

The original documents are located in Box 17, folder “7/26/75-8/4/75 - European Trip (5)” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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The President and the Vice President and Mrs. Ford flew in the same chopper from the White House to Andrews AFB. Bob Hartmann said it took a special order from Ford himself to get this done because of SS rule against the two flying together. ~~There's~~ It is not the first time a Pres and VP have flown together, according to one source aboard. He believes that on one occasion LBJ and HHH flew aboard a chopper together. I do not remember such an occasion. Rocky stood beside the Pres while he (Ford) read his farewell statement. AF one off the ground 8:30 a.m. edt.

Jack Ford came back and talked easily with the pool. Seemed to be eager to talk. Talk started with comment on a letter he wrote to the Star, published a few days ago, then Helen asked if he would like to be Pres. "I'd rather be vice president," he replied. "You don't have to work as hard and you get the benefits." Said he really wanted to go back out west, "but i'm going to try to stick it out in Washington for the campaign." He said he would make some speeches for his father. Doesn't like Washington weather at all. Would be willing to go into politics if he could live where he wants (Wyoming, Idaho, Utah are his favorites) and not have to stay inside all the time.

~~He~~ When asked if he agreed with his ~~philosophy~~ father's philosophy, he said "overall I agree very much so, but I admit that if anything I may be more conservative." He said he definitely believed in a pay-as-you-go policy but recognized it could not always be achieved at the federal level. He said "people are really getting tired" after ~~spending~~ "throwing money around for 20 years ~~without solving the problems~~ it has n't solved all the problems."

He said his college experience ^{was} more responsible for his conservatism than his father's influence. He told how easy it was for students to borrow \$350 and then squander it in a day ~~or~~ or two. He said he was referring to what was called an emergency loan.

He said that this was "a good-intentioned high cost program and a nuisance."

He said his conservatism also stemmed from ^{fact} "I never had any money. I worked every summer since I was twelve." He said he got some help from family and mentioned ~~at times~~ getting \$10 a week ^{at times}.

Asked what he liked about the white House, he said: "someone makes my bed every morning and does my laundry."

Asked what he did not like, he said: "I don't like the way people are so awed by the White House. I don't like living in an institution. I see the need for it, but ~~it~~ it doesn't sit well with me. If I had my way, I'd like to see more of the house opened up." He said he thought it might be possible at this time when family is away to open some of the family quarters. He noted that the White House visiting hours already have been extended.

When Helen asked when he was going to get married, he laughed and said he "preferred not even to think about that."

He was reminded that last year he said he didn't think his father should run ~~again~~ next year and he said "personally, I would rather he not run, but as a citizen, yes, he should run because he's doing a very good job."

Jack is 23 and graduated this ~~23~~ year in forestry ~~and~~ from Utah State Univ.

The following is background from a senior American official:

There won't be "spectacular announcements" every day on the trip. The President has close relations with Chancellor Schmidt and they will have a review of Atlantic and East-West problems. Schmidt recently sent teams of officials to developed and underdeveloped countries to discuss economic interrelationships. "I'm confident that this will be an important part of the conversations." They will also discuss "the world situation and the Middle East."

Polish

~~Edward~~ Edward Gierek, /first secretary, ~~was~~ was one of first foreign leaders to call on Ford after he became President and U.S. Polish relations are "good." They will primarily discuss East-West relations and bilateral relations.

In Helsinki, the President will have two ~~two~~ two-hour meetings with Brezhnev and also meet with Giscard, Wilson, Caramanlis and others. Turkish P.M. Demirel "may not agree" to a meeting, but it is a possibility they will meet. If Ford-Demirel do not meet, Kissinger and the Turkish F.M. expect to meet. Kissinger will hold a number of meetings with foreign ministers in addition to ~~the~~ meetings the President will have, ~~and Gromyko will be present.~~ There will be a four-power luncheon of heads of government ~~in~~ ~~responsible~~ U.S., France, Britain and Germany, to discuss Berlin and other matters.



~~There will be a call by the President on the President of Finland.~~

The official was interrupted here and began talking about the Turkish vote. He said the Pres was making phone calls from the plane to see what the situation is in the House. (Nessen said the Pres had talked to Fridersdorf, Jack Marsh and others "to explore legislative steps that might be taken to reverse the vote on Turkish aid")

The senior official went on to say that any action on Turkish vote is dependent on ~~the~~ the President's assessment of the situation and whether it is possible to bring it up for a vote next week.

The compromise defeated in the vote Thursday was the "absolutely minimum -- it was at the very edge of what would have worked" -- suggesting there's little more the administration can compromise on.

He said the vote would have a major impact on other countries dependent on us for military assistance.

He said it is not practical to move some of these bases elsewhere and get same results. Already some House members have expressed concern about the results to administration, but the situation for new action is clouded. ~~We~~ We understand that up to now U.S. personnel may stay at the bases but cannot operate the facilities, and the bases are under Turkish control. ~~There is no surveillance from these bases.~~

He said ~~progress on~~ ^{CHANCE OF} a Cyprus settlement was greatly damaged by the House action. Our interest is in a Cyprus settlement.

