

POOL REPORT

Information from Nessen at the
New York Hilton after the
visit with Senator Humphrey
at Sloan-Kettering Hosp.

October 12, 1976

Quoting Lt. Salvatore Moschella, head of the motorcade unit, Nessen estimated the crowd in excess of 125,000 for the entire route.

Nessen said Humphrey's room at the hospital was a large room on the eighth floor at the end of a hall, so there were two window openings. He said the room was finished with a bed, yellow sofa and other furniture. In the room with Ford were Senators Buckley and Javits, Dick Rosenbaum, and Congressman Ben Gilman. Nessen said Muriel Humphrey was wearing yellow slacks with a blue turtleneck sweater and purple silk shirt. Ford kissed Mrs. Humphrey. While he didn't get any words, Nessen said Humphrey looked and sounded lively and there was no drowsiness in his voice. Humphrey introduced his doctors to the President. Ford stood close in to the right of Humphrey's bed.

Nessen captured a few quotes from Ford: "A couple of old warriors like us" ... "Fritz and Bob are going to have a debate Friday night and I'm going to sit back and watch that!". "Muriel, take care of this fellow. My real best to you."

Nessen quoted Mrs. Humphrey as saying, "This is not political, this is just friend to friend."

Nessen said that Humphrey told Ford that Mondale had been there to see him. Nessen estimated the time in the room at 8 to 10 minutes.

The President was greeted and escorted in the hospital by Dr. Lewis Thomas, President of the Cancer Center, and Mr. Benno Schmidt, Chairman of the Board of the Hospital.

John Mashek - U.S. News
Charlie Gibson - ABC
Myron Waldman - Newsday

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