

Orlando and Tampa, Florida, February 18, 1978

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DEDICATION OF WATER SCULPTURE - ORLANDO

MRS. CARTER'S REMARKS

I'M HAPPY TO BE HERE THIS AFTERNOON. ORLANDO IS A SPÉCIAL PLACE.

THIS IS WHERE I FIRST STARTED TO CAMPAIGN ON MY OWN -- RIGHT HERE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA.

IN FACT, THIS IS WHERE I FIRST LEARNED HOW MUCH WE GEORGIANS HAVE IN COMMON WITH YOU.

I HAVE TOLD THE STORY MANY TIMES.

I WAS REALLY A NERVOUS WRECK WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT STARTING TO CAMPAIGN FOR JIMMY ACROSS THIS COUNTRY.

BUT AFTER I CAME HOME, I WENT BACK AND TOLD HIM THAT YOU WERE JUST LIKE WE WERE BACK HOME!

YOU WERE WARM AND GENEROUS TO ME.

AND IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE WITH YOU AGAIN.

1.
Glad to be here -

Fla. special — first campaign — "just like we are"

Glad to be back.

warm & generous —
+ thank you
always special

Glad to be a part of this dedication

I think most of us grew up thinking govt. bldgs. were
dreary places.

Today we see just the opposite.

bldgs that please us — this beautiful
work of art.

Very interested in Jay Solomon's "Living Bldgs" program

because people need to be surrounded by beauty & pleasant environment.
It gives the spirit a lift.

I'm going to be very involved in ^{the} cities & neighborhoods this coming year & I've been meeting people — ^{particularly in Washington — model} over & over tell me
how imp. the environment is.

Just this week for instance: D.C. General - public hospital.

Not ill when he went into hospital — ill when he came out — ^{physically} unattractive

ERA CELEBRITY BALL - TAMPA, FLORIDA

MRS. CARTER'S REMARKS

AS MANY OF YOU MAY HAVE HEARD, JIMMY AND I HAVE A WORKING LUNCH ONCE A WEEK.

WE STARTED THIS QUITE SOME TIME AGO BECAUSE I HAD SO MUCH TO TELL HIM ABOUT MY VARIOUS PROJECTS ... AND WE JUST NEVER SEEMED TO HAVE TIME TO DISCUSS BUSINESS IN THE EVENING.

ON WEDNESDAY AT LUNCH HE ASKED ME ABOUT MY SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK, AND I TOLD HIM I WAS COMING TO FLORIDA.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE SAID?

"WELL, YOUR SCHEDULING OFFICE HAS A LOT MORE ON THE BALL THAN MINE -- I'LL BE IN THE SNOW IN MAINE ON SATURDAY!"

Working lunch — going over schedule —
Maine — Fla.

Celebrity Ball comm. raffling off a First Lady —

"Wallflower"
Glad to be here - enjoyed dancing

We have a critical job to do - Time is running out

We must get ERA ratified

Last wks v been discouraging - Cant give up -

And also, there are some imp. facts to consider

and another fact Va. 59% favor
Fla - last yr. 62%
won't change lives —

You know as well as I do how easily & often the real facts are
stories about my role as a woman - trip - obscured

THANK YOU FOR ASKING ME TO BE A PART OF THIS DEDICATION.

MOST OF US GREW UP THINKING THAT GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS WERE DREARY PLACES WITH LITTLE TO LIGHTEN THE HEART OR SPIRIT.

BUT HERE TODAY WE SEE EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE: BUILDINGS THAT PLEASE US; A WORK OF ART THAT CAPTURES OUR IMAGINATION.

WE NEED BEAUTY IN OUR DAILY LIVES.

EVERYONE NEEDS -- AND DESERVES -- A HUMANE ENVIRONMENT.

I AM SO INTERESTED IN JAY SOLOMON'S "LIVING BUILDINGS" PROGRAM BECAUSE A CORNERSTONE OF JIMMY'S URBAN POLICY IS TO MAKE OUR CITIES EXCITING PLACES TO LIVE.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE CREATIVE SPARK ALIVE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.

