

The original documents are located in Box 41, folder “Ford, Steven - Rodeoing” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

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 Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

Shala - FYI

Steve

Fig

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF LANGUAGE SERVICES

LS No. _____
JP/EF

TRANSLATOR'S SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION

Language: German

Date of Communication: February 2, 1976

Addressed to: Mr. Steve Ford
The White House

Name and address of writer: Mr. Eddie Rocco
1537 No. Laurel Ave.
Hollywood, California 90046

Substance of writer's statement:

The writer sends an article published in the magazine Das Goldene Blatt (The Golden Page) entitled: Rodeo Rider Casey Tibbs - The Man who wants to make a Cowboy out of the President's Son.

The article relates that Steve Ford gave up his studies in forestry at the University of Utah in order to become a professional cowboy.

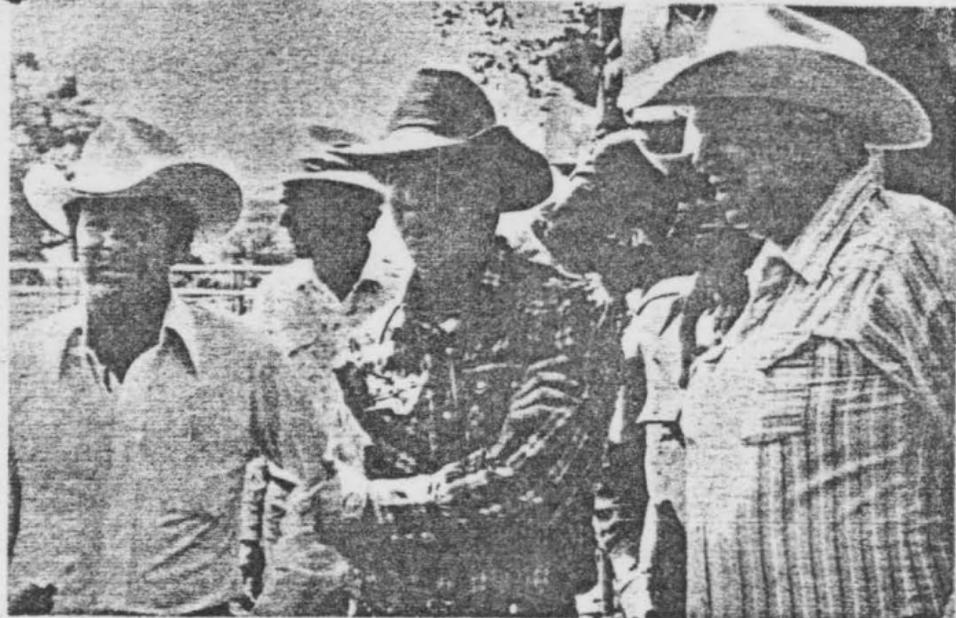
Rodeo-Reiter Casey Tibbs *

Der Mann, der aus Präsidentensohn Ford einen Cowboy machen will

Die ahnungslosen Eltern waren überrascht, Freunde hatten es kommen sehen: Ganz plötzlich — sozusagen über Nacht — gab Steve Ford, Sohn des amerikanischen Prä-

kieren — und neunfachen Weltmeister kennen.

Damals ging es wieder um einen Rodeowettbewerb, ging es darum, wer wohl der beste Cowboy Amerikas sei. Das



