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**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**Folder Title:**  
Ford's Theater Gala 3/25/90 [OA 6854]

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<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

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THE LITTLE, BROWN  
BOOK OF  
ANECDOTES

CLIFTON FADIMAN  
GENERAL EDITOR



LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY  
BOSTON TORONTO

London apartment," she told him. "Why don't you go there and pick it up?"

7 At a reception given for Josephine Baker on one of her trips to New York, many theatrical personalities were invited. Among them was Beatrice Lillie, who patiently waited her turn to greet the fabulous Josephine. Unfortunately, Miss Baker chose this occasion to put on her well-known regal air. Holding out her hand for Beatrice to kiss, she purred, "Ah, Lady Peel, eet is a great plaisir." Bea Lillie glanced at the proffered hand: "Ah likes you too, honey," she said.

8 (Clifton Daniel tells the following story.)  
"One bright day on Piccadilly I saw an unmistakable figure approaching—Bea on the arm of a man. She had been abroad entertaining the 'troooooops,' as she called them, and I hadn't seen her for a long time.

"As she came down the street I maneuvered myself so that she could not avoid running into me. When she did she threw open her arms and embraced me.

"Darling,' she cried, 'how *are* you?' Still holding me, she leaned back and examined my face. 'And *who* are you?'"

9 In Hollywood one day, Miss Lillie was absentmindedly driving on the left-hand side of the road when she suddenly noticed another car bearing down on her. She swerved to the left and crashed, wrecking the car but escaping with a few cuts and bruises. She staggered to the nearest house, which happened to be that of film star John Gilbert. "Why, Bea! What's up?" cried Gilbert as he opened the door. "Heard there was a party," gasped Miss Lillie. "Came."



LINCOLN, Abraham (1809–65), *US statesman; 16th president of the United States (1861–65). Born in a log cabin, Lincoln was a self-educated man. He became a lawyer and in 1847 entered Congress as a representative from Illinois. An opponent of slavery, he was elected president on an antislavery ticket, an election that precipitated the secession of the Southern states and the Civil War. In 1863 Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing Southern slaves, and two years later masterminded the Thirteenth Amendment, prohibiting slavery*

*anywhere in the United States. He proposed a generous settlement to the defeated Southerners, hoping to heal the wounds caused by the war, but only a few days after its end he was assassinated while attending the theater in Washington. The most famous of Lincoln's speeches is the Gettysburg Address (1863). A vast fund of anecdotes and humorous stories by him or told of him have accumulated under his name. Many are doubtless apocryphal.*

1 As a young man Lincoln was captain of a militia company during the Black Hawk War of 1832. He was not well versed in military procedures. One day, as he was leading a squad of some twenty men across a field, the appropriate word of command for getting them into position for marching through a gate went right out of his mind. In desperation, he shouted, "This company is dismissed for two minutes, and will fall in again on the other side of the gate."

2 When Lincoln was a lawyer, an out-of-town case required him to hire a horse from the local livery stables. Returning the animal, he asked the liveryman whether he kept the horse for funerals. "Certainly not," said its owner indignantly. "I am glad to hear it," said Lincoln, "because if you did, the corpse would not get there in time for the resurrection."

3 Lincoln's friend and fellow-lawyer Ward Lamon was on circuit in Illinois. While waiting outside the courtroom, Lamon was challenged to a wrestling match and in the struggle tore the seat of his trousers. Immediately afterward he was summoned into court for a case. His short coat did not conceal the damaged condition of his trousers. One of the other lawyers facetiously started a subscription paper to buy him a new pair, and it was passed around the various members of the bar. When the paper reached Lincoln, he wrote his name and under the column for the amount the words: "I can contribute nothing to the end in view."

4 In his legal practice Lincoln was never greedy for fees and discouraged unnecessary litigation. A man came to him in a passion, asking him to bring a suit for \$2.50 against an impoverished debtor. Lincoln tried to dissuade him, but the man was determined upon revenge. When he saw that the creditor was not

to be put off, Lincoln asked for and got \$10 as his legal fee. He gave half of this to the defendant, who thereupon willingly confessed to the debt and paid up the \$2.50, thus settling the matter to the entire satisfaction of the irate plaintiff.

5 (A clerk of the court relates the only occasion on which he was fined for contempt of court.)

"Davis fined me five dollars. Mr. Lincoln had just come in, and leaning over my desk had told me a story so irresistibly funny that I broke out into a loud laugh. The judge called me to order, saying, 'This must be stopped. Mr. Lincoln, you are constantly disturbing this court with your stories.' Then to me: 'You may fine yourself \$5.00.' I apologized, but told the judge the story was worth the money. In a few minutes the judge called me over to him. 'What was that story Lincoln told you?' he asked. I told him, and he laughed aloud in spite of himself. 'Remit your fine,' he ordered."

