The original documents are located in Box 28, “4/5/76 - Remarks at Swearing-in of Ambassador Strauss-Hupe (Includes draft)” 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 Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

WE HAVE PLANNED THIS CEREMONY HERE IN THE

ROSE GARDEN TODAY IN ORDER TO EMPHASIZE ONCE AGAIN THE

IMPORTANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES TO OUR FRIENDSHIP

AND SOLIDARITY WITH OUR N.A.T.O. ALLIES.
FOR OVER A QUARTER OF A CENTURY, N.A.T.O.

HAS SERVED AS A BULWARK OF WESTERN DEFENSES. IT HAS SUCCESSFULLY DETERRED AGGRESSION AGAINST THE NORTH ATLANTIC COMMUNITY.

THE UNITED STATES IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE N.A.T.O. ALLIANCE. IT IS A CORNERSTONE OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY IN 1976 AS IT HAS BEEN FOR OVER A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AND AS IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE IN THE FUTURE. SECRETARY KISSINGER SHARES MY DEEP CONVICTION FOR AND DEDICATION TO THE ALLIANCE.
THE MAN WE HAVE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT US IN ITS COUNCILS EXEMPLIFIES THE STRENGTH OF OUR COMMITMENT.

ROBERT STRAUSZ-HUPE (STRAUSS-WHO-PAY), HAS HAD A LONG AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS A SCHOLAR, A WRITER AND A DIPLOMAT.

THROUGH HIS WRITINGS AND HIS DEEDS, HE HAS AMPLY DEMONSTRATED AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ACTIVE, DEMANDING ROLE THAT THE UNITED STATES MUST PLAY IN THE WORLD, AND THE CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITIES WE MUST BEAR FOR OUR COLLECTIVE DEFENSE.
MR. STRAUSS-ZHUPE (STRAUSS-WHO-PAY) WILL BE REPORTING TO THE N.A.T.O. HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS AT A TIME WHEN AMONG THE ALLIES THEMSELVES THERE IS A NEW SENSE OF UNITY AND SOLIDARITY.

YET THIS IS ALSO A TIME WHEN HERE IN OUR OWN LAND THERE ARE THOSE WHO QUESTION OUR MILITARY CAPABILITY AND OUR RESOLVE AS A NATION.
WHILE I WELCOME OPEN, HONEST DEBATE ABOUT AMERICA'S ROLE
IN THE WORLD, I CAN ONLY DEPLORE THOSE ACTIONS WHICH TEND
TO MISLEAD NOT ONLY OUR OWN PEOPLE BUT OUR FRIENDS AND
ADVERSARIES ABROAD.

MR. AMBASSADOR, I ASK THAT YOU CARRY FROM
HERE TODAY A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM ME TO OUR FRIENDS IN
EUROPE. TELL THEM IN CLEAR AND UNMISTAKABLE TERMS:
THE UNITED STATES TODAY IS THE MOST POWERFUL ECONOMIC AND MILITARY FORCE IN THE WORLD, AND WE SHALL REMAIN THAT WAY.

THE UNITED STATES TODAY IS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE N.A.T.O. ALLIANCE. WE HAVE STOOD FIRM IN THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY FOR TWO CENTURIES AND WE SHALL ALWAYS BE FAITHFUL TO THAT HERITAGE.
AND FINALLY, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TODAY --

AS IN THE PAST -- IS A TRUE, RELIABLE PARTNER IN THE STRUGGLE

FOR PEACE. WE ARE A PEOPLE WHO ARE TRUE TO OUR FRIENDS

AND TO OUR BOND.

WE TAKE PRIDE IN THE WAY THAT EUROPE AND AMERICA HAVE JOINED

TO OVERCOME ADVERSITY IN THE PAST. WE SHALL CONTINUE NOW

IN BUILDING A NEW ERA OF PEACE AND RISING PROSPERITY IN THE

FUTURE.
TO OUR MANY ALLIES IN EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD, OUR HAND IS OUT-STRETCHED WITH HOPE, WITH CONFIDENCE, AND WITH FAITH IN OUR FUTURE TOGETHER.

AND NOW, LET ME ASK AMBASSADOR CATTO TO PERFORM THE SWEARING-IN OF OUR NEW AMBASSADOR TO THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL.

END OF TEXT

I WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON AMBASSADOR CATTO TO ADMINISTER THE OATH.
Mr. Ambassador, members of the diplomatic corps, and ladies and gentlemen:

We have planned this ceremony here in the Rose Garden today in order to emphasize once again the importance that the United States attaches to our friendship and solidarity with our NATO allies.

For over a quarter of a century, NATO has served as a bulwark of Western defenses. It has successfully deterred aggression against the North Atlantic Community. It has promoted stability and well-being among our peoples. And it has safeguarded the liberty and common heritage we treasure as democracies.

The United States is totally committed to the NATO alliance.
The man we have chosen to represent us in its councils exemplifies the strength of our commitment. Robert Strausz-Hupe has had a long and distinguished career as a scholar, a writer and a diplomat. Through his writings and his deeds, he has amply demonstrated an understanding of the active, demanding role that the United States must play in the world, and the continuing responsibilities we must bear for our collective defense.

Mr. Strausz-Hupe will be reporting to the NATO headquarters in Brussels at a time when among the allies themselves there is a new sense of unity and solidarity.

Yet this is also a time when here in our own land there are those who question our military capability and our resolve as a nation. While I welcome open, honest debate about America's role in the world, I can only deplore those actions which tend to mislead not only our own people but our friends and adversaries abroad.
Mr. Ambassador, I ask that you carry from here today a personal message from me to our friends in Europe. Tell them in clear and unmistakable terms:

-- Do not doubt the strength of the United States. We are the most powerful economic and military force in the world, and we shall remain that way.

-- Do not doubt the resolve of the United States. We have stood firm in the defense of liberty for two centuries and we shall always be faithful to that heritage.

-- And finally, do not doubt the friendship and understanding of the United States of America. We are a people who are true to our friends and to our bond. We take pride in the way that Europe and America have joined to overcome adversity in the past. We shall continue now in building a new era of peace and rising prosperity in the future.
To our many allies in Europe and elsewhere around the world, our hand is outstretched with hope, with confidence, and with faith in our future together.

And now, let me ask Ambassador Catto to perform the swearing-in of our new Ambassador to the North Atlantic Council.