

For immediate release
Tuesday, June 17, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ford will host a brown bag picnic lunch on the South grounds of the White House Wednesday, June 18 at noon. Guests will be members of the Republican Congressional Wives Club.

Mrs. Ford invited members of the group to meet at the White House when she attended their January meeting at the Capitol Hill Club. At that time, she told them "I might have to ask you to brown bag it. With inflation, my husband is after me to cut down."

Mrs. Ford has been a member of the group for 25 years.

There will be about 110 guests, seated at picnic tables within a cluster of trees on the South Lawn. Guests will bring their own lunches, and Mrs. Ford will provide beverages and dessert.

Each woman will receive a small green pepper plant as a gift from Mrs. Ford. The plants will each be wrapped in a brown paper bag, tied with a ribbon, which reads: "Mrs. Ford's Brown Bag Picnic, June 18, 1975."

Picnic tables will be draped with "Bandana" pattern sheets, some in red and others in blue. Centerpieces are a floral arrangement of red geraniums, white feverfew and blue bachelor buttons placed in a brown paper bag tied by red and blue ribbons.

Dessert, to be served from a garden cart, is pistachio ice cream with chocolate shavings. It will be served in small clay pots. Music during the luncheon will be by a strolling accordianist.

Mrs. Mark Hatfield, president of the group, Mrs. William Frenzel, program chairman, and Mrs. William Stanton, past president, will participate in a program. Mrs. James McClure and Mrs. Marvin Esch will present Mrs. Ford with a gift.

The Republican Congressional Wives Club consists of wives of present and former Members of Congress and the Senate.

Coverage:

11:50 a.m.

Photo coverage of arrival of guests with brown bags, South Lawn of White House. Pickup outside of press lobby -- north entrance.

12:40 p.m.

Photo and writing coverage of program and brief remarks. Pickup outside of press lobby, north entrance.