

**The original documents are located in Box 44, folder “Ford, Susan - Events - 7/29/76 - GOP Youth Training Camp” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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Sheila

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM: REGARDING SUSAN FORD'S VISIT TO GOP YOUTH TRAINING CAMP, CAMP CAESAR, IN COWEN, WEST VIRGINIA  
Thursday, July 29, 1976

FROM: SUSAN PORTER

Susan has accepted an invitation to attend the 17th Annual GOP Youth Training Camp, Camp Caesar, in Cowen, West Virginia. The camp runs from Sunday, July 25th, through Friday, July 30th. Susan, however, will attend on Thursday, July 29th, en route back from Hawaii and California. She is attending at the specific request of her father, who first heard about the camp in conversations with some people from West Virginia. The contact at the camp is Mrs. Jody Smirl (Camp: 304-226-3888 or 3834; Home: 304-523-9659). Governor Reagan's son, Ronald Reagan, Jr., is also going to be visiting the camp. It appears, however, that Susan's participation will be in the mock convention to be held Thursday afternoon and his will be for the evening dinner that day.

The advance for Susan's visit will be done by B. Ogelsby (543-8272; 1013 East Capitol Street). He has been told that business matters related to this (billing, expenses, etc.) should be sent to the President Ford Committee in care of Tim Austin (457-6428). Where appropriate, the file is attached.

Thank you.

c: BF Staff  
Dorothy Downton  
Tim Austin  
Paul Manafort  
Rogers Morton  
Jerry Jones  
William Nicholson  
Terry O'Donnell  
David Gergen  
Warren Hendriks  
Red Cavaney  
Peter Sorum  
Rex Scouten  
Staircase

Susan:

7/22/74

Re: GOP Youth Camp

I spoke with Mrs. Smirl today. She told me about Ronald Reagan Jr.'s schedule as far as the camp visit is concerned. He is arriving by private plane at Summerville airport with Efram Zimbalist Jr. in time for the evening banquet, on Thurs. July 29.

I briefly outlined Susan's schedule for her and told her that an advanceperson would be contacting her in more detail about the schedule.

(Nat'l Committeewoman)

She said that they would like to have Priscilla Humphries/and another woman meet Susan at the airport in Charleston and drive in her own car with Susan's car etc. to the camp. I said I thought it would be very nice for Mrs. Humphries to meet her. Mrs. Smirl said they would also be prepared to have a lunch available if Susan had not had a chance to eat. I said that would be fine, but also that the advanceperson would be working that all out in more detail.

Mrs. Smirl can be reached next week at the camp.

304/226-3888

304/226-3834 (at camp, at lunchtime)

304/523-9659 (Mrs. Smirl's home number)

Julie

7/22/76

Susan:

I'm afraid I had to get going.

I had a call from Terry Snyder, President of the Young Republicans in West Virginia. He said that Jody Smirl had asked him to call me and let me know that Ronald Reagan's son will be at the Youth Camp the same time as Susan, in case we wanted to change her schedule

I told him I was pretty sure that her schedule was firm. I tried to call Mrs. Smirl, but her line w has been busy.

457-6460  
PAUL MANAFORT, PFC, NVA DELEGATE  
JIM BAKER,  
DELEGATE OPERATION



Susan:

According to the plans and reservations that USSS is presently working on, a tentative schedule might look like this:

*Option 1*

Thurs. July 29

12:20 a.m.

Depart L. A.

10:25 a.m.

Arrive Charleston

1:30 p.m.

Arrive GOP Youth Camp

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Attend Convention and Election

4:30 pm.

Depart for Charleston

→

OR

4:00-6:00

Meet with campers and rest/personal time.

6:00 pm

Attend banquet and make brief greetings

7:00 p.m.

Depart for Charleston

-----

Arrive Charleston and overnight.

Friday, July 30

9:10 a.m.

Depart Charleston for Washington.

Should Susan want to, arrangements might be worked out to depart L. A. during the day of the 29th, arrive Charleston and overnight there. Then the schedule might be as follows:

Thurs. July 29

afternoon/evening

Arrive Charleston and overnight.

Fri. July 30th

7:30 a.m.

Depart Charleston for Youth Camp.