6 A New York firm wrote to Lincoln, then practicing law, requesting information about the financial circumstances of one of his neighbors. The reply was as follows: "I am well acquainted with Mr. —, and know his circumstances. First of all, he has a wife and baby; together, they ought to be worth \$50,000 to any man. Secondly, he has an office in which there is a table worth \$1.50, and three chairs, worth \$1.00. Last of all, there is in one corner a large rat-hole which will bear looking into. Respectfully yours, A. Lincoln."

7 During his time as a lawyer in Springfield, Lincoln was walking into town one day when he was overtaken by a man driving in the same direction. Lincoln hailed him and asked, "Will you have the goodness to take my overcoat to town for me?"

"With pleasure," responded the stranger, "but how will you get it again?"

"Oh, very easily; I intend to remain in it."  
(This may be a standard joke, attributed —like many others— to Lincoln.)

8 On hearing the anguished cries of children in the street, one of Lincoln's neighbors in Springfield rushed out of his house in alarm. There he found Lincoln with two of his sons, both of whom were sobbing uncontrollably.

"Whatever is the matter with the boys, Mr. Lincoln?" he asked. "Just what's the matter with the whole world," replied Lincoln resignedly. "I've got three walnuts, and each wants two."

9 When Lincoln ran for Congress as a Whig in 1846, his Democratic opponent was an evangelical Methodist, Peter Cartwright. During the campaign Lincoln attended a religious meeting at which Cartwright, after a stirring address, invited all those who wished to go to heaven to stand up. A few people rose self-consciously to their feet. "Now all those who do not wish to go to hell will stand!" The rest of the audience, with the exception of Lincoln, stood up. Cartwright saw an opportunity to embarrass his rival. "May I inquire of you, Mr. Lincoln, where you are going?" Lincoln stood up and said calmly, "I came here as a respectful listener. I did not know I was to be singled out by Brother Cartwright. I believe in treating religious matters with due solemnity. I admit that the questions propounded by Brother Cartwright are of great importance. I did not feel called upon to answer as the rest did. Brother Cartwright asks me directly where I am going. I desire to reply with equal directness: I am going to Congress."

(One of many Lincoln anecdotes of doubtful authenticity.)

10 In 1858 the Illinois legislature elected Stephen A. Douglas senator instead of Lincoln. A sympathetic friend asked Lincoln how he felt. "Like the boy who stubbed his toe; I am too big to cry and too badly hurt to laugh."

(Adlai Stevenson, when defeated by Dwight Eisenhower in 1952, ruefully recalled this story.)

11 Stephen Douglas was attempting to discomfit Lincoln by making allusions to his lowly start in life. He told a gathering that the first time he had met Lincoln it had been across the counter of a general store in which Lincoln was serving. "And an excellent bartender he was too," Douglas concluded. When the laughter had died away, Lincoln got up and said, "What Mr. Douglas says is quite true: I did keep a general store and sold cotton and candles and cigars and sometimes whiskey, and I particularly remember Mr. Douglas, as he was a very good customer. Many a time I have been on

one side of the counter and sold whiskey to Mr. Douglas on the other side. But now there's a difference between us: I've left my side of the counter, but he sticks to his as tenaciously as ever."

12 Lincoln was called in as arbiter in many disputes, serious and frivolous. Two men who had been arguing for hours about the correct proportion of the length of a man's legs to the size of his body called on Lincoln to settle the question. Lincoln listened gravely to the points on both sides, and then gave his summing up in full legal fashion. It seemed to him, he said, that this was a question of the utmost significance and one that had caused much bloodshed in the past and would doubtless do so again in the future, so it was not without much mental anguish and exertion that he reached his opinion. Nonetheless, he concluded, "It is my opinion, all side issues being swept aside, that a man's lower limbs, in order to preserve harmony of proportion, should be at least long enough to reach from his body to the ground."

13 Holding the copy of his speech, his hat, and a cane, Lincoln arrived at the rostrum to be sworn in as president. He laid the cane down, but there was nowhere to put the hat. Senator Stephen A. Douglas quickly came forward and relieved him of it. As he sat down, he observed to one of Mrs. Lincoln's cousins, "If I can't be president, I can at least hold his hat."

14 As Lincoln was walking down a corridor in the War Department building, an army officer in a hurry barged straight into him. When the man saw who it was, he offered "ten thousand pardons."

"One is quite enough," said Lincoln, adding, "I wish the whole army would charge like that!"

