The original documents are located in Box 32, "5/17/76 - Introductory Remarks on the Introduction of Entertainer for State Dinner for French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing" of the President's Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION OF EARL HINES AT STATE DINNER FOR PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING, MAY 17, 1976

Tonight we are privileged to have for our entertainment America's legendary jazz musician, Earl Hines. Earl has often been called the Father of modern jazz piano, and the world's greatest jazz pianist.

His musical career spans half a century, and during that time he not only kept developing his own talent, but discovered some of America's most famous musicians.

Earl Hines combines experience with tremendous energy and imagination. Not long ago he said, "You never master a piano.

You find excitement every time you sit down."

I know we will find it exciting to hear him tonight. Ladies and gentlemen, Earl "Fahtha" Hines.

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