10:00 a.m.

Arrive Camp and attend awards assembly.

11:00 a.m.

Assembly concludes. Chat with campers and depart.

-----

Arrive Charleston and depart for Washington.

I really think that <sup>since</sup> the arrangements are underway anyway, and since the activities seem better on the 29th, that the first option is the one to go with. It looks like a tough schedule to me, what with flying all night and then a busy day. I guess Susan is the one who needs to decide.

*Julie C.*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

JULY 14, 1976

MR. PRESIDENT:

SUSAN WANTS TO TALK TO YOU

ABOUT THE WEST VIRGINIA TRIP.

*To Calif - mon 28<sup>th</sup> -*

*Dep West Va - moning 29<sup>th</sup> -*

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9 Parkway Drive  
Huntington, W. Va. 25705  
July 11, 1976

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
President of the United States  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
c/o Mrs. Dorothy Downton  
First Floor, West Wing  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear President Ford:

It was really a surprise and an honor to receive the telephone call from you Saturday, and your interest in our GOP Youth Training Camp is sincerely appreciated. I think it is one of the most worthwhile projects we sponsor, and we have certainly developed some die-hard Republicans there during the 16 years we've been in operation.

We are so pleased to learn that Susan will be able to speak to us during the camping session after all. Thank you very much for taking the time from your busy schedule to help work this out for us. I will enclose an information sheet about the camp plus a sheet of extra details about the Friday schedule to aid in planning her visit. If any further information is needed, please have Ms. Downton let me know. Anyone accompanying her can be accommodated with ease, including overnight, if necessary. Our accommodations are a little on the rustic side, but nothing too inconveniencing, and we can assure a good taste of our wild, wonderful West Virginia in all of its natural splendor. We'll be so happy to show it off to another member of your family, and wish that Steve and Jack could come too.

The nearest airport is at Summersville, W. Va., about a 45-minute drive from Cowen and Camp Caesar, but its facilities are limited. Private planes fly in and out of there just fine, but no commercial ones. Governor Moore always comes by helicopter and lands right on the camp grounds by the lake. If that would be her preference, I feel sure we could work that out with the help of Governor Moore, who has been a supporter and promoter of this project for a long time. He is planning on coming up during that week to speak, too, but hasn't confirmed the exact date yet. We'll be in close communication with him about this.

Let me express to you again my appreciation for your lovely hospitality to our delegation on June 25th. It was a thrilling experience for each of us, and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. My only regret was that my picture of our handshake was so terrible. I look like the "Bella Abzug" of the West Virginia delegation I'm afraid, and that's no compliment! I hope we get a chance to remake it in August.

Happy Birthday Wednesday, and good luck in your campaign. I'd also like to congratulate you on your recent action to rescind the HEW decision regarding the Mother-Daughter and Father-Son events. Their discrimination ruling would certainly have met with disfavor here!

Thank you again for all your help and consideration. I hope the time will come when we'll have an opportunity to reciprocate.

Sincerely,

*Jody G. Smirl*

Mrs. Jody G. Smirl



cc: Governor Moore

G. O. P. YOUTH TRAINING CAMP  
July 25th to July 30th, 1976  
CAMP CAESAR  
Cowen, W. Va. 26206

For boys and girls, 15 to 19, interested in the Republican Party

This year's camp will begin on Sunday, July 25th, and last until noon on Friday, July 30th. This year's schedule will include:

Sunday evening: Former Governor Cecil H. Underwood, who is also the 1976 Republican nominee for Governor, will give the keynote speech.

Monday morning will feature political science classes taught by Fred Wilson of Keyser High School and Allen Kaplan of Huntington East High School

Monday evening: Former State Senator Louise Leonard will speak, along with Mrs. Priscilla Humphreys, National Committeewoman for W. Va., both representing the State Federation of Republican Women.

Tuesday morning: Primary Election after classes

Tuesday evening: Ephraim Zimbalist, Jr. for Ronald Reagan (time tentative)

Wednesday is Candidates Day. All statewide candidates have been invited to come and spend the day. Those accepting so far are the Secretary of State, State Auditor and State Treasurer. Two congressional candidates have accepted also.

