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NEWS CONFERENCE

#328

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH RON NESSEN

AT 11:37 A.M. EDT

SEPTEMBER 24, 1975

WEDNESDAY

MR. NESSEN: Some people asked yesterday about what the plans were for any briefing after the Mayors' meeting. At the moment the plans are to have Mayor Landrieu, who is the head of the Executive Committee of the Mayors Conference --he is from New Orleans -- Ralph Perk from Cleveland, who is the head of the Republican Mayors Association; Mayor Barcelo of Puerto Rico, the head of the National League of Cities; and Mayor Beame, if he would like, is perfectly welcome to come down. We haven't had an indication from him yet whether he will or not. He certainly is free to if he would like to. That will be after the meeting this afternoon.

Q The meeting is 3:30, is it not?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q What changed the meeting from this morning? Didn't you announce yesterday it would be at 10 o'clock this morning?

MR. NESSEN: I thought I did, too.

MR. CARLSON: There is just some re-scheduling.

Q Is Alioto in there?

MR. NESSEN: I think he is.

It is the Executive Committee of the Mayors Conference and I don't know whether he is on it or not.

Q Yes, he is.

Q Never mind, Ron, I will find out later.

MR. NESSEN: I don't have anything else to announce.

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Q Ron, Senator Scott talked this morning about a possible hiatus in the President's travel. He was vague as to what brought him to this conclusion. He mentioned what he had read in the papers but I haven't read that in the papers.

MR. NESSEN: I think, if I understand what Senator Scott had in mind, it was kind of the President's travel schedule over the next couple of months rather than anything that came about as a result of two incidents because truly there has been no change in prospective travel plans as a result of the two incidents. I think as the President gets closer to the time when he has to prepare his State of the Union Message and other things that have to be done toward the end of the year, I think you might see a tapering off, to some extent, of travel but that has been something that has been built into the long-range schedule all along and didn't have anything to do with the incidents. I didn't think Senator Scott said that it did, if I understood him correctly.

But I do think it is important to realize that the President and the others at the White House are fully aware of the problem that we have seen demonstrated here twice in the past three weeks, fully aware of the dangers involved, and I think anyone who suggests that the President is insensitive to the dangers is wrong.

Q Ron, Dr. David Hamburg of Stanford, who, as you know, specializes in the study of violence --

MR. NESSEN: I didn't know that.

Q Well, he does. (Laughter)

I am glad to bring you this information. He made this statement. The President does not gain any meaningful exchange of information and ideas by pressing the flesh. It comes down to some intangible exhilaration on the whole that is bad for Presidents. It gives them a God-like sense. It addicts them to a high level of adulation which no human being deserves.

It is a two-part question. One, if Dr. Hamburg is wrong, can you tell us even one quote "specific recommendation or comment" which the President has received while plunging into crowds?

Q Beyond duck. (Laughter)

MR. NESSEN: What is the second question?

Q Since the budget of the Secret Service has increased 17 percent --

MR. NESSEN: Let me try the first part, I wanted to see if it would be better to try the second part first.

I respect Dr. Hamburg, who I didn't know was an expert on this subject, for his expertise in whatever his area is, but I don't think he knows very much about the purposes of Presidential travel. As I pointed out yesterday, the idea that Presidential travel is somehow equated with plunging into crowds is quite wrong. I think all of you who were on the San Francisco trip and as Broder pointed out yesterday, San Francisco had no plunging into crowds whatsoever.

As I mentioned, the President was on the street, so to speak, for probably 15 seconds, which was the time required to get him from the car into the hotel and from the hotel into the car. He did not shake hands on the street at all in San Francisco and often doesn't.

I think the point to remember here is why does the President go out and around the country. The President has worked to persuade Congress to join him in passing some legislation which he believes is important to the country and is the right approach to various problems, including energy, the economy, some foreign policy aspects and so forth. I think it is reasonably clear by this time that the Congress has not acted in many of these vital areas. So, one reason the President feels that he should continue to travel around the country and talk directly to people is that he wants to get over to people his concerns in these areas and make sure they fully understand what it is he has proposed in these areas, with the hope that when the public understands the areas and his approach, that the public will then transmit their concerns to their Members of Congress.

Now, that is one reason for traveling.

