

Friday night

6 The receiving line prior to the Emperor's dinner was formed in the Great Hall of the Smithsonian Castle, in front of a wall tapestry, one of the ⁴⁰ ~~xxx~~ objects of art from the Imperial Collections. 6

The 40 objects included five paintings by the Empress which were situated close to the receiving line. The first guests to be received were Sec. of State and Mrs. Kissinger and the Japanese deputy prime minister Takeo Fukuda.

One of the guests who seemed to attract the emperor's attention was baseball player Henry Aaron. The President also spoke animatedly with Aaron for almost a minute.

After receiving the guests, the President and Mrs. Ford and the Emperor and Empress turned and looked at three of the Empress' five paintings, and a few of the others, before going into dinner in the Commons.

After dinner, they resumed their inspection of the art, saw the other two paintings by the Empress and several more objects. They accommodated photographers by observing some of the paintings they had already seen before departing.

Bill Gildea -- Wash. Post