15 At the conclusion of his tour of America, an aristocratic young Englishman secured an audience with President Lincoln. The talk turning to social conditions, the visitor expressed amazement that many gentlemen in America customarily blacked their own boots. "True," replied Lincoln, "but would gentlemen in England not do that?"

"Certainly not."

"Then, whose boots do they black?" asked Lincoln.

(This is a rather more plausible version of a popular story that depicts Lincoln being interrupted by a foreign diplomat in the act of cleaning his own boots; the punch line is the same.)

16 A delegation called on Lincoln to ask that the commissionership of the Sandwich Islands be given to a particular man. After setting out his qualifications they concluded by saying that their candidate was in poor health and the climate in the Sandwich Islands would be beneficial to him. "I am sorry to say, gentlemen," said Lincoln, "that there are eight other applicants for the post, and they are all sicker than your man."

17 The singer Lillie de Hegermann-Lindencrone records in a letter a conversation she had with Lincoln. Lincoln remarked that if he heard her sing often he might have to become a musician himself. "But," he added, "so far I only know two tunes."

"Hail, Columbia?" she asked. "You know that, I am sure."

"Oh, yes," he replied, "I know that, for I have to stand up and take off my hat."

"And the other one?"

"The other one? Oh, that is the one when I don't stand up."

See also ULYSSES S. GRANT 11.

18 President Lincoln turned down an applicant for a job and gave as his reason: "I don't like his face." One of the members of his cabinet indicated that he did not think this was a sufficient and satisfactory explanation. Lincoln disagreed: "Every man over forty is responsible for his face."

19 Lincoln particularly enjoyed a story that circulated in Washington during the Civil War concerning him and the president of the Confederate States, Jefferson Davis. Two Quaker ladies were discussing the relative merits and prospects of the opposing leaders. "I think Jefferson will succeed because he is a praying man," said one. "But so is Abraham a praying man," said the other. "Yes," rejoined the first lady, "but the Lord will think that Abraham is joking."

20 A woman once approached Lincoln, demanding a colonel's commission for her son.

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"My grandfather fought at Lexington, my father fought at New Orleans, my husband was killed at Monterey. I ask the commission not as a favor, but as a right."

"I guess, madam," answered Lincoln, "your family has done enough for the country. It's time to give somebody else a chance."

21 When the Confederate forces were attacking Fort Stevens, Lincoln made a tour of inspection of the Union defenses. He was shown around by the general's aide, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. As Holmes pointed out the enemy lines, Lincoln, wearing his customary tall hat, stood up to get a better view. At once there was a crackle of musketry fire from the opposing trenches. "Get down, you fool!" shouted Holmes, grabbing the president and hauling him under cover. An instant later he realized what he had said, and wondered what kind of disciplinary action would be taken against him. As Lincoln was leaving, he bade the young officer farewell with the words, "Goodbye, Captain Holmes. I'm glad to see you know how to talk to a civilian."

22 In a discussion on the manpower and resources in the Civil War someone asked Lincoln how many men the Confederates had in the field. "Twelve hundred thousand," was the prompt and astonishing reply. Seeing the amazement and disbelief on the faces of those around him, Lincoln went on, "No doubt of it—twelve hundred thousand. You see, all our generals, every time they get whipped, they tell me that the enemy outnumbered them at least three to one, and I must believe them. We have four hundred thousand men in the field, and three times four equals twelve. Twelve hundred thousand men, no doubt about it."

23 In the later months of 1862 Lincoln was angered by General George B. McClellan's inactivity, despite his superiority in numbers over the Confederate forces. In the end he wrote McClellan a single-sentence letter: "If you don't want to use the army, I should like to borrow it for a while. Yours respectfully, A. Lincoln."

24 When General Joseph Hooker, nicknamed "Fighting Joe," was appointed commander in chief of the Union army, he was anxious to dispel the impression of incompe-

tence and inaction left by his predecessors in the post, though, as it turned out, he was temperamentally unsuited to supreme command. On one occasion he reported his energetic activities to Lincoln in a dispatch datelined "Headquarters in the saddle." Lincoln received it and sighed: "The trouble with Hooker is that he has got his headquarters where his hindquarters ought to be."

25 In September 1862 Lincoln called a special session of his closest advisers. When they arrived, he was reading a book. At first he paid little attention to their entrance, then started to read aloud to them a piece by the humorist Artemus Ward entitled "A High-Handed Outrage at Utica," which Lincoln found very funny. At the end he laughed heartily but no one joined in; the cabinet members sat in stony disapproval of the president's frivolity. Lincoln rebuked them: "Why don't you laugh? With the fearful strain that is upon me night and day, if I did not laugh I should die, and you need this medicine as much as I do." Then turning to business, he told them that he had privately prepared "a little paper of much significance." It was the draft of the Emancipation Proclamation.