RIGHT NOW I AM SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO HELP FAN THAT SPARK IN MY NEW HOME TOWN.

BECAUSE WE LIVE IN A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD IN WASHINGTON, D.C., I AM STARTING RIGHT THERE. MOREOVER, I THINK OUR CAPITAL CITY SHOULD BE A MODEL FOR THE NATION -- FOR THE WORLD.

IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS I HAVE BEEN TALKING WITH WASHINGTON CITY OFFICIALS, GOVERNMENT LEADERS, BUSINESSMEN AND OTHERS WHO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR WORKING IN A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT WAYS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF OUR DAILY LIVES.

AND I HAVE BEEN TOLD, OVER AND OVER, HOW NECESSARY IT IS TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE ENVIRONMENTS IN WHICH WE LIVE AND WORK.

JUST THIS WEEK, FOR EXAMPLE, I MET WITH COMMISSIONERS OF OUR PUBLIC HOSPITAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

THIS IS A HUGE INSTITUTION CALLED D.C. GENERAL THAT WAS BUILT DURING THE CIVIL WAR, AND IT IS, AS THEY DESCRIBED IT TO ME, "THE LAST HOPE" FOR

THE INDIGENT IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL.

I WAS TOLD, QUITE FRANKLY, THAT IF A PATIENT DIDN'T FEEL ILL WHEN HE WENT TO THE HOSPITAL, HE WOULD AFTER HE SAW THE PHYSICALLY UNATTRACTIVE PUBLIC AREAS. ...UGLY ROOMS WITHOUT ANY SIGNS OF BEAUTY ... BATTLESHIP GRAY HALLS ... BARREN WAITING ROOMS THAT PLUNGE BOTH PATIENT AND FAMILY INTO DEPRESSION...A WORKING ENVIRONMENT THAT IS DEMEANING TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS.

I AM GOING OUT TO SEE ALL OF THIS FOR MYSELF IN A FEW DAYS.

I WANT TO HELP OUR CITY'S HOSPITAL BY CALLING FOR CREATIVE PLANS FROM OUR COMMUNITY TO BRIGHTEN UP THIS IMPORTANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION.

I KNOW WHAT A DIFFERENCE WE CAN MAKE WITH A LITTLE PAINT, WITH GOOD ART, WITH INTERESTING ARRANGEMENTS.

IT CAN BE A SHOWPLACE THAT REFLECTS OUR CONCERN FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR CITY.

Am going to see for myself

I want to help - Think what a different a little

paint — good art - Creative ideas & plans
just to brighten up the physical

~~Consider this beautiful water sculpture - what a~~

~~difference~~

CONSIDER THE IMPACT ON THIS NATION IF ALL OUR INSTITUTIONS REFLECTED
~~CONCERN FOR~~ ^{environment beauty & for} ~~CONCERN FOR~~ THE SPIRIT, ~~FOR~~ PEOPLE.

CONSIDER HOW YOUR OWN ENVIRONMENT HERE HAS BEEN ENHANCED BY THIS
SHINING WATER SCULPTURE.

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT CEREMONY.

~~THIS DEDICATION PROVES THAT THE MANY FACETS OF OUR LIVES CAN BE MERGED~~
IN ~~HARMONY.~~

^{days} I AM HAPPY TO SEE FLORIDA LEADING THE WAY IN WHAT I KNOW WILL BE AN
EVER-INCREASING TREND, A TREND THAT WAS BEGUN BY THOMAS JEFFERSON, ^{but that has been neglected in the past} THAT OF
BRINGING PUBLIC PLACES AND THE ARTS CLOSER TOGETHER.

Congratulate Jay
Geoffrey Naylor
People of Orlando

I'm going out to see for myself -

I want to help — what a difference a little paint
good art —

Consider the impact if ^{all} ~~not~~ our institutions, our bldgs -
considered the

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY'S PRESS SECRETARY

ERA Grand Celebrity Ball - Tampa, Florida

Rosalynn Carter's Remarks

As many of you may have heard, Jimmy and I have a working lunch once a week. We started this quite some time ago because I had so much to tell him about my various projects .. and we just never seemed to have time to discuss business in the evening.

