

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

President and Mrs. Ford will entertain at a State Dinner tonight, Wednesday, September 25, 1974 at the White House at 8:00 p. m. in honor of His Excellency Giovanni Leone, President of the Italian Republic and Mrs. Leone.

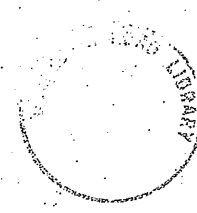
President and Mrs. Ford will welcome their Guests of Honor at the North Portico and escort them to the Yellow Oval Room. Preceded by the Color Guard, the President and Mrs. Ford will escort their honored guests down the Grand Stairway and proceed to the East Room where they will receive their approximately 122 guests. The United States Marine Corps Orchestra will provide background music in the lobby as the guests are being received.

Dinner will be served in the State Dining Room where there will be a Head Table and twelve round tables covered with white organdy over yellow cloths. The Johnson china, vermeil flatwear and Morgantown crystal will be used. Vermeil, three-candle centerpieces with flowers decorate each table. Flowers used in the arrangements include yellow and white Marguerite daisies, pompom chrysanthemums, orange and yellow snapdragons, orange miniature carnations, white miniature carnations, white Rodante, yellow and bronze straw flowers. Tonight's menu includes:

Supreme of Shrimp Nicoise
Paillettes Dorees
Chateaubriand Bearnaise
Pommes Mascotte
Zucchini Saute Fermiere
Mixed Garden Salad
Brie Cheese
Souffle au Grand Marnier
Sauce Sabayon

Wines include:

Inglenook Pinot Chardonnay
Louis Martini Cabernet Sauvignon
Almaden Blanc de Blancs



During dessert guests will be entertained by the Army Strolling Strings. Following dinner, coffee and liqueurs will be served in the Parlours. President and Mrs. Ford and President Leone and Mrs. Leone will receive approximately 105 afterdinner guests in the Grand Hall. They will then proceed to the East Room where there will be entertainment by Gunter Schuller and his New England Conservatory Ragtime Ensemble.

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