



## *Barack Obama Presidential Library*

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### **Systematic Scanning Cover Sheet Per Folder**

**Collection:** Calligraphy Office, White House

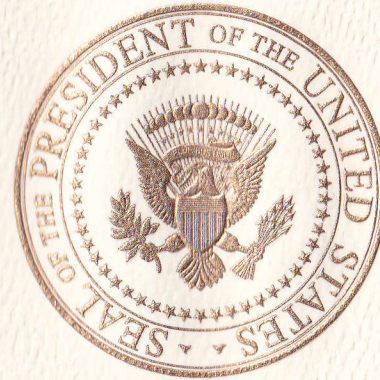
**Series:** General Files

**Container Number:** Legal Hollinger 72341

**Folder ID:** 381062

**Folder Title:** [Printed Materials - Program - WH Arrival  
Ceremony - XI Jinping, 09/25/2015]

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THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. OBAMA

welcome

*His Excellency*

**XI JINPING**

*President of the People's Republic of China*

and

**MADAME PENG LIYUAN**

**THE WHITE HOUSE**

*Friday, September 25, 2015*



## THE ARRIVAL CEREMONY

### *A Brief History*

Military arrival ceremonies for visiting foreign dignitaries are as old as the concept of an armed protective force. In today's well-ordered society, it is difficult to understand that visiting dignitaries in the past were not always afforded a unanimously popular welcome. Arrival ceremonies then served a more functional purpose. As late as the 17th century, a guard would be assigned to protect the visiting dignitary. It is likely that this protective force, commonly known as an honor guard, accompanied the dignitary wherever they went to assure their safety. Over the years these honor guards have come to be symbolic of honors accorded a visitor.

The modern arrival ceremony has since evolved. During the Truman administration, the visiting Chiefs of State and Heads of Government would be met at Washington National Airport with a military honor guard. The visitor would review the honor guard and President Truman would give remarks of welcome followed by the visitor's remarks. The President and his guests would then proceed to their vehicles and drive to Washington with a motorcade that would be met with a military escort of marching troops and bands.

For President Eisenhower's administration, the air terminal was changed to Andrews Air Force Base, but the tradition for the parade remained. The ceremony site was the West Grounds of the Washington Monument, and later the Ellipse. President Kennedy's administration brought the arrival ceremony to the South Lawn of the White House. The welcoming ceremony on the South Lawn provides a beautiful site for a warm and dignified welcome for the foreign visitor.



CUSTOMS OBSERVED  
DURING HONORS

It is customary for all present to stand when Honors are rendered. All those in uniform execute a military salute.



During the National Anthem of the People's Republic of China, Americans not in uniform should stand at attention. During the National Anthem of the United States, Americans not in uniform should stand at attention and place their right hand over their hearts. When a hat is worn by a gentleman, it is removed and held at the left shoulder, the right hand being over the heart.



At the conclusion of the ceremony, please remain in place on the South Lawn until The President and Mrs. Obama, His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China and Madame Peng Liyuan, the Official Delegation, the Welcoming Committee, and the Military Honor Guard have departed.



ARRIVAL CEREMONY

*The South Lawn*

HONORS:

*Ruffles and Flourishes*

*Hail to the Chief*

The President and Mrs. Obama  
greet

*His Excellency*

**Xi Jinping**

*President of the People's Republic of China*  
and

**Madame Peng Liyuan**

Introductions to the  
Official Welcoming Committee

21 Gun Salute

National Anthem of the People's Republic of China

National Anthem of the United States

Review of Troops

Musical Troop in Review

*Remarks by*

**President Obama**

*Remarks by*

**President Xi Jinping**

*Conclusion of Ceremony*

