

POOL REPORT--TUBAC/DAVIS-MONTHAN/OKLAHOMA CITY**Oct. 21, 1974

Los dos presidentes arrived Davis-Monthan after a 15-minute chopper ride from Tubac. A steady drizzle began falling as the presidents worked the ropes for about together five minutes before ascending the platform. (Secretary ^RHolmes, responding to popular demand, also shook hands along the ropes for a few minutes at a respectable distance behind the two principals.)

Base officials estimated the crowd at 15,000, but we think it was more like 4,000 to 5,000, largely military and their families.

The rain continued throughout the ceremony but tapered off as the presidents, both forgoing overcoats or umbrellas, exchanged departure remarks after an Air Force band played the national anthems of Mexico and the United States, respectively.

Both statements were pretty pro forma; President Ford termed his reception in Magdalena "unbelievable." We assuming full text provided on press plane.

There was a very small amount of heckling, perhaps from two or three persons. There were cries of "Dump Rocky," "What About Israel," and "Go Home Ford." We saw three signs: "Recall Ford," ~~"Turn-On, Tune-In, Resign!"~~ "Turn-On, Tune-In, Resign!" and "Oops...Pardon Me." The last sign was torn up by bystanders.

In his statements, ^fPresident Ford mispronounced ^ahast luego; it came out "hasta loo-eee-go," ~~and~~ ^{ins}prompted a ^{hearty} ~~single~~ laugh from the audience. The President grinned good-naturedly and shot back, "Us Michiganders have a little trouble..."

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After exchanging the traditional abrazos, the presidents reviewed an Army honor guard, then worked the ropes again for a few minutes. Ford then ~~xxx~~ escorted the Echeverria party to ~~the~~ the "miguel Hidalgo" bus, and the Mexican president departed for his aircraft.

Then the president worked the fence on his own for perhaps ten minutes. By this time the rain was much heavier, and although the presidential limousine was standing by, Ford walked roughly the quarter-mile from where he'd seen Echeverria off to Air Force One, working the fence all ~~the~~ the way.

Wheels up at 6:41 p.m. Nessen did not come back during the flight; Air Force One landed at Tinker AFB at 10:23 p.m. ~~xxxx~~ local time.

Tom DeFrank/Steve Bell