September 22, 1975

POOL REPORT -- Phone Call from Ron Nessen Aboard Air Force One

I just talked to Ron Nessen aboard Air Force One about an hour out of San Francisco, whatever it is. It is just an hour. I asked him at Howard's behest about the report that San Francisco Police had warned the Secret Service that she was a possible danger to the President and had been interrogated by the Secret Service last night. Excuse me, she was checked out by the Secret Service. Nessen said that an extensive written report was in the process of being prepared and would be released as a pool report in Washington.

I asked him could he tell me anything now and he said no, the agents are still on the phone talking. I asked him what the President was like, what he said, what his mood was. He replied that the President's mood, in a word, was relaxed. That's a quote "in a word was relaxed."

I asked him if he had spoken about the incident or alluded in any way to it in his hearing. And he said that he had spoken to Mrs. Ford, who had not known about it until she got on the airplane. Nessen didn't tell me exactly what the President told Mrs. Ford, he just said he recounted what had happened as he saw it.

I asked for Mrs. Ford's reaction and Ron Nessen said her reaction was relaxed, quote again, "relaxed." I asked him did she not express shock in some way. He said no, she was relaxed. That's it.

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Phil Shabecoff New York Times

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