

**The original documents are located in Box 7, folder “9/7/76 - Tea for Mrs. Leone” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1A. REPORT	Government Report (1 page)	8/8/1975	A
1B. REPORT	Government Report (1 page)	5/13/1975	A

File Location:  
 Betty Ford Files, Box 7, "9/7/76 Leone Tea", LET 09/1983

RESTRICTION CODES

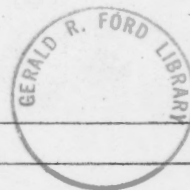
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Date Issued 9/3/76

By P. Howard

Revised --

FACT SHEET  
Mrs. Ford's Office



Event Tea  
Group for Mrs. Leone, wife of the President of Italy  
DATE/TIME September 7, 1976 4:00 p. m.  
Contact Pat Howard Phone 2927  
Number of guests: Total 6 - 8 Women x Men x Children \_\_\_\_\_  
Place Yellow Oval Room - Presentation of Gift to follow in the East Garden, weather permitting  
Principals involved Mrs. Ford  
Participation by Principal yes (Receiving line) no (receive informally)  
Remarks required yes  
Background Mrs. Ford will accept on behalf of our Nation one of Italy's Bicentennial gifts from Mrs. Leone.

REQUIREMENTS

Social: Guest list yes (Social Entertainments Office will distribute)  
Invitations no Programs no Menus no  
Refreshments yes (coffee, iced tea, tea sandwiches and pastries)  
Entertainment no  
Decorations/flowers yes  
Music no  
Social Aides no  
Dress Business Suit - Short Dresses for the Ladies Coat check yes ?  
Other --

Press: Reporters Yes  
Photographers Yes  
TV Crews ?  
White House Photographers yes Color yes Mono. \_\_\_\_\_  
Other --

Technical Support: Microphones yes PA Other Rooms no  
Recording yes  
Lights yes  
Transportation cars (Southwest Gate)  
Parking South Grounds  
Housing --  
Other -- (Risers, stage, platforms) yes

Project Co-ordinator Pat Howard Phone 2927

Site diagrams should be attached if technical support is heavy.

*Catalyn*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 2, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: MARIA DOWNS  
FROM: SUSAN PORTER



This is to confirm our telephone conversation indicating that Mrs. Ford will receive Mrs. Leone, wife of the President of Italy, on Tuesday, September 7th, at 4:00 p.m. At that time, Mrs. Leone will present to Mrs. Ford one of Italy's gifts to this nation for the Bicentennial, a portrait of Thomas Jefferson, the Lodi miniature, one of the few paintings for which Thomas Jefferson posed. Accompanying her will be Ambassador and Mrs. Roberto Gaja and a Minister of Tourism. A list will be supplied to you by Denis Clift, who is the contact (ext. 5607). Attached is a biography of Mrs. Leone for Mrs. Ford. I expect because this is a Bicentennial presentation and the painting is a major one, there should definitely be press coverage. The file is attached.

Thank you.

- c: BF Staff  
Denis Clift  
Jeanne Davis  
Milt Mitler  
Myron Kuropas  
William Nicholson  
Jerry Jones  
Terry O'Donnell  
Rex Scouten  
Staircase

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1A. REPORT	Government Report (2 pages)	5/13/1975	A

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 3, 1976

FOR: MRS. FORD

FROM: MARIA DOWNS *MD*



Attached for your review and approval is the proposed scenario for your Tea with Mrs. Leone, wife of the President of Italy, followed by a Presentation Ceremony on Tuesday, September 7, 1976, at 4:00 p. m.

On Tuesday morning, we will send you a guest list which should not total more than 12 guests. Also, a briefing paper regarding the Bicentennial gift is being prepared and will be sent to you as soon as it is completed.

Thank you.

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FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
REPORT	Government Report (4 pages)	5/13/1975	A

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. FORD

FROM: Maria Downs *M*  
SUBJECT: Tea/Presentation Ceremony with Mrs. Leone



Attached please find background material for your September 7, 4:00 p. m. meeting with Mrs. Leone.

In addition to the Italian participants we have invited Counsellor Jack Marsh who serves as White House Liaison for the Bicentennial; Assistant Secretary and Mrs. Arthur Hartman, Assistant Secretary for European Affairs; Nancy Hanks, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts; General Scowcroft and Milt Mitler, Director of the White House Bicentennial Office.

