

The original documents are located in Box 14, folder “4/19-22/76 - Texas (4)” of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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HITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Dr. Shultz:

My trip to Texas was most delightful and rewarding. I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to visit your lovely city, and the Bicentennial performance of the children at the Austin School was especially enjoyable. The album which you kindly presented is most impressive, and I shall always treasure it as a memento of the occasion. Many thanks!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Dr. Norma Shultz
President
Board of Trustees
Harlingen Consolidated Independent
School District
1409 East Harrison
Harlingen, Texas 78550



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Residence



THE WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Mayor Youker:

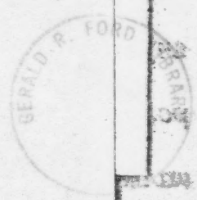
My trip to Texas was most delightful and enjoyable. I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to visit your lovely city, and your warm welcome made me feel right at home. The "Betty Ford Day" proclamation and the commemorative plaque you presented are cherished mementos of the occasion. Many thanks!

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Honorable R. D. Youker
Mayor of Harlingen
Harlingen, Texas 78550



Vertical text on the right margin, including "MAY 1976" and other faint markings.

WFO

THE WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Leon:

My trip to Beaumont was most delightful and enjoyable. The beautiful bouquet of yellow roses from you and your staff meant a great deal to me, and I want you to know how much I appreciate the other lovely arrangements you provided throughout my stay. Many, many thanks for all your special help!

With warmest wishes.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mr. Leon Richardson
c/o Arts and Flowers
321 13th
Nederland, Texas 77627



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RECEIVED
GIFT
GIFT
MEM/CF/Jan

May 12, 1976

Dear Jim,

Words simply cannot express what a truly great honor it was for me to be Grand Marshal of the 1976 River Parade. It was the highlight of my trip, and please accept my deep gratitude for making it such a special and memorable occasion.

The yellow roses you presented to me at the theater were absolutely gorgeous, and everything was just so perfect down to the last detail. My staff was unanimous in their praise of your excellent assistance in coordinating all the details. The success of this parade definitely reflected your hard work and enthusiastic effort.

Most meaningful, however, was the opportunity to get to know you and meet the many warm and wonderful people in San Antonio. I am especially grateful for this.

With hopes that our paths will cross again and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

Mr. James D. Folbre, Jr.
201 Ridgmont Avenue
San Antonio, Texas 78209



residence

WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Mayor Whetsel:

My trip to McAllen was most delightful and enjoyable. I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to visit your lovely city, and your warm welcome at the airport made me feel right at home. The plaque bearing the Seal of your City and the Certificate of Honorary Citizenship which you presented are cherished mementos of the occasion. Many thanks!

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Honorable Jack Whetsel
Mayor of McAllen
McAllen, Texas 78501



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THE WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Betty:

My trip to Austin could not have been more delightful and enjoyable! I am so pleased I had the opportunity to visit your lovely city, and the warm welcome I received at the President Ford Committee Reception made me feel right at home.

The Key to the City which you presented to me will serve as a meaningful memento of the occasion, and I shall cherish the Certificate of Honorary Citizenship as a token of the friendship I found in the capital of the Lone Star State.

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mrs. David Himmelblau
4609 Ridgeoak Road
Austin, Texas 78704



residence



THE WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Dr. Gray:

It was indeed a pleasure to meet you and to have the opportunity to visit Gladys City during my all-too-brief stay in Texas. Your warm welcome made me feel right at home, and the crystal plate depicting the famous Trost photograph of the Lucas Gusher is a cherished memento of the occasion. Many thanks for your graciousness.

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Dr. John E. Gray
President
Lamar University
Beaumont, Texas 77701



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Residence

WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Mr. Smith:

My trip to Texas was most delightful and enjoyable. I was so pleased that I had the opportunity to tour Gladys City, and your warm welcome made me feel right at home. The selection of impressive photographs which you kindly presented are treasured mementos of the occasion and of your gracious hospitality. Many thanks!

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Mr. Calvin B. Smith
Director
Lamar University Spindletop Museum
Post Office Box 10082
Beaumont, Texas 77710



Mr. C.
Director
Lamar University
Post Office
Beaumont

4/28/76

THE WHITE HOUSE

April 28, 1976

Dear Mayor Ritter:

My trip to Texas was most delightful and enjoyable. I am so pleased that I had the opportunity to visit your lovely city, and your warm welcome made me feel right at home. The "Betty Ford Day" proclamation and the Key to the City which you kindly presented are cherished mementos of the occasion. Many thanks!

With best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Betty Ford

Honorable Ken Ritter
Mayor of Beaumont
Beaumont, Texas 77701



GTI

APR 29 1976

4/21/76

Dear Mr. Ford,
Welcome to
Leeds!

We all love
you, break
"19" our
way more
often!



— Say hello to
the President for
us, we have our
votes. God Bless you,
At End, i. Lynn
Meyo



FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Mr. and Mrs. James L. Mayo
Route 4, Box 203B
Alvin, Texas 77511

To Laven and The Stranger -
Good numbers on you good buddies,
"First Mama"
R. Ford



USE

Mr. Jack Lewis, Jr.
509 Garraty Street
San Antonio, Texas 78209

To Jack Lewis, Jr.

With warm memories and very best wishes always,

Betty Ford





WHEATLEY, MR. SEAGAL
(delegate co-chairman, Texas (San Ant.)
Suite 620
711 Navarro
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Suggested inscription: To Seagal Wheatley
With Best Wishes and Appreciation,
Betty Ford



*To Seagal Wheatley
With best wishes and Appreciation,*

Betty Ford



**Bicentennial Celebration
Commemorating the 140th Anniversary
of the
Battle of San Jacinto
and the
28th Anniversary
of the
Presentation of the Battleship Texas
to the State of Texas**

**Under the Auspices of
The Battleship Texas Commission**

**San Jacinto Battleground Park
Wednesday, April 21, 1976, at 10:45 A.M.**

PROGRAM

Concert	Galena Park Junior High School Band Miss Beverly Finley, Director
Honor Guard at M.V. Sam Houston	Boy Scouts of America Sam Houston Area Council
Invocation	Mrs. Murray Ezzell, Commissioner, Battleship Texas and Past President General, D.R.T.
Battleship Honor Guard and Presentation of Colors	M. B. Smiley High School, Junior Naval R.O.T.C.
Pledge to U.S. Flag	Chief Robert Martin, USN (Ret.)
National Anthem	Quantico Marine Band United States Marine Corps CWO Ronald C. Biggs, Director
Pledge to Texas Flag	Joseph B. Hutchison Commissioner, Battleship Texas
Texas Our Texas	Marine Band
Welcome and Introductions	Rear Admiral C. H. Taylor, USNR (Ret.) Chairman, Battleship Texas
Welcome	Mr. Larry W. Hays, President San Jacinto Chapter, S.R.T.
Welcome	Mrs. Charles Klanke, President San Jacinto Chapter, D.R.T.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last
gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through
the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly
streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the
Republic for which it stands; one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and
justice for all.

TEXAS, OUR TEXAS

Texas, our Texas!

All hail the mighty State!

Texas, our Texas!

So wonderful, so great!

Boldest and grandest,

Withstanding ev'ry test;

O Empire, wide and glorious,

You stand supremely blest.

Chorus:

God bless, you Texas!

And keep you brave and strong,

That you may grow in pow'r and worth

Thru-out the ages long.



PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

Honor the Texas Flag

We pledge our loyalty to thee,

Texas, one and indivisible.

PROGRAM

Sam Houston Trail B.S.A.

Mrs. Mack J. Webb,
Commissioner, Battleship Texas

Presentation of S.R.T. Brown
Essay Scholarships

Mr. George R. Brown and
Commissioner Frank E. Tritico,
Program, and Awards Chairman

Presentation

Hon. Mark White
Secretary of State

Response

Mrs. Betty Ford

Concert

Marine Band

Introduction of Speaker

Chairman Taylor

Principal Address

Rear Admiral Philip C. Koelsch, USNR
Commander, Readiness Command, Houston

Thanks and Acknowledgments

Chairman Taylor

Special Acknowledgment

Ralph F. Block
Commissioner, Battleship Texas

Memorial Bell Service and Taps for Cruiser Houston and Submariners
Ceremonial Detail, District Four, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Benediction

Rev. Msgr. Anton J. Frank
Chaplain, San Jacinto Chapter, S.R.T.

STATE OF TEXAS

Governor
Lieutenant Governor

Dolph Briscoe, Jr.
William P. Hobby, Jr.