Wednesday Afternoon: Mock Congress

Wednesday Evening: Picnic supper at lake with more candidates.

Thursday Afternoon: Convention and Election.

Thursday Evening: TAR Banquet and installation (speaker not yet announced)

(Governor Moore usually picks Thursday as his day to come.)

Friday morning: 10 A.M. Awards Assembly  
11 A.M. Adjournment

We would be glad to extend our time an hour or so that day if it meant the difference in Susan speaking to us or not. The Awards Assembly involves a sort of "graduation" ceremony and the "most outstanding" boy and girl campers are announced. The new TAR President announces the 1976-77 cabinet, and plans formulated for the next year's session, etc. Program is flexible enough to rearrange it without difficulty.

Please note the Thursday night TAR Banquet, in case anything should change her schedule and she'd want to come then. It's the one dressy affair and one of the week's highlights. Usually best menu too!



17TH ANNUAL

G. O. P. YOUTH CAMP

JULY 25th - JULY 30th, 1976

CAMP CAESAR

COWEN, WEST VIRGINIA

REGISTER: AFTER 2:00 P.M. SUNDAY, JULY 25th

ADJOURN: 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY, JULY 30th

CAMP MAILING ADDRESS: G. O. P. YOUTH CAMP, CAMP CAESAR, COWEN, W. VA. 26206

CAMP TELEPHONE: OFFICE: 226-3888 (304) DINING HALL: 226-3834

TRANSPORTATION: EACH CAMPER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING HIS OWN TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM CAMP WITH LOCAL CLUBS AND SPONSORS. CAMP CAESAR IS LOCATED IN WEBSTER COUNTY ON WEST VIRGINIA ROUTE 20, TEN MILES SOUTH OF WEBSTER SPRINGS AND FOUR MILES EAST OF COWEN.

CAMP FACILITIES - STAFF: CAMP CAESAR IS SITUATED ON THE EDGE OF THE MONONGAHELA NATIONAL FOREST. CAMPERS WILL BE HOUSED IN MODERN STONE AND LOG COTTAGES SURROUNDED BY NEAT CAMPING GROUNDS. A NEW ASSEMBLY HALL AND A LARGE SWIMMING POOL GIVE CAMP CAESAR THE BEST OF FACILITIES. THE G. O. P. YOUTH CAMP INCLUDES A TRAINED STAFF OF EXPERIENCED COUNSELORS AND COLLEGE PROFESSORS (INSTRUCTORS) WHO WILL ASSIST IN DIRECTING ALL OF THE POLITICAL PROGRAMS.

YOUR \$50.00 FEE - WHAT IT INCLUDES: YOUR REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES ROOM AND MEALS, SHEETS, PILLOW CASES, BLANKETS, INSURANCE, SUPPLIES AND T.A.R. DUES.

HERE IS WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

1. Bring regular camp clothing
2. A "Dress-up" outfit for special activities
3. A sweater or jacket suitable for cool evenings in the forest
4. Bathing suit
5. Any personal athletic equipment
6. Spending money for camp sweatshirts, snacks, etc.
7. Wash cloths, towels, toiletries
8. Musical instruments, records

PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES: SINCE OUR BUSINESS IS POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT, THE YOUTH CAMP OFFERS DAILY CLASSES ON INSTRUCTION, TAUGHT BY POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSORS FROM COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN WEST VIRGINIA. CLASSES THIS YEAR COVER: (1) DEVELOPMENT OF REPUBLICAN PARTY, (2) AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS, (3) ELECTIONS, (4) LEGISLATIVE PROCESS AND (5) YOUTH IN POLITICS. NATIONAL AND STATE SPEAKERS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO TAKE PART IN CAMP ACTIVITIES. CAMPERS WILL TAKE PART IN MODEL CONGRESS, MOCK ELECTION, AND CONVENTION AND ELECT T.A.R. OFFICERS. TWELVE OUTSTANDING CAMPERS WILL BE SELECTED AT THE END OF THE WEEK, *plus the boy + girl who are the "most outstanding" campers.*