There is quite a behind the scene battle going on as to where this portrait should be housed. . . . at the White House or at the National Portrait Gallery. I have advised all concerned that you will be accepting this gift on behalf of the American people with it's home to be determined in the future. This will give you an opportunity to see the portrait and hear the pro's and con's and decide where you would like it to be.

The scenario for this event was sent up separately on Friday. Enclosed is a xeroxed copy.

Thank you.



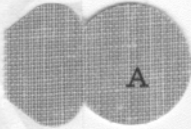
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A



CONFIDENTIAL

BACKGROUND PAPER FOR VISIT OF  
MRS. VITTORIA LEONE



Background

The wife of the President of the Italian Republic will be visiting Washington from September 4 through September 8 in connection with the opening of a series of performances by the La Scala opera company of Milan at the Kennedy Center. She will call on you at 4:00 p. m. on Tuesday, September 7, to present a bicentennial gift from the Italian government -- a miniature portrait of Thomas Jefferson.

Mrs. Leone plans to go on to New York for a week following her stay in Washington. An outline schedule of Mrs. Leone's Washington visit and a list of those members of her party who will call on you are attached.

Ambassador Gaja will host a dinner in Mrs. Leone's honor immediately after your meeting at which the Vice President and Mrs. Rockefeller will be the ranking American guests. The party will then proceed to the opening performance of La Scala opera company.

The gift of the Italian government which will be presented to you by Mrs. Leone on Tuesday is a miniature portrait of Thomas Jefferson by the American artist John Trumbull (1756-1843). Trumbull painted a life study of Jefferson in Paris in 1788, which he later used in his famous "Signing of the Declaration of Independence." The miniature portrait was a gift to Maria Cosway, a close friend of Jefferson's. Maria Cosway later founded a convent school in Lodi, Italy, where the miniature has hung ever since, and for this reason it is often referred to as the Lodi Miniature. The Italian government acquired the painting from the convent for presentation to the United States. It has recently been on display as part of the "Eye of Jefferson" exhibition at the National Gallery of Art.

Italy has been particularly generous in its contributions to our Bicentennial celebration. In addition to the La Scala performances, these contributions include concerts by the Scarlatti Orchestra of Naples and the Virtuosi di Roma, as well as the Palladio exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery.

CONFIDENTIAL (GDS)

DSP, 12/16/83

Talking Points

- We are expecially grateful to you and to the government of Italy for the gift of the Jefferson miniature. It is a priceless artistic and historical document and a symbol of the long-standing ties of friendship between our two countries.
  
- All Americans, including the millions of Americans of Italian origin, are equally appreciative of the many outstanding contributions which Italy has made to the Bicentennial celebrations this year.
  
- I know that the American public looks forward with delight and anticipation to the opening of the La Scala series at Kennedy Center tonight and I wish the La Scala company every success.



ADDENDUM TO BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The portrait which is oil on wood was acquired by the Italian government from the convent for presentation to the United States. This is one of very few portraits for which Jefferson posed.



B



Italian Participants in Call on  
Mrs. Ford at the White House  
4:00 p. m. , September 7

Mrs. Vittoria Leone, wife of the President of the Italian Republic

Italian Ambassador and Mrs. Roberto Gaja

Italian Minister of Entertainment and Tourism  
Dario Antoniozzi (tentative)

Diplomatic Adviser to the President  
Federico Sensi

Director General for Cultural and Educational Affairs  
Vittorio Cordero di Montezemolo

Italian Bicentennial Coordinator Aldo Mazio

Olga Prior, Mrs. Leone's travelling companion (tentative)



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This form marks the file location of item number 1a,  
as listed on the pink form (GSA form 7122, Withdrawal Sheet) at  
the front of the folder.



GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

This form marks the file location of item number 16,  
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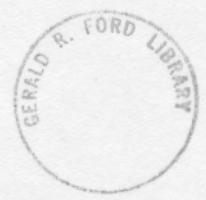
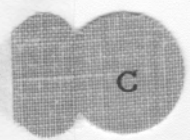
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Private Visit  
of  
Mrs. Vittoria Leone  
to Washington  
September 4-8, 1976  
(as of September 3)

Saturday, September 4

3:30 p.m. Arrive Dulles Airport

6:00 p.m. Visit Italian Church in Washington

Private evening.