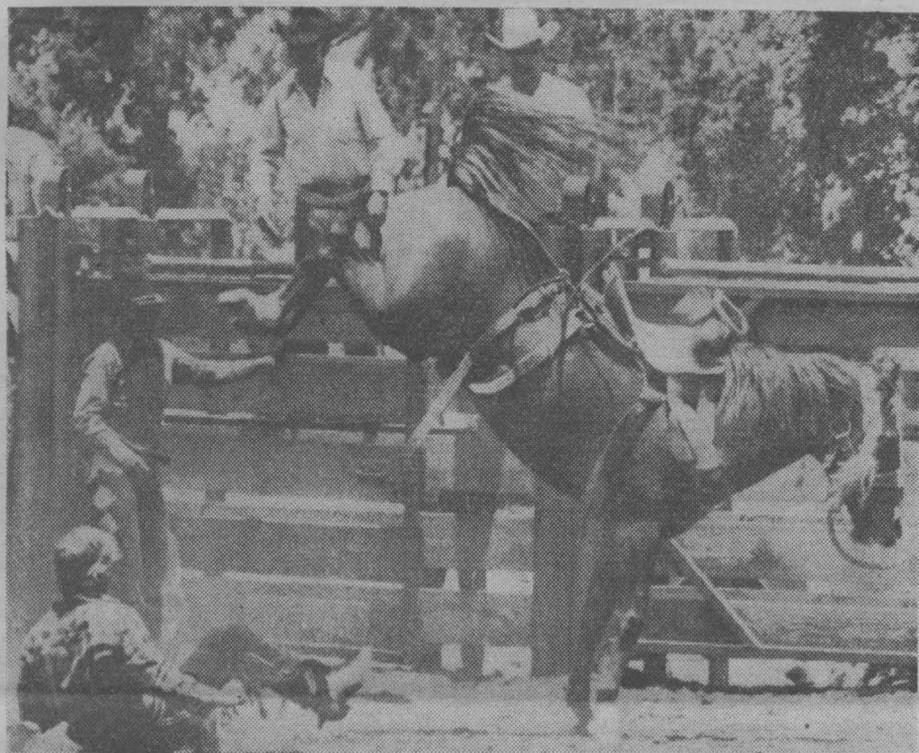
Kein Hasenfuß: Präsidentensohn Steve Ford (M.). Er will als Cowboy leben und läßt sich von Casey Tibbs (l.) unterrichten

es, anderen das Reiten beizubringen“, erinnert sich heute

reiter. Hier leitet Casey 30-Tage-Lehrgänge, lehrt seine



BUM STEER—Steve Ford (right), the President's son, watches Bobby Riggs, the 52-year-old tennis player, lose again. Riggs, attempting to bulldog a steer in San Diego, found he couldn't do it. Young Ford, visiting the San Diego Country Estates resort for the holidays, is taking lessons in bronc riding. Riggs, who lives nearby, gave Ford a couple of tennis lessons in exchange for some tips at handling steers.



Stephen Ford hits the dirt in rodeo training near San Diego, last June.

than they bug him, really. I just don't think I'll ever go to California again. I was in San Diego right after The Pardon (September, 1974) and some guy came up to me and handed me an envelope and the Secret Service grabbed it away. They didn't tell me what was in it ("an innocuous package, really," the Service tells a reporter later) and I didn't want to know."

"Jack is the first really normal kid to live here," says a White House staffer. "Look what we've had: the Birds and then the Bobbsey Twins. But for some reason when he goes to a rock concert or says he smoked marijuana, it's as if the '60s never happened. And what 23-year-old wouldn't want to hang out with rock stars?"



"There's so much attention on me," says Ford. "The best deal in this town is to be the Vice President's kids. You get all the privileges and don't have to have agents trailing you all the time. And I was really looking forward to living in Admiral's House on Massachusetts Avenue. I wanted to be able to go over and peek through the telescope at the Naval Observatory."

Jack Ford seems caught between the all-American beliefs of his father and the challenges to those beliefs spawned by the countercultural forces of the '60s. The only one of the four Ford children to have completed his education, he now finds it impossible to hide his ideas behind student status and is rapidly discovering that his own conflicts come under public scrutiny.