BATTLESHIP TEXAS COMMISSION

RAdm. C. H. Taylor, USNR (Ret.)
Robert N. Aylin, Sr.
Ralph F. Block
Mrs. Murray Ezzell
Jos. B. Hutchison
Joe L. Matthews
T. C. Selman
Frank E. Tritico
Mrs. Mack J. Webb

Chairman
Houston
Houston
Port Neches
Tyler
Fort Worth
Freeport
Houston
El Campo

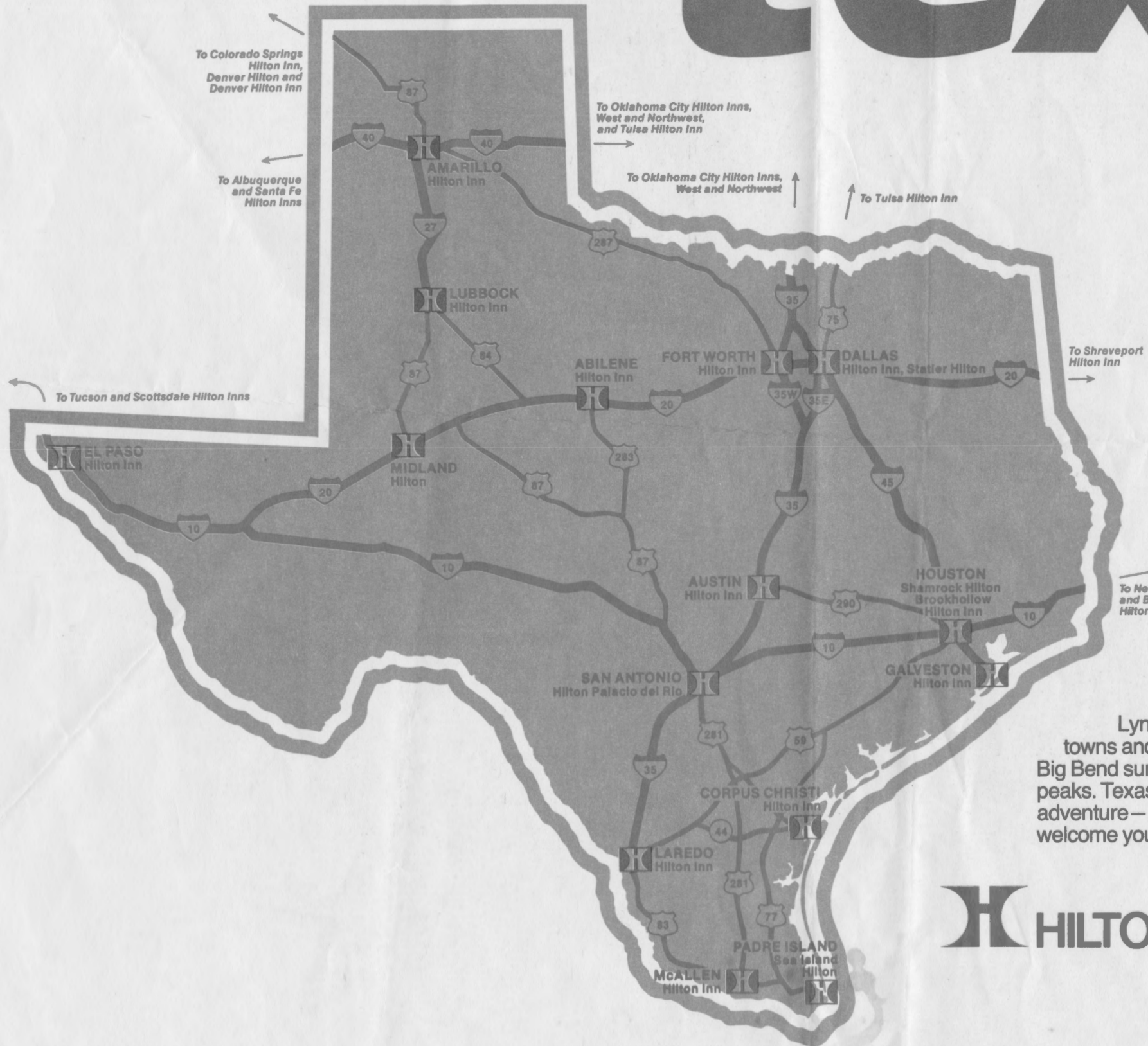
The Battleship Texas was presented to the State of Texas by the United States in appropriate ceremonies San Jacinto Day, April 21, 1948. The veteran of two World Wars was returned by two native sons, Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, and Assistant Secretary of the Navy Mark Edwin Andrews, and through the efforts of many Texans, prominent among which were Joseph B. Hutchison, Lloyd J. Gregory, George R. Brown and the late Herman Brown and Jesse H. Jones, to a proud and grateful state.

It has stood for twenty-eight years on the Battleground where Texas won its Independence, and joined the Family of Nations — and ten years later added the 28th star to that constellation of freedom in Old Glory when it became a State in the United States.

While the towering San Jacinto Monument honors the heroes who won the sixteenth most decisive battle in the history of the world, the Battleship honors the men and women not only of the Navy but of all United States Military Forces and recalls for countless school children and visitors the American Spirit which achieved and maintained the independence of the United States for these two hundred years.

The Battleship is maintained through admissions alone and the Commission wishes to thank all who have contributed to make possible this Shrine of Freedom.

texas



one great
Hilton adventure
after another

Early Spanish explorers called this land "tejas" after the Caddo Indian term for friendly. And friendly it is! — just like the many Hilton hosts. Experience it now! See the citrus groves by the Rio Grande. Chase the Gulf surf. Marvel at the expanse of the northern high plains. Visit the oil fields. Listen to history's echoes at the Alamo and Spanish missions. Be charmed by the rugged Hill Country, its scenic lakes and the Texas "White House" of Lyndon Johnson. Enjoy picturesque towns and sophisticated cities. Let the Big Bend surprise you with its mountain peaks. Texas has thousands of miles of adventure — and 17 great Hiltons to welcome you home all along the way!

 **HILTON HOTELS AND INNS**



*This Certificate is presented to
The Students of*

in recognition of

*Your Special Efforts and Outstanding Participation
in Commemorating The History of our*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

during this Bicentennial Year.



Port Aransas proposed leasing 12 acre county park for a convention facility of about 350 persons. The question was turned over to the park board. County Judge Robert N. Cobb said that he was opposed to leasing of park land. "If anything we want more park land. I'm not even going to do anything else." The Department of the Interior might make any subsequent agreement between and another party. "And I'm sure we'll be in favor."

The park board has indicated they have no acreage in the immediate future. Cobb, the center would be concerned with the use of the city's occupancy tax. "It will be a concrete structure

again, guards only. A yellow heeled d after close. urb af- wd had

left, was Jerry A. Cook of Kingsville with a camera around his neck and his Golden Retriever puppy in his arms.

He was carrying with him a letter from Susan Ford, which said, "Please give Betsy a scratch on the ear for me."

Betsy Ross is a fourth

county commissioners for the tax office for their museum.

Goldston said present facilities at 426 S. Staples were overcrowded. He said the activity created by the museum could be a boost for the sagging condition of the downtown area.

Barnes said other groups had approached him about use of the facility. "Personal favor tearing it down and turning it into grass. It should have never been built there to begin with."

The commissioners agreed to consider the proposal and act on it later.

In other actions the court authorized the rental of 254 voting machines to the Nueces County Democratic party for the primary elections at \$16 a machine. It also authorized the board of managers of the Nueces County Hospital District to enter into a contract with Physicians and Surgeons General Hospital for psychological services.

From 1B

generation relative of Liberty, the Ford's dog. Cook said his wife wrote the Fords for Liberty's pedigree papers to find out if their dog, who recently gave birth to 10 puppies, was related to Liberty. He carried with him the pedigree papers to back up his claim.

But he didn't push hard enough to shake Mrs. Ford's hand and tell her about his dogs.

By waiting on the curb, Cook missed the traffic jam caused by nearly 3,000 persons who came to see Betty Ford. Also to miss it were the cleanup crew, hard at work after the crowd had gone.

night magistrate. "Crime doesn't stop at 5 p.m. and on weekends. And those arrested have the right to make bond. If someone goes berserk and needs to be committed to a hospital, the hospital can't take him without an order from a magistrate."

Reception

From 1B

Mrs. Ford finally joined the assemblage, with the strains of John Denver's "Rocky Mountain High" heralding her entrance, and immediately got down to work, shaking every hand in sight — a task that took her about a half hour.

Conversation consisted mostly of exchanges of pleasantries — either words of support for her husband ("I think he's doing a great job in Washington, and you let him know that.") or praise for her ("I admire you so much for speaking out the way you do.")

But Mrs. Ford seemed to take everything in stride, talking easily with people

and chatting animatedly before moving from one person to the next.

Mrs. Ford seemed to be enjoying herself, and she said so.

"I like getting out and meeting people very much," she said. "People are different everywhere. They're all different, and I really enjoy the opportunity to go out and talk with them."

She was then whisked away by a Secret Service man, and after posing for a number of snapshots, retreated to her room for a rest before heading off to the Padre-Staples Mall later in the evening.

Corpus Christi Briefs

ded was ar g Mon- tempo- om the James Queen, bout 6 pked at er \$5. A cal su-

permarket told police he saw McQueen putting bottles of aspirin and shoe polish into his pants pocket and walk out of the store without paying for the merchandise.

Avant said he suspended McQueen yesterday morning pending an investigation into the allegations.

McQueen, a patrolman

assigned to the police community relations unit, was released from jail on a personal recognizance bond about 50 minutes after the arrest.

On another matter yesterday, Avant said he indefinitely suspended Lt. W. L. Mynard from the force.

Mynard was arrested on a drunkenness charge two weeks ago. At the time of

the arrest, Mynard was serving a 30-day suspension.

Hurt in wreck

Geraldine Williams, 42, of 3237 S. Staples, was admitted to the intensive care unit at Memorial Medical Center last night after being injured in a wreck on South Padre Island Drive at the Humble Channel.

The woman was listed in undetermined condition after the 4:30 p.m. wreck.

Pleads guilty

Juan Jesus Luna, 21, has pleaded guilty to robbing the International Bank on Leopard on Feb. 18.

