

For Immediate Release
Friday, October 24, 1975

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a state dinner in honor of His Excellency the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Mrs. Anwar al-Sadat Monday, October 27 at 8:00 PM. At the request of the Egyptian government, dress for the dinner will be business suit.

Country-Western singer Johnny Cash will entertain.

Mrs. Ford has chosen a western theme for the decor of the State floor. President al-Sadat's deep appreciation of America's Old West as portrayed in the novels of Zane Grey prompted the First Lady's choice.

Tables will be draped in a bright Indian print and centerpieces will be bronzes by noted American painter-sculptors Frederic Remington and Charles Russell. Floral touches will be provided by dried grasses and American wild flowers.

The State Dining Room will have round tables, each draped with a polished-cotton print square ("Navajo" design donated by Cohama Fabric) of bright yellows, flame oranges and browns. The print squares will top yellow linen table cloths.

In the center of each table will be one of the Remington or Russell bronzes. These include: "Bronco Buster" from the Oval Office, "Bronze Head of Indian" from the Department of State, and "Bronco Twister" from the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art in Fort Worth, Texas. The Amon Carter Museum is lending the White House their world renown collection of Remington and Russell bronzes for this occasion. There will also be additional pieces of the famous sculptures from the White House and State Department.

Small American hobnail candle holders filled with 2 1/2" candles will be around the base of each bronze, lighting the sculptures from underneath. The bronze centerpieces will be surrounded by dried grasses and American wild flowers. Dried statice will be used in the chandeliers and on the mantels. Remingtons will also be used on each of the pier tables in the Cross Hall and on the pedestals (a total of four). Sweetgum trees will line the Grand Hall and Cross Hall, with accents provided by yellow chrysanthemums.

Betty Sherrill and John Drews of McMillen, Inc. of New York are coordinating the decorations. Roy Strickland of Bouquets a la Carte Inc. of New York will coordinate floral designs.

The Johnson china is being used, with vermeil flatwear and the Kennedy Morgantown crystal. White linen napkins will be tied with wide yellow grosgrain ribbons.

The menu: Filet of Sole Veronique; Supreme of Pheasant Smitane; wild rice; Eggplant Fermiere; Bibb Lettuce Salad; Bel Paese Cheese; Peach Melba; Petits Fours; Demitasse. Wines include: Dry Creek-Dry Chenin Blanc, 1973; Buena Vista-Burgundy, 1969; Schramsberg-Blanc de Noir, 1971.

Music for dancing in the Grand Hall after the Johnny Cash performance will be provided by the Marine Dance Combo.

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