26 The Emancipation Proclamation was laid before Lincoln for his signature at noon on January 1, 1863. Lincoln twice picked up the pen and twice laid it down. To the secretary of state he said, "I have been shaking hands since nine o'clock this morning, and my right arm is almost paralyzed. If my name ever goes into history, it will be for this act, and my whole soul is in it. If my hand trembles when I sign the Proclamation, all who examine the document hereafter will say, 'He hesitated.'" He then picked up the pen again and slowly and firmly wrote his signature.

27 Lincoln was much plagued by people seeking offices or favors. He was unwell one day and not feeling inclined to listen to such requests. One petitioner, however, managed to get into his office. Just as the man was settling down for a lengthy interview, Lincoln's physician entered. Holding out his hands to him, Lincoln asked what the blotches on them were. The doctor instantly diagnosed varioloid, a mild form of smallpox. "It's contagious, I believe?" asked Lincoln. "Very contagious," was

the answer. The visitor got to his feet at this point. "Well, I can't stop now, Mr. Lincoln, I just called to see how you were," he said. "Oh, don't be in a hurry," said Lincoln affably. "Thank you, sir, I'll call again," said the visitor, heading speedily for the door. As it closed behind him, Lincoln observed, "A good thing about this is that I now have something that I can give to everybody."

28 Lincoln's secretary of war, Edwin Stanton, had some trouble with a major general who accused him, in abusive terms, of favoritism. Stanton complained to Lincoln, who suggested that he write the officer a sharp letter. Stanton did so, and showed the strongly worded missive to the president, who applauded its powerful language: "What are you going to do with it?" he asked. Surprised at the question, Stanton said, "Send it." Lincoln shook his head. "You don't want to send that letter," he said. "Put it in the stove. That's what I do when I have written a letter while I am angry. It's a good letter and you had a good time writing it and feel better. Now, burn it, and write another."

29 A Prussian nobleman, who had been involved in revolutionary activities in his own country, came to the United States seeking a commission in the Union army. In an audience with the president, he expatiated on the high and ancient nobility of his family. Lincoln eventually broke in, saying, "That need not trouble you. It will not stand in your way if you behave yourself as a soldier."

30 Lincoln's mail one day contained a letter from a lady requesting not only his autograph but also a "sentiment" with his signature. Irritated by this demand at a time of national crisis, the president responded: "Dear Madam: When you ask from a stranger that which is of interest only to yourself, always enclose a stamp. There's your sentiment, and here's my autograph. A. Lincoln."

31 (The following story exists in many versions but is usually attributed to Lincoln.)

On the night of December 23, 1863, Lincoln dreamed that he was in a party of undistinguished, unattractive people; when they found out who he was, they commented on his appearance. One of them said, "He's a very

common-looking man." Lincoln retorted, "The Lord prefers common-looking people; that's the reason that he makes so many of them."

32 A guest at a reception told Lincoln that in his home state people said that the welfare of the nation depended on God and Abraham Lincoln. "You are half right," said Lincoln.

33 During the Civil War Lincoln had occasion at an official reception to refer to the Southerners rather as erring human beings than as foes to be exterminated. An elderly lady, a fiery patriot, rebuked him for speaking kindly of his enemies when he ought to be thinking of destroying them. "Why, madam," said Lincoln, "do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?"

34 A delegation of businessmen from Wilmington, Delaware, came to see Lincoln to give him their views on winning the war. Their spokesman announced pompously that they represented the "weighty men" of Delaware. "So you're the weighty men of Delaware," said Lincoln when he had heard them out. "All from New Castle County?"

"Yes, all from the same city."

"Did it ever occur to you gentlemen," asked the president, "that there was danger of your little state tipping up in your absence?"

35 When a gentleman called on the president, asking for a pass to allow him to visit Richmond (the Confederate capital), the president replied, "I would be very happy to oblige you if my passes were respected; but the fact is, sir, I have, within the last two years, given passes to two hundred and fifty thousand men to go to Richmond, and not one has got there yet."

36 During Lincoln's visit to Richmond after it had been evacuated by the Confederate troops, an old black man approached him and, removing his hat, bowed and said, "May de good Lord bless you, President Linkum." The president took off his own hat and bowed silently in return.

37 Just a week before he was assassinated Lincoln had a dream that he discussed with several people. It seemed that he was walking through the silent White House toward the

ound of sobbing. When he entered the East Room he was confronted by the sight of a catafalque covered in black. He asked the guard on duty there who was dead. "The president," said the soldier.