Luna, who listed two addresses, 1618 Mary and 302 Torreon, was arrested near the bank a few hours after it

was held up by a lone gunman. FBI agents arrested him when he approached a garbage can where the robber had stashed \$7,806 taken in the holdup.

U.S. Dist. Judge Owen Cox ordered probation officers to do a pre-sentence investigation on Luna, and he said he would set sentence on June 1.

Federal funds sold and secured under agreements to resell	
Other loans (Schedule A, item 6)	
Bank premises, furniture and fixtures	
Assets representing bank property	
Real estate owned other than mortgaged	
Other assets	
TOTAL ASSETS	
Demand deposits of individuals and corporations	
Time and savings deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations	
Deposits of United States Government	
Deposits of States and political subdivisions	
Deposits of commercial banks	
Certified and officers' checks	
TOTAL DEPOSITS	
(a) Total demand deposits	
(b) Total time and savings deposits	
Other liabilities	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	
RESERVES ON ASSETS	
Reserve for bad debt losses	
Reserve for losses on loans pursuant to Internal Revenue Code	
Other reserves on loans	
TOTAL RESERVES ON ASSETS	
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	
Equity capital, total (items 3B and 3C)	
Common stock-total par value	
(No. shares authorized)	
Surplus	
Undivided profits	
Reserve for contingencies and other purposes	
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	
TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	
Average of total deposits for 90 days ending with call date	
Average of total loans for 90 days ending with call date	
Steady letters of credit	
J. Gene R. Schade, Vice President	
solemnly (SWEAR AFFIRM) that the information on the reverse is true to my knowledge and belief.	
State of Texas, County of Nueces	
Sworn to and subscribed before me on this _____ day of _____, 1967	
and I hereby certify that I am a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, my commission expires June 1, 1968	

"First Mama's" CB License Causes Investigation

Continued from Pg. 1

license division.

Two days later, "First Mama" utilized a CB in a CB-equipped car at Madison, Wisc., belonging to William Grant, while standing outside the car, to speak enmasse to at least 240 loyal Michigan supporters, plus others on the channels, some distance from the guarded airport. (There was no moving convoy).

Complaints again flooded this nationwide CB newspaper office by angry CBers who claimed "First Mama":

1. Walked over all CBers on the channels with her solicitation for Ford's re-election.

2. Monopolized the channel for longer than the FCC regulation maximum of five minutes. (A violation of FCC regulations).

3. Used the CB to solicit support for her husband's bid for re-election to the Presidency. (Violation to solicit).

4. Did not use the courtesy to break the channel.

5. Failed to use her assigned call sign at the beginning of her transmission. (a violation).

6. Had falsified to the FCC that her special CB license was to be utilized to talk and control her convoy as it moved through the city. Instead, the special CB license was used to solicit support for President Ford to a mass of people who were not in moving cars, nor was she in a convoy.

7. That "First Mama" was misusing the CB to solicit and politically campaign (considered a violation).

8. That "First Mama" was given her quickie license by the FCC and allowed to solicit with the CB in violation because of her husband's presidential executive powers. He appoints the seven FCC commissioners and each serve for a 7-year period. They serve as FCC commissioners at the pleasure of the President.

Angry CBers' complaints spurred this nationwide newspaper into a national investigation, which eventually involved co-operation of many noted members of the news media, to help sort out fact from fiction, as well as the two CB news networks affiliated with this national newspaper becoming involved across the nation.

The investigation spread to Washington, D.C., Wisconsin and Michigan as the time-consuming job of interviewing the hundreds involved swung into gear.

Then, with the deluge of angry CBers' complaints upon the FCC that body announced April 13 that it was making temporary CB licenses available to all CBers, as of Friday, April 16, as the Associated Press put it, to reduce the sting of the National CB Truckers' News editor's charges that their readers complained of favoritism to Betty Ford while 1½ million CB applicants were forced to wait up to 16 weeks for their licenses.

The editor of National CB Truckers' News had stated that he, as well as other CB

publishers, were advised only days prior that no temporary CB permits could possibly be issued prior to September 2 because the details had not been worked out. These details would take at least three months more to iron out and implement because it would be necessary to secure and distribute printing for the new temporary CB licenses, or permits.

One thing is certain: The FCC so hastily instigated the nationwide 60-day temporary CB permit program for one reason or another, as printing of 30,000 copies of the new FCC Form 55-B was taking place April 14. There had been no prior start of printing of the required new forms until after the "First Mama" scandal hit, and the National CB Truckers' News commenced a national investigation into these matters.

The new FCC temporary CB permit program is effective Friday, April 16, when the FCC says dealers may commence issuing the new FCC form 55-B, which, when signed and mailed to the FCC with the required \$4.00 fee by individuals, would immediately give them their temporary license for 60 days and their call letters of K, plus one's first and last initial, and area zip code. Thus, John Doe of Independence, Kan., would have call letters KJD-67301.

By the end of the 60-day period, FCC says CBers should receive their permanent CB license and permanent call letters assigned to them.

This newspaper, the two nationwide CB news networks and various members of the press, have carefully investigated every aspect of the deluge of complaints finding some of the complaints valid and some of them erroneous.

It is to be noted that Mrs. Ford's press secretary, Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld, has co-operated 100% with the media as has the officials of the FCC to facilitate a hasty conclusion to this media investigation.



In Texas cities

Moms, kids lift 'First Momma'

By JEAN PREJEAN

First Lady Betty Ford turned the "First Momma" that she is Tuesday visiting with mothers and children in three cities while on the second of her 4-day Texas tour.

Mrs. Ford stayed overnight in San Antonio Monday and served as Grand Marshal of the San Antonio River Parade which drew over 100,000. It was the first time in the history of the parade that a First Lady had served as a grand marshal.

Tuesday morning before leaving the St. Anthony Hotel for a flight to McAllen the First Lady attended a morning reception. After the reception the First Lady stopped in the lobby of the hotel to admire a one-armed teddy bear.

"Dee" was clutched tightly by its mistress Beth Sisolack, 4, of Fort Worth. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sisolack.

"All four of my children had their favorites and they (the stuffed animals) all seemed pretty worn too," Mrs. Ford told Mary Beth's mother, Jane.

While in San Antonio Mrs. Ford also took time to visit the San Antonio Hansen quadruplets. The four girls, Darcy, Allison, Brooke and Claire, had invited the Fords to their first birthday Oct. 24.

More children were on the scene when Mrs. Ford arrived in McAllen for a 1-hour stay on her first stop of the day.

Besides a group of children dancing in Mexican costumes the First Lady was greeted at Miller International Airport by Tony Camanita, 11, who presented Mrs. Ford with a bouquet of pink roses, and Mark Wilder, 17, who gave her a sign reading "Keep a Dancer in the White House."

From McAllen the Ford party flew to Harlingen Tuesday afternoon for another 1-hour visit.

In Harlingen the emphasis on children continued.

The First Lady was greeted at the airport by Geraldo Rodriguez, 6, and Stephanie Blake, 7. Both children were sporting colonial outfits made by their mothers.

Later in the day Mrs. Ford kept a date with the children of Harlingen's Austin Elementary School. The children had invited the Fords to attend their Bicentennial festivities at the school.

After hearing third-grader Gail Gonzales' speech, "Be a Better American," the first lady told an audience of about 400 "most of us know in our hearts that we could do better."

Before leaving Harlingen for Corpus Christi, where she was to spend the night, Mrs. Ford talked briefly with 75 children, who were dressed in costumes representing the 38 presidents and their wives.

Only Franklin Roosevelt was missing. His mother said he was too sick to come.



Dallas News staff photo by David Woo.

Olivia Perry of Harlingen, Texas, receives a citation from First Lady Betty Ford noting the Bicentennial projects made by Harlingen students. The presentation occurred in Corpus Christi.

Moms, kids lift 'First Momma'

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Only Franklin Roosevelt was missing. His mother said he was too sick to come.



'First Momma' sounds warning for Smokies

Staff Special to The News

SAN ANTONIO — It's not too often you get a warning from the White House's First Lady, but Tuesday morning as she was escorted through town Betty Ford advised citizen band travelers, "Smokies are on my front door."

Mrs. Ford, who uses the call names "First Momma," "Momma" and "Native Dancer," was warning fellow cbers of her 5-man police motorcycle escort to San Antonio International Airport.

"All I could envision was a crowd of policemen on the lawn of 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.," chuckled Mrs. Ford.

The First Lady was recently granted a license to operate the citizen band unit given her by daughter, Susan.

Mrs. Ford was in the second day of her 4-day tour of Texas. She visited McAllen, Harlingen and Corpus Christi Tuesday.

After spending the night in Corpus Christi she will travel to Houston Wednesday where she will speak to the San Jacinto REACT Mobile Unit, a citizen band operators group.

Dallas Morning News
(4/21/76)

"First Mama" Probe

Continued from Pg. 7

that Mrs. Ford presented: "Please keep on talking for President Ford," was transmitted by "First Mama" to the mass assembly of at least 240 individuals some distance from the guarded airport.

5. CBers' complaints that "First Mama" walked over their transmissions is a hard issue to substantiate or disprove after some ten days elapsed time.

The White House has cooperated fully with this editor to furnish actual on-the-spot witnesses, who claim that Channel 2 was entirely vacant at the time and had been for at least 1/2 hour prior to "First Mama's" transmission.

Summary of this newspaper's findings:

"First Mama" did use the CB to solicit support for her husband's bid for re-election, a violation of FCC regulations, which states one may not solicit over the CB.