You said what specific ideas has he received. Les, I know that you have made some of the trips but I think others who have made the trips know that he has stood, I guess two or three times now, for an hour or more and listened to representatives of community groups across a wide range, in Milwaukee, St. Louis, Peoria, those are the ones I recall, people who represent --

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Q Seattle.

MR. NESSEN: Seattle -- people who represent women's groups, labor organizations, community groups, environmentalists and so forth, and listen to them. A lot of people who attend these say why are the questions so long? Well, the purpose is to make the questions long so the people can tell what it is they think and what is bothering them and what they think the President ought to do about it.

It is valuable, and the President thinks it is valuable to stand there for an hour or and hour and 15 minutes to see what is bothering the people of Seattle, Peoria and so forth. Just almost immediately before this episode in San Francisco he stood and listened to the people of San Francisco who have a special interest in foreign policy tell him what their views were on a very wide range of things -- detente, grain sales, relations with China, intelligence and so forth -- and he feels that is valuable.

He sat on Sunday for a half hour, I think, at Stanford University and listened to 25 law students who by no means agreed with what the President stands for or does. They used their time, it seemed to me very clearly, to impress on the President what 25 students at Stanford University think he is doing wrong. I think it has been a long time since we had a President who would go out around the country and sit there and listen to people complain and give their views and tell what they think he is doing wrong, and offer suggestions as to how they think he ought to do it.

Now the President says that he just doesn't think on the one hand that he can get his views across to people with the hope that they will then transmit their ideas to their Members of Congress who are not acting, and he doesn't think he can hear the people's views in what he calls the sterile atmosphere of the White House. I think that is as full an explanation as --

Q That is a great answer but it wasn't to my question. My question was, what specific ideas and comments has he gotten while plunging into the crowds? Not listening to these people -- that is great -- but plunging into the crowds and shaking hands like this. What specific ideas? That was the question asked in the Oval Office. That was a good answer, a really good answer, but it wasn't to the question.

Has he ever gotten anything from flesh-pressing? That is what Dr. Hamburg was talking about.

MR. NESSEN: As I say, there was no hand-pressing in San Francisco.

Q I know, but does that mean there won't be any more?

Q Was there in Oklahoma City?

MR. NESSEN: Yes, there was some in Oklahoma City.

Q Ron, were you including in your reasons for travel the party fund raising? Mary Louise Smith said yesterday he had already raised \$2 million for the party and the budget for the RNC for that travel was \$500,000 this year. That is part of the reason for the travel, isn't it?

MR. NESSEN: I don't think there is any secret,  
Bill --

Q I know, you mentioned two other reasons.

MR. NESSEN: I don't think there is any secret the President has been invited to attend Republican fund raisers. He apparently is the chief attraction that draws the most people.

I think it is also, incidentally, curious or interesting, at least, that some of the people who are publicly -- let me back up. Let me just say that I think it is interesting that some Members of Congress, when they hear that the President is going to their area, bombard the White House with suggestions that the President come to this or that event that they would like to get him to.

Q Ron, why is the atmosphere at the White House so sterile?

MR. NESSEN: Well, they come around and spray it every day. (Laughter)

Q You used the expression "he doesn't --"

MR. NESSEN: The sterile atmosphere of the White House --

Q He has a staff here presumably to keep things from being sterile. Is the staff bad? Is that what you are saying?

MR. NESSEN: No, Peter, but the staff cannot, I don't think, get across to him the views of the people of Seattle, or San Francisco, or Milwaukee, or Peoria, Chicago, in the same way that the people can express those views directly to his face. I think some of the people who now say the President ought to stop traveling are the people who probably wrote and broadcast the thought that former Presidents who had barricaded themselves in the White House had cut themselves off from the people and the people's ideas.

Q Is the term "sterile atmosphere of the White House" yours or the President's?

MR. NESSEN: The President's.

Q Can I ask what you said about --

MR. NESSEN: Peter, let me say as I said yesterday, what is the alternative? The alternative is, as the President sees it, to indeed barricade himself in the White House, remain here, miss the opportunity, on the one hand, to hear what people have to say to him directly; and secondly, to miss the opportunity to convey to them his ideas in hopes they will prod Congress into action.

Bob started a question. I cut him off.

