

For immediate release
Tuesday, March 30, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Mrs. Ford's Press Secretary

The President and Mrs. Ford will host a black-tie dinner in honor of His Majesty Hussein I, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Her Majesty Queen Alia, on Tuesday, March 30.

A colonial American theme will be featured in the decorations on the State floor. Antique metalware used in American homes during the 18th and early 19th centuries will serve as centerpieces for the tables. Fruits, vegetables, breads, nuts and spices will accent the housewares of cast iron, brass, copper, tin and pewter. Pincushion protia, gardenias, blue delphinium and cream and brown lilies also will be used. The historic uses of the housewares will be linked with the decorations; for example, pewter wine and ale measures will be surrounded by grapes and berries. A copper teapot will be trimmed with tea, oranges, cloves and cinnamon sticks. A flat iron will be accented by cotton thistles. Other combinations will be a chestnut roaster with nuts, a popcorn maker with ears of corn, a copper milk pail with asparagus and eggs.

The dominant colors are blue, brown and white. The round tables will be covered with an overlay of blue and white combed cotton sheets, a "Rope" design, donated by Wamsutta. Each square cloth will be knotted at the corners. The napkins will be tied with brown, white and blue grossgrain ribbons. The Johnson china, vermeil flatwear, and Morgantown crystal will be used.

The Foyer and Grand Hall will be decorated with pink caladiums and pink bromeliads and ficus trees covered with white gardenias.

The antique metalware pieces were donated by museum houses of Historic Deerfield, Inc., Deerfield, Massachusetts. Robert King and Michael Bonnet of Floral Arts, Inc., Washington, D.C., coordinated the decorations.

The menu: Filet of Pompano Meuniere, Fleurons, Roast Rack of Lamb, New Potatoes with Parsley, Spinach with Tangerines, Watercress and Endive Salad, Tilsit Cheese, Bombe Nougatine, Petits Fours, and Demitasse.

The wines: Saint Michelle Chenin Blanc; Louise Martinia Cabernet Sauvignon; Almaden Blanc de Blancs;

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