*"First Mama" did fail to break Channel 2, because of lack of knowledge, to press the button on her mike, the break never transmitted, even though witnesses testified she spoke the words break and her call letters, which were not transmitted because her mike was not keyed.

FCC issued the STA temporary CB license to "First Mama" in good faith, as it has to 9,531 others previously for special usages.

politicians attempting to utilize the CB to solicit support to their individual campaigns. I feel certain my plea to Mr. Jim McKinney, FCC Washington, D.C. to request of the FCC rules-making committee to quickly act, and provide additional FCC rules and regulations for bidding the usage of CB channels to solicit support for campaigns, will be acted upon.

The First Lady's violations will be reviewed by the FCC, this editor has been advised, which is their jurisdiction.

It is to be remembered that "First Mama's" press secretary was completely forward, sincere and honest, furnishing us complete facts, info, transcripts even where they show-

ed "First Mama" had committed violations, mostly of lack of knowledge operate the CB, etc.

This editor's stand is firm that "First Mama" solicit support for her husband's re-election over the CB as the White House transcript clearly shows.

As result of this national arousal of CBers, that I brought about point-of-view quicker temporary licenses from the FCC, I feel we all have gained much, and now I immediately use our CB radio legally, having our call letters and temporary authority to do so, until our permanent licenses and permits can be processed and presented to us.

In summary the investigation bared these facts:

1. Mrs. Betty Ford did secure her STA CB quickie license, and call letters from the FCC. But the call letters' number means 9,531 other CBers have previously received the same special CB license, such as Boy Scout groups and other individuals and groups in emergency needs. The Special Temporary Authority (STA) CB licenses were little known, and have been issued by the FCC for years (and can be issued in a day's time). But this still

doesn't augment the fact that "First Mama" secured her "STA" under the pretense to transmit to friends between vehicles in a moving convoy. Which she did not do. The vehicles and 240 supporters and other listeners were in mass vehicles not moving, and "First Mama" was standing at the door of a car belonging to William Grant, with her press secretary, Mr. Peter Secchia, and his wife, and secret service agents present, as she transmitted her prepared speech to the mass group some distance while an estimated 1 1/2 million CBers were made to wait 14 to 16 weeks.

2. "First Mama" failed to break Channel 2, or use her designated call letters, at the beginning of her transmission (is valid).

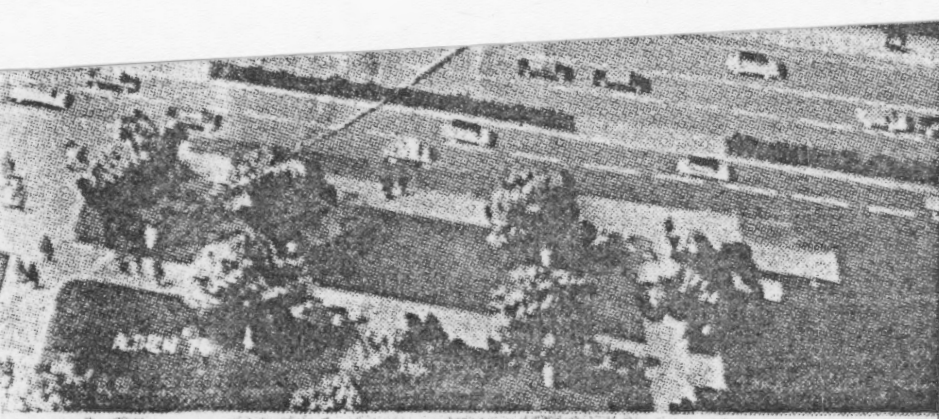
The reason for this was given by Mr. Peter Secchia of Michigan, who was present, who stated to this editor that "First Mama" was not familiar with a CB and its operation and issued her breaker, the designated call sign, before a man believed to be a secret agent told her she must push the button on the mike to

transmit. "First Mama" then continued her transmission, having omitted the breaker and call letters, before the mike was keyed.

It is felt by this newspaper investigating these CBers' complaints that the First Lady could have made an honest mistake because of lack of knowledge, in the operation of the radio, since it is believed she never transmitted before in her life.

3. CBers' complaints that "First Mama" transmitted more than the allowed five minutes is still augmented by CBers who have not substantiated their claims to this editor's satisfaction. I have personally reviewed the transcript of the prepared speech "First Mama" transmitted, which was presented to me by "First Mama's" press secretary in Washington D.C. and it couldn't have exceeded more than two minutes.

4. "First Mama" did use the CB to solicit support for her husband's bid for re-election over the CB in this editor's findings. A statement to quote from the transcript



riverfront park
n. The present
as part of the

overall program, is in the lower left of the drawing, connected to the coliseum-exhibition hall by a walkway. Inclusion of the walkway is still tentative, however, architects said.

'First Mama Has Smokies At Front Door'

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—First Mama, running with the hammer down on Interstate 35, spread the word—she had old Smokey Bear at her front door.

Translated from the slang of citizen band radio operators, First Lady Betty Ford was using her new radio as she motorcaded from a downtown hotel to the International Airport.

Marked police cars—called

Betty Ford was to accept Beaumont's Gladys City as a Bicentennial gift to the nation in ceremonies at 4 p.m. today at the reconstructed boomtown.

Accompanying Mrs. Ford on her Beaumont visit was to be Lou Tower, wife of Texas' Republican senator, John Tower.

"smokies" by CBers—led the way, red lights revolving brightly.

"I told them there were a lot of smokies at my front door," said Mrs. Ford after she arrived at the airport and displayed for newsmen her new CB radio, a gift from daughter Susan.

It was the First Lady's first chance to use the new radio and she chatted enthusiastically with anyone willing to talk to her.

"We thank you," she said after

being complimented on the sound of her radio by a CBER with the handle Starship Enterprise. "This is KUY9532, First Mama. Down and out.

Then she struck up a conversation with another citizens band radio enthusiast called Peg Leg Charlie.

"What be your 20 (location)?" asked Mrs. Ford.

"Yeah, First Mama, I'm over at this North Star Mall. Are you going out to the airport?" came back Peg Leg Charlie.

"10-4, good buddy. I'm going to the airport," said First Mama.

Mrs. Ford adopted her handle at the suggestion of comedian Flip Wilson and after an informal poll indicated it would be a good identification sign, she said.

"It's neat. It's really fun," Mrs. Ford, 58, told after posing for pictures with the radio mounted in her car.

As the motorcade roared into the airport and toward her waiting airplane, Mrs. Ford's voice again commanded the air:

"This is First Mama, KUY9532. Catch ya on the flip," she said.

Translated, it meant the First Lady would talk on her CB again the next time she came to San Antonio.

building. and \$2.5 million for the office

The council approved the plans, making way for local architects to begin work on construction documents for the two buildings which are part of the \$15.5 million complex to be located between Main Street and the Neches River across from the current city hall.

Dahl, who met with the council for more than two hours, said local architects have assured him the document work can be completed in four months. Impey said after bids are advertised for a month that would put the beginning of construction in October.

He said construction should take 18 to 20 months and that he expects the project to be completed in the second half of 1978.

Dahl met in the afternoon with Chamber of Commerce leaders and members of the steering committee of the Citizens Activities Program (CAP) which will finance the complex through bond revenues.

He said at both meetings the coliseum and office buildings are essentially unchanged from preliminary plans presented in December, 1975, to the council, but there are some adjustments.

The office building, which was originally planned to be 65,000 square feet, is now 56,700. At the same time, the coliseum, which in December was 102,000 square feet, has been increased to 112,000.

The coliseum has gained some seats in the change. December plans allowed for 5,049 persons to be seated for basketball games but now 5,600 persons can be seated.

Another change in the plans is a tunnel which would replace the elevated walkway originally planned to connect the plaza and the riverfront park, which are divided by railroad tracks. The plaza separates the coliseum and the office building.

Dahl said the cost of the walkway has proved too high and that the railroad required at least 21 feet of clearance above railroad cars for oversized loads. He said the requirement would mean a large number of steps on both sides of the walkway. An observation point, planned for the walkway, could be put in the park, he said.

The architect said the lighted tunnel would be about 30 feet long and could possibly be landscaped.

Entrance to the tunnel on the plaza side is by way of an amphitheater which Dahl said is actually only a series of concrete elevations with a small open space at the lowest point. He suggested the amphitheater be used by theater groups or for concerts.

Participants in the afternoon session with Dahl were concerned about lack of glass on the exterior of the coliseum, especially on the side facing the river. Walter Keneson said persons attending conventions wanted to be able to look out on the water as a diversion.

Dahl said that much of the glass in the original plans had to be done away with as an energy conservation measure and to reduce the cost of construction.

In addition decision makers had to

"Why should there be an
Vaca or Coastal would cease
W. G. SCHMIDT
Letters to the

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 1976

Want Ads 882-9401
Other Depts. 884-2011

44 Pages—Price 15 cents

3,000 greet Mrs. Ford in r *Handshaking, baby-kissing stroll only touches po*

By **STEVE BLOW**
Staff Writer

First Lady Betty Ford spent 50 minutes yesterday evening on a handshaking, baby-kissing walk through Padre-Staples Mall, with a brief stop midway through to urge the crowd to "vote for my particular candidate."

"I promised my husband I wouldn't talk about politics, but on Saturday, May 1, there is a primary. I hope you are going to vote, and I hope some of you are going to vote in the Republican primary," Mrs. Ford told the crowd, estimated by police at 3,000.

