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*File -
Thanksgiving*

November 10, 1975

Dear Mrs. Hunt:

My father forwarded your correspondence regarding the "Thankful Giving" proposal, together with his warm endorsement of the idea. Helen Collins has also contacted me about it.

There's no question that it's a challenging concept. I am bringing "Thankful Giving" to the attention of Mrs. Ford, but I'm afraid the time will be too short for her to do anything this Thanksgiving.

I've heard so much about you that I hope we'll have an opportunity to meet soon.

Sincerely,

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Marsha Hunt Fresnell
13131 Magnolia Boulevard
Sherman Oaks, California 91403

bcc: Honorable Maxwell Rabb

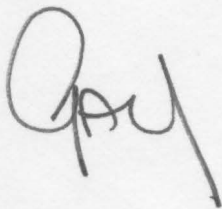


THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Fran:

Attached: What no girl should
be without--a Turkey Fact Sheet!

Gobble, Gobble.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fran' or similar, written in a cursive style.



3rd Thanksgiving

National Turkey Federation

SERVING THE NATION'S TURKEY INDUSTRY

Reston International Center, Suite 302, Reston, Virginia 22091

Lew Walts, Executive Vice President

703 860-0120

November 17, 1975

TO: WASHINGTON, D.C. NEWS MEDIA

RE: TRADITIONAL PRESENTATION OF A TURKEY FOR THANKSGIVING TO
PRESIDENT FORD

President Ford will personally accept the traditional turkey for Thanksgiving presented by the National Turkey Federation on Thursday, November 20, 1975.

The presentation is scheduled for 11:45 A.M., in the Rose Garden at the White House.

Enclosed is a News Release on the presentation, plus an additional fact sheet on the nation's turkey industry.

For more information, contact...

Lew Walts, Executive Vice President
National Turkey Federation
Suite 302, Reston International Center
Reston, Virginia 22091
TELEPHONE: 860-0120

GLW/jca

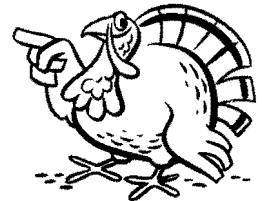


F. W. Vickrey President
Lue Shefren First Vice President

Glen Harder Second Vice President
Ted Wasden Secretary-Treasurer

NATIONAL TURKEY FEDERATION

NEWS



release

SUITE 302, RESTON INTERNATIONAL CENTER, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22091

November 17, 1975

For Release 12:30 P.M. EST, November 20, 1975

Washington, D.C. - November 20 --- The National Turkey Federation today presented a 35 pound turkey for Thanksgiving to President Gerald R. Ford in ceremonies in the Rose Garden at the White House.

The occasion marked the 30th consecutive presentation by the National Turkey Federation to the nation's chief executive officer in commemoration of the rich heritage of Thanksgiving.

The presentation party included National Turkey Federation President F.W. Vickrey and Mrs. Vickrey, Modesto, CA; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin DeWitt, Zeeland, MI; Dr. and Mrs. Howard Zindel, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI; Senator Robert P. Griffin and Congressman Guy Vander Jagt of the Michigan congressional delegation; and Lew Walts, NTF Executive Vice President and Mrs. Walts, Reston, VA.

President Vickrey told President Ford the turkey industry this year produced an estimated 123.6 million birds, down six percent from the 132 million grown in 1974. He hastened to assure the President, however, that ample supplies of the festive bird will be available to consumers for the Holidays and at prices only slightly higher than 1974...a year in which turkey growers experienced disaster losses due to low market prices and high production costs.

GLW/jca





National Turkey Federation

SERVING THE NATION'S TURKEY INDUSTRY

Reston International Center, Suite 302, Reston, Virginia 22091

Lew Walts, Executive Vice President

703 860-0120

ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF THANKSGIVING TURKEY TO PRESIDENT FORD

(November 20, 1975)

Presentation Facts:

1. This marks the 30th consecutive presentation of a turkey for Thanksgiving to the President of the United States by the National Turkey Federation.
2. The National Turkey Federation (NTF) is the only national trade association representing the turkey producers of the United States. The members of NTF produce the major portion of the nation's turkey crop.
3. The presentation party includes the following: F.W. Vickrey, President, National Turkey Federation, and Mrs. Vickrey, Modesto, CA; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin DeWitt, Zeeland, MI; Dr. and Mrs. Howard Zindel, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI; Senator Robert P. Griffin and Congressman Guy Vander Jagt of the Michigan congressional delegation; and Lew Walts, Executive Vice President, NTF, and Mrs. Walts, Reston, VA.
4. The weight of the live turkey is approximately 35 pounds. The two dressed turkeys weigh about 25 pounds each. The dressed birds are in special Cryovac bags, which are colorfully inscribed..."Happy Holiday - Mr. President," and illustrate a Bicentennial theme..."Turkey - The All-American Bird - 1776-1976."
5. The turkeys presented to President Ford were grown especially for the occasion by Mr. Marvin DeWitt, President, Bil-Mar foods, Zeeland, MI, a member of the NTF Executive Committee and a long-time personal friend of the President.

