Gerald R. Ford Foundation *Newsletter*

Summer/Fall 1995

Ford's Boyhood Remembered

President and Mrs. Ford had a full day when they visited Grand Rapids on April 20. After taking part in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Frederik Meijer Gardens, President Ford gave the keynote address at a luncheon for Distinguished Eagle Scout Award recipient Louis Padnos. **President Ford** was also honored at the luncheon when it was announced that the local Boy Scout chapter was renamed the Gerald R. Ford Council.

"The home...was the Ford's family residence from 1921 to 1930."

Following lunch **President and Mrs. Ford** attended the dedication of a Michigan Historical Marker and National Historic Register Plaque at the Ford boyhood home at 649 Union SE in Grand Rapids. **Mayor John Logie** and **Governor John Engler** were present. The home, restored by Timothy England and Robert Kent, was the Ford family residence from 1921 to 1930.

The house had plenty of boyhood memories. In *A Time to Heal*,

Ford's boyhood home receives historical recognition. [l-r: home owners Timothy England and Robert Kent, Michigan Secretary of State Candice S. Miller, Michigan Governor John Engler, President and Mrs. Ford, and Grand Rapids Mayor John Logie]

President Ford recalled the garage at the rear of the home: "There, a group of us established a social club. We learned to play penny-ante poker and other games. It was a great hideaway because my parents wouldn't climb the ladder to the second floor—or so I thought."

"The house had plenty of childhood memories."

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Journalism Prizes

President Ford with award winner Michael Duffy, and members of the judging panel for the Prize for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency. [l-r: Jacqueline Thomas, Jim Pfiffner, Roger Davidson, President Ford, panel chair James M. Cannon, and Michael Duffy]

The eighth annual *Gerald R. Ford Journalism Prizes for Distinguished Reporting on the Presidency and on National Defense* were presented by **President Ford** at the National Press Club in Washington on June 5th. **Michael Duffy** of *Time* magazine won the Presidency Prize; **Genevieve Anton** of the Colorado Springs *Gazette Telegraph* won the Defense Prize. The $5,000 awards, sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, were instituted to recognize exceptional accuracy, insight, and analysis in reporting.

In presenting the award to Duffy, **President Ford** noted that the judges cited Duffy for "commendable enterprise in getting the story and the ability to write in a way that engages and informs the reader. He demonstrates an understanding of the complex forces that influence a President. Duffy best portrays the nature of the man who is President; thereby he better conveys to a mass audience how and why President Clinton governs as he does."

Duffy thanked the Foundation for giving him the award and also for "setting up a program that recognizes and rewards serious reporting." Duffy was cheered by a large group from *Time*'s Washington office. Over thirty people gave him a big round of applause and a standing ovation when he accepted the award from the former President.

"He (Duffy) demonstrates and understanding of the complex forces that influence a President."

President Ford also quoted the judges when he presented the Prize for Reporting on National Defense to **Genevieve Anton**. He said the judges cited her for "showing great foresight last year in researching and reporting on what would be occurring under the Base Realignment and

20th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

Excerpts from papers at Gerald R. Ford Library dealing with last days of Saigon:

'The resiliency of the Vietnamese is beginning to emerge.'

- U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, April 13, 1975, rejecting the view that South Vietnam would soon collapse

'If I have to take these Vietnamese and their families, I intend to do it and answer for it later.'

- Martin telling Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft on April 16 he plans to use crack elements of South Vietnam's army to provide security for the evacuation and then help them escape

On March 31, 1975, Danang had just fallen, signalling the beginning of the end of the U.S. presence in Vietnam. On March 31, 1995, members of the University of Michigan Military Studies Group and others interested in the history of the Vietnam War met at the Gerald R. Ford Library to hear four scholars discuss the insights they had gained from their extensive research in Ford Library holdings.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation sponsored the colloquium, called *The Bitter End: A Conference on the 20th Anniversary of the Conclusion of American Involvement in Vietnam*. The panelists addressed such topics as the impact of the war on American politics and culture; the role of **President Ford**, **Henry Kissinger**, and **Graham Martin** in the unfolding story of disengagement; and the possibilities of other outcomes. Included were **Larry Berman**, University of California-Davis; **T. Christopher Jespersen**, Clark-Atlanta University; **Robert D. Schulzinger**, University of Colorado; and **Charles J. Tull**, Indiana University. Declassification archivist Karen Holzhausen spoke about recently opened material from Graham Martin's embassy files and the Library's declassification program.

Closure process (BRAC95). Although the BRAC process directly affects communities around the country, it takes place to a large degree in Washington. Ms. Anton's stories provided readers with an understanding of the critical Washington part of the process. Her stories tell it the way it is rather than the way readers might want it to be. Ms. Anton found the

"Her stories tell it the way it is rather than the way readers might want it to be."

right sources, and made good use of them."

Ms. Anton thanked **President Ford** and the Foundation for the award and also thanked the judges "for recognizing that a reporter working for a general-interest community newspaper outside Washington can report effectively on an important issue relating to national defense."

