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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DROP BY TESTIMONIAL FOR
SENATOR CLIFFORD HANSEN (R. WYO)
The University Club
and
ATTEND FORD THEATRE PERFORMANCE
"GIVE 'EM HELL, HARRY!"

Thursday - April 17, 1975

Departure: 7:05 p.m.

Attire: Black Tie, Long
Dress

From: Terry O'Donnell

TOD



SENATOR HANSEN TESTIMONIAL

You and Mrs. Ford will drop by a small private party for Senator Hansen given by Senator Carl Curtis at the University Club. In attendance will be approximately 17 Senators and a few members of the Administration. (Guest list at TAB A)

The Testimonial includes an informal reception beginning at 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner (Wyoming trout and lamb) at 8:00 p.m. The dinner is a "stag" event; however, in addition to Mrs. Ford, Mildred Curtis and Martha Hansen will be on hand for the reception.

FORD'S THEATER

Following the Hansen reception, you and Mrs. Ford will proceed directly to the Ford's Theatre for the opening performance of "Give 'Em Hell, Harry". James Whitmore's one-man show depicts Harry Truman at his best in a robust, earthy and warm portrayal. Tuesday night's "Press Performance" received excellent reviews.

Each year the Board of Directors of Ford's Theatre stages an event designed to draw public attention to the Theatre and its offerings. This opening provides the setting for an invitational affair attracting many dignitaries.

Margaret Truman Daniel and Rogers C. B. Morton are co-hosts for this event. The evening's activities will be filmed for an upcoming segment of "Sixty Minutes."

Following the performance, you might wish to take Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Truman Daniel onto the stage to congratulate Mr. Whitmore.

SEQUENCE

- 7:05 p. m. You and Mrs. Ford board motorcade and depart South Grounds en route University Club.
- 7:08 p. m. Arrive University Club. Proceed to 2nd floor where you will be met by Senator and Mrs. Curtis and the other guests.

NO PRESS COVERAGE

- 7:25 p. m. Depart University Club en route Ford's Theatre.
- 7:28 p. m. Arrive Ford's Theatre where you will be met by Mrs. Margaret Truman Daniel and Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

- 7:29 p. m. You and Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mrs. Daniel and Secretary Morton, proceed to Row A of the Theatre and are seated.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 740

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|------------|-----------------|
| 7:30 p. m. | Act 1 begins. |
| 8:30 p. m. | Intermission. |
| 8:45 p. m. | Act 2 begins. |
| 9:30 p. m. | Show concludes. |

NOTE: You may wish to take Mrs. Daniel and Mrs. Ford onto the stage to congratulate Mr. Whitmore.

3.

Secretary Morton, from in front of
the stage, thanks guests for coming.

9:35 p. m.

You and Mrs. Ford depart Row A en route
motorcade, board and depart for the White
House.

9:45 p. m.

Arrive South Grounds of the White House.

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Hansen Testimonial Guests

Senator James Allen (D-Ala.)

Senator Henry Bellmon (R-Okla.)

Senator Harry Byrd (I-Va.)

Senator Pete Domenici (R-New Mex.)

Senator Paul Fannin (R-Ariz.)

Senator Jake Garn (R-Utah)

Senator Roman Hruska (R-Neb.)

Senator Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.)

Senator Russell Long (D-La.)

Senator James McClure (R-Idaho)

Senator John McClellan (D-Ark.)

Senator Gale McGee (D-Wyo.)

Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska)

Senator William Scott (R-Va.)

Senator Herman Talmadge (D-Ga.)

Secretary Caspar Weinberger

Special Trade Representative Frederick Dent

Secretary-Designate Stanley K. Hathaway

Army Secretary Howard Calloway

Tom C. Korologos



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FORD-THEATER

BY FRANCES LEWINE

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT FORD BROKE HISTORIC PRECEDENT WHEN HE DECIDED TO ATTEND FORD'S THEATER TONIGHT FOR THE OPENING OF A PLAY ABOUT ONE OF HIS FAVORITE PRESIDENTS, HARRY TRUMAN.

NO OTHER PRESIDENT HAS BEEN TO FORD'S THEATER SINCE ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS ASSASSINATED THERE APRIL 14, 1865.

