



Telegram

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AIR FORCE I POOL, Kansas City to Lincoln, Neb. Oct. 16, '74

The president spent four minutes shaking hands of greeters as he left the ~~Muehlebach~~ ^{Muehlebach} hotel in Kansas City. Drive to airport and flight to Sioux Falls were uneventful.

President also spent several minutes shaking hands across the street from the AAA office in Sioux Falls. Inside, he was photographed individually with about a dozen persons. There was only small talk as the honored guests took turns standing beside the president to have their picture taken.

Later, we were told that the guests were "financial contributors"---apparently heavy contributors---to the South Dakota Republican party.

Upon emerging, the top was ~~lifted from the~~ slid back on the president's car, so he could stand up for the one block drive to the auditorium. His car drove about half a block past the main entrance so he could shake hands as he entered the hall.

After the speech, he shook hands with about a dozen crippled children sitting near the stage. Then he worked the front row, pausing to talk briefly with his former landlady who had found her way to the front. Thorsness, the GOP senatorial candidate, walked behind the president, but made no effort to get up with the president.

Asked by a reporter if the Ford visit would help him, he said, "I think it will turn out to be a plus."

Outside, Ford shook some more hands, again with Thorsness in the background and one of a dozen persons with the president.

Before driving off, Ford spoke briefly to the crowd over ~~an~~ a portable PA system. He mentioned the candidates, including Thorsness, and said, "I appreciate your thoughtful concern for them."

"But the main thing I want to say to you is that you have the greatest country in the world, but if we are going to keep this kind of country, we are going to have to tighten our belts." Then he pleaded for his inflation program. Uneventful drive to airport and uneventful flight.

Fischer, Beckman.

How many miles will
this trip cover?
Gene Risher

Ralph Morris
Pain part (wine)
Morris trip
(part price)

pool report

After the speech KC *

As the President left the Municipal Auditorium he was greeted at the bottom of the ramp at the entrance to the building by about 20 pickets--men, women, and ~~men~~, children. They held up black and white signs, identical, that said "Workers in Need." They said they were not from an organized group, that some are unemployed. There was some applause as the President walked by and went directly to his car without stopping to talk to the group.

As the motorcade stopped at the Hotel Muehlebach the President left his car and walked across the street to a crowd of about 100 waiting on the sidewalk. They applauded, cheered him. He ~~walked~~ walked along shaking hands and smiling and saying, "Hi, Glad to see you, How Are You, Hi." A few had on WIN buttons and pointed them out.

The President then went into the hotel Lobby where about 50 persons were waiting, he waved to them, and went to the elevator to his suite.

Earlier, when he first arrived at the hotel ~~tonight~~ tonight, the President was greeted by Ralph Hitz, jr., exec vp of the hotel, who told him he is the 13th President to stay at the hotel. The President replied, "That's not so good." Hitz quickly added, "you're the 12th to stay overnight," and the President replied, "That's better."

Joe Lastelic Walter Rogers

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