

POOL REPORT

**Cleveland airport through Reception
June 6, 1976**

Departing Cleveland Hopkins Airport 5:17 pm, motorcade went without incident to Sheraton where demonstrators were stationed - you saw what he saw --

On steps to lobby, President spoke briefly with Julius Rickstins of Grand Rapids who said he has supported Ford since 1956 and was in Cleveland as cochairman of the National Council of Latvian-American Republicans... part of the Republican National Committee heritage organization. Said he told Ford of continued criticism of the Helsinki agreement among ethnic groups and that he has tried to stress support for Ford's record as opposed to judging him "on one issue." Said President told him "not to apologize for Helsinki."

After being cheered and applauded by large lobby crowd, President entered reception for GOP officials, several hundred jammed into hot, humid room off lobby. You heard piped in proceedings.

After speech, President went through middle of crowd, shaking hands and thanking supporters. Same for lobby crowd as he went to elevator at 6:07 pm.

George Embrey - Columbus Dispatch

#