Turkey Industry Facts

1. It is estimated the turkey industry will produce 123.6 million gobblers during 1975. This represents a decrease of six percent from the 132 million produced last year.

F. W. Vickrey President
Lue Shefren First Vice President

Glen Harder Second Vice President
Ted Wasden Secretary-Treasurer

NTF ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF THANKSGIVING

TURKEY TO PRESIDENT FORD

(November 20, 1975)

Page 2 of 2

2. During 1974, turkey producers experienced disastrous losses brought about by over-supplying the market in relation to demand, plus higher costs resulting from a short supply of feed grains. It is probable turkey growers this year will show a return on their investments in turkey production.
3. Feed accounts for approximately two-thirds of the cost of producing a turkey. Consequently, the current and estimated price of feed and feed ingredients has a significant effect on the intentions of turkey producers relative to the numbers of turkeys grown.
4. While six percent fewer turkeys will be marketed this year, consumers are assured there will be ample supplies of all weights and sizes available for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Retail prices for Thanksgiving could range from 10¢ to 15¢ more per pound than in 1974, but still represents a "best meat buy" for the consumer compared to prices of other meats.
5. Turkey is one of the finest meats available to the consumer because of its excellent nutritional qualities. Turkey is exceptionally high in protein and low in calories (fat), in comparison to other meats, plus being a valuable source of important B vitamins, riboflavin, and niacin.

GLW/jca

2. Roast Stuffed Turkey:

Stuffing for Roast Turkey:

1/4 cup butter
1 cup chopped onions
1 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup light raisins
4 cups chopped, pared, cored apples
6 cups fresh white bread cubes
1 tablespoon salt
1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
1 cup chicken stock
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
3 whole eggs - beaten

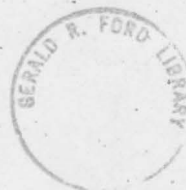
In a large skillet melt the butter - add onions and celery and saute until tender, about 5 minutes.

add skillet mixture

Combine the remaining ingredients in a large bowl and toss lightly with a fork until well mixed. Stuff 10 - 12 lb. turkey or cook dressing separately in a baking pan in the oven for one hour at 350 degrees.

3. Candied Sweet Potatoes:

Use 8 medium size sweet potatoes. Cook for about 20 minutes in boiling water. Drain off water and cool potatoes. Peel potatoes and slice diagonally 1/3 inch thick. Select the best ten slices and set aside. Puree all the remaining slices in a blender. To the puree add 3 tablespoons of butter and 1/2 teaspoon of salt.



Menu



Oysters on the Half Shell

Roast Turkey with Thanksgiving Stuffing
Candied Sweet potatoes
Cranberry Sauce

Peas + Parrots

Spiced Salad

^{eggs}
~~Pumpkin Pie~~

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Oysters on the Half Shell

Roast Turkey with Thanksgiving Stuffing

Candied Sweet Potatoes

Cranberry Sauce

Peas and Carrots

Spinach Salad

Eggnog Pie



GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The item described below has been transferred from this file to:

- Audiovisual Unit
 Book Collection
 Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

Item: 1 8"x10" photo of GRF greeting a turkey in The
Rose Garden 11/29/1975

WH photo 7385-30

The item was transferred from: Weidenfeld Box 8
Thanksgiving 1975

Initials/Date Ut 2/86

Daily News
11/28/75

Fords' Turkey Day Has Soy on the Side

Washington, Nov. 27 (UPI)—President Ford spent Thanksgiving Day at prayer, at work and at the White House dining table with his wife, Betty, and their daughter, Susan. Mrs. Ford took time out to pack for their trip to China.

The President's baritone could be heard clearly in St. John's Episcopal Church, across Lafayette Square from the White House, as the congregation sang "America the Beautiful" and "America."

After the service, the President conferred with aides in the Oval Office on the federal budget for the 1977 fiscal year.

"Me? Well, I think I will be packing," said a smiling Mrs. Ford as she emerged from the church. Ford, his wife and daughter depart Saturday on a 10-day trip to Alaska, Peking,

Indonesia, Manila and Hawaii.