Very vague comments on the Middle East: There's "a chance" for an Israeli-Egyptian withdrawal agreement. There is talk of various schemes for an American presence as ~~monitors~~ monitors but nothing ~~definite~~ definite and Congress would be consulted before any agreement for monitors. Kissinger will see Bilts, the American ambassador to Egypt, tomorrow in Bonn to give the ambassador the latest report on the Israeli position. Kissinger saw Ambassador Dinitz yesterday.

Will Kissinger return to the Middle East next month? He will go when agreement is 90 per cent sure, but would not go unless he thought he could wrap it up in 10 days. He rates chances of agreement 51-49 now but failure is still possible.

The official emphasized that the trip is going to be a "very useful trip." The visit to Yugoslavia and Rumania will largely involve bilateral issues, but Yugo has strong interest in Middle East that will be discussed.

He dodged all questions on Salt. But said the talks with Brezhnev would be important and on the plus side.

kilpatrick



POOL REPORT

Air Force One - Andrews AFB to Bonn
July 26, 1975

The President and the Vice President and Mrs. Ford flew in the same chopper from the White House to Andrews AFB. Bob Hartmann said it took a special order from Ford himself to get this done because of the Secret Service rule against the two flying together. It is not the first time a President and Vice President have flown together, according to one source aboard. He believes that on one occasion LBJ and HHH flew aboard a chopper together. I do not remember such an occasion.

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Air Force One off the ground at 8:30 am EDT.

*File
Jack
Ford* ★
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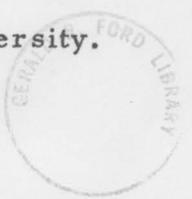
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MORE



JULY 27, 1975

PCOL REPORT NO. 6

Schloss Gymnich to Rhine River Boat Dock

At 6:41 p. m. President and Mrs. Ford left Schloss Gymnich by a 15-car motorcade, led by a group of 15 motorcyclists, dressed in white leather coats, trousers, helmets. In Germany, they call them the "white mice" and an official is allotted so many according to rank (Head of State gets 15, a Prime Minister 7, a Foreign Minister 5, and any other cabinet officer, 3).

Before everyone got into motorcade at the Schloss - a man played some kind of tune on a hunter's horn, apparently for Jack (referring to his boar hunting I assume) when he stopped, he said something and everyone laughed. Could not find out what it all really meant.

People lined up on streets outside Schloss in Gymnich to see motorcade. One woman held up her poodle so it could see better.

Arrived at Noervenich Military Airport at 7:03 p. m. and boarded helicopter. (4 helicopters used). At 7:15 p. m. met at Chancellery by Schmidt and wife who hid behind bushes to avoid flurry of helicopters landing.

Schmidt asked Henry Kissinger if he got any sleep (in German). "Oh, about 30 minutes." Schmidt asked Jack how many boars he shot. Jack put on a big grin and said "Four."

Later talked to Jack Ford and he said the Baron who owns Gymnich Jack hunting today and Jack got four boars. He said they used German short hair dogs - and it was a little scary (2 were very easy). The horn call was to salute Jack for his big "kill" - and his words were in German. Unusual to get four boars in one hunt -- Jack modestly confessed -- but he thought the Baron wanted to "thin" out his private herd and made it rather easy for him.

The party walked to Villa Hammerschmidt -- to meet the Scheels. Soldiers from the Federal Border Defense Force gave a salute and Scheel kissed Mrs. Ford's hand. The President did not return the favor with Mrs. Scheel however! Went inside for 15 minutes -- then departed by motorcade for boat. Boarded at 7:55 p. m.

Susan Peterson, CBS

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Bonn/Cologne Airport to Schloss Gymnich

The helicopter flight from Bonn/Cologne Airport to Noervenich Military Airport lasted approximately 15 minutes. At Noervenich the President was greeted by the Base Commander (we think). The President was overheard introducing Mrs. Ford and son Jack. With a minimum of ceremony, the auto motorcade then proceeded along a two lane country highway to Schloss Gymnich.

Along the way, the motorcade passed through several small villages where clusters of people were gathered on the sidewalk. Your poolers were too far to the rear to be able to observe their reaction as the President passed.

There was no other traffic on the roadway. The ride took 20 minutes.

The Schloss Gymnich is located at the edge of Gymnich village. The Schloss is surrounded by a brick wall. Once inside, the motorcade proceeded up a gravel drive, lined on both sides by tall trees. After getting out of the limousine, the President and his party walked across a picturesque brick bridge over a moat. Large candles, about 18 inches high, lined both sides of the small bridge. An honor guard (Military), including two drummers, stood attention just outside the Schloss itself as the official party approached. The drummers played cadences as they moved by. The President and his party were inside at 9:30 p.m. local. As advertised, the bus ride from Schloss Gymnich back to the Press Center lasts about 50 minutes.

Steve Bell, ABC

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POOL REPORT FOR MRS. FORD LUNCHEON

JULY 27, 1975

Typical luncheon scene -- little to report.

Mrs. Ford arrived at the Villa Hammerschmidt (Scheel residence) at noon -- and immediately came out on the terrace, which faces the Rhine River, to be photographed with Mrs. Scheel and Mrs. Schmidt.