ORGANIZED SPORTS AND RECREATION: SOFTBALL, FOOTBALL, SWIMMING, BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL, BADMINTON, SHUFFLEBOARD, HORSESHOES AND DANCING.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Parents and friends may visit the camp by prearrangement
2. Parents or friends may eat at the camp for \$2.00 per meal
3. No camper will be permitted to leave the camp grounds during the week without special permission
4. All campers and leaders are required to attend all meals
5. Campers will conduct their own vesper program; and a high quality of character, leadership and conduct will be practiced
6. Camp T-shirts may be purchased for \$3.00 each
7. There will be no alcoholic beverages or drugs of any type allowed in or around the camp by campers or leaders



# PRESIDENT TO HOST Cabell Republicans

BY ANGELA DODSON  
Gannett News Service

WASHINGTON — President Ford has invited 22 West Virginians to the White House for lunch tomorrow to let them know how important they are to him.

The guest list, headed by Gov. Arch A. Moore, is made up of Republican convention delegates who are officially uncommitted but who Ford campaign strategists say will back the President.

Delegates in several states are still up for grabs, but the West Virginia group is the only state delegation thus far to be invited to the White House for a personal lobbying touch from Ford.

Among those invited, according to the President Ford Committee, are GOP gubernatorial nominee Cecil B. Underwood, Cabell County Sheriff Ted Barr and Jody Smirl, former member of and current candidate for the House of Delegates.

(From PRESIDENT, Page 1)

## Reagan Disputes Ford Count

sumably going to Reagan.

According to the Ford campaign office, others included in the 22 delegates invited to the White House are:

Tom Potter, state GOP chairman; George Seibert, minority leader of the House of Delegates; Joseph Laurita Jr., Wheeling attorney; Rex Baumgardner, candidate for Harrison County sheriff; Bill Loy, former congressional candidate and aide to Gov. Moore; Priscilla Haden of Charleston, wife of federal judge Charles H. Haden III; Ellie Flowers, wife of

IT'S ALL part of the struggle between Ford and former California Gov. Ronald Reagan to sew up the 1,130 votes needed to win the nomination before the Republican National Convention begins in August.

With 161 delegates yet to be chosen, Ford aides say he has 1,117 votes, including the 22 West Virginians, while Reagan says he has 25 more than needed. By other estimates, both GOP candidates are about 100 votes short.

At stake in West Virginia are 28 delegates. Of those Ford has claimed 22. However, Moore says only 20 of the 28 are firmly in Ford's camp, two are uncommitted and five to six, who chose not to accept White House invitations, are Reagan backers. Meanwhile, Reagan's campaign aides are saying only 16 to 19 will vote for Ford, with the rest pre-

(See REAGAN, Page 2)

West Virginia Supreme Court Justice Edwin F. Flowers;

Elmer Dodson, former Charleston mayor; State Sen. J.D. Hinkle; John Hoblettzell Jr., son of the former U.S. Senator; State Del. James W. Teets; State Sen. J. Frank Deem; Francis Love, former congressman; Louise Leonard, former state senator; Donald Everly, a former convention delegate; State Del. Robert Harman; John Poffenbarger, former state senator and Charleston attorney; and Richie Robb, mayor of South Charleston.

# Jody Smirl Is Leaning To Ford

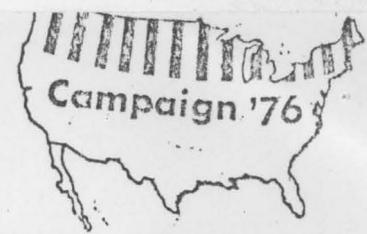
One of the three uncommitted West Virginia delegates to the Republican presidential nomination convention said she is leaning toward President Gerald Ford.

Mrs. Jody Smirl, 9 Parkway Drive, said she has maintained that position since she ran for the delegate position in the West Virginia May 11 primary.

However, she said she is officially uncommitted so she can be free to change her mind.

TED T. BARR, Cabell County sheriff and another uncommitted delegate, said last night he still has not made up his mind. Republican gubernatorial candidate Cecil Underwood of Wheeling, the third delegate, could not be contacted last night.

According to reports from the Associated Press, Gov. Ronald



Reagan is within 25 votes of tying the number of delegates Ford has.

Mrs. Smirl said she has not been contacted by any supporters for Reagan. Barr said he was contacted before the West Virginia delegation visited Ford in the White House Friday.