President Ford, keeping with tradition, used the National Press Club forum to express his views on the responsibilities of the press. He said that he had a growing concern that responsible reporting sometimes gave way to the desire to be first to disclose a scandal. "Hurried reporting or oversimplification of events can cast doubts or even destroy unblemished careers of dedicated leaders," he noted. The former President urged all reporters to resist the trend toward simplification and sensationalism: "Do the work, get the story right, accept the responsibility that the First Amendment gives you." He also answered questions from the audience relating to the economy, the balanced budget amendment, and next year's presidential elections.

President Ford with award winner Genevieve Anton, and members of the judging panel for the Prize for Reporting on National Defense. [l-r: Colonel John D. Macartney, Genevieve Anton, President Ford, panel chair Ronald O'Rourke, and Neil Singer]

Frank Mackaman moderated the program. Transcripts are available from the program coordinator, Richard Holzhausen.

The colloquium was one of several ways in which the Ford Library staff contributed to commemorations of the 20th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. A photographic exhibit mounted in the Library lobby showed behind the scenes shots of activities at the White House as the final evacuation of Saigon took place. Staff members also provided background research materials and audiovisual support for a *Time* magazine special edition, a television documentary, and two lengthy Associated Press articles (see next page), as well as more routine inquiries.

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'The only one whose ass isn't covered is me. That has been true all along. There is no way I can come out of this without criticism no matter how unjustified it may be.'

- Martin to Kissinger on April 19 about evacuation

"The Bitter End: A Conference on the 20th Anniversary of the Conclusion of American Involvement in Vietnam" took place at the Library on March 31, sponsored by the Foundation.

Vietnam Colloquium Receives Media Coverage

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger gets the latest information on the situation in South Vietnam. April 29, 1975.

LIKE BEING THERE

by Judy Daubenmier
Excerpts reprinted with permission of The Associated Press

Even after 20 years, the words are urgent, the message raw.

"If the airport is unusable for fixed-wing aircraft or becomes so during the day as a result of enemy fire, you are immediately to resort to helicopter evacuation of all, repeat, all Americans, both from the DAO [Defense Attache's Office] compound and from the embassy compound."

That was the order from Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to American diplomats caught up in the frenzied swirl of the last days before Saigon was overrun by the North Vietnamese Army.

After travelling from the rooftop of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon to the trunk of a car, Kissinger's message is now open to scholars in Ann Arbor.

The message is among the 2,000 pages of mostly "back channel" communiques between Saigon and Washington that were squeezed onto the helicopters plucking desperate Vietnamese and Americans off the U.S. Embassy's roof.

Many sensitive files were lost in the scramble out of Saigon on April 30, 1975. But Graham Martin, U.S. ambassador to Saigon, shepherded out these and other papers dating to Henry Cabot Lodge's tenure as ambassador in 1963.

Instead of turning them over to the U.S. State Department, Martin stored them in the trunk of his daughter's car, where they were discovered after it was stolen in 1978. North Carolina State Police turned the documents over to the federal government.

An Indiana University history professor writing a book on Martin said the papers reveal more of Martin's thinking and personality.

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'My ass isn't covered. I can assure you I will be hanging several yards higher than you when this is all over.'

- Kissinger to Martin on April 19

'I am sorry to be late in responding to some of your recent requests. But the tardiness is really your fault. Several times I have suggested you have Brent Scowcroft send me a day-stretcher. He does such a marvelous job working for you he simply has to have several. I'll settle for a used one.'

- Martin to Kissinger on April 25

"You really get these candid analyses that get so filtered by the time you read a history book," said Charles Tull of South Bend.

Tull, whose sister worked in the embassy with Martin, thinks Martin kept the papers so he could write his own version of the end of the Vietnam War should Kissinger ever publish an account critical of him. Martin died in 1980.

"Martin was very much afraid they were going to make him the fall guy," he said.

The cables are sprinkled with Martin's colorful language. In one note, he showed his disdain for bureaucrats in the State Department by calling them "mattress mice."

But they also confirm Martin's belief up until the very end that South Vietnam could be saved if the United States would provide more aid.

In an April 14 cable, Martin called South Vietnam economically viable.

"In other words, the GVN [government of Vietnam] is still a good bet. It needs help to survive until the American people begin to get the whole truth and make the right decisions," he said.

T. Christopher Jespersen, assistant professor in the School of International Affairs at Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, said his review of Martin's materials show the ambassador was in denial.

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'As far as the military pressures on the President are concerned, you might care to inform him that the reports of the SA-2s [missiles], which so panicked one of your WSAG [Washington Special Action Group] meetings, and which resulted in the closing of the Saigon airport to American commercial airlines, turns out to be incorrect. What was sighted was several logging trucks full of logs.'

- Martin to Kissinger on April 26

"I kept wondering what he would have said if he would have been on the Titanic. He would have been a great steward on the ship even as it's going down because he is a believer up until the last day," Jespersen said.

Cables from Washington starting April 14 show Kissinger pressuring Martin to evacuate Americans. Martin warned repeatedly that would panic the South Vietnamese, bring about a premature collapse of the nation and possibly trigger violence against the remaining Americans.

In an April 15 message, Martin told Kissinger his family was making no plans to leave.

