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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PRESIDENTIAL SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 1, 1975

Palm Springs, California

8:00 am	Mr. Donald Rumsfeld arrives Presidential Residence for Staff Time.
8:45 am	Motorcade departs Presidential Residence en route Thunderbird Country Club.
	[Driving Time: 5 mins]
8:50 am	Arrive Thunderbird Country Club.
9:00 am	Tee Off with Messrs. Wilson, Jameson, and Parma.
1:30 pm (Approx)	Golf game concludes. Motorcade departs Thunderbird Country Club en route Presidential Residence.
1:35 pm (Approx)	Arrive Presidential Residence.

PERSONAL TIME

3:00 pm (30)	The Attorney General of California, Evelle Younger, arrives Presidential Residence for meeting. (Not Issued)
4:30 pm	Mr. Donald Rumsfeld arrives Presidential Residence for Staff Time.
5:00 pm (30)	Mr. Taft Schreiber arrives Presidential Residence for meeting. (Not Issued)
7:30 pm	Guests arrive Presidential Residence for Private Dinner.

GUEST LIST

PRIVATE DINNER
Tuesday, April 1, 1975
7:30 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE

Mr. & Mrs. Howard Adams

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Annenberg

Colonel & Mrs. Earl Blaik

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Capra

Mr. Alan Greenspan

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hope

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Hoffman

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jameson

Mr. & Mrs. Darius Keaton

Mr. & Mrs. Leon Parma

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Rawlings

Mrs. Marion C. Steketee

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Westland

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Wilson

WHITE HOUSE PRESS CHARTER TO PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

Via Northwest Orient Airlines March 29, 1975

WIRES:

Helen Thomas	United Press International
Richard Growald	United Press International
Frank Cormier	Associated Press
Howard Benedict	Associated Press
Mrs. Joy	
Ralph Harris	Reuters
Mrs. Ena	
Louis Foy	Agence France-Presse

NEWSPAPERS:

Lou Cannon	Washington Post	
Jack (9)		
Jack Germond	Washington Star-News	Join April 2
John Herbers	New York Times	
Mrs. Betty		
Jill (14)		
Paul Healy	New York Daily News	
Arlen Large	Wall Street Journal	
Martin Schram	Newsday	Join
Bruce Winters	Baltimore Sun	Join March 29
Aldo Beckman	Chicago Tribune	
Peter Lisagor	Chicago Daily News	Join March 31
James Deakin	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	
Rudy Abramson	Los Angeles Times	
Mrs. Joyce		
George Murphy	San Francisco Chronicle	Join SAN 3/3 Off SFO 3/4
Al Sullivan	USIA	
Saul Kohler	Newhouse Newspapers	Join April 2
William Theis	Hearst Newspapers	Join March 31
Otto Kreisher	San Diego Union	Join March 29
Roy Macartney	The Age	
Mrs. Betty		

MAGAZINES:

Thomas DeFrank	Newsweek
Mrs. Mary Jane	
Matthew (1)	
John Mashek	U.S. News & World Report
Mrs. Sarah	
Dean Fischer	Time
John Osborne	New Republic
Mrs. Trudy	
John Weisman	TV Guide
John Buckley	Western Union

RADIO & TELEVISION COMMENTATORS & PRODUCERS:

Thomas Capra	ABC Productions	
Thomas Jarriel	American Broadcasting Company	
Ann Compton	American Broadcasting Company	
Walt Rodgers	AP-Radio	
Lucien Millet	Radio Canada	
Charles Thompson	CBS Productions	
Bob Schieffer	Columbia Broadcasting System	Join April 1
Phil Jones	Columbia Broadcasting System	
Bob Pierpoint	Columbia Broadcasting System	
Jeff Skov	Golden West Broadcasters	
Mrs. Paula		
Michael (6)		
Matthew (5)		



RADIO & TELEVISION COMMENTATORS & PRODUCERS (Continued):

Forrest Boyd	Mutual Broadcasting System
Lloyd Siegel	NBC Productions
Mrs. Jean	
Thomas Brokaw	National Broadcasting Company
John Cochran	National Broadcasting Company
Russ Ward	NBC-Radio
Don Fulsom	UPI-Audio
Philomena Jurey	Voice of America
Thomas Girard	Westinghouse Broadcasting Company

REELS, STILLs, SOUNDMEN, RADIO ENGINEERS & ELECTRICIANS:

Charles Tasnadi	AP-Photos	
Miss Diana (12)		
Ron Bennett	UPI-Photos	
Mrs. Donna (Join & return)		
Dennis Brack	Time-Black Star-Photos	
Wally McNamee	Newsweek-Photos	
Mrs. Nikka		
Gordon Hoover	ABC TV Cameraman	
Mrs. Susan		
Lew Maddox	ABC TV Soundman	
Roy Hogstedt	ABC TV Cameraman	Join March 29
Mike Belli	ABC Radio Engineer	
Cal Marlin	CBS TV Cameraman	
Tom Novak	CBS TV Soundman	
Dave Peredia	CBS TV Electrician	
Gerald Conklin	CBS Radio Engineer	
Frank Gibson	NBC TV Cameraman	
Al Hoagland	NBC TV Soundman	
Ernest Hauser	NBC TV Electrician	
Mrs. Mary Jane		
Aldo Argentieri	NBC Radio Engineer	
Mrs. Helen		
Allen (11)		
David (7)		
Cleveland Ryan	Light Technician	



shut off at noon day before
SAMPLE CREDENTIAL RELEASE

date of event
9-12 noon

All media wishing to cover President Ford's visit to _____

on _____, should submit

credential requests to Mr. _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Deadline for credentials request is: _____.

The following information is required:

Name

Affiliation

Social Security Number, or Passport Number for a foreigner

Date of birth

Place of birth

Business Phone Number

The above information may be delivered in person or called in to the

office listed above. This office will be open from _____ to _____

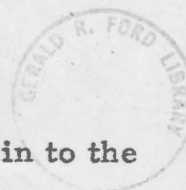
_____ through _____ and from _____

to _____ on _____.

Credentials must be picked up in person by each individual member of
the media at _____

from _____ to _____ on _____

and from _____ to _____ on _____.



QUESTION:

Do you have any plans to try to help the millions of refugees in Vietnam?

The President of World Airways and a number of people in this country are trying to bring plane loads of Vietnamese orphans to the U. S. but they say that they cannot get the necessary permission.

Can't you do something about this?

ANSWER:

Arrangements are being made to admit about 1,500 South Vietnamese orphans who are in the process of being adopted by Americans. They are being admitted under the Attorney General's power exercised by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. There are three different groups of orphans involved. The first group of orphans numbering possibly 90, is expected to arrive in San Francisco this week, if they are not already here.

(from Ted Marrs)

RON NESSEN BRIEFING
Thursday, March 20, 1975

RELEASES: Letter of transmittal of CIEP 3rd annual report (reports available in Press Office)

POSTINGS: Norman H. Beamer, Commissioner representing U.S. Gov't on Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission

SCHEDULE: As posted. + 4:00 p.m. Weinberger & Lynn re higher education act & asst.

