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FACT SHEET  
Mrs. Ford's Office

Event Reception  
 Group International Women's Year Commission  
 DATE/TIME Monday, April 14, 1975 6:00 p.m.  
 Contact Pat Lindh, Noreen McDaniel, Karen Keesling Phone 2715  
 Number of guests: Total 200-250 Women X Men X Children - -  
 Place State Floor  
 Principals involved President and Mrs. Ford  
 Participation by Principal yes (Receiving line) (to be resolved)  
 Remarks required yes (President Ford)  
 Background The President and Mrs. Ford are giving a reception to recognize the International Women's Year Commission established by President Ford on January 9, 1975. The recently appointed Commission members are being honored.

REQUIREMENTS

Social: Guest list yes (Pat Lindh's office)  
 Invitations yes, calls & confirmation letters Programs no Menus no  
 Refreshments cocktails and hors d'oeuvres (most probably)  
 Entertainment no  
 Decorations/flowers yes  
 Music yes  
 Social Aides yes  
 Dress Business Suit Coat check ?  
 Other - -

Press: Reporters (to be resolved)  
 Photographers \_\_\_\_\_  
 TV Crews \_\_\_\_\_  
 White House Photographers yes Color yes Mono. - -  
 Other - -

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

Project Co-ordinator Linda Baker Phone 2927

Site diagrams should be attached if technical support is heavy.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR  
REMARKS AND RECEPTION

MONDAY - APRIL 14, 1975

The State Floor

6:00 P.M.

From: Terry O'Donnell <sup>TOD</sup>

BACKGROUND

You and Mrs. Ford will greet the Members of the Commission in the Blue Room at 6:00 p.m., then proceed to the East Room where you will deliver remarks, then to the State Dining Room for the Reception.

U.N. ACTIVITIES: On December 18, 1972, the U.N. General Assembly proclaimed 1975 International Women's Year to be devoted to intensified action to promote equality between men and women; to ensure full integration of women in the total development effort; and to recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations and cooperation among the States and the strengthening of peace. A World Conference will be held June 19 - July 2 in Mexico City.

U.S. ACTIVITIES: The U.S. Center for IWY, whose staff will be in attendance, was established September 1973 by a grant from the Department of State to the Meridian House International. The Center serves as a clearinghouse of information on IWY and coordinates the voluntary efforts in the U.S. observance of the Year. On January 9, 1975, you signed the Executive Order establishing the National Commission. The IWY Secretariat, whose staff will be in attendance, was established early this year in the Department of State under the direction of Mildred Marcy, Coordinator. They are staffing the Commission and working on U.S. participation in the World Conference. Funding for the Commission has come from several Executive Departments through cash transfers and detail of staff.

The IWY symbol, which many people will be wearing, is the stylized dove of peace with the mathematical equality symbol and the female biological symbol.

SEQUENCE

5:55 p. m. Depart Oval Office and join Mrs. Ford on the Second Floor in the Residence and proceed to the Blue Room for a group photo and brief greeting of the Members of the IWY Commission.

6:05 p. m. After the Commission Members have departed the Blue Room, you and Mrs. Ford are announced, enter the East Room and proceed directly to the platform where you deliver remarks.

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

At the conclusion of your remarks, either you or Mrs. Ford should invite the guests to the State Dining Room for refreshments.

6:10 p. m. Reception commences. (Music will be provided.)

6:30 p. m. You and Mrs. Ford depart reception.

# # # # #

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

Jill E. Ruckelshaus, Rockville, Maryland, Director, Organizational Relations, National Center for Voluntary Action. She is former Special Assistant to the Counsellor to the President for Women's Programs. She was Chairman of the 1970 National Women's Advisory Committee at OEO and a member of the Policy Council of the National Women's Political Caucus.

Ethel D. Allen, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, physician, surgeon and Philadelphia City Councilwoman. In 1970 Dr. Allen received the National Community Service Award of the National Convention of Business and Professional Women's Clubs and in 1972 the National Business League Award.

\* Anne L. Armstrong, Armstrong, Texas, former Counsellor to the President. She is a former Co-Chairman of the Republican National Committee and is currently on the Board of Directors of Union Carbide and American Express.

