

The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “National Gallery Dinner and Preview of Chinese Exhibit, Washington, December 10, 1974” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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DECEMBER 10, 1974

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART DINNER IN HONOR OF THE OPENING OF THE
ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION FROM THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

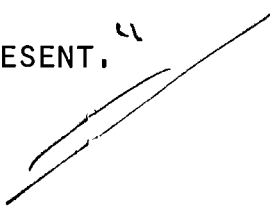
THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS, ON HIS BEHALF, A
WARM WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU HERE TONIGHT, AND PARTICULARLY TO THE
OFFICIAL DELEGATION FROM THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA LED BY
MR. LEÉO' YONG-JŌW } THAT HAS COME FOR THE OPENING. WE VIEW THIS
EXHIBITION AS AN IMPORTANT SYMBOL OF THE GROWING TIES OF FRIENDSHIP
BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES.

AS YOU MAY KNOW, MY HUSBAND AND I HAD THE PLEASURE OF VISITING CHINA TOGETHER IN 1972. DURING THAT TRIP WE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF TOURING THE FORMER PALACE MUSEUM AND SEEING SOME OF THE OBJECTS THAT ARE A PART OF THIS EXHIBITION. I PARTICULARLY REMEMBER THE MAGNIFICENT JADE SUIT AND THE FLYING HORSE WHICH WE WILL SEE LATER THIS EVENING. // INCIDENTALLY, WHILE IN CHINA I ALSO HAD THE RARE OPPORTUNITY OF VISITING THE CHING TOMBS SOUTH OF SHENYONG.

BOTH MY HUSBAND AND I CAME AWAY FROM CHINA WITH A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE SKILL AND CREATIVE TALENTS OF ITS PEOPLE. //

THE PRESIDENT FEELS THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SINO-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP AND THE PROMOTION OF NORMALIZED RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE CARDINAL ELEMENTS OF AMERICA'S FOREIGN POLICY. I KNOW THAT IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS VISIT TO CHINA NEXT YEAR. //

THE FACT THAT THIS OUTSTANDING EXHIBITION OF ARCHEOLOGICAL
FINDS FROM THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA WILL BE SEEN BY THOUSANDS
OF AMERICANS IN THE COMING THREE MONTHS IS A REFLECTION OF THE
DEEPENING CONTACT BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES. THUS, IN INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS AS IN DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT, AS CHAIRMAN MAO HAS SAID,
"THE PAST CAN SERVE THE PRESENT."



ON A PERSONAL NOTE, I WISH TO THANK THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR THEIR GENEROSITY IN SHARING THESE TREASURES WITH THE PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRY. I CONSIDER IT A GREAT PRIVILEGE TO BE A PART OF THE PREVIEW THIS EVENING AND HAVE BEEN VERY EXCITED ABOUT VIEWING THE EXHIBITION SINCE I FIRST LEARNED OF IT. AGAIN, LET ME EXPRESS MY GREAT GRATITUDE TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

THANK YOU.

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-2-

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