On Wednesday at lunch he asked me about my schedule for the rest of the week, and I told him I was coming to Florida. Do you know what he said? "Well, your scheduling office has a lot more on the ball than mine -- I'll be in the snow in Maine on Saturday!"

I also told Jimmy the other day that the Celebrity Ball committee was thinking of raffling off dances with me tonight to raise money, and do you know what he said to that? "Good, that will keep you from being a wallflower!"

I'm sure there are some people who question the propriety of raffling off a First Lady. In fact, some of my staff wondered if it was a good idea. But we have a critical job to do. Time is running out. We must get the ERA ratified. I am willing to help in whatever way I can.

The last several weeks have been discouraging. But we cannot give up. It is important to consider the facts. In Virginia, for example, a poll taken in October showed that 59% of the people in the state supported ERA. And here in your own state, a survey last year indicated that 62% of the people were in favor of ratification.

You know as well as I do how easily and often the real facts are obscured. And it can be a problem for us. Take the recent stories about my role as a woman in a foreign country on the trip Jimmy and I took in January. It was a very special learning experience for me ... so many new people and new places and new ideas. But in one country a picture was taken of me walking several -- six, according to some sources -- steps behind my husband and the head of state who was welcoming us. And it was reported as a fact in the press that I had been asked to walk behind the men and had been denied my women's rights. Jimmy always precedes me in official welcoming ceremonies here and abroad. I was never asked to walk six steps behind. The facts were so distorted that my own commitment to equality was questioned. And I want to assure you tonight that I have another picture at the same ceremony which shows me turning around and looking back at this same head of state!

The facts are important. It's up to us to keep them straight. We must continue to educate those who are wavering or confused or ill-informed. As I said in Houston, when you think about the Equal Rights Amendment, think about yourselves. There is too much misinformation and misunderstanding about what ERA really means. And it is really so simple. The Equal Rights Amendment is affirmation that every woman can live and work and learn as she chooses.

I want to congratulate all of you who have come here -- and who are attending the other four balls across the state ... you are showing your support in a concrete, important way. At this critical point, it is essential to redouble our efforts for a final victory. We simply have to reach out to more people, organize more effectively, and elect legislators who will vote for the Equal Rights Amendment.

The Equal Rights Amendment is too important for us to allow it to be ignored, tabled or held up in committee. The legislators in states that still must ratify have a responsibility to bring this issue to a full floor vote and to let the will of the people be expressed.

EMBARGO: 2:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 18, 1978

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY'S PRESS SECRETARY

Dedication of Water Sculpture - Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse
Orlando, Florida

Rosalynn Carter's Remarks

I'm happy to be here this afternoon. Orlando is a special place. This is where I first started to campaign on my own -- right here in central Florida. In fact, this is where I first learned how much we Georgians have in common with you.

I have told the story many times. I was really a nervous wreck when I thought about starting to campaign for Jimmy across the country. But after I came here, I went back and told him that you were just like we were back home! You were warm and generous to me. And it is a great pleasure to be with you again.

Thank you for asking me to be a part of this dedication. Most of us grew up thinking that government buildings were dreary places with little to lighten the heart or spirit. But here today we see exactly the opposite: buildings that please us; a work of art that captures our imagination. We need beauty in our daily lives. Everyone needs -- and deserves -- a humane environment.

I am so interested in Jay Solomon's "living buildings" program because a cornerstone of Jimmy's urban policy is to make our cities exciting places to live. It is so important to keep the creative spark alive in our neighborhoods. Right now I am searching for ways to help fan that spark in my new home town. Because we live in a new neighborhood in Washington, D.C., I am starting right there. Moreover, I think our capital city should be a model for the nation -- for the world.