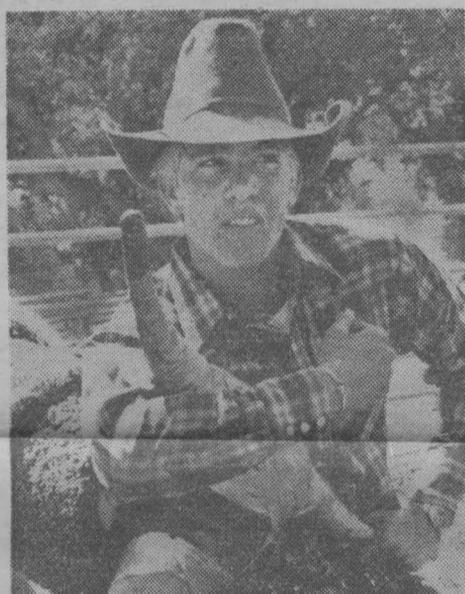
He attended high school at a time when most students were protesting the war in Vietnam and the Kent State killings, in the age of Woodstock, in the era when, for many, drugs replaced alcohol as a social lubricant. Ford was a beer drinker, played lots of sports, and worked diligently on the 1968 presidential campaign of Richard Nixon. He found himself popular (though he lost a race for senior class president, using the slogan "Ford has a better idea"), but part of a conservative minority.

"In Utah it was like I imagine it must have been at the start of the counterculture in the '60s," he says. "It was 70 per cent Mormon. You drink beer and they look at you like you're radical."

Ford returns to the Utah wilderness for solace, something he did two weeks ago, this time duck hunting.

"I was hunting wild boar with a baron in Germany this summer, when I went to Europe with the President. He wanted to give me a beautiful old rifle, but I told him, 'Keep it; it's too nice to wind up as part of the National Archives.' Someone else gave me a .45, and because of the rule on gifts it's in the Archives now."

Largely for economic reasons, Ford is looking forward to December when he'll begin to work on his father's campaign, hopefully somewhere in the Rockies. "I'll do it



Stephen Ford: quick on the drawl.

for the bucks if I'm working at it every day," he says. "Now I'm broke. I can't afford to do very much. I can't even afford to go to the Cellar Door."

"We never give him any free tickets," says Cellar Door owner and concert promoter Jack Boyle. "Usually the groups call up and invite him to concerts, and they send tickets over to the White House."

"It's true, I touch the stars," says Ford. "But that doesn't mean I embrace their lifestyle. It's a matter of an individual decision, and it's really not what I want. I suppose if I wanted I could use the White House to get women the same way rock people use their stardom, but I wouldn't want to deal with it that way."

... To the Ranch

By CHERYL BENTSEN

Los Angeles Times

INGLEWOOD, Cal.

THICK, BLACK rain clouds swelled over the forum in Inglewood where 19-year-old Stephen Ford, the President's youngest son, was acting as grand marshal for the International Horse Show.

He arrived early that particular morning "to work a few stock horses," but drizzles had turned the temporary outdoor riding ring, bulldozed for the occasion, into muck. To his disappointment, he couldn't ride.

Since spending a year working on a ranch in Montana, Ford, who had never been on a horse until 14 months ago, has gone cowboy. He's even flirting with the idea of being a broncobuster. More than

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — Steve Ford's love for horses, which began around the same time his father stepped into the White House, has taken him as far away from Washington and politics as possible.

"There's no way I'm going to stay in Washington and go to all those parties and social functions," he said disdainfully last weekend. "If you stayed there to take advantage of all the opportunities and soaked them up for what they were worth, when it was all over you'd be left holding the bag. It's all over, but you'd have gotten used to the glamor and the things that come with it. If I did that, eventually I'd become dependent on it. In two or six years, I'd be spoiled."

The 19-year-old Ford, a freshman majoring in animal science at Utah State, has a different dream. He aspires to be "a foreman of a ranch . . . probably somewhere in Montana." An unexpected ambition for a city boy? "I've been out West before and read all the books about it. It seemed like a fantasy life. Why not try and live it?"

The first time he mounted a horse he was 11. "I was thrown off. I had lived in the city and had no experience. I didn't start riding until a year and a half ago. A year ago I got

half months in the White House. "Only once," he added, has the entire family been there together.

When it's all over, Steve will go back to what he terms "the simple life" eagerly. "I don't like the pressures. You're supposed to be special. You're followed by Secret Service men, the press, the whole thing." Even his "dad," he pointed out, "for

Steve Ford: would-be cowboy

EYE® VIEW

stricted to the United States, including Alaska. "I've never been out of this country. There are too many places to go here." The risks involved in public life "are always there" and he's "not worried" about being in California despite his father's recent experience.

