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[4-10-76]

pool report air force one dallas o el paso uneventful motorcade from fairmont hotel to love field. for d shook a few hands and boarded.

hshortly before landing, m rs. berylexmi lburn of austin, ford campaign director, came back. she said it was a "tight race" and the ford visit would have "tremendous significance2" on the campaign.

sne said the ford organization in texas is uring urging him to visit Example East Texas, Tyler and Longview, the Gulf Coast(Corpus Christi, Houston), West Texas(Lubbock and Abilene) on the next swing through the state before the may 1 primary. with delegates to be decided by district contests, she said "we're running 24 campaigns in Texas."

she said Remain reagan was popular because he was a from frequent visitor to the sotate, particularly with fund raising appearances.

**Wex she said the Texas Republican was "conservative ideologically" and the state's Republicans where dedicated that way. she said the president is conservative, too.

she felt connally would remain neutral.

hhe said there was a big under undecided vote, 30 per cent by ford organization starx tests.

"It's loose. They(the undecided) could go either way ."

masnek, beckman, boyd