Margaret L. Arnold, Saugerties on Hudson, New York, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director, National Retired Teachers Association, Washington, D.C. She is a former President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and is currently a member of the Citizens' Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Elizabeth Athanasakos, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Attorney. She is a former municipal judge and member of the President's Task Force on Women's Rights and Responsibilities, 1969. She served as Chairperson of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on the Rights and Responsibilities of Women at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Barbara R. Bergmann, Bethesda, Maryland, Professor of Economics, University of Maryland. She was Senior Staff Economist of the Council of Economic Advisers and a senior staff member of the Brookings Institution. Dr. Bergmann has also been a senior economic adviser at AID and a consultant at HEW and the Rand Corporation. She is an expert on women's impact on the economy.

Patricia T. Carbine, New York City, New York, Publisher and Editor in Chief, Ms. Magazine. She was Executive Editor of Look Magazine and Editor of McCall's Magazine. She serves on the Executive Committee of the American Society of Magazine Editors and the Board of Directors of the Magazine Publishers Association.

Weston R. Christopherson, Lake Forest, Illinois, President, Jewel Companies. He is an attorney and has been actively involved with management training programs for women.

Mary S. Coleman, Battle Creek, Michigan, Justice, Michigan Supreme Court. Judge Coleman previously served as Probate and Juvenile Court Judge of Calhoun County. She is a member of the National Association of Women Lawyers, American Association of University Women and the former President of the Michigan Probate and Juvenile Court Judges Association.

\* Winfield Dunn, Nashville, Tennessee, Consultant, Business and Government. He was Governor of Tennessee from 1970-74 and Chairman of the Republican Governors Association. Prior to that he was a dentist.

Katherine (Casey) Eike, Lawrence, Kansas, Assistant to the Dean of Women, University of Kansas. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the National Urban Coalition and former National President of the Intercollegiate Association of Women Students. She was a member of the President's Advisory Committee on the Economic Role of Women.

Paula Gibson, Four Lakes, Washington, Student, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington. She has held offices in the Future Homemakers Of America serving as National Treasurer and a member of the National Executive Council.

Gilda Bojorquez Gjurich, Montebello, California, President and Senior Partner, Los Amigos Construction Company, Santa Fe Springs, California. She is a Board Member of the National Association of Minority Contractors. In 1974 she was selected as one of the Outstanding Women of the Year by the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation in Los Angeles.

Ella T. Grasso, Windsor Locks, Connecticut, Governor of Connecticut. She is a former member of the 92nd Congress and the Connecticut State Legislature.

\* Hanna Holborn Gray, New Haven, Connecticut, Provost, Yale University. She was a professor of history and has been a member of the Research Advisory Council of the U.S. Office of Education. She also serves as a member of the National Council on the Humanities and as a trustee of the Institute of Advanced Studies and the Mayo Foundation.

\* Martha Griffiths, Farmington Hills, Michigan, Attorney. She is a former member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Michigan House of Representatives.

Lenore Hershey, New York City, New York, Editor in Chief of the Ladies Home Journal. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Center for Voluntary Action and the Child Study Association. Formerly, she served as a member of the President's Advisory Council on the Economic Role of Women.

Velma Murphy Hill, New York City, New York, Assistant to the President, United Federation of Teachers. She is Vice-President of the American Federation of Teachers.

Patricia Hutar, Glenview, Illinois, U.S. Representative to the UN Commission on the Status of Women. She is a public affairs consultant and currently serving as First Vice President of the National Federation of Republican Women. She is a former Assistant Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Rita Z Johnston, Bethesda, Maryland, U.S. Delegate and Vice Chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, Organization of American States. She is former President of the Pan American Liaison Committee of Women's Organizations, Inc.

\* William Crawford Mercer, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts, President, New England Telephone and Telegraph, Boston, Massachusetts. He is also Director of the John Hancock Insurance Co. He served on the President's Task Force on Women's Rights and Responsibilities, 1969.

Ersa H. Poston, Loudonville, New York, President, New York State Civil Service Commission, Albany, New York. She is Vice President of the National Urban League.

Joel Read, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, President, Alverno College. She is a Sister of the Catholic religion and is Chairperson of the Advisory Committee for the Project on Status and Education of Women, Association of American Colleges. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Women's Campaign Fund. She is also a former Board member of the National Organization for Women.

