The original documents are located in Box 36, “7/14/76 - Filmed Message for the Annual All-Star Football Luncheon” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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TAPING: PRESIDENT'S REMARKS TO ALL-STAR FOOTBALL LUNCHEON, JULY 20, 1976
I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE WITH YOU AT THE 1976 ALL STAR FOOTBALL LUNCHEON -- EVEN IF IT'S ONLY ON FILM.

I WISH I COULD BE THERE IN PERSON. I'D LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO SWAP A FEW FOOTBALL STORIES AND ENJOY YOUR GOOD COMPANY.

LET ME CONGRATULATE THE PLAYERS SELECTED FOR THE 1976 ALL STAR GAME. I KNOW THE COMPETITION TODAY IS A LOT TOUGHER THAN WHEN I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO MAKE THE TEAM.

IN 1935, WE PLAYED THE CHICAGO BEARS. THEY TAUGHT US WHAT REALLY TOUGH COMPETITION WAS LIKE. THE FINAL OUTCOME SOUNDED LIKE A BASEBALL SCORE: THE BEARS WON FIVE TO NOTHING.

I HAVE A FEELING THE SCORE WILL BE A LOT HIGHER IN YOUR GAME.
Since Coach Parseghian (Par-see-jin) is quite a task master, you should be in real fighting shape for the game with the Steelers. But whatever the outcome, you can take pride in the fact that your efforts this Friday night will help to provide funds for more than one hundred local charities.

The Chicago Jaycees with their warm hospitality, and the Chicago Tribune with its fine organization, make this annual game an exciting occasion and one of the most successful charity benefits in the nation.

All of you deserve a great deal of credit for what you are doing for the poor, the sick and the hungry.
YOU HAVE MY ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR THIS ANNUAL EVENT, AND MY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK.

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