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 Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.
TAPING REMARKS FOR COLORADO CENTENNIAL

JULY 27, 1976
IT IS A SPECIAL HONOR FOR ME TO CONGRATULATE

COLORADO ON ITS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF STATEHOOD.

MRS. FORD, OUR CHILDREN, AND I KNOW FIRST HAND THE

BEAUTY OF COLORADO, AND THE HOSPITALITY OF ITS PEOPLE.

WE CONSIDER VAIL, WHERE WE HAVE SPENT SO MANY ENJOYABLE

VACATIONS, A SECOND HOME.

COLORADO, THE 38th STATE TO ENTER THE UNION,

HAS THE DISTINCTION OF CELEBRATING ITS CENTENNIAL DURING

OUR NATION'S BICENTENNIAL.
TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO, AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE WAS
PROCLAIMED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THIRTEEN COLONIES.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, COLORADO'S STATEHOOD WAS DECLARED
BY PRESIDENT GRANT.

IN 1976, AMERICA AND COLORADO TOGETHER ENTER A
NEW CENTURY OF HISTORY. BOTH HAVE GAINED THE WISDOM
THAT AGE AND EXPERIENCE BRING, YET BOTH HAVE KEPT THE
STRENGTH AND IDEALISM OF YOUTH.
LIKE OUR NATIONAL CELEBRATION, COLORADO DAY WILL BE MARKED BY MANY WONDERFUL EVENTS. EACH EVENT, IN ITS OWN WAY, WILL SYMBOLIZE A REVERENCE FOR OUR HERITAGE AND A RESPECT FOR OUR POTENTIAL. I AM SURE THAT THE COLORADO CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WILL REVEAL THE SAME HARMONY, GOOD WILL, AND OPTIMISM THAT HAS BEEN SO EVIDENT THROUGHOUT OUR NATIONAL CELEBRATION.

THE CONTINUATION OF THAT RENEWED SPIRIT INTO OUR NEXT CENTURY IS THE BEST BIRTHDAY GIFT WE CAN GIVE COLORADO AND THE NATION.
WE COMMEMORATED THE ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY RINGING BELLS ALL ACROSS AMERICA.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ON COLORADO DAY BELLS AGAIN WILL RING OUT IN FREEDOM'S NAME. AS YOU BEGIN YOUR SECOND CENTURY OF STATEHOOD, LET EVERY CITY AND FARM RESOLVE TO MEET THE FUTURE WITH THE SAME COURAGE AND DEDICATION THAT PIONEERS HAVE SHOWN THROUGHOUT THE PROUD HISTORY OF COLORADO.

WHETHER SETTLING ON THE BROAD PLAINS, OR IN THE MAJESTIC MOUNTAINS, COLORADO'S CITIZENS HAVE CARRIED IN THEIR HEARTS THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM.
MAY YOUR CELEBRATION BE JOYOUS, AND YOUR NEXT
ONE HUNDRED YEARS EVEN MORE REWARDING THAN THOSE THAT
HAVE GONE BEFORE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT VISIT TO COLORADO.

UNTIL THEN, HAVE A GREAT ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

END OF TEXT