After the budget and other Oval Office work came the first family's Thanksgiving Day meal: oysters on the half shell, roast turkey with stuffing, candied yams, cranberry sauce, peas, carrots, salad and eggnog pie.

Press Secretary Ron Nessen said Ford might nominate a replacement for retired Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas while he was abroad. At his press conference yesterday, Ford noted there were two women on the list of possible candidates.



R

FORD-THANKSGIVING

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT FORD WILL ATTEND CHURCH THURSDAY AND HAVE A QUIET THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH MRS. FORD AND HIS DAUGHTER SUSAN.

FORD PLANS TO ATTEND THE MORNING SERVICES AT ST. JOHNS EPISCOPAL CHURCH ACROSS LAFAYETTE SQUARE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE, A WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN SAID. HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER MAY JOIN HIM.

IN THE AFTERNOON, FORD PLANS ANOTHER IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH ADVISERS ON THE 1977 FISCAL BUDGET. HE ALSO PLANS TO DO SOME STUDYING ON HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO CHINA, WHICH STARTS SATURDAY.

THE THANKSGIVING MENU INCLUDES OYSTERS ON THE HALF SHELL, ROAST TURKEY WITH STUFFING, CANDIED SWEET POTATOES, CRANBERRY SAUCE, PEAS AND CARROTS, SALAD AND EGGNOG PIE.

(FOLLOWING ADV. FOR 6 P.M.)

TODAY THE WHITE HOUSE RELEASED A STATEMENT WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAD TAPED FOR BROADCAST IN WHICH HE WISHED ALL AMERICANS A WARM THANKSGIVING AND ASKED THEM TO REMEMBER THE HOLIDAY IN THE SPIRIT OF THE NATION'S BICENTENNIAL, WHICH WILL BE CELEBRATED NEXT YEAR.

THE STATEMENT:

"AS AMERICANS CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING DAY WE ONCE MORE COUNT OUR BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS. WE GIVE THANKS, FIRST AND FOREMOST, TO THE SUPREME CREATOR. WE ARE THANKFUL THAT OUR NATION IS AT PEACE.

"THIS HOLIDAY REMINDS US OF OUR DUTY TO PROVIDE RESPONSIBLY FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR FAMILIES AND OF OUR NEIGHBORS -- THE SAME VALUES THAT GUIDED THOSE WHO CELEBRATED OUR FIRST THANKSGIVING.

"WE RECOGNIZE ANEW OUR NATIONAL MOTTO WHICH PROCLAIMS 'IN GOD WE TRUST.' WE CONTINUE TO TRUST. OUR FAITH HAS BEEN VINDICATED AS WE APPROACH A BICENTENNIAL OF NATIONAL THANKSGIVING.

"OUR BELIEF IN AMERICA'S GOODNESS, IN AMERICA'S GREATNESS, AND IN AMERICA'S FUTURE, CONTINUES TO INSPIRE US.

"IN THAT SPIRIT, MY FAMILY AND I GRATEFULLY GIVE THANKS AND WISH ALL OF YOU A VERY HAPPY THANKSGIVING."

11-26-75 16:35EST



1297
News

Fords set the pace for holiday dinners

By ANN WOOD

Washington, (News Bureau)—The White House set the pace by having an early Thanksgiving dinner last week for senior citizens in an effort to inspire the rest of the nation to include the elderly in its holiday plans.

Well, it was a nice thought, but I think the Fords took the easy way out by having 14 total strangers—aged 64 to 88—supplied by civic groups here, when the rest of us have only our relatives to draft. On a few days notice the Fords rounded up guests for a typical Thanksgiving spread in the family quarters.

They held a duplicate dinner there a week later on Thanksgiving Day for the Ford family, which is pretty young and easier to round up than senior citizens more set in their ways.

A spur of the moment pre-Thanksgiving dinner at my house would have consisted of

green peppers, hard-boiled eggs, and diet soda. So right off, our leader's pace is too fast for me. But I tried for six months to include my family's most senior citizen and his wife in my own holiday meal with no luck. This particular senior has a North-South migratory pattern as easy to spot as a Canada goose and as impossible to alter.

He is, unfortunately, familiar with my cooking, too.

Fortunately, the next of the rapidly thinning rank of relatives senior to me included Ric, who would come to Washington, but only if he could cook the holiday dinner, and the guest list was kept small. In his case, there was no insult to my culinary talents because his are really special.

Ric, who brought along his wife, my sister, to arrange the flowers, travels a lot on business. Staying with a friend in California once he cooked dinner for a small

party that included a man who greatly complimented him on his rolled pork roast. Among the guests was actress Estelle Winwood.