IF SHE HAD to vote tomorrow, Mrs. Smirl said she would vote to give the nomination to Ford.

She also said that unless Ford does something drastically wrong between now and the convention, she will vote for him. She said his vice presidential choice could affect her decision if she totally disagreed with his choice.

She said she will vote on the issues rather than simply which Re-

(See SMIRL, Page 2)

(From JODY, Page 1)

## Smirl Invites Susan Ford To GOP Camp For Youths

publican could win in the November election.

BARR SAID he would make up his mind on both the issues and the question of who can beat the apparent Democratic presidential nominee, Jimmy Carter.

Barr said he expects the two candidates will take clearer stands on the issues before the convention begins Aug. 16. He said some of the major issues will be the Panama Canal, detente and the economy.

Mrs. Smirl said she did a little

politicking of her own when she met Ford at the White House. She said she requested that his daughter, Susan, come to the GOP Youth Camp at Cowen, W. Va., which will be held July 25-30.

SUSAN FORD had been asked last year to attend but couldn't because of a summer job she had, Mrs. Smirl said.

Ford seemed to be genuinely interested in the opinions of the delegates, Mrs. Smirl said.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Susan,

Attached is the file on the West Virginia stop, and as Julie Cooke mentions in her note to me, Dorothy Downton said your father has the camp's schedule in order to talk to you about it directly.

Thanks so much, and let me know what you decide.

susan  
D.

~~PETER~~  
Susan:

7/16/76

Re: GOP Youth Camp, W. Va.

I spoke with Jody Smirl, with whom I should have been talking all along, since she is directly involved in the camp's activities and spoke with the President about it.

Mrs. Smirl told me that on Friday the 30th there is a big assembly, which many of the parents attend, and at which awards are given to two outstanding campers. (It was suggested that Susan present these awards.) The assembly is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. but could be changed to a little ~~x~~ later.

Mrs. Smirl said she had sent a detailed list of activities to Dorothy Downton.

I called Dorothy - she gave the ~~x~~ letter and info directly to the President as he had requested because he wants to talk to Susan directly about it.

(Note: Mrs. Smirl mentioned Summerville airport, a small airport, which is a 45 min. drive from the camp.)

JULIE COOKE

Susan:

7/16/76

RE: GOP Youth Camp in West Virginia

I spoke with Paul Ragland about Susan's schedule.

She will arrive in Charleston at 10:30 a.m. on the 29th. The drive to Cowen is at least 2 hours, and Paul felt that with getting off the plane, baggage etc. they would not arrive in Cowen before 1:30 or 2:00.

Susan told Paul that she expected <sup>to be there</sup> most of the day, which led him to expect to overnight in Charleston, since it is a long drive back, and fly to Washington on the 30th.

I have had no luck getting any specifics on what will be happening at the camp. Today I spoke with Prscilla Humphries, Nat'l Committeewoman, who said that they would change their activities to have something special for Susan. I told her I felt Susan would like to visit and see the activities that the campers normally take part in, and see the program as it normally is for the young people. All I could get is that throughout the week the attendees (about 150) will have broken up into two political parties, will have elected candidates for President of the camp, and Thursday afternoon is the actual election. The banquet takes place in the evening.

I have one more person to call to get some more specifics on times, activities etc. I have not been able to reach her yet (Mrs. Jody Smirl, 304/525-6859. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the camp.)

523-9659

*Julia COOKE*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Susan,

As we discussed by phone, Friday the 30th turns out not to be a possible date to go to the West Virginia camp, as that is the day they pack up and disperse.

Their Thursday schedule includes a banquet in the evening and a mock election of a Presidential candidate which would be nice to attend, but this would undoubtedly require overnighing there the night of the 29th because it would conclude late and be a long trip coming back, <sup>to DC</sup> and it also would probably require coming back from the West Coast on the 28th because of the difficulties of the flights which you mentioned.

If it turns out you cannot go, I think Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Hichman will have appreciated your effort to be there; on the other hand your father may feel that a firm commitment to be there really has been made.

Why don't you think about it and talk it over with your father and then maybe we can talk again.