"The most calming influence in Saigon is my wife who goes about her regular way, makes appointments for weeks in advance, and who has refused to pack anything at all although we would hate like hell to lose our most valued possessions," he wrote.

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'While I will not predict with the complete and total assurance of your intelligence community that there will not be an attack on Saigon for a while, I simply note that all the various deadlines which have been presented to you and the president by which time total evacuation of Americans must be completed without our facing complete disaster have been passed one by one and will probably continue to do so.'

- Martin to Kissinger on April 27

In another April 15 message, Martin urged Kissinger not to push the panic button about the evacuations. He vowed to stay until the bitter end and seek refuge through a secret door connecting the American Embassy to the French, if need be.

"It is not an act of particular bravery

on my part," Martin said.

"I will simply slip through the wall next door to the French embassy and ask my colleague if I can use the bedroom of his wife, wishing all the while that she were there and not in Paris."

Other times, Martin revealed just how distasteful parts of his job were . On April 20, he told Kissinger about a meeting at which he urged South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu to resign.

"I went home, read the daily news digests from Washington, took a shower, scrubbed very hard with the strongest soap I could find. It didn't help very much," he wrote.

On April 29, the tone of the messages became more urgent as the North Vietnamese army massed at the city's outskirts.

White House staffer Don Rumsfeld frantically messaged Martin that day as evacuation plans crumbled under the crush of panicked Vietnamese mobbing evacuation points.

"I understand that 154 IBM employees including their families are still awaiting removal from Saigon. I further understand that they are now standing in front of the IBM Building awaiting instructions where they should go for evacuation. I ask that you do your utmost to see that they are evacuated with the current helicopter lift," he wrote.

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'Why should they now" They never hit anything before.'

- Kissinger on April 28 after hearing some renegade South Vietnamese pilots commandeered planes and flew over the Presidential Palace but did not bomb it

Minutes of a Kissinger meeting that morning in the White House situation room show the mounting tension. Military officials complain that the number of people to be evacuated keeps going up and Kissinger demands:

"Where are all these extra people coming from?...Can someone explain to me what the hell is going on! The orders are that only Americans are to be evacuated. Now, what the hell is going on?"

On April 30, military authorities told Martin only 19 more helicopters would be sent in.

"The president expects Ambassador Martin to be on the last helicopter," said the order.

Finally, a weary Martin climbed the steps to the embassy roof to take one of the last helicopters out of Saigon. A reporter, realizing Martin was about to leave his toy poodle, Nit Noy, behind, grabbed the dog and carried it aboard the USS Blue Ridge on his lap.

Ford messaged Martin aboard ship to praise him for his courage and steadiness during the crisis.

"I want to express my deep appreciation to you and your entire staff for the successful evacuation of Americans and Vietnamese from Saigon," cabled Ford.

"The tireless dedication of your mission and its skilled performance under the most severe pressure was vital to the accomplishment of this most difficult and delicate operation."

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'If I were an Annenberg I would continue to pay it out of my own pocket, but I just damn well ain't. All I have is my government salary.'

- Martin to Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, on April 21, asking for release of $20,000 to pay bribes to South Vietnamese police and immigration officials.

'Obviously, this airlift cannot go on forever....I think we can simmer it down after a while and keep the airlift running for quite a while.'

- Martin to Kissinger on April 28, two days before the airlift ended

Kissinger added a postscript that summed up the turmoil of Martin's departure: "Would appreciate information about your onward travel plans to pass to members of your family."

FORD SAYS HE DIDN'T SOFT-PEDAL ON VIETNAM

by Judy Daubenmier
Excerpts reprinted with permission of The Associated Press

President Ford watched from the White House as pictures flashed around the world of American diplomats scurrying into helicopters atop the U.S. Embassy in Saigon while desperate Vietnamese mobbed the compound gates.

"I can only say that sitting in the Oval Office and watching the last Americans being kicked out of the embassy compound was not a happy day for a U.S. president," he said recently.

Ford said his anguished thoughts on April 30, 1975, were "how unfortunate it was that we had not been successful and we were being defeated." But ...he still believes the war's goals were justified.

"I had reservations about military strategy, but I believe then and still believe our country's aims were proper."

Historians who have studied recently declassified documents from the Ford administration pertaining to the end of the war have questioned Ford's commitment to continued support of South Vietnam.

Robert D. Schulzinger, professor of history at the University of Colorado,

President Ford takes a final phone call from Henry Kissinger, after a late night meeting on the situation in Vietnam with the Secretary of State and National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft. April 28, 1975.

said Ford made only a token effort to secure continuing American support for South Vietnam as the army of the Communist North closed in on Saigon.

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and U.S. Ambassador to Saigon Graham Martin wanted an all-out effort by Ford to obtain $722 million in military aid for South Vietnam in April 1975, Schulzinger said.

But Schulzinger said at the advice of aides concerned about his 1976 election chances, Ford wanted to soft-pedal the conflict.

"He made the request. He knew that Congress would turn it down. He thought that that would end the matter, and he would have established a record of having asked for it," he said.

Ford disagreed. "That's an unjustified conclusion," he said.

