

The original documents are located in Box 122, folder “Finland” of the Ron Nessen Papers 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. Ron Nessen donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.

August 3, 1976

KEKKONEN VISIT

Q: When was President Kekkonen last here?

A: President Kekkonen last visited the U.S. in July, 1970.

Q: When did the two last meet?

A: The two Presidents met at the Helsinki summit in late July, 1975.

Q: Where is Kekkonen going besides Washington?

A: The Department of State or the Finnish Embassy can give you more complete information, but I believe that President Kekkonen already visited New York and Hancock, Michigan, where he participated in Finn Fest 76, a Bicentennial festival sponsored by Finnish-Americans. He then visited Williamsburg. After his stay in Washington, he will go to Minnesota to receive the Distinguished International Service Award of the Regents of the University of Minnesota.

Q: When was Kekkonen first elected President?

A: In 1956.

Q: What is the purpose of this visit?

A: President Kekkonen has come to the United States to participate in our Bicentennial observance and to continue the very useful talks he had with the President in Helsinki last year.

WHITE HOUSE PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT OF STATE VISIT BY
PRESIDENT KEKKONEN OF FINLAND

August 3-4, 1976

(To be announced at 12:00 p. m. EDT, Thursday, May 27, 1976
with simultaneous announcement in Helsinki)

President Ford has invited President Urho Kekkonen of Finland to make a State Visit to the United States on August 3-4, 1976. President Kekkonen has accepted the invitation with great pleasure. The two leaders look forward to reviewing bilateral issues and international developments of interest to Finland and the United States.

* * * * *

Q: Have Presidents Ford and Kekkonen met?

A: Yes, they met in Helsinki in August, 1975.

Q: How long has Kekkonen been President?

A: He was elected President of Finland in 1956.

Q: Has Kekkonen ever been here before?

A: President Kekkonen last visited the United States as an official guest in July, 1970.

Q: What is the purpose of this meeting?

A: By inviting President Kekkonen to the United States during the Bicentennial year, the President wishes to honor the contributions

of Finland and Finnish-Americans to the United States. The President's visit will permit the two Presidents to continue the useful discussions they had in Helsinki last August.

Q: Are there any bilateral problems between the U.S. and Finland?

A: Finnish-American relations are excellent. There are no significant problems of any kind between the two countries.