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Betty Ford-Lou Tower Trip to McAllen

3/20-76

Mrs. Ford's plane will arrive at the Miller International Airport in McAllen shortly after noon Tuesday.

~~At~~ Rally and program at the airport:

When Mrs. Ford ~~and~~ ^{accompanied by} Mrs. Tower step to the door of the plane, children from the Doria Avila School of Dance in McAllen will begin a special 3½ to 5 minute ~~for~~ routine and will continue as the ladies walk down the ramp.

At the bottom of the ramp they will be greeted by Tommie Beardmoore, delegate candidate pledged to President Ford from the 15th Congressional District, and McAllen Mayor Jack ~~W~~ Whetsel. Whetsel will make Mrs. Ford an honorary citizen of McAllen and proclaim Tuesday as Betty Ford Day.

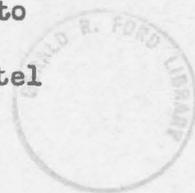
He will then introduce Miss Texas Sweet, Mary Bentley of McAllen, who will present ~~the~~ the First Lady and Mrs. Tower with gift packages of ruby red grapefruit, grown only in the Rio Grande Valley, as a gift from the Association of Produce Shippers of the Rio Grande Valley.

Mrs. Ford ~~and Mrs. Tower~~ will then be greeted on a special red carpet by the Red Carpet Greeters of the Chamber of Commerce.

The ladies will walk down the rope line greeting visitors while the contingent of local McAllen High School band provides music. A ~~colorful backdrop~~ Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will provide a colorful backdrop of red, white and blue when they hold aloft ~~the~~ American flags which were made by the boys themselves as Scout projects.

~~After working the rope line of visitors,~~ ^{She} the ladies will get into waiting cars and a motorcade will proceed to the Sheraton Fairway Hotel for a reception with President Ford Campaign workers and supporters.

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A press bus will be waiting as part of the motorcade to take the local and national press to the private Sheraton Fairway ~~reception~~ reception and will also take the press back to the airport as part of the motorcade when Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Tower leave.

Local press are advised if they ride the press bus, they must move quickly to get a seat on it, as the motorcade will start the instant Mrs. Ford is in ~~her~~ her car.

There is no activity planned at the airport for her departure. She is scheduled to leave the airport for Harlingen where ~~a~~ an airport reception and private party for workers and supporters will be held.

Local press ~~■~~ covering ~~the~~ the event are advised to enter the airport ~~receiving~~ in the South gate between the customs building and the adjoining hangar.



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