"The North Vietnamese were violating terms of the 1973 Paris peace accords, but the military aid would have been enough to stop those breaches and bring peace, not just stave off collapse temporarily," he said.

"I felt an obligation to our longstanding commitment as a nation and our commitment to our allies that this had to be done.

"Congress, of course, lost its courage or judgement or whatever and gave us virtually nothing," he said.

But Ford did admit "there were some in the administration who were in the minority who had reservations" about the aid.

Although American diplomats were evacuated from Saigon, thousands of South Vietnamese who had worked for the United States or were loyal to it were left behind. Ford defended the evacuation effort.

"We did the very best we could," he said.

"We stayed until the last practical, possible point. Unfortunately, there were some who had been loyal and supportive who didn't make it, but we got a lot more out than some people like (Secretary of Defense James) Schlesinger wanted to."

When it became obvious Saigon would fall, Ford said, he and Kissinger found themselves between two extremes in the administration.

"Schlesinger was among those who thought we should have left more quickly than we actually did," he said.

"On the other hand, we had people like Graham Martin who wanted to stay in perpetuity. Kissinger and myself were the ones who wanted to stay as long as we could practically."

Ford declined to go as far as former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamera in calling the war a mistake.

"It was tragic," he said.

"For various reasons, it turned out to be a very sad event in the history of a country, but I don't fault people for what I think they thought was in the best interests of the United States. I'm not going to second-guess them 30 years later."

[Courtesy The Associated Press]

'There is no reason for Americans to still be there. He has been ordered by the President of the United States to get the hell out of there. My impression was that you said that it would take one and one-half hours for the evacuation and that it would be only Americans. At four o'clock this morning I find out that nobody is off the ground yet. Now what the hell is going on? Yes, I'll instruct the ambassador to get those people out, but he's been ordered to get those people out a hundred times.'

- Kissinger during April 29 White House meeting after being told 400 Americans still awaiting evacuation at embassy

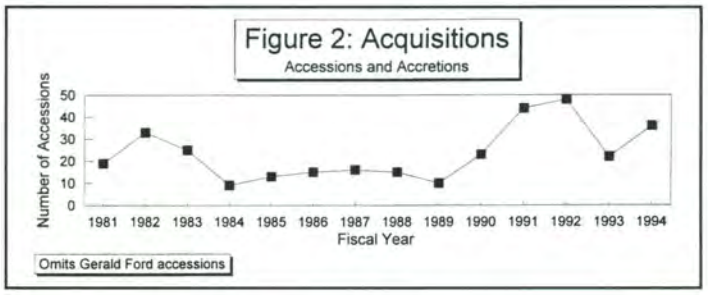
Flanked by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger, President Ford discusses the situation in Vietnam with bipartisan congressional leaders. April 29, 1975.

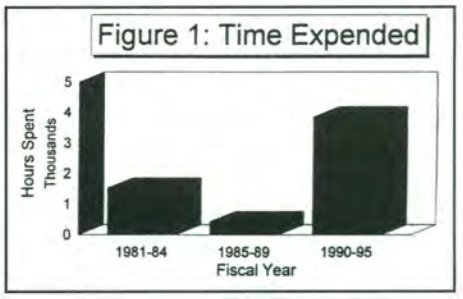
Five-Year Effort Improves Library's Collections

A presidential library's success over the long haul depends primarily on the quality of its archival collections. This year, 1995, ends an intensive five-year push to strengthen the Ford Library's holdings. In that time, we have added more than 675 feet of material, or nearly 1.5 million pages. Over 45 percent of those who have ever donated material since the Library's creation in 1977 have done so in the past five years. And the effort continues.

New acquisitions, as they become open, enrich research potential in varied ways. **J.W. "Bill" Roberts's** diary from the 1974 transition and **Leo Cherne's** proposals for more attention to economic intelligence-gathering make valuable contributions to areas of established strength at the Library. Other donations, all large ones, have or will create wholly new areas of strength. Foundation research grants on the space shuttle program and on resource allocation in science policy were possible only because **H. Guyford Stever**, President Ford's science adviser, donated his papers to the Library. The collections of **Martin Hoffmann** on the post-Vietnam Army, **John Barnum** on transportation policies, and **Robert Hartmann** on Ford's leadership of House Republicans are further examples.

The Library has supplemented the documentary record created by the Ford Administration by collecting oral histories and interviews. **A. James Reichley's** interviews for *Conservatives in an Age of Change* are now at the Library as are **Mark Rozell's** for *The Press and the Ford Presidency*. **Robert Peabody's** interviews with the principals in Gerald Ford's 1965 successful effort to win the Minority Leader's job in the House of Representatives are open to researchers, too.





Since January 1990, Library staff have participated in 1,935 contacts with over 420 prospective and actual donors of historical materials. Neither the Library's past nor its future holds another such effort. Collection development will continue, however, as we sustain contacts made and explore new avenues of collection growth such as Federal records now stored in Washington and copies of Ford-related materials housed at other archival repositories.