Mrs. Ford wore a beige wool dress (changed from morning arrival), Mrs. Scheel, a dark brown knit skirt and top, and Mrs. Schmidt a grey dress.

After a few minutes of smiles... the ladies went inside to meet the other guests and sit down for lunch. We were only allowed into the room for a very short time -- and could hear nothing of the conversation. There were paintings around the room, with a tapestry at one end, and bouquets of pink roses on table. Menu book and color picture of the Villa on cover.

Seating arrangements can be obtained from Pati. Mattson -- only interesting thing to note is while everyone was listed as Frau this and Frau that, Mrs. Scheel was simply: "Hausfrau." Two of the Scheel children, Andrea-Gurendolyn (5 years) and Simon-Martin (5 years -- an adopted Bolivian) were perched on a balcony of the lobby, to peek thru the balustrade at Mrs. Ford as she arrived. Don't know if she waved to them, as we weren't in room at the time.

Peterson, CBS

MRS. FORD POOL REPORT

JULY 27, 1975

Teahouse with Mrs. Schmidt

Mrs. Ford and the wives of the host dignitaries left the welcoming ceremonies on the Palais lawn to a small carriage house on the back lawn overlooking the Rhine. At the "Teahouse" the ladies posed on the balcony for pictures --- Mrs. Ford held a bright pink rose, and smiled. Inside she sat at a coffee table decked with flowers, and spoke with Mrs. Schmidt. and with Mrs. (pardon me, Dr.) Scheel. The conversation was solely about the hot Washington weather which Mrs. Ford described as a "hothouse".

After more than 20-minutes, the ladies filed down a gravel walk to the contemporary-style home of Schmidt's for a rest before lunch.

Compton, ABC

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JULY 28, 1975

Pool report from Linz--Sunday, July 27, 1975

A crowd of about five thousand was packed around a cleared space at dockside. The way was lined with an honor guard in 17th century uniforms, red tunics, high metal-faced helmets. The town band was playing traditional om3/4pah3/4pah music, then hit "Stars and Stripes Forever" as the President arrived.

President was offered ceremonial glass of wine, took two gulps. Somebody suggested he drink it down. He replied, "I'm driving." He and Mrs. Ford signed the "golden book." His inscription: "With appreciation of your warm welcome and with continued close friendship for a better world." He spoke briefly, observing that Linz had everything typical of the Rhine region: "good wine, pleasant people and a beautiful setting." He said he had just heard that when the councils of Linz used to do business over wine "they tell me the decisions were always unanimous. That's something politicians today can be envious of."

He was greeted by several wine maidens in medieval costumes, red velvet with wimpled hats, and the 1975 wine queen who was described by some present as a Brunhilde with a paper crown. The President kissed her and the others.

Coming back on board, Ford commented, "The wine was delicious-- and the girls were pretty, too."

Bonnie Angelo/Time

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JULY 29, 1975

POOL REPORT/Mrs. Ford

Visit to Jagiellonian University Museum/Krakow, Poland

From airport, Mrs. Ford, Jack Ford, David Kissinger and escorts were driven to the University in Krakow.

They were met at the entrance by Professor Karol Estreicher, Director of the University Museum and Professor of Art History. Then, the party was led through various rooms and shown various artifacts, including instruments associated with Copernicus who attended the University. Jack Ford and David Kissinger trailed behind in the cluster of officials, security personnel, and press.

Mrs. Ford signed a guest book--and was presented a book on the University and its collections--Estreicher, the author. The book's title--THE COLLEGIUM MAIUS. A stained glass seal of the university was given Mrs. Ford for the President.

Then, Mrs. Ford was led into a courtyard where about 80 people were gathered. Some of them were members of the Kosciusko Foundation (Polish-Americans)--others, members of the Grand Valley College of Grand Rapids, Michigan (Ford's home town) in Poland on exchange programs sponsored by the U. S. Government. Mrs. Ford, I'm told, knew a few of the Grand Rapids people. She chatted with them for about five minutes then left the university, entered a car, and was driven away. Jack Ford and David Kissinger walked in the street then--the sidewalks lined with people--to the square.

P. S. Mrs. Ford was greeted on the stairs by Adam Strzalkowski, Rector of the University--other members of the University were in the room too.

P. P. S. First Room--the corner hall know as Libraria or Corner Room--houses scientific collections, particularly books, next large room--the Common Room (with pews on either side) professors' meeting place. Next two smaller rooms--inside a safe, the University insignia--including a small gold globe from 1510 where the name "America" was inserted for the first time.

H. Kaplow/ABC

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Mrs. Ford signed a guest book -- and was presented a book on the University and its collections -- Estreicher, the author. The book's title -- "The Collegium Maius." A stained-glass seal of the university was given to Mrs. Ford for the President.

Then, Mrs. Ford was led into a court-yard where about 80-people were gathered. Some of them were members of the Kosciusko Foundation (Polish-Americans) -- others, members of the Grand Valley College of Grand Rapids, Michigan (Ford's hometown) in Poland on exchange-programs sponsored by the U.S. government. Mrs. Ford, I'm told, knew a few of the Grand Rapids people. She chatted with them for about five minutes -- then left the university, entered a car, and was driven away. Jack Ford and David Kissinger walked in the street then -- the sidewalks lined with people -- to the square.