Ron gave the following OFF THE RECORD guidance for planning purposes. The President will be leaving for Palm Springs around the 29th thru approximately the 7th of April, this is still tentative in the time frame, but accommodations must be made etc.... Some of the expected events will include a visit to Elk Hills on the day he goes out to Calif, participation in a WH Conference on 4/3, a speech in San Francisco on 4/4/, and a NAB luncheon in Las Vegas on 4/7. this is all still OFF THE RECORD.

EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE: There have been reports that Giscard & Brezhnev are talking about a June 30 summit in Helsinki. There is progress being made on the European security treaty, there are still some unresolved issues, but if a treaty is foreseeable and if the progress continues as it has, a summit at the conclusion of the conference is highly probable, and the U.S. would participate.

FBI: Concerning the FBI entering an apartment in Alexandria over the weekend, RN checked with the FBI and they explained that there is a warrant outstanding for Patty Hearst. The FBI had reason to believe that Patty Hearst might be in the Alex. apt, a search warrant was not needed as they did not intend to search. There is an internal Administrative inquiry underway to determine whether there was anything out of order in this activity. If the report proves that anything occurred which should not have, the report will be brought to the attention of the President. The P has not requested a report as the internal inquiry is already underway.

CIA: Cannot discuss the subject.(submarine issue)
& CAMBODIA

VIETNAM: RN stated that it is becoming increasingly clear that one of the factors in VN is lack of certainty of continued U.S. military aide. The VN Amb. to U.S. Phuong said "if we are assured of long term supplies we can hold more land, If we are not certain, we must concentrate on the defense of our heartland. RN quoted from a NVN magazine article which stated that the current attacks on SVN were based on the U.S. being unwilling or unable to supply (due to denied \$) SVN. SVN & Cambodia are willing to fight for their own defense and the President feels it is right to give them the means with which to fight. RN pointed out that the fact is in SVN, in the areas where govt. troops have pulled out and communist forces are moving in, civilians are fleeing these areas to move to places which are held by gov't forces, which RN felt significant. The President has been kept up to date on the activities in both countries. There is no new reports of American evacuation from Cambodia.

ECONOMY: The subject of a \$5 B bill for public works jobs.... RN said the President had recommended what he believes to be the best and quickest measure to turn the country around.... even Long has stated that no money has been designated for anybody. Congress seems to be playing to the galleries, RN said, loading the bill with special pet projects.

LUNCH LID 161 3:00 p.m.

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Palm Springs, California)

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

APRIL 7, 1975

PRESS NOTE: Baggage will be accepted in the International Hotel Lobby from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., Monday, April 7, 1975.

9:20 a.m.	PDT	Press buses depart Press Center enroute Palm Springs
12:20 p.m.	EDT	Municipal Airport, Palm Springs, California.
9:40 a.m.	PDT	Air Force One Pool departs Press Center enroute
12:40 p.m.	EDT	Presidential Residence.
10:20 a.m.	PDT	Press Plane departs Palm Springs Municipal Airport,
1:20 p.m.	EDT	Palm Springs, California enroute McCarran Field, Las Vegas, Nevada.
10:45 a.m.	PDT	THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE
1:45 p.m.	EDT	VIA AUTO ENROUTE PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

Driving Time: 15 minutes

Air Force One Pool follows.

11:00 a.m.	PDT	Press Plane arrives McCarran Field, Las Vegas, Nevada.
2:00 p.m.	EDT	

PRESS NOTE: One Press bus proceeds to Las Vegas Hilton Hotel. Press Center is located in Conference Rooms 1, 2, and 3, adjacent to the main ballroom. The Press Office is located in Rooms 4 and 5, adjacent to the main ballroom.

(MORE)



Press Facilities:

16 long distance telephones

3 telex

1 mult

11:05 a.m. PDT
2:05 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, BOARDS AIR FORCE ONE, AND DEPARTS ENROUTE McCARRAN FIELD, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

Flying Time: 40 minutes

No Time Change

11:45 a.m. PDT
2:45 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES McCARRAN FIELD, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

THE PRESIDENT IS GREETED BY:

Senator Howard Cannon (D-Nev.)

Senator Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.)

Representative James Santini (D-Nev.)

11:50 a.m. PDT
2:50 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS McCARRAN FIELD VIA AUTO ENROUTE LAS VEGAS HILTON HOTEL.

Driving Time: 15 minutes

Air Force One Pool follows. Second Press bus follows.

12:05 p.m. PDT
3:05 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES LAS VEGAS HILTON HOTEL.

THE PRESIDENT IS GREETED BY:

Mr. Vincent T. Wasilewski, President of the National Association of Broadcasters

Mr. John Fitzgerald, General Manager, Las Vegas Hilton Hotel

PRESS NOTE: Press proceed to Press area in Main Ballroom

12:10 p.m. PDT
3:10 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS HEAD TABLE RECEPTION AND INFORMALLY GREETES GUESTS.

12:30 p.m. PDT
3:30 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT, ESCORTED BY MR. WASILEWSKI, PROCEEDS TO HEAD TABLE IN MAIN BALLROOM.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

(MORE)



12:35 p.m.	PDT	Luncheon begins.
3:35 p.m.	EDT	
1:43 p.m.	PDT	Luncheon concludes.
4:43 p.m.	EDT	
1:44 p.m.	PDT	Introduction of the President by Mr. Vincent Wasilewski.
4:44 p.m.	EDT	
1:45 p.m.	PDT	PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS.
4:45 p.m.	EDT	

FULL PRESS COVERAGE

PRESS NOTE: Remarks will be piped in to the Press Center.

2:05 p.m.	PDT	PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS CONCLUDE.
5:05 p.m.	EDT	
2:15 p.m.	PDT	THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS LAS VEGAS HILTON HOTEL
5:15 p.m.	EDT	VIA AUTO ENROUTE McCARRAN FIELD, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

Driving Time: 15 minutes

Air Force One Pool follows. One Press bus follows.

2:35 p.m.	PDT	THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES McCARRAN FIELD, LAS
5:35 p.m.	EDT	VEGAS, NEVADA, BOARDS AIR FORCE ONE, AND DEPARTS ENROUTE ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

Flying Time: 3 hours 50 minutes
Time Change: +3 hours

3:00 p.m. (approx.)	PDT	Second Press bus departs Press Center enroute McCarran Field, Las Vegas, Nevada.
6:00 p.m.	EDT	
3:15 p.m. (approx.)	PDT	Press Plane departs McCarran Field, Las Vegas, Nevada, enroute Andrews Air Force Base.
6:15 p.m.	EDT	
9:25 p.m.	EDT	THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, BOARDS MARINE ONE, AND DEPARTS ENROUTE THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE.
9:45 p.m.	EDT	THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES THE SOUTH LAWN, THE WHITE HOUSE.
10:05 p.m. (approx.)	EDT	Press Plane arrives Andrews Air Force Base.

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Telegram

NO. WDS. - CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	THIS MESSAGE WILL BE SENT AS A TELEGRAM UNLESS IT IS OTHERWISE INDICATED.	PRESS		OVER NIGHT TELEGRAM
					DPR	NPR	

the following message, subject to the Telegraph Company's conditions, rules and regulations, which are on file with regulatory authorities.