Over $200,000 in Research Grants Awarded Since 1981

GERALD R. FORD FOUNDATION GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation semi-annually awards grants of up to $2,000 to support research in the Ford Library's collections. With this Spring's round of awards, listed below, the Foundation's total giving since the program's inception passed the $200,000 mark. For grant application forms and information, please contact Bill McNitt, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109 or call (313) 741-2218 (Internet: *william.mcnitt@fordlib.nara.gov*). Application deadlines are on September 15 and March 15.

Kailai Huang
North Adams State College (Massachusetts)
"The National Council for United States-China Trade and Sino-American Normalization, 1973-1978"

Haroon A. Khan
Henderson State University (Arkansas)
"President Ford's Leadership in Congress"

James Ledbetter
The Village Voice
"Made Possible By ... Thirty Years of Public Broadcasting in the U.S."

Andrey S. Makarychev
George Mason University
"American Foreign Policy Planning Under Gerald Ford Presidency"

Kenneth R. Mayer
University of Wisconsin
"The Reach of Presidential Power: Policy Making Through Executive Orders"

Koji Murata
George Washington University
"A Missing Link: U.S. Security Policy Towards Korea Under the Ford Administration"

Alice O'Connor
University of Chicago
"Fighting Poverty with Knowledge: Poverty Research and Policy in the 1970's"

Mary E. Stuckey
University of Mississippi
"The Best Laid Plans ... Strategic Failures in the Modern Presidency"

John K. White
Catholic University of America
"Seeing Red: How the Cold War Shaped American Politics"

James H. Willbanks
U.S. Army Command and General Staff College
"The Nguyen Hue Offensive, U.S. Withdrawal, and the Fall of South Vietnam"

New Publications

Written any good books lately? If you have written about the Ford administration, please let the Library archival staff know. Here is an update on some new works supported in part by Gerald R. Ford Foundation research grants.

John Robert Greene's *The Presidency of Gerald R. Ford* is the first general historical survey of the administration. The distinct need for such a book, and its early good reviews, have produced strong sales, according to Susan Schott of the University Press of Kansas. A cloth reprint edition has already been scheduled and early college text orders point to strong sales from that market, too.

Economic issues take centerstage in three other recent works. In *Economist in an Uncertain World: Arthur Burns at the Federal Reserve, 1970-78*, Wyatt Wells argues Burns's importance in shaping new, post-Keynesian models that have determined American economic policy into the 1990s. Meanwhile, business journalist Steven Dryden explores the history and positive impact of the Office of U.S. Trade Representative in *Trade Warriors: USTR and the American Crusade for Free Trade*. Researcher Yanek Mieczkowski assesses Ford's leadership through the prism of the unprecedented economic dilemmas of the 1970s in his dissertation, "Gerald Ford and America in the Age of Limits," for Columbia University.

Other works by recent grant recipients include Paul Henggeler's *The Kennedy Persuasion: The Politics of Style Since JFK*; Lawrence Rothenberg's *Regulation, Organizations and Politics: Motor Freight Policy at the ICC*; and, Kathryn Olmsted's dissertation "Challenging the Secret Government: Congress, the Press, and the Investigations of the Intelligence Community, 1974-76." Shirley Anne Warshaw and John Robert Greene collaborated on an article, "Brushfires: The Departments, the Domestic Council, and Policy Agendas in the Ford White House," printed in *Congress and the Presidency* Vol. 21, No. 2.

In addition, President Ford's personal photographer in the White House, David Hume Kennerly, has published *PhotoOp: A Pulitzer Prize-Winning Photographer Covers Events That Shaped Our Times.*

Student Researcher Wins Award

Carrie Mitnick

Carrie Mitnick, a senior majoring in History at the University of Michigan, won the John A. Williams Prize for the best undergraduate honors thesis in American History. Her thesis, "Trust and Accomplishment: Gerald R. Ford and Character in the Presidency," grew from more than a year of research at the Library under the direction of Frank Mackaman. She delved into collections ranging from Gerald Ford's high school yearbooks and his U.S. Navy personnel file to oral histories with football teammates and White House documents. Mitnick, from Highland Park, New Jersey, will attend graduate school in the Fall.

New Museum Exhibits

The Ford Museum will soon change dramatically. A core exhibit redesign committee, comprised of Library and Museum staff, Foundation trustees and local supporters, has been working with the design firm of Van Sickle and Rolleri on conceptual plans for new core exhibits.

"The Ford Museum will soon change dramatically."

After viewing the plans at the Foundation's 1995 Annual Meeting, the Trustees voted to proceed with the new exhibits. The planned opening is April 1997.

Interactive displays, high tech features, and an updated historical interpretation guarantee a new look and a new experience for Museum visitors. Through the use of computers, videos, and walk-in environments, patrons will be able to select events in foreign affairs, sit through congressional hearings, and experience the excitement of the 1976 Republican National Convention.

"Interactive displays, high tech features, and an updated historical interpretation guarantee a new look and a new experience..."

Although the presentation and look will change, the story of Gerald R. Ford's life and career remain the central elements, showing how his values and character led the nation through the trauma and confusion of the mid-1970s. With a twenty year perspective, the exhibit sustains an improved historical representation of the Ford presidency with contemporary relevance.

