The original documents are located in Box 19, “11/11/75 - Talking Points: Scout Induction Ceremony” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO GREET YOU THIS EVENING.

LET ME EXTEND MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS UPON YOUR INDUCTION AS CUB AND BOY SCOUTS. YOU HAVE JOINED AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS EARNED THE RESPECT OF ALL AMERICANS.
WHEN I WAS ABOUT YOUR AGE, I GOT INVOLVED IN SCOUTING AND HAVE MANY FOND MEMORIES OF FUN AND OF LEARNING WHICH I WILL ALWAYS TREASURE. IN FACT, TO ME, REACHING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT WAS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF MY YOUTH.

I MIGHT MENTION THAT SOME OF THE KEY MEMBERS OF MY STAFF ARE FORMER SCOUTS, INCLUDING DON RUMSFELD, BOB HARTMANN AND JACK MARSH WHO WERE ALL EAGLE SCOUTS.
THE TRAINING WHICH SCOUTING PROVIDES WILL BE INVALUABLE TO YOU IN LATER LIFE, AS IT HAS BEEN TO ME.

IF EACH OF YOU WILL FOLLOW THE COMMITMENT MADE TONIGHT -- TO DO YOUR DUTY TO GOD, COUNTRY, AND FELLOW MAN -- YOU WILL GET MORE OUT OF SCOUTING THAN YOU PUT INTO IT.

REMEMBER THAT THE SCOUTS MAKE SCOUTING WHAT IT IS -- A LOT OF FUN AND A LOT OF LEARNING.

I COMMEND YOUR WHOLEHEARTED PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OF SCOUTING AND PROMISE IT WILL BE AN EXPERIENCE YOU WILL LOOK BACK ON WARMLY THE REST OF YOUR LIVES.
YOUR PARENTS CAN BE PROUD OF YOUR CIVIC SPIRIT.

WITH YOUNG MEN LIKE YOURSELVES PRACTICING THE VALUABLE IDEALS OF SCOUTING, AMERICA HAS MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO FROM ITS LEADERS IN THE THIRD CENTURY OF OUR INDEPENDENCE.

END OF TEXT