18 On April 13, 1865, the Civil War being over, orders were given to end the draft of soldiers. The following day Lincoln made his final visit to the theater to see *Our American Cousin*. At one point in the play the heroine, reclining on a garden seat, calls for a shawl to protect her from the draft. The actor Edward Moberly, to whom the request was addressed, replied on this occasion with the impromptu line: "You are mistaken, Miss Mary, the draft has already been stopped by order of the president!" Lincoln joined in the audience's appreciation of this remark with what was to be his last laugh.



LINCOLN, Robert Todd (1843-1926), *US politician and businessman, son of Abraham Lincoln. He was minister to Great Britain (1889-93).*

Robert Todd Lincoln was home from Harvard on a visit at the time that his father was assassinated. After the shooting he sat by his father's bedside until he died. He had no political ambitions, preferring the life of a lawyer. But President James Garfield called him away from his practice to occupy the post of secretary of war in 1881. He reluctantly accepted. Later that same year Robert Lincoln arrived at the Washington railroad station just in time to see Garfield shot. Twenty years later, as president of the Pullman Company, Robert Lincoln was invited to bring his family to meet President William McKinley. As they arrived they heard the news: the president had just been shot. Robert Lincoln observed, "There is a certain fatality about presidential functions when I am present."



LIND, Jenny (1820-87), *Swedish operatic soprano. Known as "the Swedish nightingale," she toured throughout Europe and in the United States (1850-52), before finally settling in England.*

1 A group of American tourists knocked on Jenny Lind's door. The star asked them what

they wanted. The spokesman said that they merely wanted to have a look at her. "This is my face," she said, and then turned around: "This is my back. Now you can go home and say you have seen me." With that she shut the door.



LINDEMANN, Frederick Alexander, Viscount Cherwell (1886-1957), *German-born British physicist, known as "the Prof." He became personal assistant to Winston Churchill, who appointed him paymaster-general in his wartime government. Some of his advice was good, some bad. As his colleague, Sir George Paget Thomson, said of him, "He was better as critic than as creator."*

1 In 1931 Churchill was hit by a taxi on Fifth Avenue in New York and taken to a hospital. From there he sent a cable to Lindemann asking him to calculate the shock, to a stationary body weighing two hundred pounds, of a car weighing 2,400 pounds traveling between thirty and thirty-five miles an hour. He also asked the professor to bear in mind that the brakes did not operate before he was hit by the car and that he had been "carried forward on the cowcatcher" until he dropped off, adding that the information "must be impressive." Lindemann soon sent the following reply, "Collision equivalent falling thirty feet on pavement. Equal six thousand foot pounds energy. Equivalent stopping ten-pound brick dropped six hundred feet or two charges buckshot pointblank range. Rate inversely proportional thickness cushion surrounding skeleton and give of frame. If assume average one inch your body transferred during impact at rate eight thousand horsepower. Congratulations on preparing suitable cushion and skill in bump."



LISTER, Joseph, 1st Baron Lister (1827-1912), *British surgeon. Influenced by the work of Pasteur, he used carbolic acid as an antiseptic in surgery and greatly reduced the incidence of infection.*

1 Lister was once summoned to attend a rich lord who had a fishbone stuck in his throat. Dextrously the great surgeon removed the bone. Overcome with gratitude, the patient

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# A Festival at Ford's

March 16, 1990

## 1990 GALA

Mrs. George Bush  
Honorary Chairman

Mrs. Ernest F. Hollings  
Mrs. Alan K. Simpson  
General Chairmen

Mrs. Charles Wick  
Gala Chairman

Mrs. Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Mrs. Paul Laxalt  
Mrs. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.  
Mrs. Jim Wright  
Past Chairmen

Ms. Frankie Hewitt  
Executive Producer

Dear Curt:

The attached statement sums up what Ford's is all about. It will appear in the program Sunday, March 25. These nationally televised galas, which began the night the restored Theatre reopened in 1968, provide the basic financial support which keeps this national historic site open as a living theatre.

Hopefully, President Bush will thank the cast and financial contributors for keeping up this tradition of private support for an important public institution. He might also want to recognize our Co-Chairs...Mrs. Alan Simpson (Ann), Mrs. Ernest Hollings (Peatsy) and Mrs. Charles Wick (Mary Jane), who will all be seated in the front row with him and Mrs. Bush. Since I created the first gala twenty-two years ago and have been the guiding force at Ford's ever since, a mention of me will make my job easier.

This will be the first gala televised by Turner Broadcasting and Ted Turner will be in the audience. The show will be aired on July 4th, so a little patriotic flavor seems called for.

