

The original documents are located in Box 22, "1/29/76 - Recorded Remarks in Honor of Mr. George Halas, the Chicago Boys Clubs' "Chicagoan of the Year"" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

TAPING:

THE CHICAGO BOYS CLUB'S

"CHICAGOAN OF THE YEAR" AWARD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1976

IT IS AN HONOR AND A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO JOIN
IN THIS WELL-DESERVED TRIBUTE TO GEORGE HALAS,
THE CHICAGO BOYS CLUBS' -- "CHICAGOAN OF THE YEAR●"

AFTER ALMOST 60 YEARS AS THE GUIDING LIGHT OF THE
CHICAGO BEARS, COACH HALAS HAS ESTABLISHED HIMSELF
AS AN INSTITUTION IN YOUR CITY●

HIS VERY SUCCESSFUL CAREER DATES BACK TO THE VERY
BEGINNING OF PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL. INDEED, HE WAS ONE
OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE,
WHICH THRILLS AND ENTERTAINS SO MANY MILLIONS OF AMERICANS
TODAY.

AS YOU MAY KNOW, I AM CERTAINLY NOT IMMUNE
TO FOOTBALL'S APPEAL -- AND GEORGE HALAS HAS HAD AN IMPACT
ON ME, AS HE HAS ON ANY ONE WHO TRULY LOVES THE GAME●
OVER THE YEARS, HE HAS BEEN AN INNOVATOR, A GREAT COMPETITOR,
AND A WINNER WITHOUT EQUAL●

BUT EVEN WITH THAT INCREDIBLE RECORD OF SUCCESS,
GEORGE HALAS DESERVES THIS AWARD MOST OF ALL / BECAUSE
OF HIS COMMITMENT TO THE GREAT CITY OF CHICAGO. HE HAS
MADE THE SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD AND FAIR PLAY AS IMPORTANT
AS THE SPIRIT OF COMPETITION IN HIS WORK AND IN HIS LIFE.

HE IS SO POPULAR THAT COACH HALAS IS JUST ABOUT
THE ONLY MAN I KNOW WHO COULD GIVE DICK DALEY A REAL RACE
FOR MAYOR OF CHICAGO.

BUT GEORGE ISN'T INTERESTED IN BEING A REPUBLICAN
ELEPHANT OR ^A DEMOCRATIC DONKEY. HE'S A CHICAGO BEAR --
AND HE HAS A CITY THAT LOVES HIM FOR IT.

MY CONGRATULATIONS TO COACH HALAS, AND ALSO
TO MAYOR DALEY, CLEM STONE, WALLY PHILLIPS, AND ALL THE OTHERS
WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS GREAT EVENT.

I WISH YOU ALL A VERY ENJOYABLE AND MEMORABLE
EVENING.

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