Betty Smith, Eugene, Oregon, Member, National Board of Directors, YMCA. She is President of the Regional Assembly of the Pacific Region YMCA and the first woman Vice Chairperson of the National YMCA Board Executive Committee.

\* Barbara Walters, New York City, New York, Co-host of the Today Show, NBC. She is also moderator of Not for Women Only.

Annie Dodge Wauneka, Ganado, Arizona, Member of the Navajo Tribal Council, Window Rock, Arizona. She is Chairman of the Tribal Council Health Committee. She was the first woman elected to the Navajo Tribal Council. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1963.

Gerridee Wheeler, Bismarck, North Dakota, President, National Association of Mental Health. She was the first woman ever appointed to head the National Association of Mental Health. She is the Republican National Committeewoman from North Dakota.

Helen Copley, La Jolla, California, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Copley Newspapers. She is a director of the Wells Fargo Bank and the Inter American Press Association. She is also a director of the Newspaper Advertising Bureau, Inc.

Audrey Rowe Colom, Washington, D.C., Coordinator, D.C. Child Advocacy Office, Children's Defense Fund. She is a former Special Assistant at the National Welfare Rights Organization. Currently she serves as National Vice Chairperson of the National Women's Political Caucus and is a member of the National Council of Negro Women.

Richard Cornuelle, New York City, New York, Author. He is presently a consultant to the Reader's Digest, Litton Industries, the National Center for Voluntary Action and various government agencies. He served as Executive Vice President of the National Association of Manufacturers and Chairman of the President's Task Force on Voluntary Action.

\* Denotes unable to attend reception



Ellen Groves Kirby, Petersburg, West Virginia, Public Health Nurse, Grant County, West Virginia. She is one of the 10 Outstanding Young Women of American for 1974. She was the West Virginia delegate to the World's International Farm Youth Exchange Conference as well as to the International 4-H Programs Workshop in 1972.

Dorothy Vale Kissinger, Mesa, Arizona, Co-owner and Manager, Sahuaro Lake Guest Ranch. She is President-elect of the Soroptimist International of the Americas.

Clare Boothe Luce, Honolulu, Hawaii, Author. She is a former magazine editor, Congresswoman and Ambassador to Italy. She was also a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

Members added just recently:

Alan Alda, Leonia, New Jersey, actor and writer. He is heading Men for the Equal Rights Amendment. He is the star of the TV series M\*A\*S\*H.

\* Katharine Hepburn, Old Saybrook, Connecticut. She is the well known actress of the screen and the stage who has championed the 'independent women' in many of her roles.

INVITEES

6:00 p.m. April 14th

IWY Reception

Alda, Elizabeth  
Allan, Virginia  
Armitage, Connie

Bacon, Ruth  
Baer, Bernice  
Bergmann, Fred  
Bernard, Jessie  
Blake, Robert  
Blake, Sylvia  
Boggs, Rep. Lindy  
Bowden, Marie  
Bray, Charles  
Bray, Eleanor  
Brown, Juanita  
Bunker, Ellsworth  
Burgess, Harrison  
Burke, Rep. Yvonne  
Busby, Mary  
Butler, Virginia

Chittick, Elizabeth  
Christopherson, Myra  
Clusen, Ruth  
Coleman, Creighton  
Collins, Rep. Cardiss  
Curtis, Pamela

DeCrow, Karen  
Dill, Agnes  
Duval, Margy

East, Catherine  
Eldridge, Ronnie  
Ellison, Pauline

Fenwick, Rep. Millicent  
Follett, Margueritte

Gabrielson, Rosamund  
Gereau, Mary  
Green, Kinsay  
Genne, Elizabeth  
Grasso, Thomas

Haggerty, Elizabeth  
Haggerty, Herbert  
Heater, F. Arlene  
Heater, Russe!!  
Heckler, John  
Height, Dorothy  
Hendsch, Shirley  
Hershey, Solomon  
Hill, Norman  
Hitchcock, Maxine  
Hitchcock, William  
Holtzman, Rep. Elizabeth  
Hutar, Elizabeth  
Hutar, Laddie

Ittmann, Mrs. William

Jackson, Kathleen  
Jackson, Murray  
Jammel, Eleanor  
Johnston, Grant  
Jordon, Rep. Barbara