I am working at home this morning (933-2669) if you need any additional information. If you don't reach me here, the office number is 638-2941.

Much thanks for your help.

Regards,

  
Frankie Hewitt  
Executive Producer

Mr. Curt Smith  
President's Speech  
Writing Office  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

(4)

## A SALUTE TO THE HUMAN SPIRIT

This April 14th will mark the 125th Anniversary since President Abraham Lincoln was struck down by an assassin while watching a play at Ford's Theatre. For 103 years thereafter, this theatre stood as a dark, forlorn reminder of that one mad act.

Then, on January 30, 1968, a beautifully restored Ford's Theatre reopened with our first all-star nationally televised gala. That night Ford's was dedicated as a living memorial to Abraham Lincoln's love for the performing arts and it has enjoyed the warm, caring support of every President and First Lady since.

In memory of President Lincoln, the programming at Ford's Theatre has consistently saluted the triumph of the human spirit. This year, when the possibility of freedom shines in almost every corner of the globe, it seems particularly appropriate that we rededicate this lovely building to Mister Lincoln's magnificent spirit.

PERFORMERS FOR "A FESTIVAL AT FORD'S"

- Valerie Harper.....(host)
- Co-Host.....(yet to be recruited)
- Crystal Gayle.....(country)
- Gary Morris.....(opera and country)
- Roy Clark.....(country and instrumental)
- Vic Damone.....(pop)
- Tanya Tucker.....(country)
- Diane Schur.....(jazz)
- Tony Bennett.....(pop)
- Queen Esther Marrow.....(Broadway-gospel)
- Jim Morris.....(Impressionist)
- Jeff McBride.....(magician)
- Dick Capri.....(comedy)
- Jake Johannsen.....(comedy)
- Kristopher.....(novelty dancer)

ON BARBARA'S BEHALF, TOO, LET ME THANK YOU FOR A  
STAR-SPANGLED PROGRAM. //

TONIGHT, WE SALUTE THE FOURTH OF JULY -- FREEDOM'S  
STAR-SPANGLED BIRTHDAY. A DAY JOHN ADAMS SAID SHOULD  
BE MARKED "WITH POMP AND PARADE FROM ONE END OF THIS  
CONTINENT TO ANOTHER, FROM THIS TIME FORWARD EVERMORE."

WELL, THROUGH THE TECHNOLOGY OF TELEVISION, THIS  
SHOW HAS INDEED BEEN SEEN ACROSS THE CONTINENT. //

- 2 -

JUST AS EXACTLY 125 YEARS AGO, ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST  
FAMOUS INAUGURAL ADDRESSES ECHOED ACROSS A CONTINENT  
TORN IN TWO. //

I REFER TO LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURAL THAT URGED  
"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL." ONE  
CANNOT FORGET THOSE WORDS. // NOR CAN ONE FORGET THAT  
TERRIBLE DAY LINCOLN LOST HIS LIFE IN THIS THEATER. //  
BUT WE ARE ALSO REMINDED OF A HAPPIER FACT ABOUT THE  
GREAT EMANCIPATOR -- THAT HE LOVED ENTERTAINMENT.

IT WAS ENTERTAINMENT, AFTER ALL, THAT OFTEN BROUGHT HIM HERE. AND HOW HE WOULD HAVE ENJOYED THIS PROGRAM.

LINCOLN'S FRIENDS OFTEN TOLD OF A PRESIDENT WHO CHERISHED MUSIC. ((BELIEVE ME, I KNOW HOW HE FELT. YOU KNOW, I HAVE TWO HOTLINES IN THE OVAL OFFICE: ONE IS A DIRECT HOTLINE TO MOSCOW. // THE OTHER IS A DIRECT HOTLINE TO NASHVILLE TO KEEP ME UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST COUNTRY AND WESTERN HITS.)) //

WE WON'T SOON FORGET TONIGHT'S MUSIC -- COUNTRY AND OTHERWISE. NOR ITS HUMOR -- THAT, TOO, LINCOLN WOULD HAVE APPRECIATED. ONCE, HE OBSERVED THAT IF HE COULDN'T TELL STORIES, HE FELT HIS HEART WOULD BREAK. // LIKE A STORY HE WAS FOND OF -- AND WHICH CIRCULATED DURING THE CIVIL WAR. //

TWO LADIES WERE DISCUSSING THE MERITS OF LINCOLN AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERACY, JEFFERSON DAVIS.