"I hope a lot of you are going to vote for my particular candidate — I call him Jerry — Gerald Ford," she said.

For the most part, she lived up to her promise to Jerry of no politics in the rambling, nine-minute talk, which included observations that "Corpus is unique," riding on a San Antonio Fiesta float was "sort of like fair-yl-land," and a wish that "your crops will do well this year."

Any uneasiness Mrs. Ford might have shown in filling up several minutes of "non-political" speech time, however, disappeared

as soon as she returned to per the throng of people.

Mrs. Ford moved easily along the line of people, she hand, unhesitatingly kissing up to her and politely explain have time to sign the innum per thrust out to her.

Less gracious Secret Sery rounded Mrs. Ford as she w line, brusquely pushing back in too closely.

See Mrs.

Ford pays \$94,569 in taxes

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ford paid a total of \$94,569 in federal income taxes for 1975 and received a refund check recently for more than \$11,631, his chief spokesman disclosed Tuesday.

Press Secretary Ron Nessen made public information on the income and taxes paid by the President and Mrs. Ford for 1975 and said:

"The President in doing this suggests all the candidates for president publish their records ... in as much



proceed — perhaps with the defendant telling his own story from the witness stand.

Wilkins, refusing to order federal officials to reveal what Miss Hearst told them about an April, 1975, bank robbery, said her statements in other jurisdictions would have no binding effect on the U.S. attorney here.

He said he had spent "some tortured hours" pondering the problem raised by Soliah's attorney, who

ney for the Eastern District of California — Dwayne Keyes.

He decided they cannot.

Thus, Wilkins said, even if Browning has taken statements from Miss Hearst which he believes and which contradict evidence presented in Soliah's trial, it is not necessary for Keyes to be affected.

Sheldon Otis, representing Soliah, claimed Keyes had ignored Miss Hearst's story of the bank rob-

details of the violent prosecutor Soliah was

Keyes' assistant prosecution did not feeling she was "try friend" in giving a s him.

The 22-year-old Miss two years, lived with

Lrs. Ford

s. Ford, dressed in a brilliant yellow dress, maintained her smiling smile throughout the evening. Mrs. Ford arrived at the mall just 8 p.m., more than 30 minutes

late. Mrs. John Tower accompanied her on the handshaking tour down the length of the mall and introduced her to the crowd at the podium in the center of the mall

Mrs. Ford, speaking from notes,

From 1A

axes

ree business expenses. Nessen said the Fords had a 1975 taxable income of \$204,605.83. This figure was \$76,000 higher than the complete one for a year earlier.

Nessen said the largest single item listed in the \$23,000 of business expenses was the cost of buying and mailing 35,000 Christmas cards.

White House spokesman said \$106,000 in federal taxes were withheld from the President's weekly paychecks last year, which left him with a refund of more than \$11,000.

Nessen said, however, that the Fords pay a small amount — perhaps more than \$200 — to cover Michigan income taxes that were not withheld.

Nessen reported that the family's net worth "has not changed materially" since Dec. 31. A net worth figure for the family was made public for that date.

Fords deducted charitable contributions of \$6,759.34 for 1975, up \$5,849 a year earlier.

Nessen said most of the contributions represented relatively small do-

nations to a large number of organizations such as the Boy Scouts and the American Red Cross.

The Fords' 1975 state, local and other taxes of \$11,942 was nearly double the 1974 level of \$5,985. The White House spokesman said the President's higher income largely accounted for that.

Interest and other deductions declined last year to \$1,087 from the 1974 total of \$2,726. Nessen said. He reported that the President had paid off or reduced a number of outstanding loans during the year.

The President claimed \$750 personal exemptions for himself and his wife and each of his four children, except son Steve. In 1974, Steve Ford was claimed as an exemption but Nessen said he was not eligible last year because he no longer was a full-time student.

Nessen said the family's tax returns were prepared by Ralph McBain, a certified public accountant of Grand Rapids, Mich., who has regularly handled their tax matters.

From 1A

ubber

URW went into the talks demanding an unlimited cost-of-living adjustment provision and an increase in hourly wages sufficient to bring the URW hourly average into line with the United Auto Workers pay and to match it there. The amount needed was estimated at \$1.65 in the first year and more over life of the contract. Company concern centered on separating tire and nontire worker pay as a step the URW insisted it wouldn't accept, and on work rule and

other operational and pay changes aimed at making nontire operations more competitive with those in smaller, nonunion companies.

The Big Four's last known offer proposed \$1.05 in hourly wage increases for tire workers over the life of the contract, 50 cents of it in the first year, 85 cents for nontire workers over three years; and a cost-of-living adjustment ranging from 5 to 10 cents an hour per year.

The union said at the outset it wanted an increase of \$2 an hour for skilled tradesmen such as electrical or machinists, plus improvements in pensions, supplemental unemployment benefits and other fringes in a total

opened her remarks, "You know, I've just been trying to figure out why it took me so long to find the State of Texas. I've been here two days and it's wonderful. I've been very impressed."

Borrowing from Will Rogers, she told the crowd, "I can honestly say I haven't met a Texan I haven't liked."

Her remarks included observations on Texas' varying terrain ("You can even see it from an airplane.") and on the Bicentennial ("You in Texas have done more to celebrate it than any state I've been in.")

Mrs. Ford moved steadily along the line of greeters, always smiling and exchanging simple pleasantries. "Hi — how are you? — So nice to meet you."

Only occasionally did she engage in momentary conversations, once with an elderly nun and once for a moment with a young boy who said he'd met her husband.

The crowd's comments ranged from "You're real, Betty" to "Tell the President I'd 'hello'."

One young girl told her enthusiastically, "Your husband was on NBC's Saturday Night." (The incident made a brief taped appearance on the late-night comedy show that day night. The show was hosted by White House Press Secretary Nessen.)

Another woman told Mrs. Ford, "You're husband is the luckiest man to have you."

At one point during the entire handshaking walk Mrs. Ford commented to no one in particular that it was encouraging.

Several flowers and other mementos were shoved into her hands, including a huge mug with "TEXAS Longhorn" emblazoned across it.

Mrs. Ford's appearance was marred by none of the minor blunders of her husband, however, indicate her less than perfect knowledge of the cattle business.

Just as she exited the back door of the mall, a girl offered her a raffle ticket for a Charolais cow.

A blank look crossed Mrs. Ford's face for a moment, then she replied, "I have three dogs."

Walters-

While Miss Walters offers, Reasoner is pondering do if Miss Walters accept position. Within his comment, Reasoner has made no secret pleasure with the plan to work with the co-star of the NBC show.

Reasoner said Tuesday would be "inappropriate" to discuss the matter except with officials, but he added, "I'd like to keep an open mind about it."

He conceded that he initially had intended to quit, but added that it "necessarily mean it."

"Nothing personal toward you," Reasoner said, "it's just I'd rather continue to do the job by myself."

But friends of Reasoner said that his expressed reservation about the attempt to hire away Miss Walters for the newscast was that "it was in the nature of a stunt rather than a solid journalistic move."

People close to the negotiations said that NBC's counteroffer matched that of ABC "about dollar for dollar" and that it carried a verbal assurance that if the network should ever decide to hire a new team, Miss Walters would receive "consideration."

Either contract would approximately double what Miss Walters now earns annually from NBC, plus from her syndicated series, "Not for Women Only." She recently decided to discontinue "Not for Women Only" because of its claims on her time.

Miss Walters, who refused to discuss the terms offered in either set of negotiations, said: "The offer is close in some respects, but it has never been an argument over

er been an argument over

er been an argument over

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ourt

Notes

St Lady Betty

Extra Dazzle Lights Parade

By TILI GIRON

It's always dazzling.

But now, the Fiesta River Parade dazzles even more, since it floated into the national limelight.

The First Lady of the Land, Mrs. Betty Ford, was the honorary grand marshal of the night-time river extravaganza.

Ninety thousand people lined the river banks to view the first lady and the 39 glamorous and resplendent floats in the parade Monday night.

"It's a great privilege to be here tonight and I can't think of a nicer place to start than right here in San Antonio with a river parade," Mrs. Ford said at the opening at the Arneson River Theater.

The Texas Cavaliers King Antonio LIV, Jack Lewis Jr., was another featured attraction.

"We hope you enjoy the parade and all of Fiesta week," Lewis said. "Viva Fiesta and let's get on with it."

The king rode in the first barge, decorated in brilliant splendor with four golden eagles with a shimmering red crown setting off the front of the float. The sides shimmered with white stars and red and golden garland.

The first lady followed in a yellow barge accompanied by one of the Texas Cavaliers, the group which annually sponsors the floating night pageantry.

The expectant hush, which seemed to have dominated the crowd as it waited in anticipation for the parade to begin, was unleashed with cheers and applause as the parade made its way along the river.

Most of the floats were decorated in various combinations of red, white and blue with the strains of musical groups echoing through the air.

The decorations ranged from a German beer garden to a float with missiles to one featuring children's story book characters.

The festive river bank crowd frequently jumped to catch the pieces of candy that the queens and attendants on floats would throw.



JACK LEWIS JR.
King Antonio LIV

Most of the time, the candy fell in the river, to the dismay of the children lining the fronts of the river bank.

Men cheered when the Playboy Bunny float, sponsored by the Bachelors Club of San Antonio, passed by with Playboy bunny Laura Miscl beautifying the float.

