

DINNER HONORING THE APOLLO 11 ASTRONAUTS

CENTURY PLAZA HOTEL

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Wednesday, August 13, 1969

*Reagan must
speak
7:00 to 8:00 P.
RR at head table
too.*

The President:

At 7:50 p. m. you and your family will arrive at the Century Plaza Hotel by helicopter and will be escorted to the Presidential Suite where you will be joined by Vice President and Mrs. Agnew and the Apollo 11 Astronauts and their wives - Mr. and Mrs. (Janet) Neil Armstrong, Colonel and Mrs. (Joan) Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr. and Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. (Patricia) Michael Collins - at 8:00 p. m.

The dress is black tie with long dresses for the ladies.

With the exception of the First Lady, your family will be escorted downstairs to their tables in the Los Angeles Ballroom, and then at 8:25 p. m. you and Mrs. Nixon and the head table guests will be escorted downstairs to a door to the right side of the stage (when facing the audience). Ruffles and flourishes will be played by the Marine Band and then you will enter and pause for a photo opportunity. As "Hail to the Chief" is played, you will move to your left to your place at the Head Table which will be on the stage. You and your guests will remain standing at your places for a few moments for a second photo opportunity.

There will be approximately 1,600 guests in attendance who will have attended a reception in the California Foyer prior to the dinner.

Entertainment during dinner will be provided by the Marine Band, the Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the Air Force and Army Strolling Strings, and the Army Chorus.

PRESS NOTE: There will be live television coverage throughout the dinner.

As the dinner draws to a close, you will rise and deliver remarks which will conclude with a toast to the Apollo 11 Astronauts. You will then read the citation and ask each Astronaut to step forward in turn to receive his medal, giving him an opportunity to say a few words in acknowledgement. Your military aide will hand you the medal in each case.

At the conclusion of the medal presentation, the curtains on the stage behind you will open and the Army Chorus, which will be pre-positioned on risers, will sing two patriotic songs with the second being the "Star Spangled Banner". Everyone will rise.

You and your head table guests will then exit to "Hail to the Chief". After wishing the Astronauts and their wives and Vice President and Mrs. Agnew goodnight, you and Mrs. Nixon will be escorted to your helicopter where you will be joined by the rest of your family for the return to San Clemente.