Overnight at residence of  
Ambassador of Italy

Sunday, September 5

10:15 a.m. Excursion to Annapolis with tour  
of William Paca House and Gardens,  
followed by luncheon aboard the  
barge of U.S. Naval Academy  
Superintendent Admiral McKee

4:00 p.m. Return to Italian Ambassador's  
residence

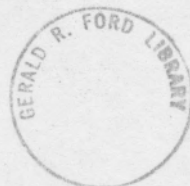
6:30 p.m. Attend reception hosted by Italian  
Ambassador and Mrs. Gaja for the  
members of the La Scala opera  
company, the Scarlatti Orchestra  
and the Chamber Chorus of Italy  
Radio-Television

Rest of evening free

Monday, September 6

11:00 a.m. Visit the Eye of Thomas Jefferson  
exhibition, the Nation of Nations  
exhibition, and the Smithsonian  
Victorian Garden

1:30 p.m. Lunch hosted by Mrs. Philip Buchen



Monday, September 6 (continued)

7:00 p.m.                    Scarlatti Orchestra concert at  
National Gallery

Rest of evening free

Tuesday, September 7

11:00 a.m.                    Tour of Dumbarton Oaks

12:30 p.m.                    Luncheon hosted by Mrs. Ginsburg

4:00 p.m.                    Call on Mrs. Ford at the White House  
for presentation of Jefferson  
miniature

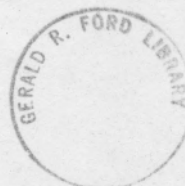
6:00 p.m.                    Dinner at residence of the Italian  
Ambassador

7:30 p.m.                    Premier performance of La Scala  
opera at Kennedy Center

10:30 p.m.                    Reception at Kennedy Center hosted by  
Philip Morris

Wednesday, September 8

a.m.                            Depart for New York



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Mrs. Ford,

This is the description  
of the miniature from  
the "Eye of Jefferson"  
exhibit at the Natl -

Keys



### 339 Thomas Jefferson

JOHN TRUMBULL 1756–1843

Miniature in oil on board 1788

Lent by the Istituto "Maria SS. Bambina," Lodi

John Trumbull spent two months of the winter of 1787–1788 as a guest in Jefferson's Paris residence, the Hôtel de Langeac, painting portraits of the French officers for his depiction of the surrender at Yorktown, and also the portrait of his host onto the canvas of the original version of his *Declaration of Independence*. It was early in this Paris stay that Trumbull introduced Jefferson to two painters from London, Richard and Maria Cosway, and thus set in motion the celebrated struggle between Jefferson's "Head and . . . Heart." The Lodi miniature is a replica painted expressly for Maria Cosway from the life portrait in Trumbull's *Declaration*. Mrs. Cosway had asked Jefferson, just after Trumbull's return to London early in March 1788, to give the painter "leave to make a Copy." This miniature and another taken from the original by Angelica Schuyler Church were in their hands by July 1788. That September William Short, knowing of these two replicas, suggested that Trumbull "do a very clever gallant thing": "Send a copy of the same to Miss Jefferson." Thus three replicas of the miniature were made that year. But the earliest of these, the Lodi miniature, is painted with a freedom granted only a confident painter while executing a commission for another artist whose work he admired. It is also the work of a painter clearly aware of the remarkable attachments between Jefferson and Mrs. Cosway.

Not only does this miniature commemorate the most extraordinary friendship of Jefferson's life, it also immediately brings to mind the familiar life portrait—Jefferson with unpowdered hair, in the costume of the earlier decade, towering above his associates in the presentation of the *Declaration of Independence*—the preeminent icon of Jefferson's imposing position in the birth of the nation. A.B.



For Immediate Release  
Friday, September 3, 1976

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

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Mrs. Ford will receive Mrs. Leone, wife of the President of Italy, Tuesday, September 7, at 4 p.m. in the White House.

Mrs. Leone will present Mrs. Ford a portrait of Thomas Jefferson, the Lodi miniature. The painting, one of Italy's Bicentennial gifts to America, is one of the few portraits for which Jefferson posed.

# # #

The presentation will be open to press.  
Pickup in press lobby at 3:45 p.m.