Capturing the grand-prize award was the "Mexican Market" float, which featured lovely senioritas on an orange and brown cart dancing to the music of mariachis. The rear of the float, sponsored by the San Antonio Mexican Chamber of Commerce, was adorned with an archway from which hung a pinata.

"El Rey Feo," former city manager Jerry Henckle, was the featured personality on the second place winning float, "Fiesta Del Rio," which was sponsored by Lulac Council No. 2.

And bringing the crowds to roars of cheers was the third place winner, "Happy Birthday America!" a decorated in various combinations of stars and strips highlighted by the presence of Councilman Al Rohde dressed in his Uncle Sam costume.

'First Float' Fit For a Queen

It was a float fit for a queen and First Lady Betty Ford was radiant as she perched upon her floating gold and yellow throne.

The float was not the grandest one in the parade. As a matter of fact, it was very simply decorated, as floats go, but it was designed to give the First Lady the greatest amount of exposure to the thousands of San Antonians lining the parade route.

Shining gold stars and sparkling gold streamers lined the edge of the barge and wound their way up to the top of a dainty little canopy that was

mounted above the First Lady's head.

A cushioned wrought iron seat allowed Mrs. Ford plenty of room to turn from side-to-side to wave to the crowds along the bank of the river.

And the crowd thoroughly enjoyed the attentions of the First Lady.

However, absent from the grand marshal's float was the protective shield the float was expected to contain. But a huge compliment of secret service agents and police officers patrolled the parade route and eyed closely the throngs lining the river to view the First Lady.

"People must be able to accept the hardships that accompany that freedom," Roberts said.

"We must be prepared to do the same (to cross that line,) not for glory or for history, but for the sake of our great nation."

"It is important to pass the attitudes of truth, justice and love of country on to younger generations."

"Our future is in the hands of those yet to be tested," he said.

'First Mama' Rides (Air) Waves

San Antonio CB'ers who had their ears on Tuesday morning could have heard from "First Mama" Betty Ford.

The First Lady, whose official call letters are KUY 9532, was trying out her brand new CB set on the streets of San Antonio after receiving the car unit as a gift from daughter Susan Ford.

Mrs. Ford is a recent CB enthusiast who has been using a borrowed radio since getting her FCC license. She uses the citizens' band for presidential campaigning as well as for fun.

The new unit was installed in the Secret Service car Mrs. Ford is using for her Texas visit.

The Alamo City Citizens Band Radio Club, meanwhile, was set up to welcome Mrs. Ford on sideband Channel 16. Phyllis Dyer (the Regal Eagle) of the local club said the group had given Mrs. Ford the Alamo Club number 1.

Water Words Boil

Hot words flew between Councilman Glen Hartman and Developer Cliff Morton during a City Council debate on the controversial Community Water Development Fund.

Hartman, who wants to see the fund abolished, told Morton that the fund is not revolving as it is supposed to revolve since there is presently \$3.2 million in the fund which originally stood at \$6 million.

Morton replied that if the fund were eliminated and developers were required to put up the front-end costs for approach mains then many developers would be bankrupted.

As a side remark, Morton said there are some countries which allow government to determine where growth will take place.

"Like Russia, for instance," Morton said.

"Planning is not confined to the Soviet Union, nor the People's Republic of China. It also takes place in Minneapolis, Minn.," Hartman said.

23
Still

By JAN JARI

In a confrontation-filled City Council decided to proposed contract for a supply source Guadalupe-Blanco River for at least 30 days.

During the 30-day council intends to re question of a surface source to augment Underground Res question has been a m for approximately 23 yr

The council meeting hall basically boiled square-off between Co Hartman, who seven-page report w that the G-BRA contr in favor of the river au San Antonio's needs fo may not be as immed presented by the City and Robert Van manager of the CWB, San Antonio will need by 1985 and that th supplied under the "best deal in town."

The council chamb capacity as repr Communities Organi Service (COPS) lined council to reject the c developers — includ and G.E. Harrington the council to pro contract.

Left unclear was Antonio would definit draw water from/C Dam in times of drou

Hartman pointed majeure" clause I contract which rel contract in the eve "acts of God," specifically lists drou God.

However, Van Dyk is "common" to su argued that the contr that in times of dr would be available.

"It has taken us 2 contract before you, "Our credibility is council has got to me you want surface wa

Bill
Ou

City Councilman lashed out at the ma council members "disproportionat decision-making"

Bill... Mayor Glen Hartman and I members of the co have the experien payroll" and yet wh deal of control of the "The complexity that face local gove evaluated by a represents all i community, includ interests," Bill... businessmen on the

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Mrs. Ford traffic stopper

By KAY STEWART
Staff Writer

Steve Graham, a construction worker, sat on a toy elephant in front of Dillard's department store at the Padre Staples Mall last night, waiting for Betty Ford. Standing toward the rear of the crowd with him was Adolf Skrobarczyk, 18, an auto mechanic.

They didn't care about Betty Ford's first visit to Texas, nor did they plan to vote for her husband in the May 1 Texas presidential primary, they said.

"We'll probably vote for Reagan," said 18-year-old Skrobarczyk.

"We just came down here to get a look at her. I like her. She's got spunk. But she's just a celebrity to me and that's why I came. I don't plan on chasing her or getting her autograph or anything like that. I just wanted to see what she had to say," said Graham, 19.

Moments later, both Graham and Skrobarczyk and hundreds of others, many of whom appeared nonchalant, calm, and indifferent, were huddling, shoving, pushing, trying the best they could to find their way to the tiny space security guards had allowed for Mrs. Ford to shake hands and pass out kisses to small children.

As Mrs. Ford and her entourage, led by Mrs. John Tower, wife of Sen. John Tower, R-Texas, made their way through the east-west wing of the mall, the crowd followed them closely, leaving behind few but the young men carrying brooms to sweep the floor.

Others had planned to talk with Betty Ford, shake her hand and have her kiss their children from the start.

One such Betty Ford admirer to surface in the crowd last night was Carole Blanton, who brought her three children, one of whom had been ill with a respiratory ailment since birth and rarely taken out of doors.

"We've had such phony first ladies in the past," said Mrs. Blanton. "That Jackie Kennedy, well, I don't know what to think of her and I read everything I see about her. Pat Nixon was very close-mouthed. I'm a Democrat who grew up in Boston, but Betty Ford is terrific. If he's half as good as she is, he's going to make it."

George Bolden, of Fort Worth, in an aggressive, sly and quick maneuver, made it to the front of the pack, carrying his small child on his shoulders.

"I told her I don't think she's controversial," he said. "I like what she's said publicly. What she said on TV about Susan having an affair was not demoralizing or derogatory. It's a big thrill to be here."

One elderly woman who shook the hand of the First Lady was not so convinced.

"I'm a little more old-fashioned," she said. "I admire Betty Ford, but I'm still not sure who I will vote for."

By the time Betty Ford had reached the podium at the center of the mall, the crowd was waiting at the front, back and both sides, rarely interrupting her apparently off-the-cuff remarks with loud applause or conversation.

When she had finished her speech and stepped down from the stage, the



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See People, page 2B



A balancing act for Buc parade

Watching Bob Finke at work this time of the year is like watching a high-wire artist.

The tightrope in his case could be his bond to sanity as Buccaneer Days activities move into gear. Finke, Buccaneer Commission manager, was answering two phones at a time when I dropped by. Problems come quicker and bigger as the events draw nearer.

His air conditioner was out and people across the way were wanting the carnival trucks moved out of the way. Promoters of a Coliseum event didn't want the carnival set up until today. A nearby church didn't want the heavy equipment to damage its



Bill
Walraven

out him. Police later helped his convertible catch up with his place in line.

Before 1956 the parade was never on time. Sometimes it was hours late. There was no planning and every float and band got into line at random. This resulted in traffic jams and so much disgust it was almost abandoned in the early 1950s before Tommy Al Schmid thought of the idea that saved it.

There will be some 5,000 people in this year's parade. It takes about 500 to put it on. Getting that many people in a line is a complicated process. Keeping them that way isn't simple, either, and involves wreckers for sick vehicles and first aid

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Betty was tardy but charming

By PETER APPLEBOME
Staff Writer

It was a clear case of better late than never yesterday as Betty Ford made the best of a slow start in her visit here.

Her plane touched down an hour and 20 minutes late, but that did not seem to bother a group of delighted Republicans at a Hilton Inn reception who apparently found the First Lady every bit as appealing as she is reputed to be.

The going word was "charming" which got about as much use as the only bucket around during a small-town fire.

"She's a very charming lady," said E. W. Schrader of Corpus Christi after chatting briefly with her at the invitation-only Hilton session.

"You bet she is," replied a voice from the crowd.

But charming or not, the First Lady's trip here did not exactly go like clockwork.

She was scheduled to arrive here at 3 p.m., but got slowed up at an earlier stop in the Valley, and didn't arrive here until 4:20, leaving a small crowd of admirers and at least as many security men to swelter in the sun.

The crowd numbered only about 40 persons, but neither the delay nor the sun seemed to dampen its enthusiasm prior to the First Lady's arrival.

"She's so honest and sincere, that's what I like best about her said Mrs. Victor Benys. "I think she appeals to the mother in all of us."

After a false alarm at 4:10 for a Braniff Airlines passenger plane, Mrs. Ford's presidential jet, with the "United States of America" written across the fuselage, the bicentennial seal to the right of the cockpit, and an American flag on the tail coasted down the runway. After a few military men, Secret Service men and press aides disembarked, the First lady appeared dressed in a long-sleeve lavender and white shirt-waist dress and black and white shoes.

