

December 9, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a black-tie Christmas Ball for Members of Congress tonight at the White House at 9 p. m. The Ball this year will honor retiring Speaker of the House of Representatives Carl Albert, Senate Majority Leader of the United States Mike Mansfield and Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott.

Approximately 800 guests are expected. The guest list includes members and former members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, Cabinet members and senior White House staff.

Entertainment will be by pianist-orchestra leader Mike Carney. Mr. Carney and members of his orchestra will provide music for dancing in the East Room. Mr. Carney and his orchestra have performed at the White House several times before. A light buffet will be served in the State Dining Room and the Marine Dance Combo will provide music in the Grand Hall.

There will be two groups caroling as guests arrive. The University of Maryland Chamber Singers will be singing outside the entrance to the Diplomatic Reception Room. The Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill Choir will be singing in the East Wing Hall.

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