

PRESS SCHEDULE

Mrs. Ford's Trip to Texas
April 19-22, 1976

Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld, Press Secretary,
Patti Matson, Assistant to the Press Secretary

The following is a schedule of Mrs. Ford's trip to Texas April 19 through 22 for the convenience of the press. Any updates or corrections will be delivered or called to your hotel rooms, so any changes in room accommodations should be mentioned to Patti Matson.

Members of the press are asked to settle their own hotel bills each day. Press will be billed flight and transportation costs at a later date.

In order to assure that you will receive your bags promptly, please make sure all luggage is clearly tagged.

12:30 C-9 departs Andrews Air Force Base en route Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. (Flying time: 3 hrs, 30 min., time change minus one hour.) Lunch served aboard.

3:00 P.M. EST C-9 Arrives Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

NOTE: Mrs. Ford will be met by Lila Cockrell, Mayor of San Antonio, Lt. Gen. John R. Kelly, Jr., Commander, Kelly Air Force Base, Lt. Gen. John Roberts, Commander, Randolph Air Force Base, Lt. Gen. Allen Burdett, Commanding General 5th Army; Col. Jack Flynn, Lackland Air Force Base (ranking POW in Viet Nam), Mrs. Winfield Scott Hanlin, Chairman, San Antonio Bicentennial Commission.

Press may board press bus in motorcade.

3:30 P.M. Arrive St. Anthony Hotel

FREE TIME

NOTE: Press have been pre-registered. See attached list for room numbers.

6:30 P.M. Press may load bus at main entrance to St. Anthony Hotel.
5:45 P.M. Reporter pool coverage of Mrs. Ford's participation in King's Council Reception, Texas Cavalier Room, St. Anthony Hotel.

POOL: St. Anthony Light Reporter
San Antonio News-Express Reporter
ABC network correspondent

NOTE: A typewriter is available behind the main desk on the main floor of the hotel. Pool reports should be posted on the press board in the lobby area.

6:30 P.M. Press may load bus at main entrance to San Antonio Hotel.
Press bus will go to marina to load in press barge to precede Mrs. Ford in San Antonio Fiesta River Parade.

EXPANDED PRESS POOL PARTICIPATION ON BARGE:

ABC network, 1 correspondent, one cameraman, 1 soundman
CBS network, 1 correspondent, one cameraman, 1 soundman
NBC network, 1 correspondent

Continued . . .

Pool lighting technician
 KENS, one cameraman, one soundman
 KSAT, one cameraman, one soundman
 KPRC, one cameraman, one soundman
 KTRT, one cameraman, one soundman
 Melbourne Herald Reporter
 UPI Photographer
 AP Reporter
 San Antonio News Press Photographer
 San Antonio Light Photographer
 Dallas Morning News Photographer
 Newsweek Photographer
 San Antonio Light Reporter
 San Antonio Express Reporter
 Houston Post Reporter
 Houston Chronicle Reporter
 Dallas Morning News Reporter
 Daily Texan Reporter

7:00 P. M. Press barge leaves marina en route Arneson Theatre on the San Antonio River.

7:05 P. M. Press Barge arrives Arneson Theatre, site of opening ceremonies for San Antonio Fiesta River Parade; King Antonio LIV, Jack Lewis, Jr., makes opening remarks and introduces Mrs. Ford as honorary Grand Marshall.

NOTE: There will be live local coverage of the festivities.

7:40 P. M. Press barge precedes Grand Marshall's barge in river parade.

9:00 P. M. Parade concludes at river entrance near Hagner Arc and Navarro.
 (Approx) Press bus loads and returns to St. Anthony Hotel.

NOTE: Press pool report should be posted on bulletin board in lobby.

RON at St. Anthony Hotel, San Antonio

Tuesday, April 20, 1976

8:30 A. M. Baggage call. Please place luggage by main elevator on fourth floor by 8:30 A. M. Anything placed here will not resurface until arrival in Corpus Christi in late afternoon. Items needed in the interim should be carried on board.

10:30 A. M. Mrs. Ford arrives at reception hosted by the President Ford Committee in Anacocha Room, St. Anthony's Hotel. The reception is for President Ford volunteers, supporters, and other civic leaders. Press may cover from designated area on stage.

