

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, October 22, 1975

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

Country-western singer Johnny Cash has been asked by the President and Mrs. Ford to entertain at the State dinner honoring Egyptian President and Mrs. Anwar al-Sadat Monday, October 27.

Johnny Cash will be accompanied by his wife, June Carter, four female singers, and five members of his band.

Johnny Cash began singing in Memphis in 1955 and by the late 1960's had become one of Columbia Record's four best-selling artists. He continues to make concert appearances, including 10-12 prison shows per year. He makes television appearances regularly and has appeared in motion pictures as well.

One of six children, Cash was born in 1932 in Kingsland, Arkansas. He grew up on a 20-acre farm, hauled water for a road gang when he was 12 and helped his family raise cotton through high school. He enlisted in the Air Force following graduation, served in Germany, and returned to Memphis. He was working there as a radio and TV appliance salesman when Sun Records agreed to record his music. Johnny Cash and the Tennessee Two (Marshall Grant and Luther Perkins) released "Cry, Cry, Cry," and "Hey, Porter" and the Johnny Cash career was launched.

Among his albums: Ride this Train; "Songs of the Real West," "Bitter Tears" and "The Holy Land."

He and his wife June Carter have one son. He has four daughters from a previous marriage.