The original documents are located in Box 9, folder “5/31/75 - Statement After Receiving the Key to the City of Madrid” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice
The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.
STATEMENT AFTER RECEIVING THE KEY TO THE CITY OF MADRID

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1975

MR. MAYOR, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MRS. FORD AND I HAVE BEEN VERY DEEPLY TOUCHED BY THE FRIENDLINESS AND WARMTH WHICH HAVE MARKED OUR ARRIVAL IN SPAIN.

THIS HOSPITALITY WAS EVIDENT IN THE GRACIOUS WELCOME OF THE CHIEF OF STATE AND THE SPANISH PEOPLE AS WE ENTERED THIS BEAUTIFUL CITY.
MANY AMERICANS ARE FAMILIAR WITH A PHRASE BESPEAKING OF SPANISH HOSPITALITY: "MY HOME IS YOUR HOME." IN ACCEPTING THIS KEY TO THE CITY OF MADRID, I HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE TO FEEL COMPLETELY WELCOME.

THIS KEY REPRESENTS MORE THAN HOSPITALITY. IT SIGNIFIES THE OPENING OF NEW DOORS TO GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS IN BRINGING THE SPANISH AND AMERICAN PEOPLES CLOSER TOGETHER AND IN BUILDING UPON THE FRIENDSHIP WE ALREADY SHARE. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I ACCEPT THIS KEY TO YOUR GREAT CAPITAL CITY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT