

AUGUST 4, 1975

POOL #6

It's Friendship Park to head-to-head to Old Palace and back to Federal Executive Council Building.

Drive from Park to Executive Council Building swift and uneventful. Ford party was ushered into large office where Tito receives ambassadors. This is across the large first floor central area from the reception hall where state dinner was yesterday and press appearance today. Ford sat across from Tito, who was puffing on a cigar. Through an interpreter Tito asked "Did you have a swim?" Ford answered, "Yes, very refreshing. At 6:30 (a. m.). It could have been warmer but after walking down there I couldn't resist." He was referring to the hugh swimming pool located down a hill frmo the Old Palace. There was more banter about swimming the burden of which was that Ford might like an indoor.

To Ford's right were Kissinger, Ambassdor Silberman and Ron Nessen. To left, Scowcroft and Arthur Hartman. As poolers were ushered out drinks of various sorts were carried in.

Press conference followed , which you all attended.

Ride back to Old Palace was uneventful. Ford arrived at 12:20. Shortly afterwards Mrs. Ford departed for the luncheon, looking better. Sheila Weidenfeld said she was feeling fine.

While waiting for President to leave an American official--not Kissinger or Sonnenfeldt or Nessen--said that Tito meant to say that he and Ford understand the dangers in the Middle East identically. Asked about Tito's reference to future U. S. policy, the official said Ford had made it clear that a failure of step-by-step would make Geneva necessary.

Ford departed the Old Palace on time at 1:20 and sped uneventfully through a rainstorm to the Federal Executive Building.

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Chicago Sun Times

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