Thank you,

*Still up in the air  
Jack may go.*

susan

Susan:

7/12/76  
12:00

Re: the GOP Youth Camp,

Mrs. Stevens has retired. I spoke with  
Mrs. Oween Hickman.

The camp does adjourn on Friday the 30th,  
and it is a day of packing and leaving.

Thursday, there will be a schedule of  
political science and practical politics  
classes, and in the evening a banquet  
and mock election of a Presidential candidate.  
(Wouldn't it be great for Susan to accept the  
nomination on behalf of her father.)

Mrs. Hickman is checking more on the  
details for Thursday, and is calling me  
back. ( I indicated that Susan would like  
to visit, and that the 29th might be a  
possible date).

Julie ~~Cook~~

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 6

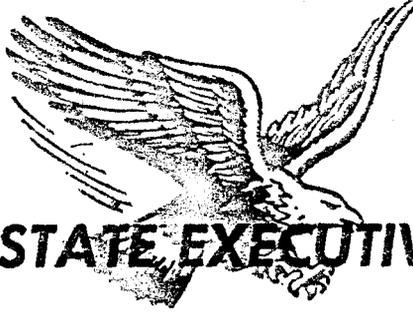
Susan,

Your Father asked me to be sure  
that you received this first thing  
today.

Please let him know if you could  
attend this for at least a day.

Dorothy

*yes on the  
30th  
please inform Susan  
Porter*



# REPUBLICAN STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN  
Thomas E. Potter

ASSOCIATE CHAIRMAN  
Mrs. E. K. Stevens

June 30, 1976

P. O. Box 1007  
Charleston, W. Va. 25324  
Telephone 344-3446

304/

Mrs. Dorothy Downton  
White House, 1st Floor, West Wing  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Downton:

As requested, I am enclosing an information sheet for the 17th Annual GOP Youth Camp, to be held at Camp Caesar, Cowen, West Virginia, July 25th to 30th.

I do hope the President will permit his daughter Susan to attend this camp, after he has looked it over. It would mean so much to GOP Youth Campers if she were able to come for just one day.

Sincerely

*Virginia Stevens*

Mrs. E. K. Stevens

VS/b

Encl.

# TIME

## AMERICAN NOTES

### Approaching Infinity

There stood Viking, an alien on Mars' Chryse Planitia (golden plains), its sophisticated cameras sending sharply defined photographs across 212 million miles to earth. And hardly anybody was watching. Sure, the crowd at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., erupted with unscientific enthusiasm. But as the first photos came in, television screens across the U.S. were flickering with Barbara Walters reruns, old movies and game shows. There was excitement, but nothing remotely comparable to the electric thrill of Neil Arm-

CULVER PICTURES



ARTIST'S VISION OF H.G. WELLS' MARTIANS  
So where were the little green men?

strong's message from the moon: "Houston—the Eagle has landed!"

TV later gave Mars considerable play, but not enough to satisfy everybody. "It's downright disgusting," said University of Louisville Scientist J. Richard Keefe. "Talk about being blasé about space exploration—this was just incredible."

Eventually, the establishment of this beachhead on the farther shores of space will surely be seen as a fantastic breakthrough (see SPACE). For now, perhaps people were disappointed at the absence of little green men and exotic vegetation. Maybe, without a space-suited man traipsing awkwardly around the planet, the event was too impersonal for

many people. Or possibly the whole spectacular venture—an eleven-month voyage through the void, a robot responding to commands from nearly a quarter of a billion miles away, a perfect performance—was just too intimidating to most mortals: almost like trying to grasp the concept of infinity.

### Full Circle

The U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia came full circle last week. Air Force Master Sergeant George Leroy Davis, 40, of Cincinnati, packed his bags and, with his wife and two children, flew out of Bangkok. Though some 250 U.S. military advisers will remain in Thailand, U.S. authorities designated Davis as a symbol of the last regular American forces to leave the country—and, in fact, all of Southeast Asia.

There was a special irony—and a tragic reminder—in Davis' departure. Like the last American to leave, the first American to die in the Viet Nam War was named Davis—Army Specialist Four James T. Davis of Livingston, Tenn., no kin, who was killed on Dec. 21, 1961.