POOL REPORT 3/29/75

The President came back ~~at~~ about 10:15. He was wearing a blue Air Force One jacket with "Jerry Ford" on a label over ~~kix~~ the left side of his chest, under the Presidential seal. He was asked about his decision to sign the tax bill and responded: "It was a tough call.~~X~~...I think it was the right decision." Asked if it was the toughest he has ever made, he said: "No it wasn't, but it was as tough as any. But it was a tough call." He was asked about the situation in South Vietnam and he countered with a smile and said: "Let's talk about Easter." Asked to assess the situation in Vietnam, he replied: "I'll talk to you about that on Thursday." (A reference to his San Diego ~~in~~ news conference.

Asked about his schedule in Palm Springs, he said it was "going to be work 3/4ths of the time." He said "it will give Betty an opportunity to get some real good sun, which she needs very badly."

The First Lady also stopped in the press section a few minutes after the President went forward. Helen asked ~~about~~ whether she had a new Easter outfit. She said she didn't. "It's not important what I wear," adding that the day itself is what is important. She said that son Jack would be visiting. He is a student at Utah State University. Asked if she had been to Palm Springs before, she said ~~she had been there~~ the last time was Easter a year ago, but that they had been there many times. Asked about her plans in Palm Springs, she said: "I hope lots of swimming." She noted that the Fred Wilsons have grandchildren, so they had three pools: "one for ~~children~~ kiddies, one for adults and one for ~~beauty~~." Asked about the ERA amendment,

Telegram

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Send the following message, subject to the Telegraph Company's conditions, rules and regulations, which are on file with regulatory authorities.

POOL REPORT, PAGE TWO

she said: "If we don't make it this year, we'll make it next year." Asked if she is feeling well, Mrs. Ford replied, "I really do. I feel fine." She was wearing a brown two-piece suede ~~suit~~ suit.

Nessen appeared early in the flight to offer some additional comments on the President's statement on the use of American ships to rescue South Vietnamese refugees at Da Nang. He described the ~~x~~ plan as "part of an international humanitarian effort." He said other countries have indicated they will participate: Australia, United Kingdom, Nationalist China, Philippines.

He said: "Our vessels will not enter the combat areas or participate in any hostilities." He said the "requisite members of Congress have been notified." He said he did not know which members have been contacted, but explained that this was being handled by John Marsh. And Nessen said a lot of the members had been sent ~~legal~~ cables.

Nessen offered a lengthy/defense of the ship rescue operation. He cited section three of the War Powers Act, saying it "requires that members of Congress be consulted ~~with~~ only when U.S. forces are introduced into situations involving hostilities or where hostilities are imminent. And that is not the case with this evacuation. Nevertheless, the White House is informing members of Congress in keeping with the spirit of the war powers act... ~~xxxx~~ involvement in hostilities will be avoided!"

Then he mentioned a second law which might be applicable: the August 1973 law prohibiting ~~the~~ U.S. military forces in Indochina. "This action does not violate that law." He said



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Send the following message, subject to the Telegram Company's conditions, rules and regulations, which are on file with regulatory authorities.

poolx report, page 3

this ~~is~~ prohibits U.S. military forces from becoming involved in hostilities. "And this humanitarian effort is not designed to become involved in hostilities."

He also said the action does not violate the 1973 Paris peace accords "because these refugees were created by violations by the North Vietnamese and the United States is not bound to refrain from humanitarian efforts by the Paris peace accords."

He explained that the President's authority had been verified by the legal counsel's offices at the White House and the Pentagon.

Nessen would not say how the idea of using ships had been ~~discussed~~ initiated. But said Ford had talked about "his ~~own~~ ideas" earlier in the week ~~to~~ with Kissinger and Schlesinger.

As if the President still thinks the Thieu government can survive, Nessen replied: "As far as I know." Asked if the President believes Thieu should remain in office, Nessen said: "He's the elected head of the government. What has he to do with the Communist attacks?" Describing the military situation, Nessen ~~said~~ said: "The government is pulling back to what it considers a line it can defend. President Thieu and his generals have to draw that line. It's their war. They're fighting the war. The White House can't tell you where that line is."

No briefing Sunday. No word on social events. ~~Among~~ Among those on board: Rumsfeld, Hartmann and wife, Greenspan, Nessen and family, Lukash, Sheila Weidenfeld.



Girard, Healy

March 30, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Jack Bowers will be accompanying President Ford to the Elk Hills Naval Petroleum site tomorrow. Mr. Bowers is in Palm Springs today and we hope to have him available to brief the press about Elk Hills after church today.

The briefing is tentatively scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in the briefing room at the International Hotel.

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APRIL 5, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Palm Springs, California)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President and Mrs. Ford will fly to San Francisco International Airport this evening to witness the arrival of a plane carrying 325 Vietnamese orphans.

The President and Mrs. Ford are going because they are deeply touched by the plight of the South Vietnamese people and especially by the thousands of innocent war orphans.

The President and Mrs. Ford are expected to leave their residence about 7:30 p.m., Palm Springs time, and take off in Air Force One from Palm Springs Municipal Airport at about 8:00 p.m.

They will arrive at San Francisco International Airport in time to witness the arrival of a chartered Pan American World Airways 747 at 9:25 p.m., San Francisco time.

The plane will carry 325 Vietnamese orphans and a number of escorts, including two survivors of the C5A crash.

Additional information will be provided to the pool on Air Force One. An expanded pool (list attached) will accompany the President for press coverage.

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April 5, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Palm Springs, California)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

AIR FORCE ONE POOL (Palm Springs to San Francisco International
Airport to Palm Springs) departs Press Center at 7:00 p. m.

AP

UPI (Helen Thomas)

Reuters (Ralph Harris)

AP Photo (Charles Tasnadi)

UPI Photo (Ron Bennett)

Newsweek Photo (Color) (Wally McNamee)

NBC Pool Crew (2) (Al Hoagland and Frank Gibson)

NBC Radio Technician (Aldo Argentieri)

ABC Correspondent

Wall Street Journal (Arlen Large)

The New Republic (John Osborne)

Lighting Technician (2)

April 6, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Palm Springs, California)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

President Ford played golf this morning at LaQuinta with Leon Parma, Fred Wilson and Earl Blaik.

The President will work at his residence this afternoon.

The President and Mrs. Ford will be the hosts at a reception for invited members of the press at their residence between 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. this evening.

The President and Mrs. Ford will be the guests of Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger for dinner tonight at the Kissinger residence. Due to the short travel distance, there will be no protective pool.

General Weyand returned to Washington this morning leaving Palm Springs Municipal Airport at 8:00 a.m.

The detailed schedule for Monday is now available.

Check the Press Office later in the afternoon for the availability of an advance text for tomorrow's speech.

No other postings or announcements are planned prior to take off for Las Vegas.

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The New Republic (John Osborne)
Lighting Technician (2)

FOR RELEASE AT 12 noon PDT
3 pm EDT

APRIL 3, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(San Diego, California)

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

We are seeing a great human tragedy as untold numbers of Vietnamese flee the North Vietnamese onslaught. The United States has been doing and will continue to do its utmost to assist these people.