Keys, Rep. Martha

Laise, Carol  
Lewis, Yvonne

Madar, Olga  
Mahler, Lois  
Manning, Phyllis  
Marcy, Carl  
Marcy, Mildred

Matzkin, Rose  
Mawer, Muriel  
McEwen, Patricia  
McGuire, Rosalie  
Mendenhall, Janice  
Meyner, Rep. Helen  
Miller, Mrs. Carroll  
Mink, John  
Mink, Rep. Patsy  
Morey, Delores  
Morey, Roy

Stellmann, Caroline  
Strauss, Helen  
Strauss, Robert  
Sumlin, Bernice

Talbot, Mildred  
Tennenbaum, Ann

Wiggins, Dorothy  
Wiggins, Guy

Neelin, Patricia

Patella, Annette  
Pincock, Carolyn

O'Connell, Bryan

Rainey, Jean  
Rasch, Dorothy  
Rigger, Gerri  
Richardson, John  
Richardson, Thelma  
Roland, Chandler  
Roland, Mary Suzanne  
Ross, Grace  
Rourk, Beatrice  
Ruckelshaus, William

Sawyer, Frances  
Simonson, Joy  
Simonson, Richard  
Smith, Haven  
Smith, Mary Louise  
Smith, Mrs. Milton  
Smith, Rep. Virginia

WHITE HOUSE STAFF ATTENDING THE IWY COMMISSION RECEPTION APRIL 14, 1975

William Baroody, Jr.

Mrs. William Baroody, Jr.

Melissa Brown

Maria Downs

Linda Folks

Patricia Lindh

Robert Lindh

Karen Keesling

Dr. Theodore Marrs

Annette Marrs

Noreen McDaniel

Jan Miliken

Pam Powell

Angela Raish

Susan Schiffer

Robin West

Margita White

Gerry Warren

Hal Horan

Mrs. Hal Horan

Betty McCormack



- INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR COMMISSION RECEPTION

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1975



I WELCOME THIS VERY TALENTED GROUP OF WOMEN AND  
MEN TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

YOU REPRESENT A RICH DIVERSITY OF POLITICAL AND  
CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS AND EXPERIENCE, BUT YOUR COMMON CONCERN  
FOR UPGRADING THE STATUS OF WOMEN TRANSCENDS DIFFERENCES.

I AM GLAD YOU ARE HERE.

YOUR WORK TO PROMOTE THE OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S YEAR BEGINS TOMORROW. AND WITH THE BROAD CHALLENGE  
TO PROMOTE EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN, YOU HAVE YOUR WORK  
CUT OUT FOR YOU -- TO ENSURE THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN  
IN THE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SOCIETY, AS WELL AS  
TO RECOGNIZE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD  
PEACE.

ALTHOUGH THE GROWING CONCERN ABOUT THE SPECIAL LEGAL  
AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS OF WOMEN HAS PAVED THE WAY FOR MANY NEW  
LAWS AND IMPORTANT COURT DECISIONS, REAL CHANGE WILL DEPEND  
UPON THE CALIBER AND DEGREE OF ENFORCEMENT. LAWS ALONE ARE  
NOT ENOUGH.



STATISTICS ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATE THE PROBLEMS THAT REMAIN IN ASSURING TRUE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. WHILE NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF ALL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ARE WOMEN, ONLY FOUR POINT FIVE PERCENT OF THE TOP LEVEL EMPLOYEES ARE WOMEN.

THIS ADMINISTRATION RECENTLY REMINDED THE HEADS OF ALL FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES THAT STRONG AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS NEEDED TO SEE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE ON A FAIR AND EQUAL BASIS.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY TO SET AN EXAMPLE -- AND THIS WE INTEND TO DO. THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL CONTINUE TO VIGOROUSLY PURSUE TALENTED APPLICANTS ON THE BASIS OF QUALIFICATIONS ALONE.

ONE OF THE MOST REFRESHING BY-PRODUCTS OF THE  
SEARCH TO SECURE RIGHTS FOR WOMEN IS THE EMPHASIS ON  
FREEING BOTH SEXES FROM RESTRICTIVE STEREOTYPES.