In the past few weeks I have been talking with Washington city officials, government leaders, businessmen and others who recognize the need for working in a variety of different ways to enhance the quality of our daily lives. And I have been told, over and over, how necessary it is to pay more attention to the environments in which we live and work.

Just this week, for example, I met with commissioners of our public hospital in Washington, D.C. This is a huge institution called D.C. General that was built during the civil war, and it is, as they described it to me, "the last hope" for the indigent in our nation's capital. I was told, quite frankly, that if a patient didn't feel ill when he went to the hospital, he would after he saw the physically unattractive public areas. ...Ugly rooms without any signs of beauty ... Battleship gray halls ... Barren waiting rooms that plunge both patient and family into depression ... a working environment that is demeaning to the medical professionals.

I am going out to see all of this for myself in a few days. I want to help our city's hospital by calling for creative plans from our community to brighten up this important public institution. I know what a difference we can make with a little paint, with good art, with interesting arrangements. It can be a showplace that reflects our concern for the most vulnerable in our city.

Consider the impact on this nation if all our institutions reflected concern for the spirit, for people. Consider how your own environment here has been enhanced by this shining water sculpture.

This is an important ceremony. This dedication proves that the many facets of our lives can be merged in harmony. I am happy to see Florida leading the way in what I know will be an ever-increasing trend, a trend that was begun by Thomas Jefferson: that of bringing public places and the arts closer together.

FEBRUARY 17, 1978

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FIRST LADY TO ATTEND FLORIDA EVENTS

First Lady Rosalynn Carter flies to Florida Saturday, February 18, for two events. She will dedicate a new water sculpture at the Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Orlando in the afternoon and appear as guest of honor that evening in Tampa at a ball being held to support passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

General Services Administrator Jay Solomon joins Mrs. Carter for the dedication of the water sculpture, which was purchased by GSA as part of the federal government's ongoing art-in-architecture program designed to enrich and enliven public buildings through inclusion of works of art.

The sculpture, entitled, "Artifact", is a 21-foot high stainless steel columnar form inspired by the columns of ancient Rome, according to artist Geoffrey Naylor. Naylor, a native of Gainesville, Florida, and now associate professor of sculpture at the University of Florida in Gainesville, was awarded a \$30,000 commission for the work in January 1977. The sculpture stands in a pool in front of the Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse.

GSA's art-in-architecture program grew from 1962 recommendations of the President's Ad Hoc Committee on Federal Office Space, which stated that art should be incorporated into the design of federal buildings where possible. Accordingly the GSA established a policy of allotting one-half of one per cent of a building's construction cost for works of art in federal buildings.

After the dedication, Mrs. Carter departs for Tampa, to attend one of the five "Grand Celebrity" balls being held throughout the state simultaneously to raise funds for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in Florida.

The balls are sponsored by a coalition of organizations including: The Coalition of Labor Union Women, the Florida Women's Political Caucus, Communications Workers of America, United Auto Workers, the American Civil Liberties Union and the AFL-CIO.

Locations for the balls are: Host Airport Hotel, Tampa; Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach; Dutch Inn, Lake Buena Vista, Orlando; Hilton Riverside Hotel, Jacksonville; and Hilton Hotel, Tallahassee. The events begin at 7:30 p.m. Admission charges are \$25 per couple and \$15 single.

-More-

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Celebrities appearing at the other balls include Special Assistant to the President Midge Costanza and Maureen Reagan, daughter of the former California Governor. Mrs. Carter will make brief remarks at the Tampa gathering, which is expected to number about 1,000.

The balls will honor legislators who have supported ERA passage in the state legislature, and funds raised will be used to help elect legislators who pledge support for the amendment in 1978 state office campaigns.

Mrs. Carter returns to Washington about 11:30 p.m. Saturday evening.

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AND IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE WITH YOU AGAIN.