Tall and slim, wearing a white hat, jeans and boots, the boyish Steve projects an image suitable for family-hour viewing. He answers questions politely, but seems far more comfortable atop a horse, patting the pack of cigarets in his shirt pocket.

Throughout the weekend, he was the guy in the white hat. At a press conference, he was confused by one reporter with his brother, Jack, who had stirred up controversy with recent statements on marijuana. "I've never smoked marijuana, although I have friends who have," Steve clarified. And he defended his brother's statement that was termed "foolish" that same day by Los Angeles Police Chief Ed Davis.

Later, he declined Linda McAdams' offer to arrange a date for



Steve Ford and Linda McAdams

John A.
Tennis
1/29/75

—"I'd like to see him retire," **Steve Ford** said. "He knows that." But if President Ford seeks election, his son said "if that's what he wants, he's done enough for me."



"Daily News
5/25/76

Vienna Cheers Our Girl From Golden West

Vienna — Austrian newspapers gave rave reviews yesterday to California-born soprano **CAROL NEBLETT** after her debut in the Vienna State Opera. Miss Neblett sang the lead in Puccini's "Girl of the Golden West," and received a standing ovation from the audience. It was different story for Italian singer **GIANGIACOMO GUELF**, who was booted in his role as the sheriff. Miss Neblett caused an opera sensation in 1973 when she performed nude in a New Orleans production of

gree at commencement exercises at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas. The 60-year-old entertainer was made a doctor of humane letters in recognition of financial contributions he has made to the university.

London — **QUEEN ELIZABETH** took off today on a four-day official visit to Finland, the first to that northern country by a British monarch. The queen and **PRINCE PHILIP** flew to Mariehamn in the Aland Islands, then board-

ret show Sunday night as a fund-raising event for his wife, Wallace, who is a Democratic candidate for Congress. **MILTON BERLE** was the master of ceremonies on a

Making News

program that included appearances by several song writers.

of his work as a rodeo cowboy but has learned to accept it. "She is not real crazy about my rodeoing," young Ford said. "I told her it wouldn't be that rough if a guy could just stay on." He spoke on a television talk show during which he demonstrated rodeo techniques.

Tehran, Iran — **KING KHALED** of Saudi Arabia an



R

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

RAMONA, CALIF. (AP) -- STEVE FORD, THE 19-YEAR-OLD SON OF THE PRESIDENT, WENT ON A CATTLE ROUNDUP TODAY IN HILLS NORTHEAST OF SAN DIEGO.

FORD IS SPENDING A WEEK AT SAN DIEGO COUNTRY ESTATES ON THANKSGIVING VACATION FROM STUDIES AT UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY.

LAST WEEKEND, HE TOOK BRONC-RIDING LESSONS IN A REPEAT OF HIS VISIT TO THE SAME RESORT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RESORT SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD TELEPHONED SUNDAY NIGHT AND TALKED BRIEFLY WITH CASEY TIBBS, FORMER RODEO CHAMPION WHO IS GIVING STEVE LESSONS.

"CASEY, HOW'S HE DOING?" TIBBS QUOTED FORD AS ASKING.

"HECK, HE'S DOING REAL GOOD," TIBBS REPLIED.

"WELL, TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM," THE PRESIDENT CONCLUDED. MRS. FORD CAME ON THE

LINE TO SAY: "I TRIED TO TALK HIM OUT OF RIDING BRONCS."

TIBBS SAID, "WELL, I DID, TOO, BUT H'S DETERMINED."

TO THAT, MRS. FORD REPLIEDGC "WELL, IF HE'S ENJOYING IT, LET HIM GO AHEAD, BUT JUST TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM."

—"Casey, how's he doing?" Casey Tibbs, former rodeo champion, quoted President Ford as asking. "Heck, he's doing real good," Tibbs replies. **Steve Ford** 19 years old



riding from teacher Tibbs. ... herding and bronc-

Peter B. ...

Las Vegas 11/25/75

Daily News
1/19/76

A Blue Grass Job For Steve Ford?