### Gallic Grumbles

The inhabitants never walk if they can ride. Their conversation is boring. The food in their inns—mainly smoked or salted bear fat, corn bread and weak coffee—is "very mediocre." Worse, travelers must often sleep on the floor, surrounded by couples engaged in various sexual acts.

So complained Louis Philippe, Duke of Orléans and a future King of France (1830-48), after a four-month swing through the U.S. in 1797. Four years earlier, the young aristocrat, whose father was guillotined by revolutionists, had begun a 21-year exile, spent mostly in Europe. Then 23 years old, the duke filled two notebooks as he explored the exotic New World, writing of "very pretty" and "coquettish" Cherokee women, "gross, lazy and inhospitable" whites in Tennessee, and George Washington's "most exquisite politeness" during a dinner at Mount Vernon. The journal has just been published in France as a gesture toward the U.S. Bicentennial.

Louis Philippe made few judgments about the American political and social systems. But he was appalled by Washington's rather shabby treatment of his 300 slaves and, like the far more perceptive Frenchman Alexis de Tocqueville a generation later, predicted that slavery would "sooner or later be fatal to the southern states." The young duke also recorded the sentiments of a certain Captain Chapman in Kentucky: "Our Government could be no worse than it is now." The plaint sounds remarkably up to date.



RODNEY MIMS

THE PRESIDENT TURNING ON HIS SUPPORTERS AT

## REPUBLICANS



# Ford Is Close,

*Fifteen new votes from Hawaii. Eight from New York. Five from Virginia. One each from Delaware, Illinois, Louisiana, South Carolina, Mississippi, clinging to a unit rule, was poised to switch its 30 votes from Ronald Reagan to Gerald Ford. The President had the nomination wrapped up, with 1,135 votes, five more than needed to nominate. Reagan might accept the vice-presidential nomination and join Ford to knock out Jimmy Carter with the Republicans' strongest one-two punch.*

Those were the varied, mounting claims of Ford strategists last week as the war of nerves over the uncommitted delegates to the Republican National Convention reached its greatest intensity yet. In some desperation, Reagan's camp made claims of its own. Campaign Manager John Sears, offering no substantiation, contended that Reagan already had 1,140 delegates pinned down—ten more than needed for the nomination. ("He's blowing smoke," scoffed James Baker, Ford's chief delegate hunter.) Reagan insisted yet again there was "no way" he would accept the Veep role, but was instead working on his top-of-the-ticket acceptance speech. He challenged Ford to a debate at the Kansas City convention. Ford refused. Referring to the Ford efforts to create a stamped atmosphere, Reagan Aide David Keene declared: "If we hold it this week, the game will be over and we'll win it."

The truth was that Ford had made significant gains among the uncommitt-

Clarksburg Telegram July 29, 1976

## Susan Ford Is Sleepy, So Ducks W. Va. Pictures

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) —Susan Ford arrived in West Virginia today to campaign on behalf for her father's reelection bid, but she ducked reporters at the airport.

An aide explained that the President's daughter hadn't had much sleep and didn't want to be photographed.

Reporters, film crews and newspaper photographers gathered at the airport at 10:30 a.m., but Miss Ford refused to get off the plane. The aide told reporters that she wouldn't get off until everybody left.

Reporters refused and Secret Service men finally had a car driven up to the plane.

Miss Ford dashed down the stairs and inside the vehicle. The car had to drive by the contingent of newsmen a few minutes later, but she escaped the cameras again by ducking down behind the seat.

Miss Ford came to West Virginia to speak at a GOP youth camp near Cowen.



...rmed over to McDowell  
 ...rt Judge Jay Goldman  
 ...y charge and held him for  
 ...ities.  
 ...or Danny Cooke, 35, of  
 ...objected to his client's  
 ...n the Charleston arrest.  
 ...as unreasonably high for  
 ...se that netted \$62. Cooke  
 ...aire, 29, of New Orleans,  
 ...or allegedly conning the  
 ...ries Sayles, of 1666 South  
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waived to the grand jury on charges of passing a forged check and receiving stolen property. Miss Carter allegedly received a \$186 payroll check July 13 stolen from Industrial Leasing Systems and backed by the National Bank of Commerce.