I have directed all available naval ships to stand off Indochina to do whatever is necessary to assist. We have appealed to the United Nations to use its moral influence to permit these innocent people to leave, and we call on North Vietnam to permit the movement of refugees to areas of their choice.

While I have been in California I have been spending many hours on the refugee problem and our humanitarian efforts. I have directed that money from a \$2 million special foreign aid children's fund be made available to fly 2,000 South Vietnamese orphans to the United States as soon as possible.

I have also directed American officials in Saigon to act immediately to cut red tape and bureaucratic obstacles preventing these children from coming to the United States.

I have directed that C-5A planes and other aircraft, especially equipped to care for these orphans during the flight, be sent to Saigon. I expect the flights to begin within the next 36 to 48 hours. These orphans will be flown to Travis Air Force Base and other bases on the West Coast and cared for there.

These 2,000 Vietnamese orphans are all in the process of being adopted by American families.

This is the least we can do, and we will do much, much more.

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April 5, 1975

POOL REPORT
ON THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING
WITH KISSINGER AND GENERAL WEYAND

The President came out of his house at 7:25 a.m. He was in a light blue sweater over a red polo shirt, gray slacks and white shoes. He had apparently been expecting Kissinger and Weyand's arrival because in a matter of seconds after he came out in front of the house, the usual long black limousine drove up with Kissinger and General Weyand arriving at 7:26.

We were told they were supposed to be there at 7:15, so apparently, they were 11 minutes late. They got out and went up and shook hands with the President and I heard the President say, "Good morning, Henry, how are you?" And he said, "Hi, Fred, how are you?" to Weyand.

The three of them stood there for about two minutes talking but we could not hear anything more that was said. Helen Thomas put in a request to Ford for us to see General Weyand later, but Ford's reply, if any, was not audible.

Also, as the President came out, before the other two, Helen asked, "Did you see General Weyand yesterday?" And the President shook his head "no". They stood there, the three of them, talking in front of the house for two minutes and then Ford said to the photographers, "Thank you," and the three of them turned and went inside.

Kissinger was carrying a brown manila folder stamped "Secret." Now, we had stood outside for quite awhile waiting for Kissinger and Weyand to arrive, and so we have some additional material on Presidential envoy David Kennerly, who arrived at 7:04 and went in the house to comment on the grave crises in Southeast Asia, saying, "I have not talked to anyone." But later, and still before Kissinger and Weyand arrived, Kennerly came out with his cameras and stood around talking to us, and when asked what the situation looked like in South Vietnam he said, "It is obviously not looking very good."

He said that when he got to South Vietnam he found that "all my friends were begging me to take their children." In other words, to take their children out. He said at another point, "It is the worst thing that has ever happened to me in my life." One of the first things he was asked by Helen was, "How are things out there?" And he said, "It is really shitty, and you can quote me."

MORE

Then in response to other questions, he made the following observations: "They" -- meaning the South Vietnamese -- "feel they have been let down by the U.S. There is no doubt about that. I cannot even blame the people who shot at me."

At another point, he said "The leadership of South Vietnam has not been exactly premier... You cannot blame the soldiers. If you see your Colonel getting on a helicopter to leave, it would be pretty disheartening."

He said the South Vietnamese refugees were "terrified they are going to get killed. The North Vietnamese are really crummy people." That is all I have on Kennerly.

He said he had traveled pretty much on his own across the country. He had seen General Weyand once at the palace, or some point in Saigon. He said he cannot make any judgment on what is going to happen. "It is so terrible to see what is happening to my old friends," and he said, in effect, "Some additional aid would help, I guess," and then he sort of faded off, at least in theory.

Asked if it is all over, he said, "I don't know. It is not very good." He said, "All of my friends know they are going to get killed." Just a touch of additional color. Someone asked -- the General was in uniform. He was carrying a briefcase. Secretary Kissinger was wearing a dark blue blazer and gray slacks, holding a folder that was described to you.

He also was asked about why the South Vietnamese don't fight, and he said, "There are a lot of people who want to fight. They are wondering why it does not get organized," meaning the leadership.

-- Jim Deakin
Tom DeFrank
Tom Jarriel

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSETRIP OF THE PRESIDENT TO
PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

APPROXIMATE TIMES

8:00 p.m. EDT Press check-in at Andrews Air Force Base (with bags)
for those wishing to go directly to Andrews Air Force Base.

8:30 p.m. EDT Press check-in at Andrews Air Force Base (without bags)
for those wishing to go directly to Andrews Air Force Base.

Immediately after
filing for
President's speech Press will depart the White House enroute Andrews Air
Force Base. THERE WILL BE NO PRESS BUS

NOTE: For those wishing to leave their baggage
at the White House the deadline for check-in is
6:00 p.m., Saturday, March 29.

8:10 p.m. EDT THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD BOARD MARINE ONE ON SOUTH
LAWN, AND DEPART EN ROUTE ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE

8:30 p.m. EDT AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE ENROUTE
PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

9:00 p.m. EDT Press Plane departs Andrews Air Force Base enroute
Palm Springs Municipal Airport, Palm Springs, California.

Flying time: 5 hours
Time Change: -3 hours

1:30 a.m. EDT AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT,
10:30 p.m. PDT PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

THE PRESIDENT IS GREETED BY:

Mr. Bill Foster, Mayor of Palm Springs
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Wilson

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

1:35 a.m. EDT THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. FORD BOARD MOTORCADE EN ROUTE
10:35 p.m. PDT THUNDERBIRD ESTATES PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

DRIVING TIME: 15 minutes

1:50 a.m. EDT MOTORCADE ARRIVES THUNDERBIRD ESTATES PRESIDENTIAL
10:50 p.m. PDT RESIDENCE.

OVERNIGHT

2:00 a.m. EDT Press Plane arrives Palm Springs Municipal Airport,
11:00 p.m. PDT Palm Springs, California.

Board buses immediately enroute The International Hotel
1800 E. Palm Canyon Drive

PHONE: 714-323-1711

(MORE)

The Press Center is located in the International Room which is located on the second floor of the International Hotel. Access to the Press Center which is located above the coffee shop is through the main lobby. Room keys will be available in the Press Center.

Press Facilities

20 lds
4 telex

OVERNIGHT

AIR FORCE ONE POOL FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. TO PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA (March 29)

AP - Frank Cormier

UPI - Helen Thomas

AP Photo - Charlie Tasnadi

UPI Photo - Ron Bennett

New York Daily News - Paul Healy

New Republic - John Osborne

Westinghouse - Tom Girard

Network Pool Crew - CBS

Cal Marlin

Tom Novak

Cleve Ryan

(MORE)



DAY #2 - EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 30, 1975

POOLS FOR CHURCH:

(Writing Pool)

AP
UPI
NBC Radio Correspondent
New York Times
U.S. News & World Report

(Travel Pool)

AP
UPI
AP Photo
UPI Photo
NBC Correspondent
NBC Camera Crew with Radio Sound
Lighting Technician
U.S. News & World Report
Newhouse

9:45 a.m. PDT
12:45 p.m. EDT

Press bus for photographers and technicians and church writing pool departs Press Center enroute Saint Margaret's Episcopal Cathedral.