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Kaplow

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H. Kaplow/ABC

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President Ford's Arrival at Presidential Palace

After they shook hands, President Ford told President Urho Kekkonen that he was in good shape (Ford's instincts were correct. Last year a doctor told Kekkonen, who will be 75 in September, that he had the constitution of a man of 45. Kekkonen is a long distance skier, jogger, water skier and sports enthusiast.)

As they sat down to confer, Ford confided that "I try to keep my weight down -- not enough exercise."

Ambassador Mark Evans Austad interjected: "Did you hear he (Ford) took a sauna already?"

"First I had the beating -- with the birches," Ford said. "How did you like it?" Kekkonen asked. "Oh, delightful, Ford replied.

"Who does the beating, Mr. President?" Kissinger asked archly. "I did it myself," the President replied.

"We have many people of Finnish origin in the northern part of Michigan, my home state," Ford told Kekkonen. "Minnesota," Kekkonen said with a nod. "They run the state up there and they run it well," Ford responded. At this point, your pool was shown to the door.

The Presidential palace is a three story brindle-colored structure with white trim. That was originally built for the Russian Governor General of Finland. (We refer you to the bible for more details.) Its architectural style in the United States would be called modified Federal.

The two Presidents met in a small, second floor room done in yellow rice wallpaper, gold drapes, and with a parquet floor. Its windows open onto a balcony which overlooks the city's South Harbor.

President Ford sat with his back to the windows in a chair at President Kekkonen's right. Across a small oval table, Kissinger sat on a couch which he shared with Finnish Foreign Minister Mattila. Above them was a large Finnish winter scene by Axel Gallen, one of the nation's leading artist. The President had arrived promptly at 7:30 and departed at 7:57. He was followed into the Palace by Yugoslav President Tito who, in turn, would be succeeded by Soviet General Secretary Brezhnev.

Nessen said later that the President had a sauna in the Embassy Residence.

Bill Ringle, Gannett



JULY 29, 1975

POOL REPORT #1 - Helsinki

A half-hour motorcade carried the President and Mrs. Ford from the Helsinki Airport to the U. S. Embassy by traveling through the city streets, long avenues shaded by trees, and small winding residential streets.

There were people along most of the roadways smiling, not cheering. The President hadn't been in the high red-brick Embassy residence more than a few minutes when he decided to make use of the suana in the building's basement.

Your pooler has learned the President submitted to the traditional suana beating with birch branches and found it "delightful". After only 30 minutes at the residence, the President took a short motorcade ride to the harbor front residence of Finland's President.

Pool Report #2 has details inside.

After exactly 30 minutes in President Kekkonen's home, President Ford took the 3-minute drive back to the residence.

The U. S. Embassy home is a large red brick colonial style building with many trees overlooking Helsinki harbor.

Ann Compton
ABC



Mrs. Ford's Walking Tour

As advertised, Mrs. Ford toured a dockside, open-air food and odd items market. Her retinue included Mrs. Mark Evans Austad, wife of the U.S. Ambassador and Mrs. Walter Stoessel, wife of U.S. Ambassador to the USSR.* Mrs. Ford was also accompanied by Navy Nurse Jeanie Stouffer. Patti Matson said the nurse's presence was not unusual. Using Dr. Lukash as her authority, Patti said nurses normally accompany First Ladies on trips or long overnights and Patti noted that nurses also serve medical needs of staff.

* Also included on the tour was Mrs. Leo Tuominen, wife of the Finnish Ambassador to the US.

When Mrs. Ford got out of her car at the market, Mrs. L. P. Frederick of Westerly, Rhode Island said with a catch in her throat, "Betty, God Bless You." Mrs. Frederick's husband is the chaplain on a cruise ship in port here.

As Mrs. Ford walked among the stalls, tourists and townspeople snapped pictures. She bought with Mrs. Austad's money a pair of twisted wire earrings (Mrs. Ford - "Oh, these are pretty") and a pinkie ring... both for her daughter Susan. The young male vendor said, that the price for Mrs. Ford for the items would be 10 marks. That was the market price as well. She also bought a fabric wall hanging with an imprint of a black reindeer on orange backing. As she walked past produce and flower stands, vendors and others brought small children to her to give her five bunches of flowers, and a man gave her a rose. As Mrs. Ford walked past the market and across the street to a more formal shopping district, she told Mrs. Austad she didn't have any marks. Informed a bank was nearby she said, "Maybe I can exchange some money." Mrs. Austad said "Do you have any identification?" Mrs. Ford said "I've got a ton of that, and I've got a man too." After looking through the window of a rug store she continued on to another block where she was interviewed by the pooler and wire reporters. Asked how she was feeling after reports that she was tired earlier on the trip, Mrs. Ford said "I feel marvelous. I just had a little jet lag, I think." Pooler: "I think we all had". "A little worn out from too little sleep, and so I took a little time off and got some sleep, and I'm all caught up, and I feel marvelous," Mrs. Ford responded.

Mrs. Ford said she hoped to get in some more sightseeing on other stops on this trip. She then went to lunch at the Kauppakilta restaurant with her party. They dined on artichoke hearts, with asparagus Princess, medallions of veal with cream morels and strawberrier with whipped cream, followed by coffee.