The core exhibit redesign has clearly become the most ambitious and important project in the history of the Museum. When completed, visitors will enjoy a state of the art museum experience. It will meet the standards President Ford set in 1981 when he wrote, "The finest tribute of all will be to see the Gerald R. Ford Museum living and growing and constructive and useful."

"The core exhibit redesign has clearly become the most ambitious and important project in the history of the Museum."

Library & Museum Linked to Information Superhighway

Library and Museum computers have been connected to the National Archives's new nationwide Wide Area Network (WAN), called NARANET. The WAN allows staff across the agency to share files, exchange e-mail, and access the Internet. On the Internet, Library and Museum staff are able to exchange e-mail messages with persons outside the agency as well, using the addresses shown here.

As a first step onto the information highway, the Library established an exclusive address for reference requests. To ensure a timely response, researchers should send their inquiries to *library@fordlib.nara.gov*, the Library's Internet address.

As part of the installation, the Archives updated Local Area Networks (LANs) at both sites. New cables were installed, increasing the number of "drops" and the amount of data that can be moved across the networks. The LANs now run on Novell Netware 4.02, soon to move to version 4.11. The new server has a CD-ROM drive and 2 gigabytes of hard disc space. The Archives's contractor will update and maintain the networks from Washington while archivist Jenny Sternaman administers the WAN sites locally.

The staff has learned to use Novell GroupWise e-mail to communicate in-house and between Library and Museum sites. Those staff with workstations running Windows now have access to several Internet clients: Mosiac and Cello (two World Wide Web browsers), Gopher, and Telnet. In addition, the National Archives plans to purchase Netscape, a popular browser for the World Wide Web.

New E-Mail Addresses via Internet

Reference inquiries:
library@fordlib.nara.gov

Acting director:
james.kratsas@fordmus.nara.gov
Supervisory archivist:
david.horrocks@fordlib.nara.gov

sandra.deline@fordlib.nara.gov
geir.gundersen@fordlib.nara.gov
kenneth.hafeli@fordlib.nara.gov
karen.holzhausen@fordlib.nara.gov
richard.holzhausen@fordlib.nara.gov
william.mcnitt@fordlib.nara.gov
nancy.mirshah@fordlib.nara.gov
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Audiovisual Collections, Media, and Technology

The Ford Library is well known for its extensive manuscript collections. They draw most of our researchers to the Library. Not as well known is the high volume reference service provided by the Library's audiovisual staff. Archivist Kenneth Hafeli, assisted by Nancy Mirshah, busily provide researchers with photographs, audio and video tape, and motion picture film used to illustrate books and other publications, television and radio documentaries, motion picture films, and, more recently, CD-ROM projects.

"At the heart of the activity is the White House Photo Office still pictures collection."

At the heart of the activity is the White House Photo Office still pictures collection. During Gerald Ford's twenty-nine months as President, White House photographers shot nearly 13,000 rolls of film, yielding roughly 280,000 individual images, about 65 per cent of which are black and white. Many of the photos are of well known public events, such as Head of State visits or the Tall Ships in New York on July 4, 1976. The majority of the photographs, however, concern routine White House events and meetings. Although inconsequential at the time, the photos of these commonplace meetings are the basis for many of the Library's current photo requests. Since 1977, audiovisual archivists have received almost 4,000 requests for still pictures from the White House Photo Office collection. Researchers are especially attracted to the photographs because of their public domain status, eliminating the costly user fees of copyrighted material.

Other photographic material depicts Mr. and Mrs. Ford's early years, World War II, and the Congressional and Vice Presidential periods, plus the Fords' busy lives since leaving the public spotlight.

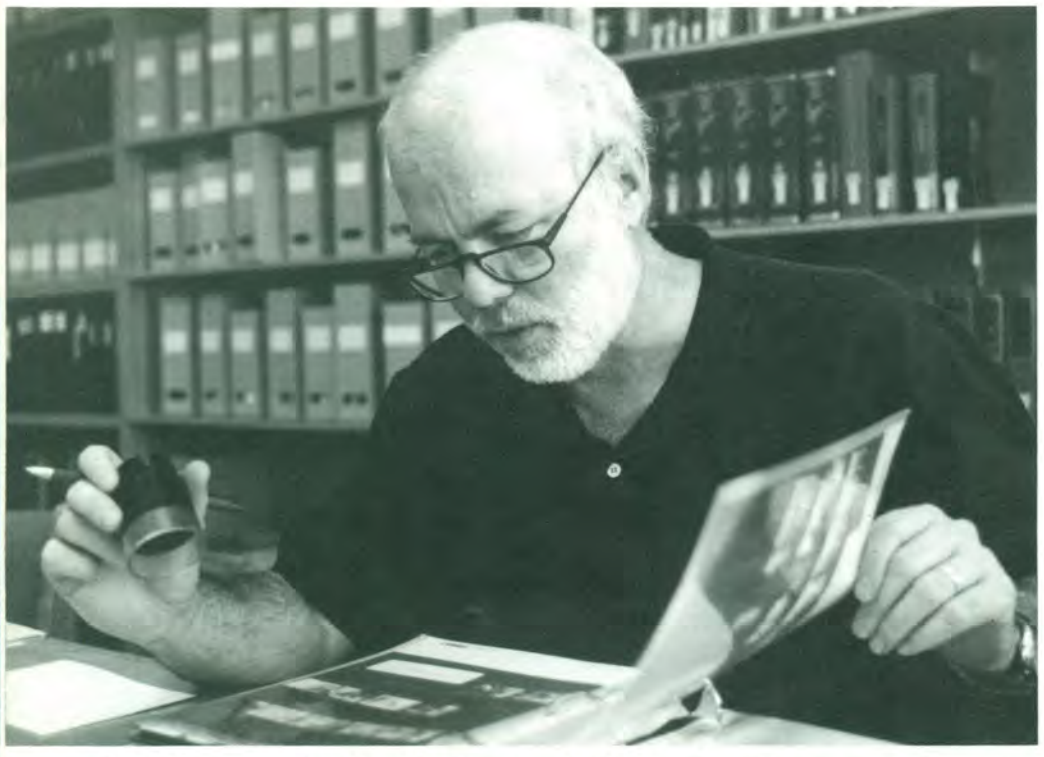
Researchers frequently request reproductions of the President's activity as documented on audiotape, videotape, and on 16mm film. Included are film footage of major news and ceremonial events which we dub to video, audiotape of the President's speeches, and an extensive videotape collection of daily network news stories about the President's activity.

