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Rick Hutcheson
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON
August 11, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Welcome to the IMF/IBRD Annual Meetings

Last year you addressed the Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group. The meetings this year will be held in Washington during the week of September 25, raising the question whether you would like to address the group again.

I felt it particularly desirable for you to address the meetings during the first year of your Administration, to stress the importance you attach to the International Financial Institutions at the earliest major opportunity. That argument does not apply this year, and the question is one of your scheduling needs and preferences. The group will be composed of finance and economic ministers and central bank governors from 134 member countries, a highly influential audience in the international financial area. On the other hand, the meetings this year are not likely to be the right occasion for a major substantive address on international finance.

If you prefer, I could deliver a brief welcoming statement on your behalf at the opening session (such greetings have been delivered on behalf of Presidents at about one-third of past Annual Meetings), and we could consider a personal appearance by you at the time of the next Annual Meetings held in Washington (in 1980).

W. Michael Blumenthal

Will deliver greetings ________
Blumenthal should welcome on behalf ________