

September 2, 1975

Office of the Vice President

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

RE: Coverage of "Housewarming" Events at the
Vice President's Residence

Mrs. Nelson A. Rockefeller invites the press to a preview Sunday, September 7, at 2:00 p.m. of the new Vice Presidential residence at the Naval Observatory -- for pooled television with sound, still cameras and writing press. Details of the television pool will be worked out with the network chairman for this period. Others please advise the Vice President's press office, 395-6303, if you wish to cover .

A series of "housewarmings" in honor of the Congress is to be held at the Vice President's residence "to express our appreciation for providing American Vice Presidents with an official home for the first time in the Nation's history." (See attached copy of August 11 press release.)

Nine "housewarmings" are scheduled, for September 7, 8 and 9, September 22, 23 and 24, and October 6, 7 and 8, from 6 to 9 p.m. in each case. Working press credentials will be allocated by lot on September 5 for each of the parties, on the basis of applications for working press credentials to the Vice President's press office (395-6303).

Care has been taken in the preparation of the invitation lists to assure, insofar as possible, that all of the parties will have equal status in respect to the rank, celebrity, and news interest of the guests at any given party.

Because of the confined space, it will not be possible for television crews or still cameramen to tour the House while a party is in progress. This is why the photographic preview has been arranged for Sunday, September 7, four hours prior to the first party. However, television pool and photographic stations will be set up at appropriate locations during each party (receiving line, inside the tent where food will be served, strategic location for arrival shots, etc.). Writing press will not be so restricted.

Hugh Morrow
Press Secretary
to the Vice President

#

AUGUST 8, 1975

Office of the Vice President
Washington, D. C.

The Vice President and Mrs. Nelson A. Rockefeller will hold a series of traditional American "housewarmings" when they move into the official Vice Presidential residence on the grounds of the Naval Observatory in September.

The events have been planned on the eve of the Bicentennial, Mrs. Rockefeller said, "to express our appreciation to the Congress of the United States for providing American Vice Presidents with an official home for the first time in the nation's history."

Guest lists for the receptions include all members of Congress and their spouses. In addition, private citizens from all walks of life and from each of the 50 states have been invited to share in honoring the Representatives and Senators.

Invitations to all nine parties are being mailed simultaneously. The Members of Congress are being invited on an alphabetical basis, 48 Members of the House of Representatives and eleven Senators to each "housewarming." Other guests in addition to representative Americans from all parts of the country include the diplomatic corps, the Supreme Court, White House Presidential advisers and members of the Cabinet, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Service Secretaries, and six former Chiefs of Naval Operations who lived in "Admiral's House" at one time or another before it became the Vice Presidential home.

"The parties are non-political," Mrs. Rockefeller explained. "We conceive this to be a national expression of appreciation to the Congress rather than a personal event -- although none of the expenses incurred will be charged to public funds."

Mrs. Rockefeller said that she and the Vice President have planned the number of individual receptions because the size of the house would have "precluded a single party."

Approximately 250 guests are expected for each "housewarming," equally divided between Congressmen and officials in Washington, and representative citizens from around the country.

All of the parties will be similar. After visiting the house, the guests will be served food and refreshments, informally from 6 to 9 p.m. under a colorfully decorated tent.

The first of the parties will be held Sunday evening, September 7, and the last on Wednesday, October 8. The "housewarmings" will differ from old-fashioned tradition in only one respect: The Rockefellers stress that gifts of any kind are "inappropriate."

#