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INTRODUCTION OF ROBERTA PETERS

COLOMBIA STATE DINNER

SEPTEMBER 25, 1975

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN. 07-07-75

YOUR EXCELLENCY -- HONORED GUESTS:

WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE WITH US THIS EVENING ONE OF  
THE WORLD'S GREATEST OPERA SINGERS -- AMERICA'S OWN  
ROBERTA PETERS.

BORN IN THE BRONX, SHE BEGAN HER VOCAL STUDIES THERE  
AT THE AGE OF 13. SIX YEARS LATER, HER CHILDHOOD DREAM  
CAME TRUE WHEN SHE WAS SIGNED TO A PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT.

ROBERTA PETERS' DEBUT AT THE METROPOLITAN OPERA IN  
1956 DAZZLED THE AUDIENCE AND THE CRITICS. SINCE THEN,  
SHE HAS PERFORMED TO ACCLAIM AT THE GREAT OPERA HOUSES OF  
THE WORLD.

- 4 -

SHE IS A FAVORITE OF AMERICAN AUDIENCES -- FROM HER  
CROSS-COUNTRY TOURS, HER RECORDINGS AND HER FREQUENT TELEVISION  
APPEARANCES. FOUR YEARS AGO IN MOSCOW, ROBERTA PETERS'  
PERFORMANCES DREW 15-MINUTE STANDING OVATIONS. SHE WAS THE  
FIRST AMERICAN-BORN ARTIST EVER TO RECEIVE THE COVETED  
BOLSHOI MEDAL.

- 5 -

WASHINGTON REMEMBERS HER FOR HER ARTISTRY IN  
THE KING AND I TWO YEARS AGO AT WOLF TRAP CENTER.

WE ARE PLEASED SHE HAS RETURNED.

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YOUR EXCELLENCY AND HONORED GUESTS: JOIN ME PLEASE

IN WELCOMING ONE OF THE GREAT VOCAL TALENTS OF OUR TIME --

THE CHARMING AND GIFTED ROBERTA PETERS.

END OF TEXT