10:50 A. M. Press should board press bus in garage entrance of St. Anthony Hotel

11:00 A. M. Motorcade departs en route to San Antonio International Airport.
 11:25 A. M. Wheels up at San Antonio International Airport en route Miller International Airport, McAllen, Texas.

12:15 P. M. Arrive Miller International Airport, McAllen, Texas

NOTE: Mrs. Ford will be met by McAllen Mayor Jack Whetzel, the McAllen Chamber of Commerce greeters, and other dignitaries. A bus will be available in the motorcade for members of the press.

12:30 P. M. Depart Miller International Airport, McAllen

12:35 P. M. Motorcade arrives Sheraton Fairway Hotel where Mrs. Ford will be honored at a reception hosted by the President Ford Committee for volunteers and supporters of President Ford.

NOTE: Press photo coverage from designated area. Writers and reporters are welcome to mingle with guests.

12:50 P. M. Press bus loads near reception room.

12:55 P. M. Motorcade departs Sheraton Fairway en route to Miller International Airport, McAllen

1:10 P. M. Wheels up, Miller International Airport en route Confederate Air Force Hangar, Harlingen, Texas

1:25 P. M. Arrive Confederate Airport Hangar, Harlingen, Texas

NOTE: Press may board bus in motorcade upon arrival.

1:35 P. M. Mrs. Ford arrives President Ford Committee Headquarters, 1522 South Highway 77, to meet with volunteers and other President Ford supporters.

1:50 P. M. Motorcade departs President Ford Headquarters en route Austin Elementary School.

1:55 P. M. Arrive Austin Elementary School, Harlingen. Mrs. Ford will visit with students at Austin Elementary School representing the Harlingen Public Schools. Mrs. Ford wishes to recognize the Harlingen Public School District for their interest and outstanding participation in the Bicentennial. The 5000 students of the district invited the President and Mrs. Ford to their gala celebration of the Bicentennial earlier in the year. The Ford's were unable to accept at that time.

2:15 P. M. Depart Austin Elementary School en route Confederate Air Force Hangar, Harlingen

2:25 P. M. Arrive Confederate Air Force Hangar, Harlingen, Texas

2:40 P. M. Wheels up en route Corpus Christi

3:00 P. M. Arrive Corpus Christi

NOTE: Board press bus en route Hilton Hotel

3:15 P. M. Arrive Hilton Hotel, Corpus Christi

FREE TIME

5:30 P. M. Mrs. Ford arrives at the Tramp Steamer Club, Hilton Hotel, to attend a reception hosted by the President Ford Committee. Press coverage from designated area.

FREE TIME

7:30 P. M. Press bus loads in front of Hilton Hotel to precede Mrs. Ford to Padre Staples Mall where she will campaign for the President and meet residents of Corpus Christi.

8:00 P. M. Mrs. Ford arrives Padre Staples Mall, Corpus Christi

8:35 P. M. Mrs. Ford departs Padre Staples Mall en route Hilton Hotel.

(Approx)

8:45 P. M. Mrs. Ford arrives at Hilton Hotel.

RON at Hilton Hotel, Corpus Christi.

Wednesday, April 21, 1976

7:00 A. M. Baggage call, please place baggage by main elevator on your floor by 7:00 A. M.

9:00 A. M. Press bus loads in front of Hilton Hotel.

9:15 A. M. Motorcade departs Hilton Hotel en route Corpus Christi International Airport.

9:25 A. M. Arrive Corpus Christi International Airport

9:30 A. M. Wheels up en route Ellington Air Force Base, Houston, Texas
(Flying time 40 minutes)

10:10 A. M. Arrive Ellington Air Force Base, Houston

10:20 A. M. Depart Ellington Air Force Base en route San Jacinto Monument
(Driving time 40 minutes)

11:00 A. M. Motorcade arrives San Jacinto Memorial. Mrs. Ford will be met by Captain A. G. (Spike) Taylor, Commissioner for the Battleship Texas, and Admiral Chester H. (Chip) Taylor, Chief Commissioner for the Battle Ship Texas.