Q Ron, there have been suggestions that the President ought to be speaking in more controlled groups; that is, like the kind of thing that you are mentioning now, and not be appearing in public for a while. For instance, he should perhaps not appear at places like the Oklahoma State Fair and Stanford campus but that he could go to closed groups where everyone knows, or the Secret Service knows and others know, who is in the groups.

The kind of thing you are saying leads me to ask, is he, in fact, considering not appearing in public but appearing in controlled groups for a while?

MR. NESSEN: Well, I haven't looked at the upcoming schedule, but --

Q Michigan and Michigan State.

MR. NESSEN: He is not playing in the game, Dick.  
(Laughter)

Q He might be safer.

MR. NESSEN: I don't know what the specific items are on the schedule, Bob, but as I said yesterday, before every trip the advance team goes out, which includes a member of the Secret Service. They look at what the events are and how the President can best appear at those events and, of course, the Secret Service input is concerned with the security.

If the people who are worried about the security have a disagreement with people who are worried about other aspects of the President's travel, they either work it out there or move it up the ladder until it is worked out.

Q Ron, has the President had any reaction to the confirmation that the San Francisco Police Department had been called by the woman saying she wanted to test the system, they subsequently passed the information to the FBI and it came to the attention of the Secret Service?

MR. NESSEN: He has not had any specific reaction to that, Tom.

Q Can you tell us what Phil Buchen is talking about when he says the President will see security modifications or there will be modification recommended by the Secret Service before the President goes out next week?

MR. NESSEN: Let me say a couple of things about the story about Phil. I talked to Phil both last night and this morning and the first point he makes is that he has absolutely nothing to do with the Secret Service or the President's security. As he put it in his own words, "I am not in the loop." It is just not his area.

The other thing he said, in his words, is that the report that he read as to his remarks were misleading and in part inaccurate. The facts of the matter are that the Secret Service not only is doing specific reports on the Sacramento and San Francisco incidents, but are constantly reviewing their security procedures and making whatever changes they think are necessary to protect the President.

Q Are they going to have any modifications for him before he leaves for Chicago next Tuesday? Is that expected?

MR. NESSEN: I think that we are going to have to say fairly firmly that I understand the great interest in specific security arrangements and any possible adjustments in the security arrangements. I think you have good reason for asking those questions and I think they obviously would make good stories, but I think we have on this side equally good reasons for not talking about specific security arrangements or any possible adjustments. I think the reasons for not talking about them are better than the reasons for talking about them.

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Q I didn't ask what the specific security arrangements or adjustments might be. My question was, are there going to be modifications that will be proposed to the President before next Tuesday? Not what they are but whether there is going to be a suggestion to him?

MR. NESSEN: I do not believe that the President will become involved in any possible adjustments that grow out of the continuing Secret Service review of its procedures.

Q Ron, is the President upset that the CIA is opening his mail and reading it or is that a fact, as was said on the Hill today?

MR. NESSEN: Are they?

Q Senator Church said that the CIA opened and read Nixon's mail, Martin Luther King's, and Bella Abzug's, and a whole yard long list, including a letter that Church wrote to his mother.

MR. NESSEN: I saw that story just before I came out here, Peter, and I haven't had time to look into it.

Q Ron, two questions. Is the President still determined to go to China? That is number one, and number two, in the light of yesterday's announcement by Mr. Simon, is the President satisfied with the present Secret Service protection?

MR. NESSEN: The President does intend to go to China, and the President is more than satisfied with the protection he receives from the Secret Service.

Q Senator Scott suggested that perhaps the minute-by-minute details of the President's schedule in a particular place no longer be published in advance, and routes. Is anything like that being considered?

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MR. NESSEN: I haven't heard of it.

Q Ron, is the reason that you have gracefully and courteously evaded my question, is the President going to keep plunging into crowds or not, is that due to security or could you tell us, is he going to keep plunging or is he going to stop this crowd-plunging?

MR. NESSEN: I don't accept the word "plunging."

Q All right, crowd intervention, crowd handshaking, the thing we saw all over New Hampshire, you remember, Ron.

MR. NESSEN: I think we will see the President shaking hands again in public.

Q Was the reason that he had no time scheduled for handshaking on the California trip a security precaution?

MR. NESSEN: You mean in San Francisco?

Q In San Francisco or anywhere else in California. Usually on these trips, just like in Oklahoma, there is time set aside at the airport or someplace along the trip for him to shake hands. Was there no handshaking because it was a security precaution?

