# The original documents are located in Box 9, folder "4/5/76 - American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association" of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

RED CAVANEY

FROM:

SUSAN PORTER

SUBJECT:

Mrs. Ford's Participation in the President's Drop-by of the AHEPA Dinner, Monday, April 5, 1976

As we discussed by phone, Mrs. Ford would like -- unless she is super tired from her day of campaigning in Wisconsin -- to join the President on his drop-by to the AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) Dinner to be held at the Washington Hilton. The Fords have attended this event through the years and feel warmly toward the organization.

Mrs. Ford had been invited to attend a separate reception in the afternoon given by the Daughters of Penelope, the auxiliary of AHEPA, at which time they wish to present her with their "Salute To Women" Award. Because her campaigning in Wisconsin will not permit her to accept the award at the reception, they would like to present it to her that evening. The initial invitation was extended by Elizabeth Athanasakos, the former Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope, and the award will probably be presented by Katharine Caravasios, the current Grand President. The file is attached.

Thank you.

c: BF Staff
Peter Sorum
Terry O'Donnell
William Nicholson
Jeanne Davis
Jeanne Holm
Myron Kuropas
Rex Scouten
Staircase



1265

CONFIDENTIAL

March 27, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR SUSAN PORTER

FROM:

Jeanne W. Davis WH

SUBJECT:

Daughters of Penelope Invitation to First Lady

This is in reply to your memorandum of March 2 requesting comments and recommendations on the request by the Daughters of Penelope to present the First Lady with the organization's annual "Salute to Women" award at the White House on April 5.

The Daughters of Penelope is the women's auxiliary of AHEPA -- the largest and most influential Greek-American fraternal and social organization with a membership of over 75,000. We would have no objection if Mrs. Ford wishes to meet with the Daughters of Penelope to receive the group's annual award and would be pleased to prepare her remarks to the organization.

The President has accepted an invitation from AHEPA to drop by the organization's Bicentennial Congressional banquet at the Washington Hilton Hotel on April 5. You might wish to consider having the First Lady accompany him to receive the "Salute to Women" award.

Kashinghan, Dan of Jungle

CONFIDENTIAL (GDS)



#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

SUSAN PORTER

FROM:

MYRON B. MGROPAS

THROUGH:

WILLIAM J. BAROODY, JR.

SUBJECT:

MEETING WITH DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE.

The Daughters of Penelope was founded in 1929 and has a national membership of approximately 13,000 members. Affiliated with the Order of AHEPA, it is a highly respected and active organization in the Greek community.

There has been a great deal of adverse publicity in the Greek press concerning the Cyprus situation and for that reason a White House coffee with Mrs. Ford and organizational leaders would be very desirable.

We support accepting the invitation issued by Elizabeth Athanasakos, a very influential person in her own right and a former Grand President.

Charles own

March 2, 1976

MENORANDUM TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

WILLIAM BAROODY

FROM: SUSAN PORTER

May I have your comments on the attached request by the Daughters of Penelope. They would like to be received at the White House. Hay I have your assessment of the organization and their request to be received?

Thank you.



## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Jusan -My feeling is this - subsup a sel delpiM Itelien gudanes und pulage tome for Demil Deweight & Bill Banuly. Bethy is a judge and a rung fine pelson -Please advise -Maria



Elizabeth Athanasakos Attorney at Law

LOGAN 4-7545

2633 NORTH FEDERAL HIGHWAY
CROSSROADS SHOPPING CENTER
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33306

February 25, 1976

Ms. Maria Downs
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Maria,

I thought it best to contact you by letter for the purpose of obtaining certain information that I require within a short period of time. The Grand President of the Daughters of Penelope has appointed me to chair the forthcoming "Salute To Women" to be held on April 5, 1976, That is the same date that the Order of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) will have its biennial banquet saluting the members of Congress. It has been announced that the Premier of Greece, Mr. Constantine Caramanlis, will be receiving the Socratic Award that evening. The Daughters of Penelope in 1970 initiated its program "Salute To Women". The recipient of its first award was Senator Margaret Chase Smith. Two years ago the function was held at Decatur House.

