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# A Presidential Retreat to Camp David



President Ford strolls alone in front of Aspen Lodge, the presidential residence, during his first visit to Camp David this weekend; at right, President and Mrs. Ford and children Steve and Susan Ford chat with the press at Camp David, which had previously been closed to the press for the past year and a half.



Photos by Frank Johnston  
The Washington Post

President Ford's first visit to Camp David this weekend, joining thousands of other Washingtonians who deserted the city for the Labor Day holiday.

In addition to bringing his wife and two of his children, the president's retreat to northern Maryland. Mrs. Ford also opened the camp to news photographers who had not been invited for the past year and a half.

Mr. Ford's presence represented a great deal of change for the heavily wooded, 3,500-acre site, but photographs of Richard Nixon who were almost always by government photographers. Since Franklin D. Roosevelt opened the camp in 1932, the media have rarely been allowed inside its guarded walls.

The President's family arrived Saturday morning by helicopter. Photographers early in the morning in front of Aspen Lodge, the presidential residence.

With the rest of the family looking on, Mrs. Ford was seen with a fawn, a pet of the camp commander's, with Mr. Ford chatted with photographers strolling by himself in the lodge and down a driveway.

The White House photographer, David Kennedy, also present and said Mr. Ford had planned a tennis match later in the day. Chided by other photographers about how he would play against his boss, Kennerly insisted he would play "out to win."

Mrs. Ford said she moved to the spot from the Pennsylvania border or a whistle-stop town called Toms River—because it is all so agreeable. The president's frequent visits to the place would probably be a surprise; Roosevelt, in fact, called the camp "Shangri-la" and its previously secret existence was revealed in 1945.

Indianapolis Star 9/2/74 p1

# *Ford Works On Amnesty Plan, Opens Camp David To Newsmen*





**FIRST LADY BETTY FORD FEEDS FAWN**  
... the President, son Steven and daughter Susan at Camp David.  
—AP Wirephoto.

# Fords Like Camp David Despite Stormy Weather

CAMP DAVID — (UPI) — President Ford decided that he enjoys the presidential retreat at Camp David, despite

house, but a few yards from the front entrance is a goldfish pond surrounded by flowers.

White House photographer David Hume Kennerly.

Ford chipped golf balls on

*News*

4

DAILY NEWS, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1974

# ***Ford Throws Open the Doors of Camp David***

Camp David, Md., Sept. 1 (UPI)—President Ford, in his first official stay at Camp David, welcomed a score of reporters and photographers into the mountaintop retreat today and said he was working on several



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## Holiday

President and Mrs. Ford and two of their children, Steve and Susan, made their first visit as first family to Camp David

By Frank Johnston—The Washington Post  
over the holiday weekend. Here, they feed the pet fawn of the camp commander. Story and other pictures on Page D1.