

**The original documents are located in Box 4, folder “2/19/75 - Dinner with the Markleys” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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FORD-POLICEMEN (TOPS N015)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD, EXPRESSING CONCERN, SENT A PERSONAL LETTER AND FLOWERS TODAY TO A WASHINGTON MOTORCYCLE POLICEMAN WHO SUFFERED A BROKEN LEG WHILE ESCORTING A PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

MRS. FORD TRIED TO REACH THE OFFICER, SGT. CHARLES BADEN, 34, BY PHONE AT WASHINGTON HOSPITAL CENTER THIS MORNING, HER PRESS SECRETARY SHEILA WEIDENFELD SAID. SHE ADDED THAT THE FIRST LADY WAS "VERY DEPRESSED" ABOUT THE ACCIDENT IN WHICH THE OFFICER WAS KNOCKED FROM HIS MOTORCYCLE BY A PICKUP TRUCK.

THE PRESIDENT ALSO HAD EXPRESSED HIS REGRET ABOUT THE INCIDENT TO OFFICERS IN HIS ESCORT GROUP WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

BADEN'S CONDITION WAS REPORTED SATISFACTORY BY THE HOSPITAL, AND AN OPERATION SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY WAS CALLED OFF.

A POLICE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID BADEN WAS CHANGING LANES WHEN THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED NEAR THE PRESIDENT'S CAR AS IT DROVE ALONG MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE PAST THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD WERE RETUNING FROM A DINNER WITH A FORD MOTOR CO. VICE PRESIDENT, RODERICK MARKLEY IN NORTHWESTERN WASHINGTON.

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