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 8 (AP)
— President Ford's son, Steven, 19, has been guaranteed a job on a Kentucky horse farm, if he ever wants one. The Thoroughbred Breeders of Kentucky offered him the job after read-

STAR 1/8/70

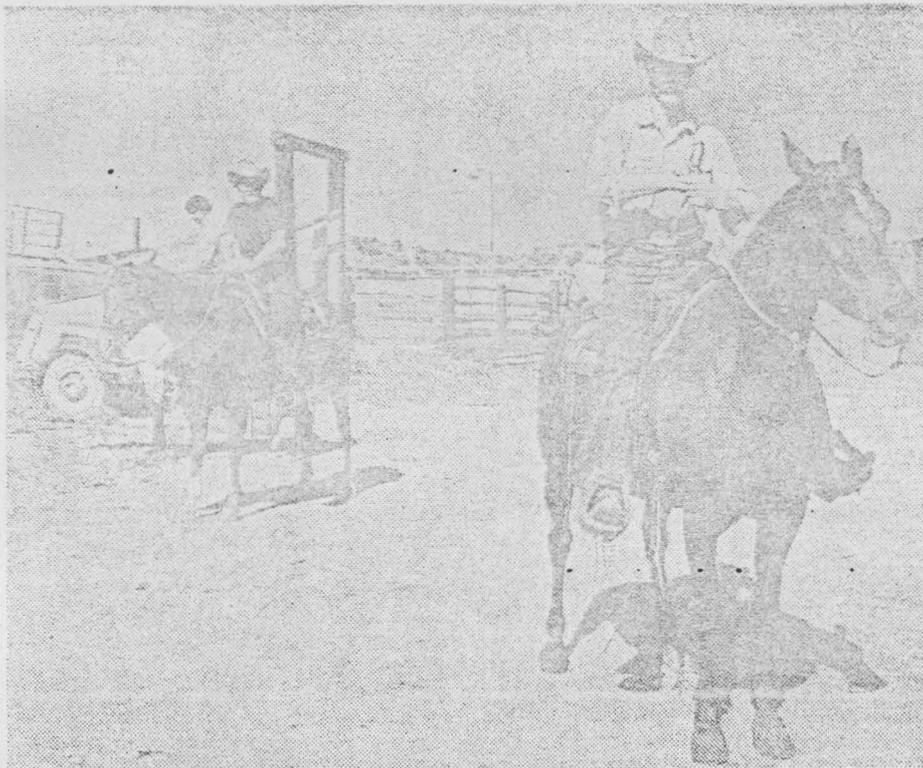
Steven Ford Offered Job in Bluegrass Country

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — The Thoroughbred Breeders of Kentucky have offered to get President Ford's

Executive director David Hooper made the offer after reading of Steve Ford's transfer from Utah.

Hooper said in a letter sent in care of the White House that he understood young Ford



STEVE FORD, foreground, is about to set out for his day's work, roping and branding cattle on a remote Western ranch — guarded by two of the six Secret Service men who shadow him around the clock.

President Ford's Teenage Son Is

Steve Ford, the President's 18-year-old son, is working as a cowboy on remote Western ranches — riding horses, roping and branding cattle — and being shadowed by six saddle sore Secret Service agents.

"He gets up before dawn with the rest of the cowhands and works all day right along with them. He told me he thinks it's a great life," said Mrs. Melva Campbell, whose husband

A Cowboy And He's Shadowed By Six Saddle Sore Secret Service Agents

with Steve. "He came back to the

L.A. Times
5/1/76



The Third of the President

BY HOWARD SEELYE.
Times Staff Writer

Four months after moving to Orange County from Utah, Steven Ford has become a confirmed Californian.

"I love it here," the 19-year-old son of President Ford said this week at the Mission Viejo Stables, where he works as a cowboy training show horses.

And well he might, considering the life he has cut out for himself.

Steve spends four days or more a week working with the horses, two days attending Cal Poly Pomona, where he is a part-time student, and what's left living with friends in a bayfront home in Newport Beach.

