Library's First Symposium November 10

Three former secretaries of state are scheduled to head a bipartisan assembly of foreign policy experts who will gather in Ann Arbor on November 10 and 11. Dean Rusk, William Rogers, and Alexander Haig have accepted Gerald Ford's invitation to participate in the Library's first symposium.

The conference entitled, "Congress, The President, and Foreign Policy," will be sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, The Atlantic Council, and the Former Members of Congress Association. The University of Michigan is serving as sponsor also. The two day conference will lead off a year long study that will address the mechanisms and practices at work in shaping the nation's foreign policy.

President Ford will deliver the keynote address and has agreed to chair the session on executive leadership in foreign affairs. During a recent visit to the Library, Ford talked about the conference:

"There are few problems more critical today than the relationship between the president and congress in the conduct of American foreign policy. It is a grave matter that merits attention and I am pleased the Ford Library will open its conference program by confronting this issue.

We have assembled a most distinguished panel of experts to take a critical look at past executive-legislative struggles over who should direct foreign policy. Hopefully, their discussions will suggest ways in which the president and congress can work together to produce a more responsible foreign policy."

Discussants will include two former national security advisors, General Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski, and William Simon, former secretary of the treasury. Among those offering the congressional perspective will be Hugh Scott, Gale McGee, John Lindsay, and William Mailliard. Because of space limitations in the Library, symposium admission will be by invitation.
Greetings from President Ford . . .

Our first newsletter. It is a pleasure to share this felicitous occasion with friends and associates. Already, as this first issue clearly shows, the Foundation is preparing a wide-ranging program of public service, scholarship aid, and conferences. In the years ahead, under Bob Griffin's able leadership, the Foundation promises to be an active partner with the Ford Library and Museum in promoting understanding of the presidency and the American political process. It is an exciting prospect and I trust you will be able to join us in support.

A strong and active foundation is essential in fulfilling the educational goals of the Library and Museum. Many of the activities such as funding for scholarship, major exhibits, conferences, and outreach programs to area public schools will not be possible without the private financial support tendered through the Gerald R. Ford Foundation. And while much progress has been made, a substantial endowment will be needed to sustain, expand, and improve our public programs at the Library and Museum.

In this time of shrinking government resources the role of the voluntary association has become pivotal in maintaining the quality of our cultural activities. With your help I am confident the Foundation will meet the challenge.

Sculpture for Library Courtyard

Towsley Plaza, the Library's courtyard, will be graced by a striking piece of mobile sculpture, the creation of the internationally recognized artist, George Rickey. The dedicatory ceremony is scheduled for November 10 with President Ford presiding at the unveiling.

Sometimes referred to as the "engineer of movement," George Rickey is represented in the principal galleries of the United States, Germany, and The Netherlands. His constructions often use simple blades or "lines" operating on the pendulum principle. In his kinetic sculpture, precisely engineered movement rather than form is the aesthetic content.

Rickey was selected by a committee headed by Dean George Bayliss of the University of Michigan School of Art. Verna and Kelly Goss of Ann Arbor are the principal donors.
New Library Exhibit

Gerald Ford was the only United States president to visit Japan while in office and the occasion of that visit is being recalled in a new Library exhibit. Ford's journey and the 1975 return visit by Emperor Hirohito will share the exhibit gallery with a visual retrospective of America's earliest relations with Japan.

Artifacts, documents, and graphics relating to the Perry expedition of 1853-1854, the residency of Consul Townsend Harris, and the first Japanese mission to the United States will be on view beginning November 10. Also on display will be memorabilia of U.S. Grant's tour of Japan in 1879, two years after he left the White House. Because of his war leadership, Grant was esteemed by all classes and a private visit was transformed into a triumphal tour of the country.

Library deputy director Bill Stewart, who developed the exhibit, said every historical organization approached was pleased to lend items for the display. "An exemplary selection of archival and museum resources were available to us," Stewart added, "and their visual impact should make for an attractive show." Federal agencies including the National Archives, Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, and the Naval Academy Museum are participating as are such private institutions as the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk, Chicago Historical Society, and Michigan's Clements Library.

The Library's exhibit gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, national holidays excepted. Group tours of the building may be arranged by calling (313) 668-2218.

Ford and Carter to Host Leadership Conference

President Jimmy Carter will join President Ford in chairing a leadership conference to be held at the Ford Library, February 9 and 10, 1983. Fifty national decisionmakers will meet with the two former chief executives to discuss the outcome of a nationwide, community-based program known as the National Issues Forum.

Organizer David Mathews, president of the Kettering Foundation, likens the National Issues Forum to the old New England town meeting, providing a grass roots forum for citizens to discuss pressing public issues. Designed to take place annually, the National Issues Forum promises to provide a fresh means by which citizens may confront and speak out on the nation's problems.

