The original documents are located in Box 35, “7/2/76 - Remarks Upon the Acceptance of a Bicentennial Gift from Norway Presented by Crown Prince Harold and Princess Sonja” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Welcoming Remarks

1) It is a great honor and pleasure to welcome to Washington today their Royal Highnesses, Crown Prince Harald and Princess Sonja of Norway.

2) The Crown Prince is an old friend of the United States, and we have just had a very welcome and cordial conversation.

3) We are delighted that the Crown Prince and the Princess can share these very special Bicentennial moments with us. We also welcome Ambassador and Mrs. Sommerfeldt and all of our guests to the East Garden today.

Closing Remarks

1) Your Highness, this gift which the Government and people of Norway have sent to us today to honor our 200th anniversary as a nation not only captures the true spirit of our celebration but also establishes a legacy that will be ours for years to come.

2) A country is measured by its concern for the welfare and well-being of all its citizens. This concern is being expressed today by a group gathered here at the White House under Dr. Marr's direction to study ways to improve the condition for millions of Americans who face, with courage, lives of great challenge and lives of great opportunity.
3) It is reflected in your gift and in our shared ideals as nations.

4) The center which will be established through gifts such as the one announced today by Crown Prince Harald will help ensure that the future of our handicapped citizens will hold the same opportunities for fulfillment as it does for all our citizens.

5) On behalf of the people of the United States, we express our great appreciation for this generous gift.

6) We send our best wishes through you, Your Royal Highness, to His Majesty, King Olav, to Prime Minister Nordli (NORD-lee) and to the people of Norway for their continued happiness and prosperity.