Who uses the audiovisual material? Requests come from a wide range of patrons concerned with many different subjects. Professional researchers, working for publishers or media organizations, may contact us looking for photos, film, or video related to publications or current events. With cable networks such as A&E, ESPN, and the Discovery, Learning, and History Channels providing new outlets, production houses often contact the Library looking for material to create documentaries.

"Researchers are especially attracted to the photographs because of their public domain status..."

President Ford is not always the subject of the request. Several years ago, for instance, we provided footage for the "Biography" series, which produced a program on Shirley Temple Black, who President Ford appointed as Ambassador to Ghana and later Chief of Protocol. As well as government officials, the President was also photographed with a host of celebrities, including Bob Hope, George Harrison, Raquel Welch, John Wayne, and Barbara Streisand, well-known sports figures, and White House visitors.

More recently the audiovisual staff has been busy providing material for CD-ROM projects. The CD process helps to eliminate the expense of putting photographs in a published work. While the cost for reproducing photographs in a book may be prohibitive, the CD allows an author or publisher to print many more photographs at a much lower cost. Related



David Kennerly, President Ford's personal photographer, views contact sheets of his White House photographs during a visit to the Library.

Filming of President Ford presenting the Medal of Freedom to NATO Ambassador David Bruce. February 10, 1976.

audio and video can also be incorporated onto the CD.

The Ford Library is also catching up with today's technology, allowing computer access to some of our holdings. This past winter a student in the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies program, Serena Gomez, worked with the staff in a directed field experience to design and create an electronic finding aid to the Library's 100 most frequently requested photographs.

"More recently the audio-visual staff has been busy providing material for CD-ROM projects."

Serena scanned the photographs into digital form (120 dpi resolution) and created a document for World Wide Web users to access the photos. Web users will be able to view a thumbnail image (about 1" x 2") of the photograph alongside an identifying caption. The finding aid also contains general information about the Gerald R. Ford Library and instructions for ordering photographs. The project will be housed at PRESIDENT, part of SUNSite at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. The photographs and finding aid may be viewed at the following World Wide Web address: *http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/ford/Ford.html*

"The Ford Library is also catching up with today's technology..."

The Library's audiovisual collection continues to grow, with the biggest contributor being the President himself. At least once each month new material arrives from the Ford office. With his continued donations and the assistance of other contributors, the collection will provide an audio and visual perspective of Gerald R. Ford and the Ford Presidency for many years to come.

Candids of British Prime Minister Edward Heath, President Ford, German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, and French President Giscard d'Estaing at the First International Economic Summit Conference in Rambouillet, France. November 17, 1975.

Anwar Sadat, exhibit photograph by David Hume Kennerly

"PHOTO OP: Selections from the David Hume Kennerly Photographic Archive"

Award-winning photographer **David Hume Kennerly** chronicled America's experiences for nearly 30 years. From an early Supremes concert to the wars in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf, and myriad presidential activities and world events in between, Kennerly and his camera were there. The Library alone contains 129 3-inch binders filled with contact sheets of his still photographs of the Ford presidency.

Kennerly's professional career began in 1966 with a job as a photographer for the *Oregon Journal*. The following year he joined United Press International, assigned to Los Angeles, New York, Washington, DC, and in 1971, South Vietnam. He received a Pulitzer Prize for his feature photographs of that war.

In 1974 **Gerald Ford** asked David Kennerly to serve as his personal photographer in the White House — a position Kennerly accepted on the condition that he be given freedom to move in and out of the Oval Office, taking the photos he believed were important to history.

"PHOTO OP" displays ninety-six Kennerly photographs selected from collections of over 250,000 images. Material for the exhibition derives from the David Hume Kennerly Photographic Archive at the University of Texas-Austin's Center for American History, the Bettmann Archive in New York City, and the Gerald R. Ford Library. The exhibit ran at the Museum July 14 through September 1, 1995.