THE FIRST SAID, "I THINK JEFFERSON WILL SUCCEED BECAUSE HE IS A PRAYING MAN." THE SECOND ANSWERED, "BUT SO IS ABRAHAM A PRAYING MAN." // "YES," REPLIED THE FIRST LADY, "BUT THE LORD WILL THINK ABRAHAM IS JOKING." //

LINCOLN WOULD HAVE LOVED THIS EVENING'S COMEDY: IT'S PRODUCED MORE LAUGHS THAN MY LAST FISHING TRIP. // INDEED, ALL OF YOU HAVE SHOWN WHY FORD'S THEATER IS A NATIONAL TREASURE.

AND WHY AMERICA HAS MARVELED AT ITS NATIONALLY TELEVISED GALAS SINCE THE RESTORED THEATER REOPENED IN 1968. EVENTS WHICH PROVIDE THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO KEEP FORD'S OPEN AS A LIVING THEATER.

LET ME ESPECIALLY THANK THOSE WHO MADE THIS PROGRAM POSSIBLE. THE PERFORMERS, OF COURSE. EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FRANKIE HEWITT. TONIGHT'S CHAIRWOMEN -- ANN SIMPSON, PEATSY HOLLINGS, AND MARY JANE WICK. // AND, YES, ITS HONORARY CHAIRWOMAN -- THE LADY AT MY SIDE.

- 7 -

ALL OF THEM -- AND YOU LISTENING AT HOME -- ARE INHERITORS OF LINCOLN'S LOVE OF THE PERFORMING ARTS. AND HIS ABIDING BELIEF IN THE TRIUMPH OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT. // THIS EVENING'S PROGRAMMING EMBODIES THAT BELIEF. AND THE FREEDOM IT HAS CARRIED TO EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD.

FOR EVERY PERSON WHO CHERISHES FREEDOM, LET ME THANK YOU FOR THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM. GOD BLESS OUR BELOVED LAND -- THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

# # #

ALL-STAR GALA / FORD'S THEATER  
SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1990 / 9:40 P.M.

THANK YOU, VALERIE. ON BARBARA'S BEHALF, TOO, LET ME THANK YOU FOR A STAR-SPANGLED PROGRAM. //

TONIGHT, WE SALUTE THE FOURTH OF JULY -- FREEDOM'S STAR-SPANGLED BIRTHDAY. A DAY JOHN ADAMS SAID SHOULD BE MARKED "WITH POMP AND PARADE FROM ONE END OF THIS CONTINENT TO ANOTHER, FROM THIS TIME FORWARD EVERMORE."

WELL, THROUGH THE TECHNOLOGY OF TELEVISION, THIS SHOW HAS INDEED BEEN SEEN ACROSS THE CONTINENT. //

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- 2 -

JUST AS EXACTLY 125 YEARS AGO, ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS INAUGURAL ADDRESSES ECHOED ACROSS A CONTINENT TORN IN TWO. //

I REFER TO LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURAL THAT URGED "WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL." ONE CANNOT FORGET THOSE WORDS. // NOR CAN ONE FORGET THAT TERRIBLE DAY LINCOLN WAS SHOT IN THIS THEATER. // BUT WE ARE ALSO REMINDED OF A HAPPIER FACT ABOUT THE GREAT EMANCIPATOR -- THAT HE LOVED ENTERTAINMENT.

3/17/70

Ford's Theatre  
(Conversation w/ Gordon Jones)

Start the program

Take seats

Intermission - Champagne @ their seats

After. Star introduces POTUS

All stars standing behind him

Turns & shakes all of the stars hands

Mrs B walks up w/ POTUS

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT  
FOR  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1990

EVENT:

Ford's Theatre Gala

DRESS:

Men - Black Tie  
Women - Cocktail Dress

CONTACT:

Office of Presidential Advance  
John G. Keller, Jr. - 202/456-7565

Trip Coordinator  
Barbara Jobe - 202/456-7565

ADVANCE:

Gordon James - LEAD  
Bobby Carr - PRESS  
Walter Burns - USSS  
John Stufflebeem - MIL. AIDE  
Steve Dill - WHCA

WEATHER:

Mid 60's

**BLACK  
TIE**

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. BUSH

FOR

WASHINGTON, D.C.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1990

7:20 pm

THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush depart White House en route Ford's Theatre.

MOTORCADE ASSIGNMENTS:

Lead

Spare

T. McBride  
Doctor

LIMO

THE PRESIDENT  
Mrs. Bush

Follow Up

Control

A. Card  
Mil. Aide

Support

M. Fitzwater  
J. Parmer  
Official Photographer  
Medic

Staff I

Staff Van

All Remaining Staff

Press Van I

J. Allison

Press Van II

(Drive Time: 5 Minutes)

7:25 pm

THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush arrive Ford's Theatre and proceed to Off-Stage Announcement Area.