10:00 a.m. PDT
1:00 p.m. EDT

Travel Pool departs Press Center enroute Presidential Residence.

10:45 a.m. PDT
1:45 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE VIA AUTO ENROUTE SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL.

Driving Time: 10 minutes

Travel Pool follows.

10:55 a.m. PDT
1:55 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

Press Note: Camera and sound equipment will not be permitted inside the church.

11:00 a.m. PDT
2:00 p.m. EDT

Easter Sunday Service begins.

12:40 a.m. PDT
3:40 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL ENROUTE PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

Driving Time: 10 minutes

Travel Pool follows.

12:40 Noon PDT
3:40 p.m. EDT

Press bus departs Saint Margaret's Episcopal Cathedral enroute Press Center

12:55 p.m. PDT
3:55 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

(MORE)



DAY #3 - MONDAY
MARCH 31, 1975

8:00 a.m. PDT
11:00 a.m. EDT

Press buses depart Press Center enroute Palm Springs Municipal Airport, Palm Springs, California.

8:30 a.m. PDT
11:30 a.m. EDT

Air Force One Pool departs Press Center enroute Presidential Residence.

8:30 a.m. PDT
11:30 a.m. EDT

Press Plane departs Palm Springs Municipal Airport, Palm Springs, California enroute Meadows Field, Bakersfield, California.

9:10 a.m. PDT
12:10 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE VIA AUTO ENROUTE PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

Driving Time: 20 minutes

Air Force One pool follows.

(POOL MEMBERS WILL BE POSTED IN THE PRESS CENTER)

9:15 a.m. PDT
12:15 p.m. EDT

Press Plane arrives Meadows Field, Bakersfield, California

Press Note: The Press Center is located in the Airport Terminal Building.

Press Facilities:

10 long distance telephones in Press Area
20 long distance telephones in Press Center
2 telex in Press Center

9:30 a.m. PDT
12:30 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, BOARDS AIR FORCE ONE, AND DEPARTS ENROUTE MEADOWS FIELD, BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA.

Flying Time: 45 minutes
No Time Change

10:15 a.m. PDT
1:15 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES MEADOWS FIELD, BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

THE PRESIDENT IS GREETED BY:

Mayor Don Hart, Mayor of Bakersfield
Congressman William Ketchum, 18th District (R)
Mr. John Mitchell, Chairman, Kern County Board of
Supervisors
Mr. Walter Stiern, State Senator

10:30 a.m. PDT
1:30 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT BOARDS ARMY ONE AND DEPARTS MEADOWS FIELD, BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA ENROUTE U.S. NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE, ELK HILLS, CALIFORNIA.

Flying Time: 20 minutes

Press follows in helicopters (Please refer to helicopter manifest which will be provided).

(MORE)

10:50 a.m. PDT
1:50 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES U.S. NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVE,
ELK HILLS, CALIFORNIA AND PROCEEDS TO DRILLING SITE.

THE PRESIDENT IS GREETED BY:

CDR Roger Martin (USN), OIC, Elk Hills U.S. Naval
Petroleum Reserve
CDR Ted Bone (USN), Assistant OIC

10:55 a.m. PDT
1:55 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES DRILLING SITE.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

11:05 a.m. PDT
2:05 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS DRILLING SITE VIA AUTO AND
PROCEEDS TO AN ACTIVE OIL-PUMPING OPERATION.

Driving Time: 5 minutes

Travel Pool follows.

11:10 a.m. PDT
2:10 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES AT OIL-PUMPING OPERATION.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

11:17 a.m. PDT
2:17 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS OIL-PUMPING OPERATION VIA AUTO
AND PROCEEDS TO GAS PROCESSOR SITE.

Driving Time: 13 minutes

Travel Pool follows.

11:30 a.m. PDT
2:30 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES GAS PROCESSOR SITE.

PRESS POOL COVERAGE

11:35 a.m. PDT
2:35 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS OIL PROCESSOR SITE VIA AUTO
ENROUTE TANK FARM AND TANK BATTERY CONSTRUCTION SITE.

Driving Time: 8 minutes

Travel Pool follows.

11:43 a.m. PDT
2:43 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES TANK FARM AND TANK BATTERY
CONSTRUCTION SITE.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

11:50 a.m. PDT
2:50 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT BOARDS ARMY ONE AND DEPARTS ELK HILLS
ENROUTE MEADOWS FIELD, BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA.

Flying Time: 20 minutes
No Time Change

Press Follow in helicopters as on arrival.

12:05 p.m. PDT
3:05 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES MEADOWS FIELD, BAKERSFIELD,
CALIFORNIA, BOARDS AIR FORCE ONE, AND DEPARTS ENROUTE
PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

Flying Time: 45 minutes
No Time Change.

Air Force One Pool follows.

(MORE)

Press Note: Press Center is located in the Main Terminal Building.

Press Facilities:

20 long distance telephones
2 telex

12:55 p.m. PDT
3:55 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

1:00 p.m. PDT
4:00 p.m. EDT

Press Plane departs Meadows Field, Bakersfield, California enroute Palm Springs Municipal Airport, Palm Springs, California.

1:05 p.m. PDT
4:05 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT VIA AUTO ENROUTE THUNDERBIRD ESTATES PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

Driving Time: 15 minutes

Air Force One Pool follows.

1:20 p.m. PDT
4:20 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES THUNDERBIRD ESTATES PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

Air Force One Pool remains in motorcade.

1:45 p.m. PDT
4:45 p.m. EDT

Press Plane arrives Palm Springs Municipal Airport, Palm Springs, California.

Press Note: Press board buses and proceed to Eldorado Country Club.

1:55 p.m. PDT
4:55 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE VIA AUTO ENROUTE ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB, PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

Driving Time: 15 minutes

Air Force One Pool follows.

2:10 p.m. PDT
5:10 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB.

2:20 p.m. PDT
5:20 p.m. EDT

Press buses arrive Eldorado Country Club

Press Note: Press proceed to First Tee.

2:30 p.m. PDT
5:30 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT BEGINS GOLF GAME

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

Press Note: Press buses will depart after coverage of the first three holes.

7:15 p.m. PDT

THE PRESIDENT DEPARTS ELDORADO COUNTRY CLUB VIA AUTO ENROUTE PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

Driving Time: 15 minutes

Travel Pool follows.

7:30 p.m. PDT
10:30 p.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT ARRIVES PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE.

Travel Pool returns to Press Center.