LIBERATION OF THE SPIRIT OPENS NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR THE  
FUTURE OF INDIVIDUAL AMERICANS AND THE NATION.

THERE ARE SEVERAL CRITICAL AREAS THAT CAN BENEFIT  
FROM YOUR ATTENTION. ONE OF THESE IS THE EQUAL RIGHTS  
AMENDMENT, WHICH I WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSE.

THE DEBATE OVER E-R-A HAS TOO OFTEN DEGENERATED  
INTO FRIVOLOUS NON-ISSUES. AN AMENDMENT TO THE  
CONSTITUTION CALLS FOR SERIOUS EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT  
AND MEANING OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE.



AS STATE LEGISLATURES CONVENE THIS YEAR, THE  
ENSUING DEBATES OVER E-R-A SHOULD BE A VEHICLE TO INFORM  
LEGISLATORS AND THE PUBLIC OF THE MANY COMPLEX LEGAL  
PROBLEMS WOMEN STILL ENCOUNTER.

MYTHS ABOUT THE PROTECTED ECONOMIC STATUS OF  
WOMEN CAN BE DISPELLED THROUGH SERIOUS DISCUSSION.  
THE WAY CAN BE OPENED FOR THE REVIEW OF AREAS THAT WILL NOT  
BE AFFECTED BY E-R-A.

- 9 -

YOU HAVE A CHALLENGING AND CRITICAL TASK AHEAD.

AND YOU CAN DO MUCH TO MOVE THE NATION ALONG TOWARD MAKING

"JUSTICE AND EQUALITY" A REALITY FOR AMERICAN WOMEN.

THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

TO ONE AMERICAN AFFECTS ALL OF US. A NATION IS ONLY

AS STRONG AND CREATIVE AS ITS CITIZENS. THE BETTER

WE USE THE TALENTS OF OUR PEOPLE -- WOMEN AND MEN --

THE BRIGHTER AND MORE SECURE THE FUTURE OF THE REPUBLIC

WILL BE.

END OF TEXT

At 12:45 the President will have a courtesy call from the singer John Denver.

At 2:00 the President will meet with the Board of Directors of the Association of American Railroads. The other participants are Secretary Coleman, Director Lynn and Jim Cannon. The Association requested this meeting to brief the President on the condition of American railroads.

At 5:00 the President will meet with Senator Robert Dole and Republican Members of the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee and the House Agriculture Committee. The meeting is at the request of the Members, and the purpose is to discuss the farm bill, which is before the conferees at the moment.

At 6:00 this evening the President will greet the new members of the National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year in the East Room. The President will speak briefly and then will have a reception for the 35 members in the State Dining Room. There will be open coverage of the President's remarks.

Q Why not of the reception? I mean, this is very important -- this rapport with the women. We have covered these receptions before, and suddenly there seems to be a real clamp down. It is a public reception. It is not being paid for by the President out of his pocket.

MR. NESSEN: I can't recall when there was open coverage of this thing.

Q Oh, yes, we have been here long enough to know that that kind of reception would be. It is very important to see the President with these women, and the conversations afterward and so forth.

MR. NESSEN: As I say, I don't recall any reception that has been open to coverage since I have been here.

Q Why not? What is the reason?

MR. NESSEN: The last two members of the commission --

Q Does that mean you have no answer?

MR. NESSEN: Helen, there has not been traditionally coverage of the receptions.



Q Come on, Ron, some of us have been around here and we know there has been coverage of these receptions. Even the women are calling us up and saying you all are surely coming, we want you to be there tonight.

Q And then they called back and say, "No, you can't go."

MR. NESSEN: Let me check it for you after the briefing.

Q They will let us in eventually. (Laughter)

MR. NESSEN: The last two members of the commission are being named today. This brings the total to 35. They are actress Katharine Hepburn and the actor Alan Alda.

Q Will they be at the reception?

MR. NESSEN: So far as I know.

Tomorrow, as we mentioned last week, the President will be speaking to the 84th Continental Congress of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution at Constitution Hall. That is at 11:30.

Q Will there be a text?

MR. NESSEN: We will get you a text when it is finished.

Q Any chance we can get it today for at least the evening papers tomorrow, at 6 a.m.?

MR. NESSEN: We will make the effort.

