

PRESS POOL NO. 1 --ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE TO BRISTOL, TENN.

There was a last-minute change of planes at Andrews (from 27000 to 26000) when the pre-flight check discovered a malfunctioning navigational instrument.

Wheels up at 7:55 a.m. Aboard were Dick Cheney, Ron Nessen, Bob Orben and Don Penny from the White House staff and two Republican congressmen--James Quillen of Tennessee and Tim Lee Carter ~~of Tennessee~~ from Kentucky.

Nessen said 7,000 are expected at the first event at Freedom Hall, including 1,000 members of the Tennessee Republican Executive Committee from 15 East Tennessee counties. The hall is part of a complex known as the Liberty Bell complex.

After his first speech today, the President will attend a reception for 50 to 60 publishers, editors, reporters, etc. from East Tennessee newspapers, and will then go to a reception for Republican chairmen, Young Republicans, GOP and PFC workers.

Nessen said the President is "hopeful" and "optimistic" about his chances in Tennessee and Kentucky. Both states' primaries are May 25.

Ed Walsh-Washington Post

Bob Moore--Mutual Radio

Mike Wright--U.S. News.