OVERNIGHT

(MORE)

Tuesday, April 1, 1975

No scheduled activities

Wednesday, April 2, 1975

No scheduled activities

Thursday, April 3, 1975

6:15 a.m. PDT	Press buses depart press center.
3:15 a.m. EDT	
6:45 a.m. PDT	Air Force One pool departs press center.
3:45 a.m. EDT	
6:50 a.m. PDT	Press plane departs Palm Springs en route Lindbergh
3:50 a.m. EDT	Field, San Diego
7:20 a.m. PDT	Press plane arrives Lindbergh Field.
4:20 a.m. EDT	
7:35 a.m. PDT	AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS PALM SPRINGS EN ROUTE
4:35 a.m. EDT	LINDBERGH FIELD.
8:05 a.m. PDT	AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES LINDBERGH FIELD.
5:05 a.m. EDT	
	<u>Press Note:</u> The President will spend a full day
	in San Diego. A complete schedule will be
	posted in the Palm Springs press center.
8:30 p.m. PDT	AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS LINDBERGH FIELD
5:30 p.m. EDT	EN ROUTE PALM SPRINGS.
8:35 p.m. PDT	Press plane departs Lindbergh Field en route
5:35 p.m. EDT	Palm Springs.
9:00 p.m. PDT	AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES PALM SPRINGS. THE
6:00 p.m. EDT	PRESIDENT WILL PROCEED DIRECTLY TO HIS
	RESIDENCE.
9:05 p.m. PDT	Press plane arrives Palm Springs.
6:05 p.m. EDT	

REMAIN OVERNIGHT

(MORE)

Friday, April 4, 1975

8:00 a.m. PDT
5:00 a.m. EDT

Press buses depart Press Center en route Palm Springs Airport.

8:00 a.m. PDT
5:00 a.m. EDT

Air Force One pool departs Press Center en route residence.

8:25 a.m. PDT
5:25 a.m. EDT

Press plane departs Palm Springs en route Hamilton Air Force Base, Marin County, California.

9:10 a.m. PDT
6:10 a.m. EDT

AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS PALM SPRINGS
EN ROUTE HAMILTON AIR FORCE BASE,
MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.

9:30 a.m. PDT
6:30 a.m. EDT

Press plane arrives Hamilton Air Force Base.

10:15 a.m. PDT
7:15 a.m. EDT

AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES HAMILTON AIR FORCE
BASE.

10:25 a.m. PDT
7:25 a.m. EDT

THE PRESIDENT WILL BOARD ARMY ONE AND
PROCEED TO THE GEYSERS.

Press Note: Because of logistical problems at the Geysers, there will be unilateral pool coverage there. The rest of the press will proceed to the St. Francis Hotel.

THE PRESIDENT WILL ADDRESS THE BAY AREA COUNCIL AT THE ST. FRANCIS HOTEL IN THE EVENING.

10:35 p.m. PDT
7:35 p.m. EDT

AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS EN ROUTE PALM SPRINGS.

11:35 p.m. PDT
8:35 p.m. EDT

AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES PALM SPRINGS. THE PRESIDENT WILL PROCEED DIRECTLY TO HIS RESIDENCE.

11:45 p.m. PDT
8:45 p.m. EDT

The press plane will depart en route Palm Springs.

12:45 a.m. PDT
9:45 p.m. EDT

The press plane arrives Palm Springs.

Saturday, April 5, 1975

No scheduled activities

Sunday, April 6, 1975

No scheduled activities

(MORE)

Monday, April 7, 1975

9:20 a.m. PDT 6:20 a.m. EDT	Press buses depart Press Center en route Palm Springs Airport.
10:20 a.m. PDT 7:20 a.m. EDT	Press plane departs Palm Springs en route Las Vegas, Nevada.
11:00 a.m. PDT 8:00 a.m. EDT	Press plane arrives Las Vegas.
11:05 a.m. PDT 8:05 a.m. EDT	AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS PALM SPRINGS EN ROUTE McCARRON FIELD, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.
11:45 a.m. PDT 8:45 a.m. EDT	AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES LAS VEGAS. THE PRESIDENT WILL SPEAK AT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS LUNCHEON AT THE LAS VEGAS HILTON.
2:25 p.m. PDT 11:25 a.m. EDT	AIR FORCE ONE DEPARTS LAS VEGAS EN ROUTE ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE.
3:30 p.m. PDT 12:30 p.m. EDT	Press plane departs Las Vegas.
9:15 p.m. EDT	AIR FORCE ONE ARRIVES ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE.
10:20 p.m. EDT	Press plane arrives Andrews Air Force Base.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ABOVE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE IS ISSUED AS GUIDANCE AND THAT CHANGES MAY OCCUR.

#

File
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 3, 1975

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(San Diego, California)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

EL CORTEZ HOTEL

5:07 P.M. PDT

Congressman Bergener, Congressman Van Deerlin, Congressman Bell, Mayor Pete Wilson, Mr. Cox of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Henning of the AFL-CIO, heads of the many other co-sponsoring organizations that have made this possible, ladies and gentlemen:

It is really a great privilege and honor for me to have the opportunity of joining in this obviously very successful conference.

I am especially delighted to be here again on the beautiful shores of San Diego Bay -- can I say this, I mean it -- America's cleanest bay in terms of size and traffic.

I am especially pleased because this is a showcase of what Americans can do on a local level to solve problems and to respond to the future with creativity and with confidence.

San Diego has demonstrated, Mayor Wilson, that environmental quality is good business, and I commend your carefully managed residential growth. San Diego, as I see it, is truly a city on which others could be modeled.

I am especially proud, however, of the role the United States Navy as a good citizen in San Diego -- I am proud of that role and I am proud of the contributions that the Navy makes. Obviously, all of you know that the Naval installations here are among the greatest in our total Navy complex. I pledge to you today, as one who once sailed from here in World War II, that I remain committed to a Navy second to none in readiness, capability, and dedication to our Nation's highest ideals.

MORE



I know, of course, that the concerns of this area go far beyond your vital Navy installations. Too many Americans are without employment. Prices and taxes are far too high. New sources of energy are absolutely essential.

I also know that local problems are best solved by local people. This Administration responded to your pioneering of growth management strategy to preserve the residential environment.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has just approved San Diego's application for \$9.1 million under the historic new community development block grant legislation, and an hour or so ago I gave Mayor Pete Wilson the actual documents to know that he has got it in hand.

I don't know what he has done with it, but he had it. (Laughter)

This confirms upon San Diego the distinction of being one of the very first major cities to receive such assistance. Your able Mayor, my good friend, Pete Wilson, tells me that one of the ways that this grant will be used is to speed economic development by attracting new businesses and industries into the San Diego area.

Funds from this new block grant approach are available for the first time to prepare sites and, together with on-the-job training programs of the Department of Labor, offer an extra inducement for new enterprises to locate in your healthy, world-reknowned climate.

This kind of local initiative and planning, as well, proves we are on the right track with block grants instead of trying to run everything from Washington, and demonstrates my firm conviction that the best features of community development should neither be sacrificed in the current economic climate, nor stifled by Federal red tape.

San Diego, I know from my many conversations with your several Members of the Congress, as well as by numerous visits to this great area -- San Diego is a showcase of the good neighbor policy.

The nearby Mexican border is the busiest international crossing in the world, making this a gateway city with a unique challenge. San Diego and Tijuana share the same air and water and seek joint efforts, joint solutions to problems that cross national boundaries.

MORE

I commend Fronteras 1976, the San Diego community's bicentennial project, jointly sponsored by the city and University of California at San Diego. This project that I have looked at and heard about will advance regional and international understanding, demonstrating to the world, as I think we must, the potential of creative cooperation and interdependence among sovereign nations.

Serious problems confront the American people at home. Yet, unemployment and the growth of the economy, as well as our national security, are directly related to the relations with the rest of the world.