This year I would like to plan something very special. If it is at all possible to arrange a coffee at the White House, I would like to do so for many reasons, the main one being to counteract some of the adverse publicity being brought forth between some of those of Greek descent and the Administration. In addition, if it is at all possible for Mrs. Ford to be present, we would like to honor her as the recipient of our award. In addition it is our plan to invite other outstanding women in the administration to join in the salute. If it is not possible to arrange this at the White House, then I would like to know whether it can be held at the Blair House or perhaps we can go back to the Decatur House if it is available. We realize that there is a cost involved, and if you would give us some indication what this cost would be, I can make final arrangements. The time would be left to you as to the availability of Mrs. Ford.



Ms. Maria Downs

Since much time has elapsed since I starting working on this project, time is of the essence at this point. I will be in Washington, D. C., on Thursday and Friday, February 26th and 27th and will be available to meet with you or talk with you especially on Friday afternoon, February 27th. I may be reached through the I.W.Y. Secretariat at the State Department (632-8888). I hope that we will be able to work this out.

Sincerely yours,

#: (305) 566-3664 0: (305) 564 7545

EA: aml

8. FORD

Elizabeth Athanasakos Attornoy at Law

Khila

#### PROPOSED SCHEDULE

THE PRESIDENT & MRS. FORD'S DROP-BY AT THE BICENTENNIAL CONGRESSIONAL DINNER OF THE ORDER OF AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

Washington Hilton Hotel
Monday, April 5, 1976
Attire: Black Tie
(For Head Table only)

9:54 pm

The President and Mrs. Ford board motorcade on South Grounds.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route Washington Hilton Hotel, Connecticut Avenue and T Street, N. W.

[Driving time: 6minutes]

10:00 pm

MOTORCADE ARRIVES Washington Hilton Hotel.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE CLOSED ARRIVAL

The President & Mrs. Ford will be met by:
Mr. William G. Chirgotis, Supreme President,
Order of AHEPA

Mr. Peter N. Derzis, Supreme Vice President, Order of AHEPA

Mr. Charles Papuchis, Banquet Chairman

Mr. Earl McDonough, General Manager of Washington Hilton Hotel

The President and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, Mr. Derzis, & Mr. Papuchis, proceed inside Washington Hilton Hotel to holding room via elevator.

10:02 pm The President and Mrs. Ford arrive holding room.

10:03 pm The President and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, Mr. Derzis, & Mr. Papuchis, depart holding room en route off-stage announcement area.

10:04 pm Announcement.

10:04 pm The President and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, Mr. Derzis, & Mr. Papuchis, proceed onto International Ballroom stage and take their seats.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 1.200

10:05 pm Introduction of the President by Mr. Nick Smyrnis, Chairman, Board of Trustees, AHEPA.

10:05 pm Presidential remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

10:20 pm Remarks conclude.

The President returns to his seat.

10:20 pm Presentation of the 1976 Socratic Awards of AHEPA to the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives by Mr. Chirgotis and Mr. George Vournas.

NOTE: Sen. Eagleton & Rep. Fascell will accept on behalf of the Congress with responses. The President is not expected to participate in the presentation.

10:30 pm Presentation concludes.

10:30 pm Presentation of the "Salute to Women" Award of the Daughters of Penelope, AHEPA, to Mrs. Ford by Mrs. Katherine Caravasios, Grand President, Grand Lodge-Daughers of Penelope.

NOTE: Mrs. Ford is not expected to respond.

Mr. Smyrnis thanks the President & Mrs. Ford.

10:32 pm The President and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, & Mrs. Papuchis, depart stage and proceed en route motorcade for boarding.

The President and Mrs. Ford bid farewell to Mr.

Chirgotis & Mrs. Papuchis and board motorcade.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS Washington Hilton Hotel en route South Grounds.

[Driving time: 6 minutes]

10:42 pm MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.

10:36 pm

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DROP-BY BICENTENNIAL CONGRESSIONAL BANQUET

The Washington Hilton Hotel
MONDAY - APRIL 5, 1976
Attire: Black Tie (Head Table
Only)

Departure: 9:54 p.m.