MR. NESSEN: I don't know that there was no time in the schedule, he could have taken time to shake hands at several points.

Q Did he not do that for a security precaution?

MR. NESSEN: I, frankly, don't know why he didn't do it in San Francisco.

You know, I think one thing to understand about the relationship between the White House and the Secret Service, in addition to the advance kind of communications they have when they go out in advance, I think it is fair to say that occasionally decisions are made on the spot between the Secret Service and the President traveling. I think on occasion the Secret Service has suggested it might be just as well to pass up this crowd or that crowd.

Q Ron, is what you are saying on security that in the future there may well be changes in the way the Secret Service goes about protecting the President but that details of these changes will not be made public?

MR. NESSEN I think I referred yesterday to possible adjustments and --

Q So the answer is yes?

MR. NESSEN: I did refer to possible adjustments. You know, there is a continuous review by the Secret Service and would be if it hadn't been for these incidents. And if there are any possible adjustments we wouldn't talk about them.

Q Ron, do you mean, when you said that the President will not become involved in any possible adjustments that grow out of the continuing --

MR. NESSEN: That was fairly fuzzy, wasn't it? What I meant was if there are any possible adjustments, I wouldn't anticipate -- I think the impression that the printed version of Phil's remarks left was that at some point a piece of paper was going to be slapped down on the President's desk with Secret Service recommendations on it and that is not true.

Q Ron, did the Secret Service suggest that one of the crowds the President might pass up was the one outside the St. Francis?

MR. NESSEN: I think that would be fair to say.

Q He was out there five minutes ahead of schedule.

Q What was the question?

MR. NESSEN: Jim asked whether one of the crowds that the Secret Service suggested the President might well pass up was the one outside the St. Francis and I said, yes, it would be fair to say that.

Q Why didn't the President take that suggestion, Ron?

MR. NESSEN: On these occasions when the Secret Service has a suggestion on the spot, the President always takes it.

Q Was the President advised or did the people here know about the woman making remarks that she might go to Stanford and try to test the system? Was he aware of that?

MR. NESSEN: The President?

Q Yes.

MR. NESSEN: Not that I know of.

Q Ron, are you saying the President passed up the crowd outside the St. Francis on the suggestion of the Secret Service and by "pass up," you mean he didn't go over and shake anybody's hand?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q He did shake a few, didn't he?

MR. NESSEN: No, I think that is incorrect. I have seen that printed, but the President himself has looked at the video tape and others here have and I think it shows clearly he walked out of the hotel and straight to the car. The door of the car wasn't open at the time, which the President commented on. If it had been, he would have gotten straight in. While he waited for the door to open, I think he waved either with one hand or both hands, but he didn't shake any hands.

Q Why did the Secret Service propose that he pass up that crowd, do you know?

MR. NESSEN: I don't know.

Q Why couldn't the President leave from the garage instead of as he did? Isn't this one of the logical alternatives?

MR. NESSEN: I think at one hotel, the Hyatt Hotel, he did drive into the garage. I don't know whether the St. Francis has a garage.

Q Ron, back to the first question Mr. Kinsolving asked, the President himself did tell us at his press conference that he was getting quite a few suggestions from these people that he contacted personally in the crowd. I think that is a very interesting subject. Could you possibly get from him some of the points --

MR. NESSEN: I will. I know he said that. In fact, I have the transcript of it and I would like to talk to him about what he has heard in the way of comments or suggestions as he goes through. I know one thing he has talked about and this, perhaps, isn't quite what Les had in mind, but I know that he has spoken privately of a fair number of people who tell him to tell Mrs. Ford that they are behind her, they agree with her remarks, or keep speaking out. That is one thing he hears in crowds.

I think that is not precisely what Les had in mind.

Q That is a valid answer, Ron.

Q Ron, are you disclosing for the first time that the President studied the video tape of his emergence from the St. Francis Hotel in order to see what the security situation was, and, if so, with whom did he study it?

MR. NESSEN: That is not right, Peter. He simply watched a tape of the news reports because he didn't see the news that night and he wanted to see what it looked like on television. It was as a viewer; it was not a session.

Q I think you used the expression "studied the video tape."

MR. NESSEN: I should have said looked at, I didn't mean studied. All he did was look at a playback of the news stories.

