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MEETING WITH RAY EDWARDS

Saturday, July 31, 1976

10:15 a.m.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

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President Ford Committee

1828 L STREET, N.W., SUITE 250, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 (202) 457-6400

MEETING WITH RAY EDWARDS

Saturday, July 31, 1976
10:15 a.m.
THE OVAL OFFICE

I. PURPOSE


To attempt to persuade Mr. Edwards to support the President.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS, AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background: Mr. Edwards, 39, of Collinsville, Virginia is Vice President of Jessup Furniture Company there. He is married and has two children. He is a member of the Virginia State Central Committee and is Vice Chairman of the 5th Congressional District. He has been active in the Republican Party for 13 years.

He was elected as an uncommitted delegate at large at the state convention and has remained that way, although the PFC feels he has been leaning toward support of the President throughout.

He has indicated to the PFC delegate office that he will be willing to make a public statement of his support after he meets with the President. He will be visiting the White House with his wife Judith and two children, son Chris and daughter Suzanne.

B. Participants: Ray Edwards, Jack Marsh,  Jim Baker

C. Press Plan: Photo only

III. TALKING POINTS

- 1) I wanted you to know how much I appreciate your support for the Party in Virginia.
- 2) I certainly understand your remaining uncommitted to this point but I would now appreciate having your support.
- 3) We are very encouraged by the momentum developing in our campaign, and particularly in Virginia. I'm convinced we'll secure the nomination on the first ballot.
- 4) I hope you'll enjoy being a delegate at this your first national convention. Betty and I will look forward to seeing you and working with you in Kansas City.