Met By:

Ms. Frankie Hewit  
Executive Producer, Ford's Theatre

Miss Christina Cacciotti  
Valerie Harper's Daughter

7:27 pm

THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush arrive Off-Stage  
Announcement Area and hold briefly.

EVENT:

FORD'S THEATRE GALA

PRESS POOL

RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES

OFF-STAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

REMARKS

BLACK TIE

7:30 pm

THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush are announced into  
Theatre and proceed directly to Seats.

7:35 pm First Act

8:30 pm Intermission

9:00 pm Second Act

9:45 pm

THE PRESIDENT is introduced for Brief Remarks by  
Ms. Valerie Harper, Gala Co-Host.

NOTE: THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush proceed  
on Stage at this time.

9:50 pm THE PRESIDENT gives Brief Remarks.

9:55 pm THE PRESIDENT concludes Brief Remarks and, with Mrs. Bush, begins participation in Greeting with Performers.

10:00 pm THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush conclude participation in Greeting, depart Stage and proceed to Holding Room.

10:03 pm THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush arrive Holding Room and hold briefly.

10:04 pm THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush depart Holding Room and proceed to Motorcade.

10:05 pm THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush board Motorcade and depart Ford's Theatre en route White House.

MOTORCADE ASSIGNMENTS:

Same as on Arrival.

(Drive Time: 5 Minutes)

10:10 pm THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Bush arrive White House.

Stopped

(Smith/Blessey)  
3 P.M.  
March 19, 1990  
ALL-STAR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ALL-STAR GALA  
FORD'S THEATRE  
SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1990

On Barbara's behalf, let me thank you for a Star-Spangled program. // Being surrounded by so many wonderful performers makes me realize a little how Ed Sullivan must have felt. //

*Festival of Ford's  
Leather* Tonight we salute the Fourth of July -- freedom's Star-Spangled birthday. A day John Adams said should be marked "with pomp and parade from one end of this continent to another, from this time forward evermore."

*Festival of Ford's  
Leather* Well, through the technology of television, this show has indeed been seen across the continent. And in a year which marks the 125th anniversary of the second Inaugural of Abraham Lincoln -- perhaps America's greatest freedom-fighter of all.

I have often talked of every President's kinship with the man who was shot in this theatre. For it was Lincoln who abolished slavery and saved the union. And who, incidentally, would have loved this program.

*Diaries of Lincoln's friends tell of a President who cherished music. ((Believe me, I know how he feels. You know, I have two hotlines in the Oval Office: One is a direct hotline to Moscow. // The other is a direct line to Nashville to keep me up to date on the latest country and western hits.)) //*

*Lincoln  
Curt*

list of stars performing

We won't soon forget tonight's music -- country and otherwise. Nor its humor -- that, too, Lincoln would have enjoyed. Once, he observed that if he couldn't tell stories, he felt his heart would break. // Like a story he was fond of -- and which circulated during the Civil War. //

Al Brown Book P. 358 & 359

Two ladies were discussing the merits of Lincoln and the president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis. The first said, "I think Jefferson will succeed because he is a praying man." The second answered, "But so is Abraham a praying man." // "Yes," replied the first lady, "but the Lord will think that Abraham is joking." //

list of stars performing

Abraham would have loved this evening's comedy: It's produced more laughs than at any time since my last fishing trip.

letter from Festival at Ford's

// Indeed, all of you have shown why Ford's Theatre is a national treasure. And why America has marveled at its nationally televised galas since the restored Theatre reopened in 1968. Events which provide the financial support which keeps it open as a living theatre.

This marks the first gala televised by Turner Broadcasting.

// Ted, thank you. // And let me especially thank its executive producer, Frankie Hewitt. And tonight's chairwomen -- Ann Simpson, Peatsy Hollings, and Mary Jane Wick. // And, yes, its honorary chairwoman -- the lady to my side. //

All of them -- and you listening at home -- are inheritors of Lincoln's love of the performing arts. And his abiding belief in the triumph of the human spirit. // This evening's

programming embodies that belief. And the freedom it has carried to every corner of the world.

For every person who cherishes freedom, let me thank you for this wonderful variety show. God bless you, and God bless our beloved land -- the United States of America.

# # #

# Ford's Theatre

511 Tenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004 202/638-2941

## FAX TRANSMITTAL FORM

TRANSMITTERS NAME FRANKIE HEWITT

RECEIVERS NAME Carl Smith

COMPANY WHITE HOUSE

DATE 3/16/90 TIME 1 P.M.

NUMBER OF PAGES (including transmittal form) 4

COMMENTS (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
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