She walked down the ramp, smiling and waving to the crowd, and then was immediately whisked away to the Hilton.

The people at the airport had evidently expected a little more.

"I'm a little disappointed," said Mrs. Benys, who waited for two hours and twenty minutes for about 45 seconds of viewing the First Lady.

But then she turned philosophical.

"I guess it was worth it. We country people enjoy anything."

Mrs. Ford was escorted to the Hilton, greeted by the hotel staff, and taken to room 1202, where her staff politely shooed away onlookers who got too close.

The center of interest then switched to hotel's Tramp Steamer Club, where the reception was to get underway.

Last week the hotel put together a lavish ice sculpture in the shape of an "R" to greet Ronald Reagan, but the staff outdid itself this time with a frosty "Ford" carved out of a 200 pound block of ice.

Unfortunately, due to the unexpected delay, the ice began melting by the time Mrs. Ford finally greeted her guests around 5:30, although it held up throughout the afternoon.

Greetings for 'First Mama'

Betty Ford, wife of the President, salutes a crowd estimated at 3,000 in Padre-Staples Mall last night. She spent more than 50 minutes shaking hands, admiring babies and urging the crowd to vote for her husband. Earlier in the day she attended an invitation-only reception. After an overnight stay here, she flies to Houston today.

Photos by George Tuley

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See Reception, page 2B

Land use

Panel rejects move to down-zone tracts near airport

By BARRY BOESCH
Staff Writer

The city Planning Commission rejected 5-1 last night a proposal originated by the planning staff to rezone almost 2,000 acres of land surrounding Corpus Christi International Airport to prevent residential encroachment on the facility.

Commissioner H. Doyle Little, who made the motion to deny the down-zoning of the 13 tracts of land, later said the city should be prepared to buy the land under the proposed expansion. Commissioner James Atwill, who seconded the motion, agreed.

Commission Chairman Charles Cartwright cast the only negative vote, saying he wanted to consider each tract separately.

Presently there is no bond money to purchase airport expansion land. The City Council has talked about setting a bond election. Planning Director Ernest Briones told the commission, but nothing is "firm."

Commissioner Nancy Bowen was about to move that the commission recommend the City Council include the funds in the next bond election to

to avoid situations similar to that of Dallas, which had to build a new airport because residential encroachment prevented expansion of its former facility.

The commission voted after hearing a parade of irate landowners and their representatives accuse the city of down-zoning the land to deliberately lower property values.

"There has been no development in the area in 20 years and there is none threatened," local attorney Hayden Head, whose wife owns 80 acres in the expansion area, told the commission. "The purpose of the staff proposal... is to depress land values... so the city can acquire land at less than its value."

"This is immoral," he added.

Attorney Dave Coover characterized the proposal as a "shameful use of zoning. It will either greatly devalue all the land or stagnate it."

Cartwright pointed out that the land Coover represented is outside the area the city is planning to buy. "What could be the motive in devaluing the land?" he asked.

"I can't figure that out," Coover replied.

Attorney Bill Geer went a little further. The pro-

Barnes left little doubt that he was opposed to leasing any amount of park land. "If anything we should be acquiring more park land. I'm not even sure we can use it for anything else."

Barnes said the Department of the Interior might have to approve any subsequent agreement between the county and another party. "And I'm sure they would not be in favor."

Cobb said the park board has indicated they have no plans for the acreage in the immediate future.

According to Cobb, the center would be constructed through the use of the city's occupancy tax and a bond issue. "It will be a concrete structure

Barnes said other groups had approached him about use of the facility. "Personal favor tearing it down and turning it into grass. It should have never been built there to begin with."

The commissioners agreed to consider the proposal and act on it later.

In other actions the court authorized the rental of 254 voting machines to the Nueces County Democratic party for the primary elections at \$16 a machine. It also authorized the board of managers of the Nueces County Hospital District to enter into a contract with Physicians and Surgeons General Hospital for psychological services.

Receptio

Mrs. Ford finally joined the assemblage, with the strains of John Denver's "Rocky Mountain High" heralding her entrance, and immediately got down to work, shaking every hand in sight — a task that took her about a half hour.

Conversation consisted mostly of exchanges of pleasantries — either words of support for her husband ("I think he's doing a great job in Washington, and you let him know that.") or praise for her ("I admire you so much for speaking out the way you do.")

But Mrs. Ford seemed to take everything in stride, talking easily with people

People

From 1B

crowd was with her again, as were the security guards who allowed visibility only directly in front of her.

As she got into a yellow Ford, the crowd cheered and finally dispersed after 50 minutes of intense closeness.

Standing on the curb after most of the crowd had

left, was Jerry A. Cook of Kingsville with a camera around his neck and his Golden Retriever puppy in his arms.

He was carrying with him a letter from Susan Ford, which said, "Please give Betsy a scratch on the ear for me."

Betsy Ross is a fourth

generation relative of Liberty, the Ford's dog. Cook said his wife wrote the Fords for Liberty's pedigree papers to find out if their dog, who recently gave birth to 10 puppies, was related to Liberty. He carried with him the pedigree papers to back up his claim.

But he didn't push hard

enough to shake Mrs. Ford's hand and tell her about his dogs.

By waiting on the curb, Cook missed the traffic jam caused by nearly 3,000 persons who came to see Betty Ford. Also to miss it were the cleanup crew, hard at work after the crowd had gone.



Corpus Christi Briefs

Two suspended

A policeman who was arrested for shoplifting Monday night has been temporarily suspended from the Police Chief James

Robert McQueen, arrested about 6 and booked at under \$5. A local su-

permarket told police he saw McQueen putting bottles of aspirin and shoe polish into his pants pocket and walk out of the store without paying for the merchandise.

Avant said he suspended McQueen yesterday morning pending an investigation into the allegations.

McQueen, a patrolman

assigned to the police community relations unit, was released from jail on a personal recognizance bond about 50 minutes after the arrest.

On another matter yesterday, Avant said he indefinitely suspended Lt. W. L. Mynard from the force. Mynard was arrested on a drunkenness charge two weeks ago. At the time of

the arrest, Mynard was serving a 30-day suspension.

Hurt in wreck

Geraldine Williams, 42, of 3237 S. Staples, was admitted to the intensive care unit at Memorial Medical Center last night after being injured in a wreck on South Padre Island Drive at the Humble Channel.

The woman was listed in undetermined condition after the 4:30 p.m. wreck.

Pleads guilty

Juan Jesus Luna, 21, has pleaded guilty to robbing the International Bank on Leopard on Feb. 18.

Luna, who listed two addresses, 1618 Mary and 302 Torreón, was arrested near the bank a few hours after it



Ford samples Tower's chicken fried steak

—Post photo by Danny Connolly

First Lady's convoy

Surprise stop delights IH10 cafe staff

By KATHY LEWIS
Today Assistant Editor

First Lady Betty Ford tasted chicken fried steak for the first time Wednesday at an Interstate 10 restaurant, which had only 20 minutes notice she and her entourage would be stopping for lunch.

Ford, traveling by car to Beaumont after being named an honorary Texas citizen at San Jacinto Day festivities on the Battleship Texas, ordered a grilled cheese with bacon sandwich, but she couldn't resist taking a bite of Lou Tower's chicken fried steak and cream gravy.

The First Lady said the steak was "very good" and Mrs. John Tower, wife of Texas Republican senator, gave it a 9.25 rating on a one to 10 scale.

Louise Richards, the Terry's Restaurant waitress who served Ford, said an advance call from the Secret Service came only 20 minutes before the cars pulled up. "Why do you think we're in such a mess? I'm really sorry about the mess, but wait till I go home and tell my husband I served the President's wife."

Someone told a customer at the counter Ford was eating at a back table and the surprised man said, "So that's what all the commotion is. I wondered why it was so busy."

Reporters and Secret Service agents wrote their own orders at the restaurant, and when it came time to pay, the restaurant used the honor system.

Earlier Ford talked twice over Citizen's Band Radio (CB) while stopping by to pay tribute to the San Jacinto REACT Mobile Unit, whose members monitor Citizen's Band frequencies to give emergency assistance.

A volunteer with the code name Pussycat told Ford to say "hi-dee" to "the First Daddy."

"He'll be glad to hear from you, Pussycat," Ford said.

Ford, who was made a member of the San Jacinto Unit, also called Walter L. Smith, a bedridden member of the team.

Ford had some difficulty using her CB and at the same time waving to onlookers who lined the motorcade route from San Jacinto to the restaurant.

"It's like trying to pat your head and rub your tummy at the same time," she said.

After being named an honorary Texan during late morning San Jacinto Day ceremonies on the Battleship Texas, Ford said she was honored to become a citizen on "this historic day."

"How much courage and inspiration we can take from those first Texans who

won their independence and used it to build such a great state.

"Something about the character of Texas captures the zest for freedom that has kept America strong and growing for 200 years."

She told photographers to be sure and get a picture of the San Jacinto Monument, which is on the site of the battle that won Texas its independence.

"After all, I hear it's taller than the Washington Monument."

The First Lady's day began with a Corpus Christi airport press conference where she said she had found "distasteful" parts of NBC-TV's "Saturday Night," in which the President made a brief taped appearance last weekend.

