

File copy

September 27, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR JODY POWELL

FROM: Al McDonald
Rick Hertzberg
Achsah Nesmith

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks:
Reception for National
Association of Women
Judges

Scheduled delivery:
Fri, Oct 3, 1 p.m.
Residence

Attached is a copy of the President's
remarks for this reception. Please
give your comments to Achsah Nesmith
(x6487) by COB on Monday, Sept 29.

*See comment on other memo
last page. I like it JHP*

I am proud of what I have been able to do in three-and-one half years -- and I am not through yet. We still have a full agenda before us, including passage of the Equal Rights Amendment so that every judge, male or female, will have a clear Constitutional standard to go by.

I know that some of you are hoping that I will promise today that, should the need arise for me to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court, I will appoint a woman. I cannot promise that. I can promise that women and members of minorities will be fully considered, but I will not rule out anyone -- male or female -- on the basis of sex, or race or religion or national origin. To do that would violate the principles we have fought so hard for, would violate the sacred trust placed in me as President, and I know that you, whose lives are full of critical decisions, understand that better than most.

I'd like this, but have you seen any of our women to see how it would be received? JFD