In recent weeks we witnessed, unfortunately, discouraging and tragic events in the Middle East, on which we depend far too much for our energy needs. These developments dramatized the urgency of moving ahead in San Diego and throughout America with constructive action to make this Nation independent of foreign sources of energy.

Today, in the presence of three of my former colleagues, I renew the challenge to the Congress to enact before May 1 of this year a comprehensive energy program. It is essential to our national security, and it is more essential today than it was in January, when I proposed it.

The facts are, we can afford no more delays. I am an optimist. I think the Congress will do it. I would not be frank and honest with you if I were to ignore the serious setbacks we have suffered in very recent weeks in our quest for peace in the Middle East and more recently and more dramatically in Southeast Asia.

Even as I speak, the dimensions of the human catastrophe in Southeast Asia increase. Whether from your evening news shows or morning headlines, or from my top secret reports, which I receive on a daily basis, it is impossible not to be moved and shaken by the sudden and tragic developments in South Vietnam.

All Americans, regardless of how they may have felt in months or years in the past, are shocked and saddened and wondering what we can do.

First, we are taking all the humanitarian measures we can to relieve the innocent civilian refugees in South Vietnam, whose plight touches the heart of all Americans. At the same time, we are providing for the safety of all Americans who, from a deep sense of duty, might be endangered by swift changes in the battle zone.

MORE

Second, as the Congress returns next Monday and I have an opportunity to address them, I will ask the Members of Congress for a firm American commitment to humanitarian assistance for the helpless victims of North Vietnamese aggression in flagrant violation of the Paris accords which sought to end the suffering and bloodshed on a civilized basis.

Finally, I must say with all of the certainty of which I am capable, no adversary or potential enemies of the United States of America should imagine that America can be safely challenged and no allies or time-tested friends of the United States should worry or fear that our commitments to them will not be honored.

The unfortunate confusion and changing situation in Southeast Asia should not give encouragement to our adversaries nor apprehension to our friends. We stand ready to defend ourselves and support our allies as surely as we always have.

As it always has, adversity is creating a new sense of national unity among Americans in these sad and troubled times. I will not engage in recriminations or attempt to assess the blame, nor should any of us. Not all of the facts are known. When they are, the American people will be the jury for the present and historians will write the story for the future.

What is essential now is that we keep our nerve and our essential unity as a powerful, but peace-loving Nation.

As President and Commander-in-Chief, it is my sworn duty to maintain and strengthen the power for peace which the United States possesses, both at home and abroad. The military strength of this Nation depends, as it always has, on its economic strength and the willpower and self-discipline of all of its people.

The credibility of the United States, our credibility throughout the world, both among our allies and our adversaries, depends upon their assessment of our moral, economic and military strength and staying power. All of these elements are extremely essential.

Let me consider briefly the problems of insuring and increasing our economic strength. In this, the obvious priority is to get out of the recession we have been experiencing, and particularly to increase employment and to get the jobless back into productive jobs. That is our highest priority.

But along with that urgent goal goes another priority, less obvious to some, which is to end the recession without adding unnecessarily to the inflationary pressures which have plagued us for many years prior to the recession and which, quite frankly, helped to bring it on. We must make more jobs and reverse the recession without recklessly inviting a new round of double-digit inflation, rising interest rates and higher prices which we all know, in the long run, would cancel out whatever stimulus and expansionary incentive we can apply to the economy in the short-run.

MORE

That is why I am personally determined to hold the line on all massive Federal spending programs which are in various stages moving through the Congress. That is why I have drawn the line at a maximum budget deficit of \$60 billion, which is where we stand at the present time, and it is as far as we dare to go without endangering economic recovery.

I am gratified that many of the responsible Members of the Congress, House and Senate, on both sides of the political aisle, have spoken out publicly of the danger of more massive Federal deficits.

Not merely the Administration, but the country, needs their help, and will need their votes when the showdowns come. But, I have no wish to wage a veto war with the Congress. Quite frankly, we have enough real wars and rumors of wars without getting into one of those.

What I would prefer is for the Congress to exercise its constitutional power of the purse with the responsibility and prudence that the people expect of it.

Congress must cut rather than spend. It must reduce existing programs, instead of creating new ones. As I look at the horrendous figures, I just cannot go on giving away more and more government benefits without considering how to pay for them and the damage that will be done by borrowing to pay for them.

When the American people individually and collectively -- all over the country -- are tightening their belts to get through the worse recession of recent times, because in large part by decades of deficits and ever-growing governmental programs, the Congress should not ask them to suffer consequences of more of the same fiscal folly.

I would like the Congress to fix an absolute ceiling on Federal spending for the coming year, the ceiling where I drew the line. To do this effectively and with meaning, the Congress must go one step further.

Here is my suggestion: You have three Members of Congress here. Put the already enacted procedures of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Act of 1974 into effect a whole year ahead of schedule, starting this July 1.

Under the current circumstances, when the legislation was passed last year, it was expected that it would not go into effect until fiscal year 1977, and that during this interval, between last year and a year and one-half from now, there would be sort of a practice run.

MORE

I think the urgency of Congressional action to establish a ceiling and to orient priorities requires that Congress do it this year. We don't need a practice session. We need full participation in the ball game, and I hope and trust that Congress will do that. That will be the best evidence that I know of, their total dedication to handling your tax money or the government's borrowing in a responsible way.

In the face of a huge deficit that could reach \$100 billion, if my budget is overridden, it is hard for me to see how the Congress can refuse to move up the implementation date of the Budget and Impoundment Act of 1974. Excessive Federal spending for years has fueled the fires of inflation and imposed the unfairest tax of all on the American people, robbing retired people of their pensions, the elderly of their Social Security, the hard-working majority of their paychecks, full value in the supermarket.

Runaway inflation can ruin the productive growth and essential strength of the free enterprise system and cripple our entire American economy.

That is why my economic policy recommendations contain two elements, each one of them essential to its success.

One, a quick, one-time tax cut to stimulate buying power and new development by business and job producing expansion. The other, spending cuts and a one-year moratorium on new spending by the government, except for energy and emergency needs.

Federal tax cuts alone will not work without simultaneous Federal spending restraints. I am deeply concerned, quite frankly, that some elements of the Congress will try to pay for additional spending programs by dangerously stripping billions from the defense budget.

At a time like this, nothing could be more short-sighted or devastating to our security. Individually, many of the domestic spending programs proposed in the Congress have most attractive aspects. They provide help for some worthy group. It is hard for Members of Congress to oppose those programs.

MORE

It will be very, very hard for me to veto them, if Congress enacts them. But, it is not the individual programs that are unacceptable, but the sum total of them, adding up easily to \$30 billion or more to bring the deficit into the \$100 billion area.

Defense spending, on the other hand, provides no benefits, except the most precious benefit of all -- the freedom of our country and the last hope for peace in the world.

As President Eisenhower so wisely observed, only the strong are free. Certainly we have ample reason to believe this truth today. My budget recommendations for national defense are the minimum, I believe, essential for our safety. It is now a popular idea that because Americans are not fighting anywhere, because we are seeking to broaden every avenue of peace, that we can expand social benefit programs and pay for them out of defense cutbacks.

