The original documents are located in Box 8, folder “5/5/75 - Secretary Shultz Portrait Unveiling” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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SECRETARY SHULTZ PORTRAIT UNVEILING

MONDAY, MAY 5, 1975
I'm very pleased to be asked to be here tonight --

To pay tribute to George Shultz and to thank him for the many years of outstanding service he has given to this nation.
HE HAS BEEN AN ADVISOR TO MORE THAN ONE PRESIDENT

AND HIS INFLUENCE HAS BEEN FELT IN GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION,

LABOR AND MANAGEMENT. HIS INVOLVEMENT IN ECONOMIC

MATTERS STARTED EARLY.
ACCORDING TO HIS BIOGRAPHY, WHEN HE WAS TWELVE YEARS OLD, GEORGE TRIED TO SELL HIS OWN, HOME-MADE MIMEOGRAPHED NEWSPAPER TO A NEIGHBOR FOR FIVE CENTS. THE NEIGHBOR ASKED HIM, "WHY SHOULD I BUY YOUR PAPER WHEN FOR THAT SAME FIVE CENTS I COULD GET THE SATURDAY EVENING POST?"
WELL, I HAVE RESEARCHED THIS EXTENSIVELY AND ACCORDING TO ALL OF MY INFORMANTS, THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY AND POSITIVELY THE LAST TIME GEORGE SHULTZ WAS EVER STUCK FOR AN ANSWER.
IN THE LAST DECADE, GEORGE HAS BEEN SECRETARY OF LABOR, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, AND ON ONE MEMORABLE OCCASION, GEORGE SHULTZ WAS EVEN AGRICULTURAL ADVISER TO THE CABINET. AGRICULTURAL ADVISER TO THE CABINET: I'M SURE YOU ALL REMEMBER THE DAY HE TOLD MEL LAIRD TO KEEP HIS COTTON PICKIN' HANDS OFF THE ECONOMY.
FORTUNATELY FOR US ALL, GEORGE SHULTZ HAS APPLIED HIS
OWN HANDS AND VERY UNIQUE TALENTS TO COPING WITH SOME OF THE GREAT
PROBLEMS AMERICA FACES. HIS SKILL AS A CALM, REASONING AND
REASONABLE MEDIATOR IS WELL KNOWN. HIS ACHIEVEMENTS
IN THE POSITIONS OF HIGH TRUST HE HAS HELD HAVE ALREADY BEEN
TOUCHED ON BY BILL SIMON.
BUT IF I HAD TO SETTLE ON ONE PHRASE TO DESCRIBE OUR HONORED GUEST
TONIGHT -- I WOULD HAVE TO SAY THIS: GEORGE SHULTZ IS A MAN
OF INTEGRITY. YOU CAN TELL HE'S A MAN OF INTEGRITY. WHO ELSE
DO YOU KNOW PLAYS GOLF WITH GEORGE MEANY AND ACTUALLY TRIES TO
WIN?
WHEN AN ASSOCIATE OF GEORGE SHULTZ WAS ASKED WHAT
THE SECRETARY'S HOBBIES ARE, HE ANSWERED, "ONE OF HIS BIG
RECREATIONS IS HIS FRIENDS." AND I'M HONORED TO NUMBER MYSELF
AMONG THE MANY FRIENDS OF GEORGE SHULTZ.
BILL SIMON HAS DONE SUCH A FINE JOB OF LISTING GEORGE'S VIRTUES AND
ACCOMPLISHMENTS, I WON'T EVEN TRY TO ADD TO THEM. LET ME JUST
SAY THIS ONE LAST THING ABOUT GEORGE SHULTZ AND IT'S VERY PERSONAL:
ANYONE WHO LOVES GOLF, SMOKES A PIPE, AND PLAYED FOOTBALL
IN COLLEGE -- CAN'T BE ALL BAD!
AND NOW, IF YOU'RE AS CURIOUS AS I AM, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE PAINTING!

END OF TEXT