Q Do you have a subject -- foreign policy or domestic? Do you have any idea?

MR. NESSEN: I think it is likely to be defense policy. They have a fairly small press area over there, I am told. The President's remarks, therefore, will be piped back here from Constitution Hall, and we will delay the briefing until the pool has returned from Constitution Hall, which should be shortly after noon.

If you don't absolutely feel it is essential to go, you could stay here and hear it piped in.

Q When you say "piped back," do you mean just on the house speaker or through the house mult?

MR. NESSEN: The mult.

Q And speaker?

MR. NESSEN: And speaker.

Q Ron, again, why this attitude? We went last year. There is plenty of room over there. There are very few press over there.

MR. NESSEN: Go right ahead, Sarah.

Q But why are you telling us there is very little room over there and people should stay here and wait and have it piped over and all that?

MR. NESSEN: I have no problem if you go.

Q I know you don't, but why do you have all these arrangements of piping in when we went last year?

MR. NESSEN: Would you rather not have it piped in?

Q I don't mind what you do. It is nice to have it piped in, too, for those who do not go, but you made the statement there is very little room over there.

MR. NESSEN: That is what I am told.

Q Ron, speaking of International Women's Year, I would like to ask one question. It appeared twice in the Star yesterday. Dianne Brockett, I believe it is, is the Education Editor of the Star, was assigned to cover a meeting of the African Heritage Association at the Shorham-Americana. She was rejected and she was excluded from this meeting and was told it is "because you are white."

Now, I have already contacted HEW and they are looking into it. I would like to know what is the President's feeling about a white reporter being excluded from covering a meeting in the Nation's Capital?

MR. NESSEN: I have not heard of the episode, Les, until you mentioned it to me.

Q Could you check and give us the facts?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q Thank you.



(ERA)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- PRESIDENT FORD TODAY TOOK A STRONG STAND IN FAVOR OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT AND SAID THAT TOO OFTEN THE DEBATE OVER THE CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE HAS "DEGENERATED INTO FRIVOLOUS NON-ISSUES".

HE SAID THAT AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION CALLS FOR "SERIOUS EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT AND MEANING OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE."

THE PRESIDENT MADE HIS REMARKS IN A PREPARED SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR WHICH FORMALLY BEGINS TOMORROW.

"THERE ARE SEVERAL CRITICAL AREAS THAT CAN BENEFIT FROM YOUR ATTENTION," FORD SAID IN SPEAKING OF THE DRIVE TO BROADEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN. "ONE OF THESE IS THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT WHICH I WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSE."

"THE DEBATE OVER ERA HAS TOO OFTEN DEGENERATED INTO FRIVOLOUS NON-ISSUES," HE SAID.

FORD TOLD THE GATHERING, "YOU HAVE A CHALLENGING AND CRITICAL TASK AHEAD, AND YOU CAN DO MUCH TO MOVE THE NATION ALONG TO MAKING 'JUSTICE AND EQUALITY' A REALITY FOR AMERICAN WOMEN."

FORD PERSONALLY SELECTED THE 35-MEMBER COMMISSION AND CHOSE JILL RUCKELSHAUS TO BE CHAIRMAN. TODAY, HE NAMED MOVIE STAR KATHERINE HEPBURN AND ACTOR ALAN ALDA TO BE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

# *A Boost for Women's Year*

*By Dorothy McCardle*

With his wife beside him, in effect nudging his elbow, President Ford boosted In-

been added, actress Katharine Hepburn, who was not there because she is ill, and





—Washington Star Photographer Walter Oates

ctor Alan Alda, appointed to the commission on International Women's Year, brought his 14-year-old daughter Elizabeth to the White House reception yesterday. Among the others there were Virginia Knauer, consumer advisor to the resident, and (far right) Rep. Barbara Jordan of Texas. Marking the session, the President announced his full support of the Equal Rights Amendment, below.



## Ford Backs and Boosts Rights Amendment

By Isabelle Shelton  
Washington Star Staff Writer

Declaring he "wholeheartedly" endorses the Equal Rights Amendment, President Ford last night urged his newly-appointed Commission on

participation of women in the social-economic development of this society, as well as to recognize their contributions to the development of world peace.

"You can do much to move the nation along toward making 'justice and equality' a reality for American women," he