Simple arithmetic proves otherwise. I have seen careful mathematical projections that show if welfare and other transfer payments continue moving at their present rate of growth, about 9 percent annually for the past 20 years, half of the American people will be living off the other half by the year 2000.

Except for vastly increasing taxes on those who work, the only way such payments can be continued indefinitely is to take them away from our national defense. Other superpowers, I can assure you, are doing nothing of that kind.

I pledge to you today that I will resist stripping America's defense capability in every legal way available to me. If the men and women you send to the Congress fail to face up to these inescapable realities, refuse to accept the balanced judgment of their own new budget committee, which has been set up to enforce the same overall limitations that I had to work with, then -- and this is hard to believe, but it mathematically works out -- by simple arithmetic it will only be a few short decades before our defenses will be down to a single soldier with a single rifle with a single round of ammunition.

That is not good for America and freedom throughout the world. Frankly, I don't think that is going to happen, because I have more faith than that, that America won't tolerate it, and I mean the 213 million Americans of all faiths, all political parties, all backgrounds, and so forth.

My former colleagues in the Congress know I have always been an optimist, and whenever I can get away from Washington and see Americans as they really live and work and play and plan for their children, my sense of what is right with our country is recharged and reinforced.

I am very pleased to be here today in what I found to be an optimistic atmosphere and problem-solving climate of Southern California, and I am delighted to be among people with great experience and great courage in building a great part of our country.

MORE

Many of the heroic POW's who were liberated from North Vietnam are here in San Diego. They know the need for an orderly and peaceful world. They also know, as men who lived on the brink of doom, the danger of pessimism. They know that the objective facts are not as bad as a mood of frustration and futility to which some of our countrymen are tempted to succumb.

Today, I want to appeal to the common sense and the courage of the American people. This is not a moment for despair or for fatalism. Obviously, it is not the time to dismantle our defense capability -- and I say with emphasis -- including our intelligence capacities.

We will go on helping people to help themselves. It is in keeping with our religious heritage, our decency and our own self-interest. We will preserve partnerships with people striving for freedom on a global basis.

I reject the prophets of doom who see nothing but depression at home and despair abroad. I will reject any advice to pull down the Stars and Stripes and sail home from the seas of the world to the safe anchorage of San Diego.

If we do so, this anchorage will no longer be safe. You know it and I know it. Under my Presidency, we will neither furl the flag nor abandon hope. We will maintain constancy and credibility of American foreign policy, both at home as well as abroad.

We are living, obviously, in a complicated and troubled time. Events are moving very rapidly but we will not withdraw inward nor surrender to a state of shock.

America, at this hour, is being put to a test. It is not just a test of our moral authority in the world. It is a test of our will to develop our own energy resources, to reduce bureaucratic waste, to preserve our dollar by guarding against non-essential spending with the same vigilance with which we continue the watchfulness and strength of our armed forces.

It is a test of our will, to provide for the economic security of our families while reassuring the military security of our Nation.

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We can meet this test only by reducing vulnerability to weaknesses in our economy and energy capacities. That is why an adequate security program goes hand in hand with sound, economic policies and prompt, effective energy legislation.

America has the will. America has the resources. America has the knowhow, and America has the faith.

I share, as I look around this room, your belief in America. If you despaired of this Nation and its future, you would not be here today. Together, with the billions like you all over this great country, we will build a new and better tomorrow.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 5:37 P.M. PDT)



March 31, 1975

AIR FORCE ONE POOL

Palm Springs - Bakersfield

The President departed the residence at 9:12 am for the airport where he was met by California Attorney General Evelle Younger, and Congressman Alfonso Bell and Bill Ketchum.

Nessen said the President was making the trip to Elk Hills "to demonstrate his interest in tapping Elk Hills to build a billion barrel strategic reserve."

He said the Parmas had dinner with the Fords Sunday evening and are staying with them at the residence. Mrs. Ford, Nessen said, was kidding when she said the house has three swimming pools. We're now told the place has only one pool.

Poolers were able to hear very little during the Elk Hills stops. The President's chief briefer and escort along the way was Cdr. Roger Martin, director of the Navy office at Elk Hills.

At the drilling site, Martin told the President the new well will produce about 2000 barrels per day. Drilling is now at the 6000 foot level and should be completed in about five days. The well is the 46th in the current drilling series. Five wells are currently being drilled. If orders were given to bring maximum production, Martin said, the field could be producing 160,000 barrels per day in two months.

At all of the Elk Hills stops, the President asked questions of his briefers on the time required to get various aspects of the operation ready for production of 400,000 barrels a day. As he prepared to board his helicopter, he said, "We'll be back when you are up to 400,000 barrels a day."

On the way back Nessen said the President had told Assistant Navy Secretary Jack Bowers, who was along on the tour, "Nothing beats seeing it first hand. I've look at all the charts in the world, but nothing beats seeing it for yourself."

On Vietnam, Nessen said the President "finds the reports very sobering." He said the President attributes the situation to two things: "North Vietnamese violations of the cease fire, and the failure of Congress to put up the money, which he feels affected the morale of the South Vietnamese army."

Nessen said David Kennerly called from Vietnam early Monday and spoke with both the President and Mrs. Ford, telling them he was "all right."

Rudy Abramson
L.A. Times

and

Forrest Boyd
Mutual

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NESSEN BRIEFING

APRIL 2, '75 WED.

10:50 AM.

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PALM SPRINGS,
CALIF.

The bible for the San Diego trips is ready. Due to the early departure, we have asked the hotel to open its restaurant at 5 a.m., and it will be open at 5 a.m.

Some of you have inquired about Mrs. Ford's schedule for today. She is leaving the house in about ten minutes. They will leave the Palm Springs Airport at about 11:30. She will go to the Burbank International Airport, and from there to the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles, arriving at about 12:40.

She will attend an event, which I think you know about, will leave the Pavilion at 2:45, depart Burbank International Airport at 3:15 and get back to the airport here at 3:40 and be home at the Residence at 4:10.

The President is playing golf this morning at the Mission Hills Country Club. His partners are former Representative Jack Westland, formerly a Representative of a district in Washington state in the Congress. He is an old friend of the President's. He now lives in Monterey, California. The President has visited him and stayed with him and played golf before in Monterey.

The other two members of the foursome are Leon Parma and a gentleman named D. Darius Keaton. Mr. Keaton is a friend of Jack Westland and a businessman who lives in the Monterey area.

For dinner tonight, the President and Mrs. Ford, as far as we know at this time, will have a private dinner at home with Leon Parma and his wife.

Q Do you know what Mr. Keaton does for a living?

MR. NESSEN: Other than the fact he is a businessman, I have not been able to find out anything else about him. So, they will have a private dinner at home tonight with the Parmas, as far as we know.

The President will be working on a first draft of his foreign policy speech this afternoon. He has that now, and will work on it. He will have a meeting at 3:45 with Don Rumsfeld, Dr. Greenspan and Dick Cheney. He will also have a meeting at 5 o'clock with Bob Hartmann.

Q About what?

MR. NESSEN: About some of the speeches he will be giving for the rest of this week and early next week.

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