John Cochran, NBC

Mrs. Ford Dinner

Mrs. Ford was the star attraction tonight when she arrived at Smolmna, a Finnish government banquet hall, for a dinner hosted by the wife of the Finnish Prime Minister. Mrs. Ford was the only wife to be greeted at the door and escorted upstairs by Consul General Klaus Snellman. She mingled with the other guests over cocktails in a parlor room where a piano and flute provided music. Then it was in to a formal dinner in a powder blue salon. The ladies sat on taffeta couches and sipped white wine until the pool was ushered out. The menu included shrimp bisque, reindeer and three kinds of wine. Mrs. Ford was wearing a chiffon gown of pastel print on white background.

Ann Compton, ABC

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JULY 30, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Helsinki, Finland)

THE WHITE HOUSE

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

There is no pool report from Pool 6. It was a simple travel pool and was uneventful. There is no pool report for Pool 7 because there was no writer on the pool.

Although requested there were no writers on the pool. There were no remarks at dinner to report and the dinner was covered in total on television.

The President returned to the residence at 10:07 p.m. The First Lady had not returned from her dinner engagement. The President decided to take a walk. He walked toward Helsinki along the Baltic Sea Walkway and then walked back passed the Embassy. He walked back to the Embassy through the Embassy district. He arrived back at the Embassy at 10:45 p.m. Along the way he spoke to several people. The only people accompanying the President on the walk were Frank Ursomarso, Terry O'Donnell, Bob Barrett and the Secret Service agents. The walk was unannounced and unplanned.

Shelia , This wire is fr yester-
day ... I'm trying to
retrieve the folder
from yesterday that
was sent to Hartmann
by Ron.

I'll let you know when
I get it....

so far today -- there
hasn't been anything

Patty P.

**POOL
PASS**

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betty 7-30

by helen thomas
upi white house reporter

helsinki, july 30 (upi) -- president ford's wife betty said wednesday she has slept off a case of jet lag and proved it by hiking a mile uphill under the midday sun.

+i feel marvelous,+ she told reporters after the sightseeing hike in high-heeled shoes over cobblestone streets.

referring to her having to cancel all engagements monday on the third day of a 10-day european tour with her husband, the first lady said, +now i just have a little jet lag, i think. a little worn out and too little sleep.

+so i took a little time off and got some sleep and i'm all caught up and feel marvelous,+ she said.

mrs. mark evans austad, wife of the u. s. ambassador, had taken mrs. ford by automobile to see the farmers open air market on the docks between the offices of finnish president urho kekkonen and the russian liner mikhail kalinin, which carried the kremlin staff to the european security conference that brought the fords to helsinki.

more
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betty 7-30

1st add betty helsinki x x helsinki.

mrs. ford was to have driven up from the harbor to a restaurant for lunch. she dismissed the car.

in the market, which attracts housewives for fresh farm produce and young men to observe the traditional trade of helsinki blondes through the stalls, mrs. ford purchased for 1.80 dollars a pair of twisted metal earrings for herself and spent another 1.80 dollars for what she called a +pinkey ring+ to adorn one of the little fingers of her daughter susan. for 9 dollars she bought at another stall a 12 by 14 inch, orange and black cloth wall hanging showing a finnish lapland reindeer. she said she will hang it in the family ski house in vail, colorado.

children emerged from the crowd and, at the benest of their parents, presented mrs. ford with five bouquets of wild flowers in an impromptu finnish greeting. a portly and balding flower salesman hurried out of his stall, bowed and presented the first lady with a long-stemmed single red rose.

+oh, thank you,+ she said.

then the first lady turned and marched up the hill, past the lutheran cathedral, the foreign ministry, past a monument to the russian czar alexander i who gave finns their first measure of freedom and a statue of alexander iii who took it away.

mrs. austad, dressed in a light white dress trimmed in green, at times lagged behind mrs. ford, who wore a lime green dress, a blue scarf with green polka dots and white and dark blue shoes and who took short but speedy steps.

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all around her sweat popped onto the foreheads of her companions and the passersby who often called out greetings. asked how she could walk a mile uphill without a drop of sweat or a single strand of hair falling out of place, mrs. ford told reporters, +i am fortunately one of those people who don't have a tendency to perspire. walking in the sun -- if feels marvelous.+

passing the bank of finland, mrs ford joked that perhaps she might change some american dollars into finnish marks for shopping. she had to borrow the money from mrs. austad to pay for the ring, earrings and wall hanging.

+do you have any identification?+ mrs. said with a smile.

