

C I T A T I O N
F O R
THELMA CATHERINE PATRICIA NIXON,
WIFE OF RICHARD MILHOUS NIXON,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Born in Ely, Nevada, United States of America,
of a mining family you have by dint of courage, strength
of character and fortitude of spirit excelled in all
you have set your hands to do. If today you stand in
a prized position, giving inspiration and support to all
women, offering comfort and joy to your husband and many
friends and pride and honour to your Country, it is
because from an early age you accepted every opportunity
as a unique challenge, turning adversity into triumphs,
lighting candles where there was darkness, bringing joy
where there was sorrow and providing a strong prop when
it was needed.

By this you have not only remained true to your
American heritage but by demonstrating vitality you have

become a living symbol of what the American dream can be.

At the early age of 18 you assumed the full responsibility of a household giving love and succour to your family.

Such onerous duties at a tender age are usually enough to mar the growth and warp the minds of many lacking that essential fibre in character. But in you they proved to be the mallet with which you fashioned a life of service, of great dedication and of high purpose.

A college education was your first ambition and you would not be denied that education even though the road toward that lofty goal moved through long hours of hard work to pay its cost, tedious travel and separation from familiar surroundings.

But, after graduating Cum laude from the University of Southern California, your life took on new meaning and greater hope when you accepted a teaching assignment at Whittier Union High School and met one Richard Milhous Nixon, a young lawyer. With him you laid the foundation for a happy home and family, and blessed the American people with a Nixon Administration.

On you President Nixon has always relied in his many political battles and many other varied activities; and you are admired and respected all over as a good wife and a good mother.

For me, as President of Liberia, your presence here is ample testimony of a warm friendship between our two families going back many years, and for Liberia and the Liberian people a most vivid reminder of the closeness of the ties between our two peoples.

It is for all these reasons that we today
hail and salute you, your husband and the great
American people, and honour you with this high
distinction of Grand Cordon in the Most Venerable
Order of Knighthood of the Pioneers of the Republic
of Liberia.

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JANUARY 3, 1971
MONROVIA, LIBERIA