Now, Ric has cooked for charming actresses before, and he does it with great nonchalance. Luckily he was just senior enough to know some of the parts Ms. Winwood had played, and served up the dinner with the same gallantry he shows to much younger ladies.

But the name of the man who so admired his rolled pork roast meant nothing to him, and it was much later that his astounded wife explained that James Beard is a famous cook and cookbook author.

So, I included a senior citizen in my absolutely delicious Thanksgiving dinner plans, but things never seem to work out around my place the way they do at the White House. Maybe it's the address.



First Family Works on Holiday

Associated Press

The nation's first family was busy Thanksgiving Day with church services, a presidential budget meeting, turkey dinner and suitcase-packing for a trip to China.

President and Mrs. Ford and daughter Susan attended a "harvest festival service" at St. John's Episcopal Church, where the altar was decorated with apples, squash, pumpkins and other products of a fall harvest. They joined the congregation in singing several Thanksgiving hymns.

Talking to reporters after church, Mr. Ford said he hoped to watch at least part of a televised pro football game during the day, and Mrs. Ford said the family would be packing for the trip to China that starts Saturday.

Susan, 18, will accompany her parents on the 10-day journey, which will include stops in Alaska, Indonesia, the Philippines and Hawaii.

The President went immediately from St. John's to the Oval Office where he held another in a series of almost daily briefings on the fiscal 1977 budget.

Press secretary Ron Nessen said yesterday's two-hour budget meeting concentrated on programs of the Federal Energy Administration and the Energy Research and Development Administration.



'LET US BE GRATEFUL'

*Josephine Travis
11/27/75*

Day of Thanksgiving Proclaimed by President

WASHINGTON (AP)—Here is the text of President Ford's Thanksgiving Day proclamation:

Two hundred years ago the frontier colonies of America braced for a long and determined conflict with the strongest military power in the world. The petition of our Founding Fathers for redress of their grievances had been rejected by king and Parliament, and the people of America began the struggle from which emerged this great nation.

Our nation is the oldest continuously surviving republic in the world. For 200 years our freedoms have been questioned, challenged, tested and reinforced. These freedoms have shaped our destiny and served as a beacon to other peoples. Our nation draws its strength from people of every creed, of every color, of every

race—native Americans and people from every nation in the world who for two centuries have come to share in the rewards and responsibilities of our American republic.

On the eve of our 200th year, Thanksgiving Day should be a day of special reflection upon the qualities of heart, mind and character of the men and women who founded and built our great nation. Let us join in giving thanks for our cultural pluralism. Let us celebrate our diversity and the great strengths that have come from sharing our traditions, our ideas, our resources, our hopes and our dreams. Let us be grateful that for 200 years our people have been dedicated to fulfilling the democratic ideal—dedicated to securing "liberty and justice for all."

Now, therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford,

President of the United States of America, in accord with Section 6103 of Title 5 of the United States Code, do hereby proclaim Thursday, Nov. 27, 1975, as a day of national thanksgiving.

Let each of us, in his own way, join in expressing personal gratitude for the blessings of liberty and peace we enjoy today. In so doing, let us reaffirm our belief in a dynamic spirit that will continue to nurture and guide us as we prepare to meet the challenge of our third century.

I call upon all Americans on this day to gather with family and friends in homes and places of worship and join in offering gratitude for this nation's countless blessings. I ask that we share with our senior citizens and with those less fortunate than ourselves this special day that brings us all closer together.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1975, and of the independence of the United States of America the 200th.

GERALD R. FORD



Fords Attend Church on Busy Thanksgiving

From Times Wire Services

WASHINGTON—The nation's first family was busy Thanksgiving day with church services, a presidential budget meeting, a romp with the White House puppies, a traditional turkey dinner and packing for a trip to China.

President and Mrs. Ford and their daughter, Susan, attended a harvest festival service at St. John's Episcopal Church, where the altar was decorated with apples, squash, pumpkins and other products of a fall harvest.

The President's baritone could be heard above the congregation when it sang "America the Beautiful" and "America."

Ford stepped from the church with a "happy Thanksgiving to you all" to a crowd of well-wishers who called the same to him.

Talking to reporters after church, Ford said he hoped to watch at least part of a televised professional football game. Mrs. Ford said the family also would be packing for the trip to China, which starts Saturday.

Susan, 18, will accompany her parents on the 10-day journey, which will include stops in Alaska, Indonesia, the Philippines and Hawaii.

The President went immediately from St. John's, across Lafayette Square from White House, to the Oval Office, where he held another in a series of almost daily briefings on the fiscal 1977 budget.

