

May 11, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President and Mrs. Ford today gave a formal luncheon in honor of Her Majesty, Margrethe II, Queen of Denmark and his Royal Highness, the Prince of Denmark.

The President welcomed this opportunity to mark the visit to the United States of Queen Margrethe II and Prince Henrik in connection with the American Bicentennial. The Queen conveyed her congratulations and those of the Danish Government and people on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of American Independence.

The President expressed appreciation on behalf of all Americans for the Queen's participation in our Bicentennial celebrations and for the many contributions which the Danish Government, Danish Bicentennial Committee and Danish people are making to the Bicentennial. He assured the Queen and Prince Henrik of a most cordial reception by the American people during their participation in Bicentennial programs throughout the United States in coming weeks.

The President emphasized that the visit of the Royal Couple is not only a highlight of our Bicentennial celebrations, but also a significant moment for the excellent relations which have existed between the United States and Denmark for 175 years. He stressed the importance the United States attaches to its close ties with Denmark, an old friend and valued ally.

The President and Queen Margrethe II agreed that friendship between Denmark and the United States will endure and grow.

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