

POOL REPORT

Bonn, Germany to Warsaw, Poland
Monday, July 28, 1975

Your poolers had some significant difficulties covering President Ford's departure from Bonn. At Schloss Gymnich, while Ford and Schmidt breakfasted, poolers warned White House, including Nessen in person, that bus assigned to carry pool to airport wouldn't keep up with motorcade speed. During the 40-minute drive, the worst proved true. We did not see the motorcade itself for nearly 30 minutes. At least six empty motorcade Mercedes and several police cars passed us and left us in heavy traffic. Thanks only to a super-aggressive German driver did we arrive in time for Air Force One departure. Had anything happened in motorcade, the White House press corps would not have known.

Departure ceremony of music and handshaking along red carpet. No speeches. Wheels up 10:05 am.

On AF One: Nessen said President was up and editing today's statements and toasts by 7:30 am. Schmidt arrived 22 minutes late for working breakfast because his helicopter was turned back in heavy fog. Ford and Schmidt decided to motorcade together, not chopper, to Bonn airport departure. Nessen said the two have become very, very close friends, and often call each other on phone.

FCR BACKGROUND: "Senior American Official:"

Kissinger came back for what he called a "social visit." Said there's a chance of Ford-Demirel meeting in Helsinki. Said U. S. bases in Turkey may be taken over, but nuclear weapons will not be. Said that's firm. Will try to make progress on Cyprus negotiations, although will be more difficult because of flap over bases. On Mid-East: Said may go to Mid-East in August. . . added September is not good month for negotiating because of many religious holidays. On China Trip: "At this moment" it's still planned (but not announced) for 1975. . . and said he will go to Peking 6 to 8 weeks before Ford for planning. On Helsinki: Kissinger said perhaps administration did not speak out soon enough to balance criticism of CSCE act. Repeated same arguments that Western countries concede nothing new in the agreement, but the Soviets make concessions on humanitarian issues in basket three.

A. Compton/ABC

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