11:15 A. M. San Jacinto Day Ceremonies Begin on the Battleship Texas.

11:35 A. M. Texas Secretary of State Mark White designates Mrs. Ford as an honorary Texan.

11:40 A. M. Brief remarks by Mrs. Ford.

11:50 A. M. Motorcade departs Battleship Texas.

11:55 A. M. Mrs. Ford stops by the San Jacinto REACT Mobile Unit to recognize the outstanding service its members provide through their monitoring of the Citizens Band Frequencies to provide emergency assistance.
(See backgrounder attached)

12:05 P. M. Mrs. Ford departs San Jacinto REACT Unit en route Beaumont, Texas.

12:45 P. M. Lunch break, Terry's Restaurant on Interstate 80.

1:25 P. M. Motorcade arrives Red Carpet Inn, Beaumont, Texas.

FREE TIME

3:45 P. M. Press bus departs to precede Mrs. Ford to Gladys City
(See attached backgrounder)

4:30 P. M. Mrs. Ford arrives Gladys City. Mrs. Ford will be met by Beaumont Mayor Ken Ritter, Beaumont Chamber of Commerce President Bill Neild, Lamar University President John Gray, Gladys City Director Calvin Smith, and Victor Rogers, Chairman of the Beaumont Bicentennial Commission.

4:40 P.M. Mrs. Ford proceeds on walking tour of Gladys City.
OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

5:50 P.M. Mrs. Ford departs Gladys City.

6:05 P.M. Motorcade arrives Red Carpet Inn

FREE EVENING

NOTE: Mrs. Ford will attend a private party at 9:00 P.M.
hosted by the President Ford Committee at the local residence
of the Dr. Jack McNeill's.

RON Red Carpet Inn, Beaumont.

Thursday, April 22, 1976

7:15 A.M. Baggage call. Please place luggage at main elevator on your floor.

9:15 A.M. Press bus loads in front of Red Carpet Inn.

9:25 A.M. Motorcade departs Red Carpet Inn en route Jefferson County
Airport, Beaumont, Texas

9:35 A.M. Motorcade arrives Jefferson County Airport

9:45 A.M. Wheels up, en route Bergstrom Air Force Base, Austin, Texas
(Flying time 45 minutes)

10:30 A.M. C-9 arrives Bergstrom Air Force Base, Austin

10:35 A.M. Motorcade departs Bergstrom Air Force Base en route
LBJ Library, Austin, Texas

11:00 A.M. Motorcade arrives LBJ Library
Mrs. Ford will be met by Lady Bird Johnson and Harry Middleton,
Director of the LBJ Library, who will give Mrs. Ford a tour of
the library.

12:30 P.M. Tour concludes at reproduction of oval office on the eighth floor
of the Library. Mrs. Ford proceeds to private suite for refresh-
ments with Mrs. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Nugent and
family.

12:55 P.M. Press boards bus.

1:00 P.M. Motorcade departs LBJ Library en route President Ford Committee
State Headquarters.

11:15 P.M. Motorcade arrives President Ford Committee Headquarters,
2 Chevy Chase, Austin, Texas. Mrs. Ford will meet informally
with headquarters staff and volunteers.

PRESS COVERAGE from designated area.

1:40 P.M. Press loads bus

1:45 P.M. Motorcade departs en route Bergstrom Air Force Base, Austin

2:00 P.M. Motorcade arrives Bergstrom

2:10 P.M. Wheels up

5:55 P.M. EST C-9 Arrives Andrews Air Force Base.

BACKGROUND

SAN ANTONIO FIESTA RIVER PARADE, April 19, 1976

Mrs. Ford will be Grand Marshall of the San Antonio Fiesta River Parade. The illuminated floats of the parade snake their way down the San Antonio river through the heart of the city with King Antonio leading the procession. The parade begins with a ceremony at Arneson Theatre in which King Antonio presents the Grand Marshall to the city and proclaims a week of fun for everyone to set the tone for the fiesta. The Fiesta San Antonio is an annual 10-day spectacular with more than 50 events. It is dedicated to "the memory of the heroes of Texas" and to encouraging pan-American friendship, understanding, and solidarity. The dates this year are April 16 through 25. This is the 81st annual Fiesta.

