AND WITH YOUR PERMISSION, MA-RYE-YA HAS ASKED ME TO READ

JUST A FEW OF THE MANY VALUABLE PRIZES WE HAVE FOR YOU TONIGHT.

FIRST / THE UNLISTED PHONE NUMBER OF IRVING R. LEVINE'S

HAIR STYLIST.

A SCALE MODEL OF THE WHEEL BARROW WALTER CRONKITE

TAKES HIS MONEY HOME IN.

A LEATHER-BOUND COPY OF HOWARD COSELL'S GUIDE TO

TERMINAL HUMILITY.



THE SECRET TRANSCRIPT OF HENRY KISSINGER'S LATEST EFFORT  
TO NEGOTIATE A PEACE TREATY - BETWEEN PHIL JONES AND RON NESSEN.

THE ONLY KNOWN PHOTOGRAPH OF FRANK BLAIR SMILING ---

AND THE ONLY KNOWN PHOTOGRAPH OF JOE GARAGIOLA NOT.

A GOLD-PLATED CROWBAR FOR GETTING A WORD IN EDGE-WISE

WITH SARAH McLENDON.

AND LAST, BUT NOT LEAST -- A HAND-WRITTEN LETTER  
FROM THE WORLD'S GREATEST VENTRILOQUIST, EDGAR BERGEN --  
TO DAVID KENNERLY, SAYING: ONE DUMMY IN THE FAMILY IS ENOUGH!

WELL, ENOUGH OF THAT. I WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW HOW

MUCH I HAVE ENJOYED THIS EVENING AND THE OTHERS I HAVE SPENT IN

YOUR COMPANY. FRANKLY, I WISH THERE WERE MANY MORE HOURS

IN THE PRESIDENTIAL DAY SO THAT OUR CONTACTS WITH EACH OTHER

*wouldn't*

~~AREN'T~~ SO BRIEF AND SO FORMAL.

BETTY AND I HAVE TRIED VERY HARD TO KEEP THE WHITE HOUSE  
A HOME AS WELL AS AN INSTITUTION. WE WANT OUR WARMTH TO  
COME FROM PEOPLE AND NOT JUST FROM FIREPLACES. YOUR INSIGHTS,  
YOUR THINKING, YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND YOUR FAIRNESS <sup>and</sup> ~~is~~ GREATLY  
VALUED AND APPRECIATED. AND I TELL YOU MOST SINCERELY --  
IT WILL NEVER BE OTHERWISE. THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY  
~~TONIGHT~~, TO SAY IT.

END OF TEXT

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT  
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN  
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS  
SUBJECT: President's remarks at the Radio and TV  
Correspondents dinner

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: \_\_\_\_\_

9 p. m., Thursday, March 13, 1975, Washington Hilton

SPEECHWRITER: Bob Orben

EDITED BY: Friedman/Theis/Hartmann

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

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- (X) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) \_\_\_\_\_
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- ( ) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) \_\_\_\_\_
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- (X) JERRY WARREN (FYI) \_\_\_\_\_
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