Q He didn't do it with the Secret Service people around?

MR. NESSEN: No, he didn't.

Q Since the two attempts have been made from uncontrolled crowds in which there really is very little dialogue, as you mentioned, and that is what the Secret Service is particularly concerned about, that there is a much greater danger in that than there is in a White House Regional Conference, or World Affairs Council, isn't it likely that, while there will be some handshaking, we will see less handshaking in uncontrolled crowds than we did in Sacramento and in New Hampshire?

MR. NESSEN: I think we are just going to have to watch it as we go along now, and you and others will just have to make your own judgments from how he performs in public from now on.

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Q Ron, has Phil Burton or any of the rest of the California delegation contacted the White House about Associate Domestic Council Director James Falk's announcement that "all you find in Northern California are kooks with guns and placards," and has he had anything to say about Southern California? (Laughter) Has anybody raised this issue at all?

MR. NESSEN: No contact that I know of.

Q Is Falk still working here as far as you know, Ron?

MR. NESSEN: Yes, he is.

Let me hear Dick.

Q One of the problems that has become apparent in this is that the regulations and the laws pertaining to surveillance and detention of possible dangerous individuals vary from State to State. The Secret Service, or David McDonald yesterday confirmed they are looking at the possibility of uniform national law for detention in such cases.

Did Mr. Buchen not discuss this with Secret Service and Treasury officials? Has the President made any comment on a possible need for a uniform national law so the Secret Service wouldn't have to look at 50 different State situations before they make a decision on detention?

MR. NESSEN: The President has not made any comment on that subject. Now, as far as I know, as I say, Phil's area of operation does not include Secret Service. So I am not aware that he talked to the Treasury about any such proposed law.

Q It would include that kind of legislation, would it not?

MR. NESSEN: What would?

Q That would be his responsibility as legal advisor to the President.

MR. NESSEN: If a law was passed and sent up here, counsel's office reviews all legislation.

Q Wouldn't the White House be asked to take a position on that kind of proposal?

MR. NESSEN: This is very "iffy," Peter. This is the first time I have heard of that kind of a proposal.

Q My question was the possibility of the White House suggesting such legislation?

MR. NESSEN: I have not heard any talk about that at all.

Q What is the President's feeling about the move in Congress to investigate the Secret Service procedures for the protection of the President?

MR. NESSEN: The President feels that Congress is an equal branch of the Government and has this authority if it wishes to use it and, as I understand it, that subcommittee is the one which deals with appropriations for the Secret Service. The President is certainly not going to try to block any such investigation. It is Congress' responsibility to do it if it wishes to.

Q Ron, is Under Secretary of State Robinson still leaving for the Soviet Union this week and, if so, when? And do you have any comments on the situation regarding grain trading with Poland?

MR. NESSEN: As far as I know, he is leaving for Russia this week and just before I came out here I checked and, as far as I know, there has been no official announcement made of a moratorium on grain trade with Poland.

Q The State Department officials say they did request the Polish Government not to make purchases.

MR. NESSEN: As I say, there has been no such moratorium announced.

Q Ron, why is it these Congressmen that are coming in and have already been in this morning to talk to him about the moratorium on grain going to both the Soviet Union and to Poland?

MR. NESSEN: This is the normal Congressional Hour.

Q I am not talking about that. It may be the normal Congressional Hour, but the Agricultural Council of America came in to discuss this.

MR. NESSEN: As part of the Congressional Hour. The President made clear his views on this and they were the same this morning, which is that the moratorium and the long-term grain sales contract with Russia, he believes, would be in the best interest of the farmers and the consumers and the loaders and the shippers. He still believes that.

Q Ron, in answer to Dick Growald's question you said the President wouldn't try to block an investigation on the Hill of the Secret Service. Does that mean he favors it, he would welcome it, or he is totally neutral on it?

MR. NESSEN: I don't think, Walt, the President needs to, or will either oppose or support the hundreds of investigations that go on on the Hill. It is their responsibility and if they want to do it, they will do it.

Q Ron, there is an indication today of a 10 percent increase in the price of OPEC oil. Does the White House have any comment on that?

MR. NESSEN: I didn't think they had made their decision yet, Jim.

Q No, but there are suggestions that that is what they are settling on.

MR. NESSEN: Let's wait and see what they do, and we will talk about it then.

