The original documents are located in Box 42, “11/3/76 - Remarks read by the First Lady Conceding the Election to President-Elect Carter, including Telegram from President Ford to President-Elect Carter” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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ASKED ME TO TELL YOU THAT HE TELEPHONED PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER A SHORT TIME AGO AND CONGRATULATED HIM ON HIS VICTORY.

THE PRESIDENT ALSO WANTS TO THANK ALL THOSE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO WORKED SO HARD ON HIS BEHALF AND THE MILLIONS WHO SUPPORTED HIM WITH THEIR VOTES.
IT HAS BEEN THE GREATEST HONOR OF MY HUSBAND'S LIFE TO HAVE SERVED HIS FELLOW AMERICANS DURING TWO OF THE MOST DIFFICULT YEARS IN OUR HISTORY.

THE PRESIDENT URGES ALL AMERICANS TO JOIN HIM IN GIVING OUR UNITED SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER AS HE PREPARES TO ASSUME HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES.
DEAR JIMMY:

IT IS APPARENT NOW THAT YOU HAVE WON OUR LONG
AND INTENSE STRUGGLE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR VICTORY.
AS ONE WHO HAS BEEN HONORED TO SERVE THE PEOPLE

OF THIS GREAT LAND -- BOTH IN THE CONGRESS AND AS

PRESIDENT -- I BELIEVE THAT WE MUST NOW PUT THE

DIVISIONS OF THE CAMPAIGN BEHIND US AND UNITE THE

COUNTRY ONCE AGAIN IN THE COMMON PURSUIT OF PEACE

AND PROSPERITY.

ALTHOUGH THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE DISAGREEMENTS

OVER THE BEST MEANS TO USE IN PURSUING OUR GOALS, I

WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WILL HAVE MY COMPLETE

AND WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT AS YOU TAKE THE OATH OF

OFFICE THIS JANUARY.
I also pledge to you that I and all members of my administration will do all that we can to insure that you begin your term as smoothly and effectively as possible.

May God bless you and your family as you undertake your new responsibilities.

JERRY FORD