-2-

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Sentinel Star

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Emmett Peter
Chief Editorial Writer

Orlando, Florida, Friday, February 3, 1978

Names . . . faces

This'll be dedicated by Mrs. Carter

Guess who's coming to town — and it's more than a month past Christmas for it to be Santa Claus. Rather, it's first lady Rosalynn Carter, who will visit Orlando for the first time Feb. 18 to dedicate the water sculpture in front of the new federal building on Hughey Avenue. The water sculpture, valued at \$30,000 and financed through a National Endowment for the Arts grant, was executed by Gainesville sculptor John Geoffrey Naylor. The evening of Feb. 18, the first lady will be elsewhere in the Sunshine State, attending the Equal Rights Amendment Grand Celebrity Ball at the Tampa Airport Host Hotel.

JSA

Steel sculpture lifts eyebrows, poses questions

By JUDY DOYLE

Sentinel Star Staff

Nine months of work, one eye operation and \$30,000 later, some observers around Orlando's federal building Monday asked, "Is that all there is?"

On Friday it was a simple, unobtrusive, circular fountain, half-filled with green stagnant water and surrounded by a short brick ledge in front of the federal building at 80 N. Hughey Ave.

Occasionally during the hot summer months, the pool bathed the overheated feet of children and the hands and faces of passers-by.

By Monday, however, the fountain had become the base of a big, shiny, silver monolith that caused heads to turn and people to talk.

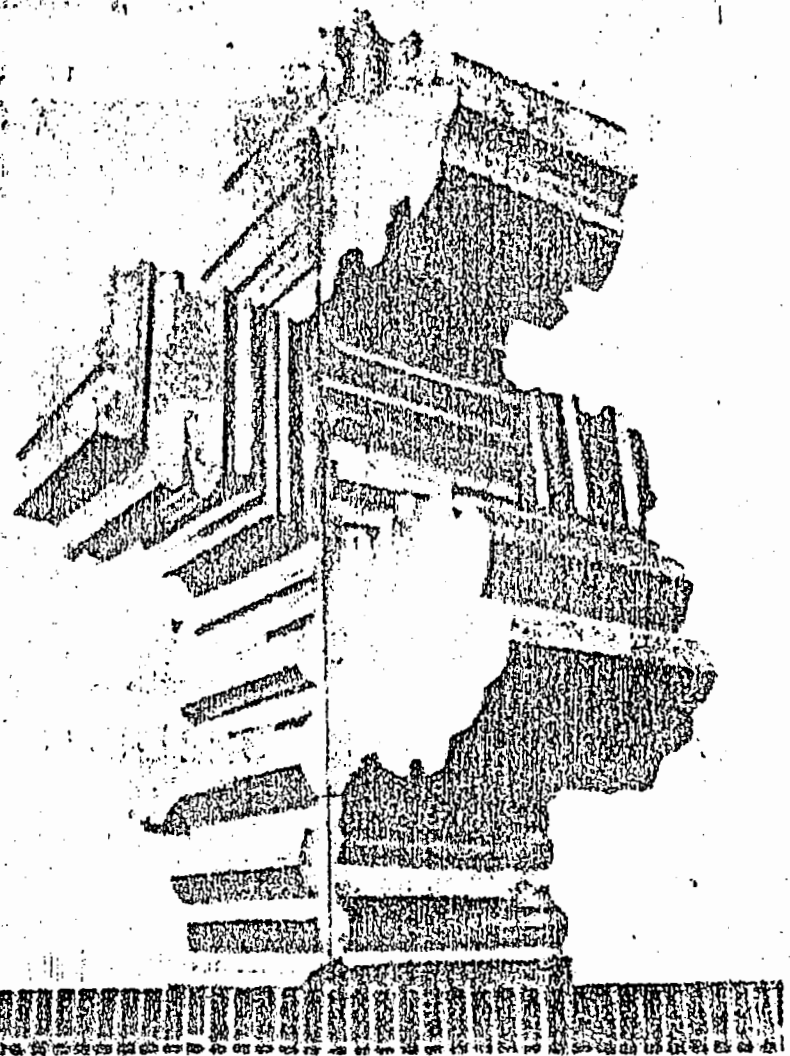
The new sculpture, scheduled to be dedicated by first lady Rosalyn Carter Feb. 18, captured attention from most passers-by but little acclaim from occupants of the six-story building, including U.S. District Judge George C. Young, chief judge of Florida's Middle District.