He said he had spent 20 to 30 hours in budget planning the past three weeks. "It's almost like the old days up on the hill," said the former congressman.

While the President posed for pictures with the advisers, reporters watched through a window as Mrs. Ford and Susan played on the White House lawn with two of the White House pups, offspring of Liberty, a golden retriever.

The pups are now more than 2 months old.

Press Secretary Ron Nessen said Thursday's two-hour budget meeting concentrated on programs of the Federal Energy Administration and the Energy Research and Development Administration.

Nessen said that James T. Lynn, director of the Office of Management and Budget, would accompany Ford on the China trip.



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PM —
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FORD-THANKSGIVING

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT FORD ON TUESDAY PROCLAIMED THANKSGIVING DAY, NOV. 27, AS A DAY FOR "REFLECTION UPON THE QUALITIES OF HEART, MIND AND CHARACTER OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO BUILT OUR GREAT NATION."

"LET EACH OF US, IN HIS OWN WAY, JOIN IN EXPRESSING PERSONAL GRATITUDE FOR THE BLESSINGS OF LIBERTY AND PEACE WE ENJOY TODAY," THE PRESIDENT SAID. "IN SO DOING, LET US REAFFIRM OUR BELIEF IN A DYNAMIC SPIRIT THAT WILL CONTINUE TO NUTURE AND GUIDE US AS WE PREPARE TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF OUR THIRD CENTURY."

11-04-75 15:46EST

R B

CORRESPONDENTS:

THURSDAY, THANKSGIVING DAY, WILL BE OBSERVED AS A HOLIDAY BY THE GOVERNMENT AND VIRTUALLY ALL PRIVATE OFFICES AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA. ALL BUT ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED. CONGRESS AND THE SUPREME COURT WILL BE IN RECESS. PRESIDENT FORD WILL SPEND THE DAY WITH HIS FAMILY AT THE WHITE HOUSE, MAKING LAST-MINUTE PREPARATIONS FOR HIS TRIP, BEGINNING SATURDAY, TO CHINA. VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER WILL OBSERVE THANKSGIVING ON HIS PLANE, RETURNING FROM MADRID. BANKS, DEPARTMENT STORES AND GROCERY STORES WILL BE CLOSED. THERE WILL BE NO MAIL DELIVERIES. BUSES WILL OPERATE ON LIMITED SCHEDULES. THE UPI'S WASHINGTON WIRE WILL PROVIDE SERVICE BEGINNING AT NOON TO OVERTIME SUBSCRIBERS.

UPI 11-21 03:19 PES

UP-105

R B

CORRESPONDENTS:

NEXT WEEK AT THE WHITE HOUSE: PRESIDENT FORD'S SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK WILL INCLUDE ISSUES RUNNING THE FULL GAMUT OF GOVERNMENT -- FEDERAL, STATE, LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND EXECUTIVE. TOPPING CONFERENCES HE WILL HAVE WITH AIDES AND JUDICIAL ADVISERS WILL BE THE SELECTION OF A NEW SUPREME COURT JUSTICE. ALSO HIGH ON HIS AGENDA WILL BE A PROMISED ANNOUNCEMENT ON WHAT HE PLANS WITH RESPECT TO HELPING OUT FINANCIALLY-STRAPPED NEW YORK CITY. OTHER MATTERS THAT WILL BE AFFORDED PRIORITY ATTENTION ARE THE DIFFERENCES WITH THE CONGRESS OVER ENERGY PPOGRAMS AND PROVISIONS IN THE FISCAL 1977 BUDGET. BUDGET MEETINGS WERE HELD AT THE WHITE HOUSE EVERY DAY THIS WEEK. FORD WILL APPROVE FINAL PLANS FOR HIS CHINA TRIP AND MAY MEET WITH HIS POLITICAL ADVISERS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN IN LIGHT OF RONALD REAGAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT. THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD PLAN TO OBSERVE THANKSGIVING WITH MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILY IN THE WASHINGTON AREA, AT THE WHITE HOUSE OR POSSIBLY CAMP DAVID, AND MAY ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT AN AREA CHURCH. NO DOMESTIC TRIPS ARE ANTICIPATED.

UPI 11-21 03:28 PES



September 13, 1976

Dear Ms. Gray:

The enclosed thanksgiving recipes are being forwarded pursuant to your recent request.

Thanks for your interest and if we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Sally Quenneville
Mrs. Ford's Press Office

Ms. Jeri Gray
Martin Marietta Aggregates
Southeast Division
P.O. Box 30013
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612

Enclosure

SAQ