Exhibit Honors Vietnam Veterans War Memorial

The black granite Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated on Veterans' Day, 1982, as a tribute to those who served in this nation's longest war. Engraved with the names of those who died and those who are missing, it is meant to be a place of national reconciliation and healing.

Visitors to the Wall have left mementos since the groundbreaking. At first the tributes were small and spontaneous. Over the years they became more complex, more detailed, often planned and put together in advance. Whether a simple gesture or an elaborate assemblage, most of the objects have stories known only to those who placed them at the Wall. The variety is as diverse as the people themselves. Gathered daily, these 25,000 artifacts now make up the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Collection.

A Place of Tribute: The Vietnam Veterans War Memorial opened at the Ford Museum on May 13 and will be on display until January 21, 1996. The exhibit brings a small part of this sorrowful tale of loss, grief, and healing to Museum visitors. Comprised of over 600 letters, poems, and objects, it tells the story of the continuing impact of the Vietnam War on people throughout the nation.

Most of the objects have stories known only to those who placed them at the Wall.

Vietnam Veterans War Memorial exhibit.

Library Director Resigns

In late May Library and Museum director Frank H. Mackaman announced plans to resign his position effective August 5. He returned to the private sector as executive director of the Everett McKinley Dirksen Congressional Leadership Center, a not-for-profit, educational organization based in Pekin, Illinois.

In telling Ford Foundation trustees of his resignation, Mackaman commented "My eight years with the Ford Library have been filled with challenge and satisfaction....you have made it possible for me to enjoy a particularly rewarding professional privilege: To work at something worthwhile with people I respect and admire." Earlier, in his letter of resignation to the National Archives, Mackaman wrote "I believe I leave the Library and Museum in splendid shape. We have an experienced, accomplished staff dedicated to uncompromising customer service....I fully expect the Library and Museum to flourish in the coming years."

"I believe I leave the Library and Museum in splendid shape..."

Mackaman was a constant agent for change and an advocate for a market-oriented approach to programming. Under his leadership, an invigorated collection development program markedly improved the quality of research collections, and the first renovation of the Museum's core exhibits was launched. He also taught classes about the American presidency at the University of Michigan, supervised several undergraduate honors theses, and served as a faculty mentor. He participated on National Archives task forces, including the one that produced the agency's current mission statement and long-range plan. Among the programs he developed for the Ford Foundation were the journalism prizes and the Gerald R. Ford Colloquium.

An undergraduate research seminar on the American presidency, led by Library director Frank Mackaman.

Mackaman's legacy also includes, from the staff's standpoint, a commitment to teamwork, effective communications, and streamlined processes. He accelerated the Library's experimentation in office automation, developed the Museum and Library's first formal long-range plan, and instituted visitor surveys. He even processed an archival collection, laid out an exhibit, and wrote a finding aid from time to time.

At the annual meeting of the Ford Foundation, President Ford congratulated Mackaman for doing a superb job, noting that "under your exemplary stewardship, the Museum and Library have fulfilled their mission as public service facilities." President and Mrs. Ford presented Mackaman with a certificate expressing their gratitude for his service.

Jim Kratsas, deputy director for the Library and Museum, will serve as acting director during the search for Mackaman's successor.

Coming Events at the Museum

September 16, 1995–January 8, 1996
"Michigan's Vietnam Monument" displays selected entries from Michigan's Vietnam Monument design competition.

February 19–September 1, 1996
"America Celebrates 200," in honor of the 20th anniversary of the nation's bicentennial.

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Ford Foundation Annual Meeting

Trustees of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation gathered in Washington, DC, on June 5 for their annual meeting. They approved a budget which included funding for the first renovation of the core exhibit at the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids. The Foundation will continue to support such other Library and Museum efforts as the research grants program and the temporary exhibit series.

Committees reported on current fundraising and such Foundation-sponsored activities as the Gerald R. Ford Prizes for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense and on the Presidency.

The following trustees were elected to serve as officers: **Martin J. Allen**, Chairman; **Steven M. Ford**, Vice Chairman; **Robert M. Warner**, Secretary; and **John G. Baab**, Treasurer.

Following the meeting, the Foundation hosted a dinner for former Ford administration associates and friends of the President. Senate Majority Leader **Robert Dole** and Speaker of the House of Representatives **Newt Gingrich** delivered remarks at a session moderated by Foundation trustee **Richard Cheney**.

Deputy director James Kratsas makes remarks to President Ford and Foundation trustees at the annual meeting.

Brent Scowcroft, Mrs. Ford, Susan Ford Bales and Dick Cheney at the Foundation's annual meeting.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose programs are supported entirely by contributions and bequests in an effort to honor Mr. Ford's lifelong commitment to public service. The focus of the Foundation is on community affairs and educational programs, conferences, symposia, research grants and special projects that improve citizen interest and understanding of the challenges that confront government, particularly the presidency. Inquiries regarding contributions should be addressed to Martin J. Allen Jr., Chairman, Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 303 Pearl Street, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504.

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