'GIVE 'EM HELL, HARRY,' LURED PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD AND A VIP AUDIENCE TO THE THEATER, WHERE THE PERFORMANCE OF JAMES WHITEMORE AS PRESIDENT TRUMAN RECEIVED FAVORABLE PREVIEW PRESS REVIEWS.

THE FORDS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION TO SEE THE PLAY BUT THEY DID NOT PLAN TO ATTEND A SUPPER AFTERWARD FOR THE THEATER GOERS.

THE AUDIENCE FOR THE OPENING NIGHT WAS ENTIRELY OF INVITED GUESTS. AND, NO ONE WAS TO SIT IN THE BOXES AT FORD'S THEATER, INCLUDING THE ONE WHERE LINCOLN WAS SHOT BY ACTOR JOHN WILKES BOOTH.

WHEN FORD'S THEATER WAS RECONSTRUCTED AND REOPENED IN 1968, THE FATEFUL BOX WAS RECREATED JUST AS IT WAS THE NIGHT THE LINCOLNS SAT THERE 110 YEARS AGO. IT IS NEVER USED NOW.

THE OPENING NIGHT AUDIENCE OF GUESTS INVITED INCLUDED MARGARET TRUMAN DANIEL, DAUGHTER OF THE FORMER PRESIDENT, AS WELL AS TOP OFFICIALS FROM THE FORD ADMINISTRATION; FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES FROM THE TRUMAN ERA AND PROMINENT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.



Gerald Ford, Anne Morton. Betty Ford. Frankie Hewitt and Rogers Morton

Betty Ford and Clifton Daniel; Averell and Pamela Harriman; Sen. James Buckley; Pat Mosbacher; Ann Buckley; Page Lee Hufty; Claudine Munnerman.

TRUMAN TRUTHS: "Richard Nixon is a damned liar. He talks out of both sides of his mouth. Even when he tries to tell the truth, he still ends up lying just to keep his hand in there," James Whitmore dished out Vintage Truman in a one-man show in Washington's Ford's Theater while most of the audience clapped, laughed and waited for the next zinger.

Ex-Nixon lieutenants, however, cooled it. Gerald Ford was careful not to be labeled Ford's first president to attend a show in the theater

mouthed about his own future. "I plan to make some changes, but I don't want to talk about it until after my confirmation hearings," he told Eye.

Frances Hamner — just back from her Russian jaunt with husband Armand and National Gallery director Carter Brown — had other worries. "Can you imagine? We have to have about 45 private security guards wherever we go. It's incredible." The Hammers, frequenters of the Soviet gallery circuit, are arranging the Washington showing of the Russian "Bread and Butter" collection, the only one of its kind to be shown

Photos by Guy De Lort.

Gala Night for Washington Theaters

A President
Returns
To Ford's

By Judy Flander
Washington Star Staff Writer

Margaret Truman Daniel and President Gerald Ford sat side by side in the front row of Ford's Theater last night as actor James Whitmore impersonated the late President Harry Truman in "Give 'Em Hell, Harry."



A Love Feast
Takes Place
At the Howard

By Mary Ellen Perry
and Lurma Rackley
Washington Star Staff Writers

They were all there: the celebrities like comedian Redd Foxx, the greats like singer Melba Moore, the been-greats like ageless Jackie (Moms) Mabley, and the love that poured at them from the non-

FORD'S

Continued from G-1

Health, Education and Welfare Caspar Weinberger, plus a handful of ambassadors and a few senators.

And then there were the oldtimers who had served with Harry Truman: Averell Harriman, Secre



Scooping the Car

By Isabelle Shelton
Washington Star Staff Writer

The nation's newspaper editors got a tongue-in-cheek preview of the 1976 Presidential candidates last night — from the opposition.

Rep. John Anderson, R-Ill., chairman of the House Republican Conference

clasped his hands over his head like a prize fighter celebrating a victory.)

● Sen. Walter Mondale: "He dropped out when he learned most people thought Mondale was a suburb of Los Angeles."

Sen. Dale Bumpers: "A lot of people find Bumpers

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Shattering a Superstition in the No-Nonsense Harry Truman Style

By Henry Mitchell

President Gerald Ford enjoyed himself
hugely last night at Ford's Theater,
thus shattering one of the most
crazy and groundless "traditions"
of the White House: Presidents do not go to
theater because Lincoln was assassinated
there.

