

For immediate release
Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1975

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

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a State Dinner honoring His Excellency the President of the Republic of Colombia and Mrs. Lopez at 8 p.m. at the White House. Soprano Roberta Peters will entertain in the East Room following dinner.

Continuing a focus on American arts and handicraft, Mrs. Ford has chosen a theme for the dinner which centers around a collection of American-made Burgues porcelain art sculptures in floral designs. Each of the ten round tables in the State Dining Room will have as a centerpiece an individual sculpture set in its natural environment. The cactus porcelain, for example, will be incorporated into a setting of sand, lava rock, dried manzinita wood, pebbles and dried pods. The other floral porcelains will be in settings which simulate their natural surroundings.

The sculptures which will be featured: Pink Lady's Slipper Orchid; Lily Harlequin; Daffodil "Manco;" Water Lily; Anemone; Magnolia; Lilac Charm Rose; Prickly Pear Cactus; Water Lily "Firecrest;" and Cematus "Bicolor."

The natural woods feel will be continued throughout the State Floor. In the Cross Hall, weeping ficus trees will be surrounded by Boston fern, and ligustrum bushes will line the south wall. The console tables in the Cross Hall will be covered with maidenhair fern and dahlias, as will various tables in the Red Room, Blue Room and Green Room. The stage in the East Room will be surrounded by weeping ficus, Jerusalem cherry plants, Boston fern and pyracantha.

Paul Siebrowski of Philadelphia has designed the settings for the Burgues sculptures. Bill Dove of Washington, D.C. has designed the decor throughout the State Floor.

The menu: Melon and Prosciutto; Filet Mignor Bordelaise, Mushrooms Provencale and Artichokes Saint Germain; Hearts of Lettuce Salad with Bel Paese Cheese; Bombe Nougatine with Petits Fours; and Demitasse. Wines include Dry Creek Chenin Blanc; Louis Martini Cabernet Sauvignon; and Schramsberg Blanc de Blancs.

Tablecloths will be in fabrics of antique satin and taffeta in pink tones. The Johnson china, Morgentown crystal and vermeil flatwear will be used.

Dancing in the Grand Foyer to the Marine Dance Combo will follow the entertainment.

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