



Herbert Hoover Library

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October 6, 2012

Set Momjian, A Man and His Collections at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum

West Branch, Iowa – On October 6 at 2:00 p.m. collector Set Momjian will be speaking at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum. Momjian is well known for having the largest collection of White House china outside of the White House. He has pieces from every Presidential collection – all of which he has acquired through a wide variety of means. Some of his White House China is currently on display at the Hoover Museum in the exhibit, *Dining with the President*.

Momjian began collecting china by accident in the 1950s when dealers included pieces of china along with the presidential letters and documents he was collecting. As his collection of porcelain pieces grew he came to appreciate the historical significance and beauty of each piece. Eventually he began to seek out the personal china patterns of first ladies as well.

Momjian isn't just a collector of items; he's a collector of stories. For each plate in his collection, Momjian has an intricate tale about its origin and the public's reaction. He has many colorful stories to share with the audience about his collections and his personal experiences with presidents and first ladies.

A retired Ford Motor Company executive, Momjian served as a representative to the United Nations under the Carter Administration. He served as Presidential Advisor to the past five administrations and enjoyed personal friendships with Presidents and First Ladies, starting with the Johnsons. He recently explained why presidential china is so fascinating to him and to others: "White House china shows the personal style of each First Lady and they are the only items that remain in the White House to give us a sense of their tastes and the times in which they lived."

Join us on Saturday, October 6 at 2:00 p.m. to listen to Set Momjian's stories and see pieces of his White House china collection. The conversation in the auditorium is free but regular admission will be charged to go through the museum galleries.

The Museum is open daily from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and located in West Branch, Iowa just ¼ mile off Interstate 80. For more information call 319-643-5301 or visit the website, www.hoover.archives.gov.

Photo – Set Momjian with pieces of his White House china collection. END