"I just don't understand it," Young said, sheepishly during a trial recess Monday. Earlier in the day he said he had called federal General Service Administration officials in Florida and Atlanta to inquire about spending \$30,000 in tax money for it.

A GSA official in Atlanta said he had no knowledge of Young calling his office. Young was reluctant to share with the Sentinel Star any criticism he might have of the sculpture.

A White House source indicated there had been a misunderstanding with Young when protocol was bypassed and Young did not learn of the sculpture or dedication until he read it in the newspaper.

The source said Young was misled by the slight and refused to



DH Phillips/Sentinel Star

**Steel in the abstract
... federal art causes comments**

participate in the dedication until he was contacted by officials later Monday. Another source said Young had merely objected to the cost of the sculpture to taxpayers.

Young said he was not a "great protester" of the sculpture and that he would participate in the dedication.

Sculpture, Page 3-C

Sculpture

From I-C

Others around the building weren't so reserved with their comments.

"It looks like a giant cookie cutter," said one observer. Another said it looked like the ragged edge of a key. "It's ugly meets ugly," one said referring to the sculpture and the federal building.

"It has one redeeming social value: it will keep the drunks from bathing in the fountain," said another. One woman thought it was the cover of the sculpture. Several building occupants asked, "What is it?" many expressing disapproval of the price.

One GSA official said the agency has come to expect a certain amount of "incomprehension" when it unveils its art in or around the country's federal buildings.

Officials note that the work of Picasso, Michelangelo, Renoir and Monet were often greeted with the same "incomprehension."

The GSA Art In Architecture Program allows architects of federal buildings to apply for a work of art for the building if it can be included as an integral part of the total design, said program director Donald Thalacker.

"Federal buildings should be more than steel and glass. They should represent humane environments . . . federal buildings should be exemplary to the community," Thalacker said.

The architects of Orlando's federal building in 1973 recommended a water sculpture as a finishing touch. A panel of arts experts selected Gainesville sculptor John Geoffrey Naylor's design from more than one hundred proposals submitted for the building.

Naylor, an art professor at the University of Florida, could not be reached for comment about his work, but Thalacker said the sculptor has done several water sculptures, some of which have been acquired by Joseph Hirshhorn of Washington's Hirshhorn Museum, the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York and the public library of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Naylor was expected to undergo minor surgery Monday to remove a sliver of stainless steel that had penetrated his eye during construction, Thalacker said.

The water sculpture is made of stainless steel and stands 21 feet tall.

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Consider the impact on this nation if all our institutions reflected concern for the spirit, for people. Consider how your own environment here has been enhanced by this shining water sculpture.

This is an important ceremony. This dedication proves that the many facets of our lives can be merged in harmony. I am happy to see Florida leading the way in what I know will be an ever-increasing trend, a trend that was begun by Thomas Jefferson: that of bringing public places and the arts closer together.

ERA CELEBRITY BALL - TAMPA, FLORIDA

MRS. CARTER'S REMARKS

AS MANY OF YOU MAY HAVE HEARD, JIMMY AND I HAVE A WORKING LUNCH ONCE A WEEK.

WE STARTED THIS QUITE SOME TIME AGO BECAUSE I HAD SO MUCH TO TELL HIM ABOUT MY VARIOUS PROJECTS ... AND WE JUST NEVER SEEMED TO HAVE TIME TO DISCUSS BUSINESS IN THE EVENING.

ON WEDNESDAY AT LUNCH HE ASKED ME ABOUT MY SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF THE WEEK, AND I TOLD HIM I WAS COMING TO FLORIDA.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE SAID?

"WELL, YOUR SCHEDULING OFFICE HAS A LOT MORE ON THE BALL THAN MINE -- I'LL BE IN THE SNOW IN MAINE ON SATURDAY!"

