

Pool Report of President Ford's trip from Cleveland
to Washington:

He emerged from the hotel in Cleveland, waved to a small crowd and immediately entered the limousine. The ride to the airport was uneventful.

About 20 minutes before the arrival in Washington, he came back -- with Nessen and Dick Cheney -- to talk with reporters. The President ~~YE~~ had a drink in hand, his collar was loose and he carried his pipe in his ^{other} hand.

Asked about an LA ~~XXXXX~~ Times story to the effect that he is considering the appointment of a czar for the intelligence community, he declined to ~~XXXX~~ answer.

~~XX~~ Did he know the tire blew on the way into Cleveland?
"No, all I saw were things dropping down."

He was asked about rumors that he will officially announce next Tuesday that he will run for a full term. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ "Well, next week could be important," he said and then laughed. He was asked about the format for the ~~XXXXX~~ announcement. "The format for ~~XXXX~~ what? You don't want to ~~YE~~ pre-empt any good story," he said.

He said his day in Ohio was "constructive, I thought it was constructive ~~YE~~ both philosophically as well as politically. We reaffirmed a good many ties with people in a broad spectrum on management, labor and professional and otherwise."

The pollution alert in Cincinnati "emphasized the need to get good affirmative ~~XXXXXXXX~~ action." At his appearances, he said "there was a minimum of dissent or objections."

About his photo session in the pool on Saturday, he said: "I've been practicing. I've been learning to ~~XXXXXXXX~~ swim. ~~XXXX~~ ~~YE~~ I'll swim as many laps as you swim." In his workouts, Ford said he swims the backstroke, freestyle and breaststroke. He said he plans to swim a half a mile a day, "fairly fast." There was some quick math that determined that ~~YE~~ this would amount to 48 laps a day. Ford said he planned to swim "at lunch and after work." Asked if he planned to skinny-dip, he ~~YEY~~ responded: "Is that an invitation."

pool report -- page 2

The President said he does not plan to attend the launching of the Soviet-U. S. space mission on July 15 in Florida. "It's a great occasion and a wonderful ~~HEMSELF~~ demonstration of cooperation. ~~BY~~ I'm not planning to go. WE've got the Congress to work with."

On his birthday, July 14, Ford was asked what he would do. "Get older," he answered, "officially." Is the job aging him? "I think it's made me more youthful."

He said he plans to spend "10 days, two weeks" in Vail this summer. About the possible trip to Helsinki, he said "it's not certain we're going to Helsinki."

(The President waved cameras and sound at the beginning of his chat with newsmen.)

Barnes, Rodgers