From: Terry O'Donnel

#### BACKGROUND:

Departing the South Grounds at 9:54 p.m., you will drop-by the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) Bicentennial Congressional Banquet in the Ballroom Center West of the Washington Hilton Hotel. If Mrs. Ford attends with you, the Daughters of Penelope, the auxiliary of AHEPA, wish to present her with their "Salute to Women" Award.

In attendance will be some 1,200 persons, including Members of Congress, leading Government officials, and leaders of the Greek American Community.

At the conclusion of your remarks, you return to your seat for the Presentation of the 1976 Socratic Awards of AHEPA to the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. Senator Eagleton and Rep. Fascell will accept on behalf of the Congress with responses. After the presentation concludes, you depart for the White House. The 1976 Socratic Award was originally scheduled for presentation to Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis but later changed to be presented to both the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate when it was determined that Mr. Karamanlis would not be able to attend.

Expected to attend and sit at the head table are the Greek Ambassador, His Excellency Menelas Alexandrakis, and the Greek Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Costas Stavropoulos.

AHEPA was founded in 1922 in Atlanta, Georgia, as a fraternal order to Americanize the Greek immigrant. It is the largest lay organization of Greek descent people in the world, numbering, with its auxiliaries (women, boys, and girls) some 75,000 or more.

#### SEQUENCE

9:54 p.m.

You and Mrs. Ford board motorcade on South Grounds and depart en route Washington Hilton Hotel.

10:00 p.m.

Arrive Washington Hilton Hotel where you will be met by:

Mr. William G. Chirgotis, Supreme President, Order of AHEPA

Mr. Peter N. Derzis, Supreme Vice President, Order of AHEPA

Mr. Charles Papuchis, Banquet Chairman

Mr. Earl McDonough, General Manager of Washington Hilton Hotel

## PRESS POOL COVERAGE CLOSED ARRIVAL

You and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, Mr. Derzis and Mr. Papuchis, proceed inside Washington Hilton Hotel to holding room via elevator.

10:02 p.m.

You and Mrs. Ford arrive holding room.

10:03 p.m.

Escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, Mr. Derzis and Mr. Papuchis, depart holding room en route off-stage announcement area.

10:04 p.m.

#### Announcement.

10:04 p.m.

You and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis, Mr. Derzis, and Mr. Papuchis, proceed onto International Ballroom stage and take your seats. Your seat is the <u>second seat</u>, stage right of the podium, between Mr. Nick Smyrnis, Chairman AHEPA Supreme Board of Trustees, and Mr. Chirogotos. Mrs. Ford's seat is the second seat stage left, between Mrs. Chirgotis and Mrs. Caravasios, Pres., Daughters of Penelope.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 1,200

10:05 p.m.

Introduction of you by Mr. Nick Smyrnis, Chairman, Board of Trustees, AHEPA.

10:05 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

10:20 p.m.

Remarks conclude. You return to your seat.

10:20 p.m.

Presentation of the 1976 Socratic Awards of AHEPA to the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives by Mr. Chirgotis and Mr. George Vournas.

NOTE: Sen. Eagleton and Rep. Fascell will accept on behalf of the Congress with responses. You are not expected to participate in the presentation.

10:30 p.m.

Presentation concludes.

10:30 p.m.

Presentation of the "Salute to Women"
Award of the Daughters of Penelope,
AHEPA, to Mrs. Ford by Mrs. Katherine
Caravasios, Grand President, Grand
Lodge, Daughters of Penelope.

NOTE:

Mrs. Ford is not expected to respond.

Mr. Smyrnis thanks you and Mrs. Ford.

10:32 p.m.

You and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Chirgotis and Mrs. Papuchis, depart stage and proceed en route motorcade for boarding.

10:36 p.m.

You and Mrs. Ford bid farewell to Mr. Chirgotis and Mrs. Papuchis and board motorcade. Depart en route the South Grounds.

10:42 p.m.

Arrive South Grounds.

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