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I ALSO TOLD JIMMY THE OTHER DAY THAT THE CELEBRITY BALL COMMITTEE WAS THINKING OF RAFFLING OFF DANCES WITH ME TONIGHT TO RAISE MONEY, AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE SAID TO THAT?

"GOOD, THAT WILL KEEP YOU FROM BEING A WALLFLOWER!"

I'M SURE THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO QUESTION THE PROPRIETY OF RAFFLING OFF A FIRST LADY.

IN FACT, SOME OF MY STAFF WONDERED IF IT WAS A GOOD IDEA.

BUT WE HAVE A CRITICAL JOB TO DO.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT.

WE MUST GET THE ERA RATIFIED.

I AM WILLING TO HELP IN WHATEVER WAY I CAN.

THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS HAVE BEEN DISCOURAGING.

BUT WE CANNOT GIVE UP.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THE FACTS.

IN VIRGINIA, FOR EXAMPLE, A POLL TAKEN IN OCTOBER SHOWED THAT 59% OF THE PEOPLE IN THE STATE SUPPORTED ERA.

AND HERE IN YOUR OWN STATE, A SURVEY LAST YEAR INDICATED THAT 62% OF THE PEOPLE WERE IN FAVOR OF RATIFICATION.

YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO HOW EASILY AND OFTEN THE REAL FACTS ARE OBSURED.

AND IT CAN BE A PROBLEM FOR US.

TAKE THE RECENT STORIES ABOUT MY ROLE AS A WOMAN IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY ON THE TRIP JIMMY AND I TOOK IN JANUARY.

IT WAS A VERY SPECIAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ME ... SO MANY NEW PEOPLE AND NEW PLACES AND NEW IDEAS.

BUT IN ONE COUNTRY A PICTURE WAS TAKEN OF ME WALKING SEVERAL -- SIX, ACCORDING TO SOME SOURCES -- STEPS BEHIND MY HUSBAND AND THE HEAD OF STATE WHO WAS WELCOMING US. AND IT WAS REPORTED AS A FACT IN THE PRESS THAT I HAD BEEN ASKED TO WALK BEHIND THE MEN AND HAD BEEN DENIED MY WOMEN'S RIGHTS. JIMMY ALWAYS PRECEDES ME IN OFFICIAL WELCOMING CEREMONIES HERE AND ABROAD. I WAS NEVER ASKED TO WALK SIX STEPS BEHIND.

THE FACTS WERE SO DISTORTED THAT MY OWN COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY WAS QUESTIONED.

AND I WANT TO ASSURE YOU TONIGHT THAT I HAVE ANOTHER PICTURE AT THE SAME CEREMONY WHICH SHOWS ME TURNING AROUND AND LOOKING BACK AT THIS SAME HEAD OF STATE!

THE FACTS ARE IMPORTANT. IT'S UP TO US TO KEEP THEM STRAIGHT.

AS I SAID IN HOUSTON, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

THERE IS TOO MUCH MISINFORMATION AND MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHAT ERA REALLY MEANS.

AND IT IS REALLY SO SIMPLE.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IS AFFIRMATION THAT EVERY WOMAN CAN LIVE AND WORK AND LEARN AS SHE CHOOSES.

I WANT TO CONGRATULATE ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE COME HERE -- AND WHO ARE ATTENDING THE OTHER FOUR BALLS ACROSS THE STATE ... YOU ARE SHOWING YOUR SUPPORT IN A CONCRETE, IMPORTANT WAY. AT THIS CRITICAL POINT, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS FOR A FINAL VICTORY.

WE SIMPLY HAVE TO REACH OUT TO MORE PEOPLE, ORGANIZE MORE EFFECTIVELY AND ELECT LEGISLATORS WHO WILL VOTE FOR THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IS TOO IMPORTANT FOR US TO ALLOW IT TO BE IGNORED, TABLED OR HELD UP IN COMMITTEE.

THE LEGISLATORS IN STATES THAT STILL MUST RATIFY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING THIS ISSUE TO A FULL FLOOR VOTE AND TO LET THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE BE EXPRESSED.