In October and November forums will be held in some 50 communities across the country. Three topics have been selected as deserving urgent attention this pilot year: (1) inflation, (2) social security and retirement, and (3) jobs and productivity. The consensus that emerges from these local forums will be reported to the decisionmakers who will assemble in Ann Arbor in February.

According to Library Director Don W. Wilson the participation of two former chief executives in a public affairs program is a first for presidential libraries. "Indeed I can't recall any instance of two presidents appearing together in a conference setting."

Anticipating a successful pilot year, the National Issues Forum is preparing for the 1983 series of discussions. The issue selection process has begun, and the closing leadership conference is scheduled for February 1984 in the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in Austin, Texas.

Names of leadership conference participants will appear in the next newsletter.
Acquisitions

On the eve of his departure for Bonn, Ambassador Arthur Burns donated a sizable and significant collection of his personal papers to the Library.

The bulk of his files, totaling nearly half a million pages, document Burns' service as counsellor to the President, 1969-1970, and chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, 1970-1977. While most of the archival material relates to the national economy, Burns also enjoyed a pivotal role in international arrangements and his papers reflect that involvement, especially with the International Monetary Fund.

On the domestic front, Chairman Burns used the power of the Federal Reserve to avert two national crises during the 1970's — the Penn Central bankruptcy and the impending default of New York City. "The Burns papers should amplify what we know of Federal Reserve attitudes and initiatives during both crises," Director Don Wilson observed, "and we are anxious to begin reading the material for research use."

Arthur Burns has donated papers to two presidential libraries. The Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas holds material covering his three years of service as chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Eisenhower as well as his work with the Bureau of Economic Research.

Classic Film Series Coming to Museum

During January and February the Ford Museum auditorium will be the site of a winter film festival on the presidency and the political process. Selected by Grand Rapids Press film critic John Douglas, and sponsored by the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, the series of eight political dramas includes the rarely-seen depression saga, "Gabriel Over the White House," and "All the King's Men," awarded an "Oscar" for best picture in 1949. Admission is free and all showings are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are not required. For more information call the Ford Museum.

January 6
"Best Man" (1964)

January 13
"Last Hurrah" (1958)

January 20
"All the King's Men" (1949)

January 27
"Gabriel Over the White House" (1933)

February 3
"Mission to Moscow" (1943)

February 10
"The Front" (1976)

February 17
"State of the Union" (1948)

February 24
"The Ugly American" (1963)
Research Grants Available Soon

Beginning this winter, stipends up to $2,000 will be awarded for research projects that require use of the archival collections in the Ford Library. The research program was established to help students, teachers, and journalists have access to the Library's holdings by providing support for travel and living expenses. Foundation Chairman Robert Griffin said the program was especially designed to encourage promising younger researchers to expand the knowledge of the period of Gerald Ford's life.

A screening committee, headed by University of Michigan economist Paul W. McCracken, will review applications and make awards twice each year. Those who wish to apply are asked to contact Don W. Wilson, Director, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109 for an application form and a leaflet outlining requirements.

The trustees of the Earhart Foundation of Ann Arbor have voted a one-time gift of $25,000 to the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, specifically for the grants-in-aid programs.

Foundation Trustees and Officers Set

At the first annual meeting of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, held in Washington on March 24, 1982, 39 persons were appointed trustees. The trustees, comprising associates, former Ford administration officials, and family members, will serve staggered terms of one, two, or three years.

As the first order of business, newly made trustees unanimously elected the following officers:
Chairman
Robert P. Griffin
Vice Chairman
Richard A. Ford
Secretary
George L. Grassmuck
Treasurer
Harold L. Davidson

It was agreed that four standing committees should be established, and chairman for each were designated as follows:
Budget and Finance Chairman
Harold L. Davidson
Endowment and Development
Co-Chairmen
Peter F. Secchia, Harry Towsley, M.D.
Program Chairman
Philip W. Buchen
Awards and Grants Chairman
Brent Scowcroft

Archivists to Meet

Want to know more about cuneiform records? Subjects ranging from the archives of the ancient Near East to the implications of the Presidential Records Act of 1978 will be among the topics aired when the Midwest Archives Conference convenes in Ann Arbor in mid-November.

As host, the Ford Library is preparing to receive 200 archivists from throughout the Midwest for the three-day conference. The University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library and the Michigan Archival Association are serving as co-sponsors. Sessions will be held at both the Bentley and Ford Libraries. Ford Library staff members are serving on the program and local arrangements committees.

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Since opening on September 18, 1981 the Gerald R. Ford Museum has averaged over 1,000 visitors per day. These visitors have come from as far away as Vermont and California as well as Canada, Japan, and Europe. According to Will Jones, Museum Curator, “visitors from around the globe have been very favorably impressed with the Gerald R. Ford Museum, both in content and design.”

Attendance for the first year will fall within the original projection of 375,000 — 425,000 visitors. Over 25,000 of these visitors came to the museum in organized school and scout groups.

Here, Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands meets with President Ford in the Museum’s full-scale replica of the Oval Office.