Q Has the President expressed any interest or said anything about the Secret Service decision not to take some action relative to Mrs. Moore after they were informed --

MR. NESSEN: He has voiced no criticism of the Secret Service at all.

Q Isn't he interested in that question -- not criticism -- isn't he interested in the question of why they didn't take some action relative to that?

MR. NESSEN: They are doing a report and the report presumably will get to the White House.

Q What is the President's view on opening a dialogue with Cuba?

MR. NESSEN: Has something happened I don't know about?

Q A State Department official -- I am sorry, I don't recall his name -- Rogers --

MR. NESSEN: Assistant Secretary for Latin America.

Q -- was quoted yesterday or today as saying that he believes it would be a good time -- that we are willing to open a dialogue with Havana. That is as I remember it, more or less.

MR. NESSEN: I think basically what Assistant Secretary Rogers said yesterday certainly represents the Administration's policy. I don't think it is a change of policy from the past.

I think, if you read it carefully -- I can read it to you if you like -- basically what he said is we are prepared to improve our relations with Cuba -- and I think the President has said that in the past -- and are ready to enter a dialogue with Cuba but the dialogue must be on the basis of reciprocity. That is what the President and the Secretary of State have said before, too.

You know our response depends on the response from Havana. The resolution of the problems between us will not be furthered by calculated offense to the other party.

So I think it is a statement of the present Administration's policy.

Q Wait a minute. That calculated offense policy refers to Cuban officials, including Fidel Castro, saying they supported the Puerto Rican revolutionary party -- that is not the proper name of it -- which wants independence in the United States and that was deemed an interference in the internal affairs of the United States.

Since we are talking about reciprocity, doesn't it also follow that we should not be interfering in the internal affairs of other countries as the President said we had a right to do before this San Francisco Foreign Relations Council, in the interests of our national security?

MR. NESSEN: I don't think he stated it quite that way.

Q Which way did he state it, then?

MR. NESSEN: I will have to dig up the transcript.

Q That is the way it came over the news wires.

MR. NESSEN: It is in the transcript.

Q What does that calculated offense refer to?

MR. NESSEN: I don't have enough background on this to discuss it very intelligently today, Ted.

Q What was the President's viewpoint on the Panama -- the mob situation outside our Panamanian Embassy in Panama City?

MR. NESSEN: I didn't have a chance to ask him.

Q Ron, Representative Rhodes emerged from the two-hour session and said some optimistic things about the Turkey arms embargo. Could you tell us, since the President and Secretary of State were in there today, what was said in that meeting about the arms embargo?



MR. NESSEN: I don't think any basically new ground was broken, Dick. I think there was a restatement of the reasons why continuation of that embargo on sales to Turkey doesn't make any sense in our own national interest and in the interest of NATO and in the defense of the Mediterranean and the Eastern flank of NATO. The reasons were restated.

I guess it comes before the Rules Committee tomorrow, or today maybe. There is the anticipation of another close vote but I think there is a hopefulness here that this time it will pass.

Q Representative Rhodes said he thought there would be at least a relaxation to permit the shipment of the goods Turkey has bought and paid for and "a bit more."

MR. NESSEN: The compromise drafted by both Democrats and Republicans on the International Relations Committee provides really for only a bit more than that. You know the President has said, just prior to the last vote on this, that the compromise was barely acceptable because all it provided for was for the release of the stuff that the Turks have already bought and paid for and are now being charged storage fees for in warehouses in the United States.

Other than that, the bill would provide only for a lifting of the embargo on sales, cash sales, no credits of any kind, and even those sales would be within a certain dollar limit.

Q Is the President anything more than hopeful?

MR. NESSEN: As I say, I think he is hopeful it will be a close vote but that it will pass this time.

I was thinking of what I said to Jim Naughton on the OPEC question. I may have left the impression if OPEC came out with some sort of small price rise that it might be in some way acceptable.

As you know, the President's position is that no increase by OPEC is justified in the view of the United States; that the OPEC countries have an excess of capacity not being used and, therefore, if the price increase is based on the laws of supply and demand, there should be no increase at all and in fact a decrease in the OPEC oil prices.

I want you to know ahead of time, whatever the increase is, if there is one, the United States does not think any increase would be justified.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Ron.

END (AT 12:15 P.M. EDT) #328