It is not wrong to go to the opera and the
theater but it rests me—a hearty
laugh relieves me and I seem better
able after it to bear my cross."

Margaret Truman Daniel, the late
President's daughter, joined President
and Mrs. Ford on stage after the
show—a formal-dress, invitation-only

event. Daniel said she "very, very much hoped
they would come. She went over the
script of the monologue with its au-
thor, but says she didn't try to censor
anything, some of which had a non-
bi-partisan ring to it. (Richard Nixon
was said by Truman to have been a
[deleted] liar, etc.)

Of Public Tributes And Private Praises

By Donnie Radcliffe

The "President" kept the President waiting a few seconds last night but the latter didn't seem to mind even if there were nearly 600 witnesses in the audience.

He always thought Harry Truman was a good President, Mr. Ford had



Newsmakers-----

L.A. Times 4/16/75 p. 2

Ford to See How Harry 'Gave 'Em Hell'

—"When the decisive, incisive Truman takes charge" early in the play, says **James Whitmore**, "there is a shock reaction" amongst the audience. It begins when Harry S Truman says "he may have inherited the job, but he has it—and he is in charge." Whitmore, who last brought the cowboy-philosopher Will Rogers to life in "Will Rogers U.S.A." was talking about the quick involvement of on-



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FORD-THEATER

BY HARRY F. ROSENTHAL

WASHINGTON (AP) -- HARRY TRUMAN WOULD HAVE LOVED IT.

HERE WERE HIS WORDS, GIVEN NEW LIFE AND PASSED ON TO A SUCCESSOR, A REPUBLICAN AT THAT.

GERALD FORD, THE 38TH PRESIDENT, SEEING A PLAY ABOUT THE 33RD, LOVED IT TOO. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME A PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAD COME TO FORD'S THEATER FOR A PERFORMANCE SINCE ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS SHOT THERE 110 YEARS AND 3 DAYS AGO.

"I INHERITED THIS JOB. I'M IN CHARGE AND THEY DAMN WELL BETTER KNOW IT," SAYS THE STAGE HARRY TRUMAN IN THE PERSON OF ACTOR JAMES WHITMORE. HE MENTIONS THAT SOME PEOPLE WERE REFERRING TO HIM AS "HIS ACCIDENCY" BECAUSE HE WASN'T ELECTED PRESIDENT.

HIS ACCIDENCY, GERALD FORD, ROARED WITH LAUGHTER WHEN HE HEARD THAT.

WHEN THE PERFORMANCE OF "GIVE 'EM HELL, HARRY," A NEW PLAY, WAS DONE, FORD WENT ONTO THE STAGE TO CONGRATULATE WHITMORE, WHOSE UNCANNY PORTRAYAL IN THE ONE-MAN SHOW SENT SHIVERS OF RECOGNITION THROUGH A VIP AUDIENCE, MANY OF WHOM HAD KNOWN TRUMAN.

"EVERYONE HERE KNOWS I'VE KNOWN AND ADMIRERD MR. TRUMAN FOR 25 YEARS BUT TONIGHT I LEARNED SOME NEW THINGS," FORD SAID. "ALL OF IT INCREASED MY ADMIRATION FOR HIM."

FORD TOLD WHITMORE HE HAD GIVEN A "SUPERB PERFORMANCE." WHITMORE BEAMED HIS BEST HARRY TRUMAN BEAM.

SITTING BESIDE FORD IN THE FRONT ROW WAS MARGARET TRUMAN DANIEL, THE FORMER PRESIDENT'S ONLY CHILD.

IN THE BLACK-TIE AUDIENCE WERE LUMINARIES FROM THE TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION: CLARK CLIFFORD, A CLOSE ADVISER; JAMES WEBB, UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE; GEN. HARRY VAUGHAN, MILITARY AIDE AND CONFIDANT; JOHN SNYDER, SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY; ADM. ROBERT DENNISON, NAVAL AIDE; RETHEL ODUM, MRS. TRUMAN'S PERSONAL SECRETARY.