"I'm surprised — after living in Montana and Utah — to wake up every morning and see the sunshine. There are nice people here and I've had no hassles since I've been here," he told a reporter during a break at the stables riding ring.

Ford is paid \$400 a month by his employer, George Texeira, who boards and trains two dozen horses for Orange County owners. Steve pays his living expenses, while his college costs are paid by his parents.

He lives in a home on Linda Isle, an exclusive security-gated community, but he hopes to rent a place of his own this summer when an old friend from Virginia comes out to live with him.

Steve says his time is pretty much taken up with horse training and studying. Even though he has met many California girls, he says he has done no dating here because he has a girlfriend back home in Virginia, where he was raised while his father served in Congress.

Ford is a lean 175 pounds who looks taller than his six-foot, one-inch frame because of the high-heeled cowboy boots and cowboy hat he wears.

He is a quiet, unassuming young man who guards his privacy and prefers to be interviewed in a secluded area if at all, to avoid being recognized in public.

Even so, when Ford, his cowboy friend Steve Tellam, two Secret Servicemen, a reporter, a photographer and a Newport Beach horse-woman, Pat Hoose, walked into a Laguna Hills restaurant for lunch, no one paid any attention.

Please Turn to Page 10, Col. 1

Steve Ford, California Cowboy, Saddles Up

Steven Ford, 19, third son of the President, is living in Orange County, looking for all the world what he is — a cowboy, complete with bow legs, the hat and boots, check shirt and hand-tooled belt. Steve lives in Newport Beach and trains show horses at the Mission Viejo Stables and also studies at Cal Poly, Pomona. He says he's in no hurry to commit himself to a future career — "But it'll have something to do with ranching."

Times photos by Deris Jeannette



s Young Men



The Missoulian

Vol. 102—No. 140
Founded May 1, 1873

Missoula, Montana, Friday, October 11, 1974

SINGLE COPY

15¢

38 pages
2 sections



lost wa
ett
for

Corn Belt states the morning of
last Sept. 3," the report said. "Sub-
and morning of the 22nd and 23rd
brought the growing season

1973 crop was a record of more
the September estimate. The
277 million or 6 per cent from
1972. The report said that the
1973 crop was a record of more
than 5.64 billion bushels.

where she lived until entering
the Hot Springs Manor in 1969.
She is survived by one son,
Walter A. Rau, Hot Springs; one
sister, Mrs. Anna Perrin of
Wheaton, Ill.; four

and numerous incidents of
overcrowded vehicles, excessive
speed and unsafe driving.
"Things really exploded for a
white," said one police officer.
The House passed the meas-
ure first 388 to 0. The Senate
followed with voice vote pas-
sage by nearly 23 per cent.
Increase most payments to veter-



HERDING THE HEREFORDS — Steve Ford, son of President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford, moves some cattle from a pasture to one farther north across U.S. 12 southwest of

Missoula. Ford is working on a ranch near Lolo. (Staff Photo by Harley Hettick)

White House to Bunkhouse

By CHARLES S. JOHNSON
Missoulian Staff Writer

Steve Ford, the youngest son of President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford who says he'd rather live in a bunkhouse than the White House, is learning to be a cowboy on a cattle ranch near

Missoula.

The 18-year-old Ford arrived at the sprawling Lolo Trail Ranch, about 20 miles southwest of Missoula, last week and started work as a ranchhand.

Although some of his Secret Service companions reportedly

have saddlesores, Ford apparently is well-adapted to ranch life and talks of entering rodeos next spring if he improves his cowboy skills.

"I'd like to get into ranching," said Ford, who graduated from high school this summer and is taking a year off before starting college

or to follow his father's actions as President. Steve said he tries to call home once or twice a week, but the two-hour time difference from Montana to Washington makes it difficult.

The long hours on the ranch haven't left much spare time for Steve, but he doesn't mind.

"I didn't really come up here

he prefers the open spaces to the crowded Washington area.

Staying in the White House was educational, he said, because "it's like living in a museum.

"It's a beautiful place, but it's not really my style of living," Ford added. "I'd much rather live in a bunkhouse."