Ford said she was not referring to the skits making fun of her husband or press secretary Ron Nessen's role in the show, which she and the President thought were "very funny." She objected to another skit which took place in "sort of intimate quarters."

During one skit, men portraying Supreme Court justices checked a couple's bedroom habits. Ford said she was afraid the President's appearance looked like he was endorsing the entire show.

Ford wraps up her first Texas trip Thursday with a tour of the Lyndon B. Johnson Library in Austin with Mrs. Johnson.

First Lady's visit draws 1,000 persons to Gladys City

By MARGARET DOWNING and KERRY DUKE Staff Writers

6:05 p.m.

When asked why they came, onlookers mentioned who she is — the First Lady — while others said they came because they admire her strong opinions.

"Because I would just like to see the First Lady. I think she's a very good lady," Claudine Hamilton of Beaumont said.

"I think it's great she's taking time to come to Beaumont. I admire and respect her and wanted to

take advantage of the opportunity to see her in person," said Diane Meaux of Beaumont, who brought her two sons Bryant and David with her.

Curiosity played a large role in Faye Williamson of Beaumont's reason for coming. "I think she's a wonderful woman. I think she's made a wonderful president's wife."

"I'm real interested in her and the President because of the things you

read in the press about her beliefs and straightforwardness," Fanny Parker of Port Arthur said.

Grace Gearing of Beaumont came because "I think it's part of our American heritage to want to see our government officials."

Saying she didn't always agree with Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Gearing added, however, that she admires the First Lady very much for speaking out on things the

way she feels.

President Gerald Ford got one of the few mentions of the day from Mr. and Mrs. Fred Baker. "We admire her all the way," Kattie Baker said. Her husband added, "Him (Ford) too."

It appeared most turned out to see Betty Ford, leader in her own right, rather than the wife of President Ford.

The arrival of Mrs. Ford gave Loris Wright of Beaumont the chance to see

Gladys City for the first time, also.

"We admire Mrs. Ford. That is the reason (they came). We wanted to try and see her personally," Mr. and Mrs. A. Spence of Hull said.

Betty Ford is "free to speak," Mrs. Spence said, when asked about Mrs. Ford's image of outspokenness. "She's a human just like we are."

"I believe she's the most

outspoken First Lady we've had," her husband said.

One dissent from the general approval of Mrs. Ford came from Lillian Tatum of Lumberton who said she came because her husband wanted to take pictures.

"These celebrities don't turn me on. I don't agree with her (Mrs. Ford's) opinions at all," she said.

Dale Self of Beaumont said he came to get a pic-

ture of Betty Ford for his grandmother and added that Mrs. Ford "ought to trade her old man in on an Edsel."

"It's the first First Lady I've ever been to see. I think she's fine. I think she does help him (Ford)," James Simond of Beaumont said.

Mrs. Ford being a "family person" is one reason Mabel Torrence of Beaumont came. "I like her candidness. She's not one to

camouflage how she feels. I think it's an honor to see her."

There were some other reasons given for watching the visit of Mrs. Ford. "My mothers said they came to see their daughters perform in the local groups. They provided entertainment throughout the two hours."

And one Scott Tibbets of Nederland said he came to see his girlfriend perform the Westernaires.

40 officers stand guard

By BETH BARLOW Staff Writer

Although protection of the nation's First Family rests primarily with the U.S. Secret Service, about 40 area police officers Wednesday helped guard Betty Ford.

Uniformed and plain-clothes patrolmen and detectives were in the crowds of well-wishers at Gladys City, they patrolled the halls of the Red Carpet Inn all night and they'll be part of her escort to Jefferson County Airport this morning.

The U.S. Secret Service began working with the Beaumont Police Department and Jefferson County Sheriff's Department last week.

About 40 Beaumont officers and 14 Jefferson County deputies are in-

"I met with an advance Secret Service agent last Thursday for preliminary planning," said Capt. Raymond D. Williamson, head of the Beaumont police special services division who is coordinating his department's officers.

He said he and the federal officer visited Gladys City and drove along the roads on which the First Lady would be traveling to check for any protection obstacles.

Then, in a series of meetings, the police officers were assigned specific duties and certain areas of patrol, he said.

"But you know, this is not the first time we've done this," said Williamson. "We worked with the Secret Service to protect President Lyndon B. Johnson when he was here in 1968."

Also that day, the area police agencies helped

coordinate on the American Party ticket.

"And six months ago, we worked alone to protect Ronald Reagan," said Williamson.

He said the Secret Service was not involved because Reagan had not announced his presidential candidacy at that time.

At the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, Chief Deputy David Hawthorne holds a post much like Williamson's. He's coordinating 14 police officers.

"We had four deputies out at Gladys City today," said Hawthorne, who is currently coordinating all office affairs as Sheriff R.E. "Dick" Culbertson, a Democrat, runs for re-election.

And when Mrs. Ford leaves the hotel at between 8 and 9 Thursday morning, we'll have 10 deputies escort-

ing her to the airport, departing at about 9:30 a.m.

Both Williamson and Hawthorne said the special duty helps local police officers in their everyday duties.

"We all learn a lot from the Secret Service operation," said Williamson.

"It give the police officers experience in crowd control, guarding dignitaries and watching for hard core people we don't usually have around here," said Hawthorne.

Williamson added, "Until you actually get an assignment like this, you don't realize what a responsibility the Secret Service has."

He said cooperation with the federal agents had been "excellent."

Williamson said he expected to work all night at the hotel on Interstate 10 but



Betty made Texas CB group member

HOUSTON (AP) — In formal San Jacinto Day ceremonies aboard the permanently anchored battleship Texas, Betty Ford became an honorary Texas, Wednesday, by proclamation of Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

She then moved to a wooded area at historic San Jacinto Battleground and, as First Mama, chattered with "pussycat" by radio after being made a member of a citizen band radio group that monitors emergency and distress calls.

"Pussycat" sent his greetings not only to First Mama but also to "First Daddy" and others in Washington.

"They'll be thrilled to have heard from you Pussycat," First Mama answered. "I want to congratulate you and this group on all it is doing."

Mrs. Ford only recently acquired her temporary license as a citizen's band operator and made use of her radio handle, First Mama, for the first time Tuesday while in San Antonio.

After inspecting the emergency equipment used by the 67-member San Jacinto React CB Team 2860, Mrs. Ford first chatted by radio with Walter L. Smith, a bed-ridden member of the group.

"Welcome to Texas," Smith said after First Mama used the unit's call letters, KUY9532.

"It is a real honor to become a member of your unit," First Mama said.

1,000 persons to Gladys City

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Betty Ford takes to the airwaves with her CB radio near the San Jacinto monument Photo by David Wood

Betty made Texan, CB group member

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"It is a real honor to become a member of your unit," First Mama said.

"It is a real honor to be called (on CB) by First Mama," Smith replied.

"Can I call you Walt?" First Mama asked.

"Ten-four, you can call me Walt."

aid juggles time, requests

and travels with the First Lady so "I know her pretty well."

And even though each day starts very early and goes late as two in the morning sometimes," she said

spoke out in favor of premarital sex.

What Mrs. Ford was promoting in answer to a question on the program, she said, was com-

vice."

She said Mrs. Ford's frankness about her breast surgery had done much to help women and her stand in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment has been to

to give women "the right to have options."

A woman who chooses to be a homemaker should have "a feeling of respectability," she said. This is what the First Lady support-

when she took the job.

"No one can really tell you how to be a press secretary," she said.

She said she talked with Helen Smith, who was press secretary for Pat Nixon

BERGSTROM BICENTENNIAL LOGO

The design was created by TSgt Joseph Baranauskas for the Bergstrom AFB Bicentennial Committee to commemorate Bergstrom's Bicentennial Year and to help further Bergstrom's "Horizon '76" program, a "Gift to the Nation". The "Gift" will be permanent in nature and will benefit the Bergstrom community. The design incorporates commemorative aspects of Bergstrom AFB:

"Del Valle Post Office 1878"

The oldest building on Bergstrom AFB is the former confinement facility (Bldg 1805) which originally served as Johnson's Mercantile and the Del Valle Post Office. According to Pearce Johnson, it was erected on the site of the original post office. It was Mr Johnson's father who built the present structure. An illustration of the original structure, however, was incorporated in the final design.

Prior to the establishment of the post office, the area was known simply as the "Delvalle grant". This referred to the area's incorporation in a Spanish land grant given to Senor Santiago del Valle in 1832. In 1878, Texas was part of the United States and William M. Givens was competitively appointed Del Valle Postmaster. Mr Givens was also a merchant, a combination which was a common feature of rural communities during the period.

"1942"

Del Valle Army Air Base was activated on September 19, 1942. On November 12, 1942 at the suggestion of, then Congressman, Lyndon Baines Johnson, the field was renamed Bergstrom Army Air Field in honor of Captain John A. E. Bergstrom who was believed to be the first casualty of World War II from Austin. With the creation of the Air Force as a separate armed force in 1947, Bergstrom AFB was given its current designation.

"76"

During the Bicentennial Year, reflection upon origins of people and heritage of areas is taking place across this nation. Bergstrom's commemorative design reflects the heritage of the area and symbolically depicts the free spirit of 76 and forecasts a promising future--as seen in the liftoff of RF-4C's from the National Bicentennial Logo.

Bergstrom AFB was designated as an official Bicentennial Base on September 25, 1975. To be designated as a Bicentennial Base, certain criteria had to be met and Bergstrom exceeded the criteria.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Pat Hood
Bicentennial Committee