+oh, i've got a tone o have a mon too,+ she said

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Mrs. Ford's Sightseeing Tour

Mrs. Ford, as announced earlier, toured the open air museum on the Island Seuraswari. On the island are farm houses transported from various parts of the country. Mrs. Ford was accompanied by the Lord Mayor of Helsinki, Teuvo Aura, who said "you are seeing quite a lot of our hometown." They walked among young women outfitted in native costumes. Mrs. Ford spent considerable time watching flax being beaten and woven into linen...one of the end products being baskets. An elderly man and woman use old fashioned spinning wheels for weaving. Mrs. Ford spoke freely with both the Finns in her party and the weavers, commenting to one man that he must be very strong to do such work. She then watched some native dancing and clapped her hands at one point to the music. She seemed to especially enjoy this part of the tour. She was taken inside a building to watch more handiwork; Pooler did not accompany her. She came outside and Pooler asked if visits such as this are one of the better parts of being First Lady. "I should say so...one of the really delightful parts... this was very gay, very festive...it was beautiful and cheerful to see." Asked if Finland reminds her of the upper Midwest back home she said: "Yes, I'd say so...especially Minnesota and maybe northern Wisconsin." Asked if she got a better feel for this country than on other Presidential stops because of the lengthy stay here, she said: "I think that's true... it's natural...the other countries were such a short time...Often going from the airport to the palace...there was little time for sightseeing (on other stops), so this is a special treat." Earlier Mrs. Ford had admired some white gloves, picking one of them up and then putting it down. She told an elderly lady who apparently had made them that they were beautiful. About ten minutes later, the woman stepped in front of Mrs. Ford suddenly and presented her with the gloves. Mrs. Ford seemed surprised and very pleased, saying that the gloves would be excellent for cross country skiing.

Her next stop was the monument to Danish composer, Jean Sibelius (1865-1967). The ultra-modern monument by Eila Hiltunen, somewhat resembles cast iron organ pipes. Mrs. Ford noted that high winds rustling through them might produce beautiful sounds.

Mrs. Ford then proceeded to dockside at Katajanokka Pier for departure to the Valhalla Restaurant on Suomenlinna Fortress Island. Pooler did not see departure because his bus got lost. In any case, White House press did not accompany her for the luncheon. Press Office's explanation was that reporters would have been stuck on the island until late afternoon.

John Cochran, NBC

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POOL REPORT

Mrs. Ford visits outdoor museum on island

July 31, 1975

Mrs. Ford's activities during the day were planned for wives of heads of delegations of CSCE and other members of the delegation.

"We must have broken all speed limits" (from the Market place to the island) Mrs. Ford said when she arrived at the open air museum on the Island Seurasaari.

The island contains buildings and groups of buildings from every province of Finland, representing typical local cultures and histories. Most buildings in this "outdoor museum" date from the 18th and 19th centuries. Included on the island are farmsteads, a watermill, a country store, a granary, and church. There are samples of Finnish housing from a country cottage to a farmhouse to a manor dwelling. . all made of wooden logs, in various shapes and sizes.

Each house was taken apart piece by piece, numbered, and reconstructed as it originally stood with furniture and utensils (except for the animals).

The bus which brought Mrs. Ford to the island took the "prettier" route. It was winding and narrow. It passed a red clay tennis court, an inlet with dozens of colorfully painted boats tied at piers, a low-lying wooden school, the "organ pipes" memorial to Sibelius (to be discussed later), an old hospital, a new hospital (glass structured which the natives refer to as "The Hilton".)

The bus passed "Talbo", the Prime Minister of Finland's ~~place~~ place on the water's edge. Across the water inlet of the Bay of Finland on the horizon were smoke stacks which belong to "Alko" the liquor monopoly.

Near the white wood narrow bridge which the bus crossed slowly -- (because the boards rattled) were wild brown ducks and white seagulls, most of them floating and preening in the warmth of the brilliant sun. A small variety of bamboo grew along the edge of the water.

A log cabin (child's size) on stilts was used to store food from wild animals years ago. They said there were wolves (not human ones) which went after the food.

Many log cabins, passed on the way, had sod on the roof which sprouted grass and weeds to the height of 18 inches (approximately).

Mrs. Ford chatted for about 5 minutes with a group after she got off the bus. (The poolers were not allowed near).

When she did come closer she said she had stopped to shop for gifts. "I have a daughter and she has many friends. I bought trinkets ... many earrings, bracelets, and necklaces to take back to them so they wouldn't think I had forgotten them when I was away, "Mrs. Ford said.

"Are you going to buy skis?" asked one man.

"They like us to ski on America skis," she replied.

The mats she had purchased on her first trip to the open marketplace she said "will be going to our skiing lodge in Vail (Colorado, USA).

MORE

She had "noticed" a 4-year old little girl, Mira Tokisolo, who was in a child's swing made from wooden logs. This little girl's madonna-like exquisitely beautiful face was radiant with joy as she was pushed back and forth on the swing by her mother. Another child near-by is a day-boarder with Mrs. Tokisolo. His mother is a newspaper employee. She pays 300 Finnish marks a month for his care (5 days a week). He stays from 8 am to 5 pm. (Mrs. Ford did not go near them.)

Mrs. Ford wore a red and white polka dotted, shirt-waist dress with bow at neckline and buttons on blouse; a white jacket (she took it off later because it was very warm. The Secret Service agent held it for her); and black and white spectator shoes.

Another twosome Mrs. Ford "noticed" was on a flat log placed over a smaller round log. One boy jumped hard onto one end of the log, bouncing the girl up into the air. She repeated the action causing the boy's side to bounce him into the air. It resembled a tetter-totter, but it had trampoline action.