SAN JACINTO DAY CEREMONY, April 21, 1976 (Houston)

MONUMENT -- The San Jicento Monument is located on San Jacinto Battleground, a State Park of 460 acres located on the Houston Ship Channel near Houston. It is the site of the famous battle between the Texas and Mexican armies which won independence for Texas on April 21, 1836. Lead by General Sam Houston, about 920 Americans routed Mexican forces numbering more than 1200 under the command of General Santa Anna. The battle lasted 18 minutes. Texas' freedom from Mexico lead to annexation and to the Mexican War, resulting in the acquisition by the United States of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah, and parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, and Oklahoma. This acquisition was nearly a million square miles of territory, almost one-third of the present size of the United States.

The San Jicento Monument, constructed in 1936 and 1939, commemorates the heroes of the battle of San Jicento and all others who helped win the independence of Texas. It was constructed with Federal and State funds at a cost of about one million five hundred dollars. It is 570 feet high and built of reinforced concrete faced with Texas fossilized buff limestone.

BATTLE SHIP TEXAS -- The site of the San Jicento Ceremony is the Battle Ship Texas moored at the battleground since San Jicento Day, 1948. The USS Texas is a veteran of two world wars and many campaigns. The State of Texas was the first to save its namesake battleship from the scrap-heap. The states of North Carolina, Alabama, and Massachusetts have followed suit.

GLADYS CITY, April 21, 1976 (Beaumont)

The Beaumont Bicentennial Commission has asked Mrs. Ford to accept the recreated boom-town of Gladys City as Beaumont's Bicentennial gift to the nation. A reconstructed cluster of wooden buildings, Gladys City sprang up around Spindletop oil field in the early 1900's. It is located in Beaumont about a mile north of the site of Lucas Gusher, the first well in the Spindletop field. The reconstructed city consists of clapboard buildings and businesses typical of the era, oil derricks, wooden storage tanks, and oil field equipment displays.

BACKGROUND

REACT-- April 21, 1976

REACT International (Radio Emergency Associated Citizens Team) is a world-wide non-profit organization of more than 3000 volunteer teams who use citizens band radio equipment to monitor emergency Channel 9. The teams provide emergency aid and road assistance in response to calls for help that come over CB frequencies.

San Jacinto REACT was organized in October 1975 and is representative of the outstanding volunteer service. C.B.'ers are providing throughout the country. With about 55 members, the San Jacinto REACT group attempts to monitor calls seven days a week, a minimum of ten to twelve hours a day, in the Houston/Harris County, Galveston County, Brazaria County area. In the first three months of 1976, members monitored 575 calls for emergency assistance and many feel they can be credited with saving between 15 and 20 lives. Calls included 115 major accidents and such emergencies as vehicle fires and 26 medical emergencies. Because South Houston is without emergency medical service, San Jacinto REACT works in conjunction with other community services to dispatch ambulances or send its own emergency medical service.

San Jacinto REACT consists of five divisions to handle emergencies:

1. Monitoring Division: With base stations to cover incoming calls.
2. The Marine Division: Specially trained to handle the small boat marine emergency and to assist the Coast Guard in helping the vessel in distress.
3. The Medical Division: Specially trained personnel work with the various local and county authorities during disasters and special situations providing medical assistance under the direction of the American Trauma Society.
4. The Search-Dog Division: Specially trained personnel work with the Houston Schutzhund Working and Training Club (SWAT) in four-man teams to do light search and rescue with trained tracking dogs.
5. The Air-Spotter Division: Members work with experienced pilots to operate out of small airplanes as spotters and couriers.

Statistics indicate that a total of 5,200,000 emergency calls are made annually by CB radio operators. Four million plus citizens two-way radios are in use in the U.S.A. alone. About 27 percent of these calls are auto accidents, with one out of every five involving injuries to someone. With one out of every 25 vehicles and one out of every 10 recreational vehicles equipped with CB radios, it greatly increases the chances of an accident being reported as soon as possible after the accident.

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