

For Immediate Release
July 13, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY TO MRS. FORD

As a Bicentennial gift to the White House, in honor of the visit of Queen Elizabeth II to the United States, the British firm of Lister & Company Limited has donated 75 yards of dark red velvet made of quiana for draperies in the Treaty Room of the White House. The new draperies, which duplicate the design of the previous draperies in the room, were installed June 30, 1976.

Mr. J. A. Kornberg, Managing Director of Lister & Company Limited, London, England visited the White House in 1975 on a public tour. He heard the story of Dolley Madison saving the red velvet draperies of the Oval Room (present day Blue Room) during the British attack on the City of Washington on August 24, 1814. As a gesture of friendship during the Bicentennial year, the firm generously offered to donate fabric for draperies for a room in the White House. The Treaty Room was selected as the draperies in that room were worn and faded and needed to be replaced.

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