Mrs. Ford remarked about the weather. "It is absolutely marvelous... a beautiful day like this... it's lovely."

Then she added: "I really expected it to be cooler.. so I am very pleased with the lovely sun."

Mrs. Ford said she hoped to do more shopping if "I get the time."

Suddenly the bus which brought the other wives arrived.

While Mrs. Ford walked to the first house she spoke about "my daughter.. Susan.. as a photographer worked on a newspaper.." (It was difficult to hear because she spoke so softly.)

She entered the square courtyard of the farmhouse. The reason there was construction with houses on four sides and a courtyard in the middle was to keep wild animals out.

In the courtyard a group of dancers began their folk rhythms accompanied by two violinists, a flutist, and an accordin player. The dancers wore costumes traditional of various parts of Finland. The men: navy blue knee-breeches with colorful wool binding under the knee; white knee socks; black shoes; white shirts. When asked if she would join the dancers she said, "I don't know the steps" and laughed.

The women wore colorful calf-length skirts; sleeveless vests (black) and white blouses. Some wore small hats (only married women wore hats), and some wore ribbons (unmarried girls wore ribbons in their hair).

Mrs. Ford was escorted into the wooden farmhouse which had been painted with a special reddish paint (probably creosote (?).)

Inside the house there was a paucity of furnishings.. a wooden mold to make reindeer shoes (the fur is turned inside); rocks for baking (they are heated like a sauna bath). Bread was baked two times a year. The bread was in the shape of a 12-inch doughnut and strung on a wooden pole near the roof. It gets very, very hard. (The bread is made of rye flour and water and sometimes potatoes are added to the bread.)

Antler horns were used as a device to wind wool or flax yarn for spinning. A large wooden tub was used to store salt. One wooden tub was used to store water. Rakes were three-pronged and made of wood, which is abundant. This house was considered "prosperous."

Outside there was a wooden balcony on the second floor. (Mrs. Ford did not climb up the ladder to reach the second floor.)

The master bedroom had a wooden clothes closet with birds painted on doors. A fireplace made of bricks, a small bed, two small wooden chairs, small table, a horn, curtains of linen, the walls originally had no coverings. . but now they are covered with smooth deerskin. There were wooden plates in one room, and a cupboard. had two cups and one saucer (made of pottery).

A stove with metal door, a pair of hand-woven red and white wool gloves, and hand-made rug-runners were seen. A clock on the wall had no cover. There was a wooden rocking chair. (All furniture was hand made.)

Cattle had been kept on the other side of the square courtyard in a barn, but were brought into the main living quarters to keep the family warmer with their body heat. Mrs. Ford heard an instrument played -- a kentele which is played on a table like a zither or on the lap.

Small axes were stored on top of one door.

Outside in the courtyard again, Mrs. Ford saw five girls who wore different Finnish costumes.

At a small table covered with a white cloth in the courtyard, Mrs. Ford stopped to taste the refreshments. . . she was handed an open face sandwich made with fish, cheese, decorated with dill. She did not taste it. But she did eat a piece of ham (cube) on a toothpick. They served meade (a traditional Finnish drink made with raisins, sugar, water, lemmon and yeast non-alcoholic. (Other things go into this recipe.)

The Lord-Mayor of Helsinki accompanied Mrs. Ford around the open air museum. His name is Teuvo Aura. She told him she was having a "delightful time" . . and "it was very colorful".

She was served a "home-made brew" to which she said ". . um" . . . (it is non-alcoholic).

Inside the courtyard are lilac bushes and dainty white birch trees.

The roof of each of these houses is made of wooden shingles.

Suddenly. . . a white butterfly floated by in the bushes.

"This is one of the delightful parts," Mrs. Ford repeated. "It is very cheerful and beautiful, very festive."

Asked if this reminded her of any parts of the State in the northern mid-west back home, Mrs. Ford replied: "Well, I think perhaps Minnesota."

"Naturally it is only possible to get a closer feel of the country by spending more time. . . the other countries we were in. . we were in such a short time. . . it was practically from the airport to the palace wherever we were staying . . whatever occasion took place. . there was very little time for sightseeing," Mrs. Ford said!

Asking a native who attended about the impression she had of Mrs. Ford she replied, "She is absolutely lovely. . she is genuine. . wholesome. . the people reacted very warmly to her. She is such a beauty -- ravishing. . people would wish to see more of her.

On the way back to the pier where the women were to sail to an island for lunch... Mrs. Ford and the group stopped to see the Sibelius Monument which looks like organ pipes, is made of steel and resting on granite rocks. A metal sculptor of the head of Sibelius is nearby. The memorial was explained to Mrs. Ford by the grand-daughter of Sibelius, Mrs. Enckell. (Her husband is the Finnish Ambassador to France.) Eila Hildunen sculptored this monument in seven years.. out of steel. She cast the metal, also.

Mrs. Ford stopped to have her picture taken with the Sibelius Monument in the background.

On the way to the pier, many people were on the sidewalk watching the caravan of cars go by escorted by motorcycle police.

At the boat, the press was not permitted to go on board.. only Sheila Weidenfeld, Mrs. Ford's press secretary, went on board with the wives of the heads of state.