**Analysis:**  
 WHAT THE NEWS MEANS

The President's decision to dispatch his daughter to the GOP Youth Training Camp near Cowen, Webster County, came at the request of Mrs. Jody Smirl, an uncommitted delegate from Huntington, and director of the political camp.

"Irked" is an accurate term to describe Susan's mood when her plane landed at Kanawha Airport at 10:30 a.m. As reporters and film crews waited at Gate Five, a Secret Service agent advised that Susan would not disembark the plane unless they dispersed.

After newsmen refused to leave, the President's daughter, dressed in jeans and carrying a tennis racket, exited the plane

and walked briskly to a waiting car, without acknowledging a handful of well-wishers and reporters.

Meanwhile, security officers warned photographers not to take pictures at the airport. When a television cameraman focused his lens on the vehicle chauffeuring Susan downtown, she ducked out of sight in the back seat.

By contrast, television actor Efreem Zimbalist Jr., whose jet touched down only minutes after Miss Ford departed for the Charleston House, turned on the charm for reporters. He also was en route to Cowen, but on a different mission — to campaign on behalf of presidential hopeful Ronald Reagan.

Anticipating a brief press conference with the candidate's 19-year-old daughter, reporters pursued her to the hotel, where she ate lunch in her room, and changed clothes for the three-hour drive to Camp Caesar.

When Susan, clad in a green dress and visibly refreshed, emerged from the elevator, newsmen waiting in the lobby were brushed aside by Secret Service personnel. Campaigning alone for the first time, Miss Ford quickly got into her car and shut the door to photographers and reporters.

Only after Daily Mail Chief Photographer Earl Benton complained to her Secret Service escort that photographers

were denied pictures promised to them, did Susan reluctantly step from the car and submit to reporters' questions.

Julio Franco, an 11-year-old tourist standing nearby, recognized his opportunity for an autograph, and dodged between the legs of newsmen. When he thrust a pad and pencil before Miss Ford, she replied, "If you'll send your request to the White House, I'll see that you get an autograph."

After about three minutes, Secret Service agents whisked Miss Ford off to camp, where she was to make a 90-minute appearance.

At the White House, Mrs. Weidenfeld explained the problems associated with Susan's visit:

"She has done very little campaigning, and only with her family. The President has never asked his family to campaign for him. This is a new experience for her, and I don't think she feels very comfortable about it. She was probably nervous."

In addition, the press secretary said, Miss Ford was tired from the five-hour flight from Newport Beach, Calif., where she had been visiting her brother Steve.

The President, of course, is attempting to muster every possible delegate vote for the showdown next month in Kansas City. The Latest Associated Press survey indicates Ford is leading Reagan by only 72 votes, with 138 delegates still uncommitted.

As a result, the help of Susan, admittedly an unpolished campaigner, was enlisted for West Virginia. The President's daughter, however, is not unfamiliar with demands of the news media.

A journalism student at Mount Vernon College in Washington, Miss Ford worked part time last summer for the Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal as a photographic intern. She also worked alongside professional photographers during the fall, while covering her father for the Associated Press.

Until the convention, no one can say whether Susan's visit was a blessing or a boondoggle for Ford. But, at least in Charleston, a gracious actor who reminds voters of an FBI agent proved a bigger hit than the daughter of a President.

# PLEASURE TRIPS?

## Susan Ford Snubs Fans; Zimbalist Turns On Charm

By BOB KITTLE  
 Of The Daily Mail Staff

Susan Ford's six-hour stop here yesterday reflects the President's growing stake in West Virginia's 28 uncommitted delegates during the waning days of the campaign; but Miss Ford's displeasure for the trip was embarrassingly conspicuous.

In a telephone interview from the White House yesterday afternoon, Betty Ford's press secretary, Sheila Weidenfeld, insisted that Susan, although a novice campaigner, made the trip willingly.

Time magazine reports in this week's edition, however, that Susan, "who dislikes campaigning, was irked but agreed" to her father's request to travel to West Virginia.

The President's decision to dispatch his daughter to the GOP Youth Training Camp near Cowen, Webster County, came at the request of Mrs. Jody Smirl, an uncommitted delegate from Huntington, and director of the political camp.

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State Delegates' Views On Reagan's Pick... See Story On Page 4B.



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