We passed three ice-breakers in the harbor.. many small boats and some large ones.

A few photographers were permitted on board.

Saaristo is the name of the boat. Mr. Straus, Snellman, Counsel General at the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mrs. Ford and group had luncheon at Valhalla Restaurant on Suomenlinna Fortress Island... a 40 minute ride away.. they viewed a fashion show after lunch. They were brought back to Katajanokka (?) Pier in the afternoon.

(The press was not permitted to follow in a rented boat or to be around.)

(Helsinki is a peninsula. The water is the Gulf of Finland. Directly East across the gulf is Esthonia... S. E. is Leningrad.)

Naomi Nover
Nover News Service

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POOL REPORT

Jack Ford touring Pulp and Paper Companies
August 1, 1975

Jack Ford did a lot of walking and a lot of listening today as he toured Nokia, Finland's largest private corporation. Jack walked through sections of a building where monitoring equipment is produced for pollution control and nuclear power plants. Jack asked several questions of the employees who walked him through four floors of equipment. With him was Mark Reynolds, a young American from Salt Lake City who is the company's export manager.

At the assembly line building, Jack marveled at the bright colors, the good lighting and the peace and quiet. There were 20 or 30 women working at keyboards in a huge room decorated with green plants and bright colors.

Jack stopped at a nursery where 20 small children were playing games while their mothers worked. They gave him a gift of a small statuette consisting of two stones, one on top of the other, with moss on the top stone that appeared to be hair, and felt eyes on the top stone. The children rolled on the floor and sang a game song, then presented Jack with pictures they had drawn of how they imagined President and Mrs. Ford look. The pictures looked like any kindergarden drawing of a parent.

Jack went by car to another corporation called Keskuslaboratorio, which is a research laboratory which refines pulp, paper, and cardboard. Jack toured two floors of the processing equipment and met three Americans from Appleton, Wisconsin, who are working as exchange employees. Jack asked how they would compare Finland to the United States, and the young Americans said Finnish technology is now being used in the plant they come from in Appleton.

The company President asked Jack to sign the guest book. As he sat at the end of a large board table and took the pen, Jack said he felt like he was signing a bill into law as his father does. The company president also gave Jack a 10 Finnmark coin which is a memorial coin. Jack declined a glass of champagne, saying he had had enough of it on this trip.

In a brief interview with poolers outside the paper company, Jack said that he was impressed that the Europeans recognized the value of their forests more so than the Americans. As for plans when he returns to the United States, Jack said his professional plans are indecisive. "If I can work it out I might go back to school to enhance my education." He said he is not sure which field in forestry he might choose as an occupation. Does he enjoy the trip? Yes, but this might be his last. He has trouble keeping up with his father. Jack said "I'm still not sure where he has his energy reserves and his capacity to keep up with it all."

About his father's speech to the delegates, Jack described it as written well and delivered better. Does Jack miss the freedom of being anonymous? "Very much so. It's very difficult, especially traveling internationally not to be the President's son. It's hard to be Jack Ford." Question - do you try to be yourself? "I'm trying, I'm trying. But there are official functions. You just hope you can grab those moments while you can." Jack added he's happy with the Finnish girls, although he has not met enough of them.

Jack returned to the Embassy building about 3:30 p.m.

Ann Compton - ABC

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POOL REPORT #1

Airport to Old Palace to Federal
Executive Council Building

Belgrade, Yugoslavia
August 3, 1975

As the motorcade moved out of the airport grounds, we asked Sheila Weidenfeld about Mrs. Ford's health and appearance, which we observed at the welcoming ceremony. Sheila answered that Mrs. Ford was "feeling fine". She said that Mrs. Ford had tea during the day with Mrs. Ceausescu. She wanted to rest today so she could go to the state dinner here this evening. She also mentioned that the schedule for the trip was put together so late in Washington that it didn't allow time to go over events closely enough. Ron Nessen later expressed surprise that one would ask about Mrs. Ford. He said "she's fine."

The motorcade moved along at 45 miles an hour into the city. The people along the streets were curious, almost impassive, and not demonstrative at all. However they did not appear sullen. Ford and Tito were in an open car most of the time waving. The crowds responded merely by waving flags. There was no cheering. Only a small number had flags.

Shortly before we reached the palace grounds, there was a huge banner with the words, "Long Live the President of the United States of America Gerald Ford."

At the palace grounds, Nessen said there were no official estimates of crowd size. He said Yugoslavs told him this was a respectable crowd for a Sunday in the vacation season, and that there was no way for the government to turn crowds out. Nessen agreed to an estimate of 50,000 to 70,000.

The white stone palace sits on a suburban hill and overlooks a large rectangular reflecting pool. Its architecture is vaguely Turkish. The Fords and the Titos, with aides, sat for a few moments sipping champagne in a first floor drawing room. Ford was in an animated conversation with Mrs. Broz (Tito) and at one point holding his glass said enthusiastically "cheers!"

Ten minutes later Ford and Tito walked out of the room and the President said in a loud voice, "I'll walk out to the car with you" putting his arm around Tito's shoulder. With that, Tito left. The President went back inside the palace for about 40 minutes, and then emerged for the drive to the Federal Executive Council building, that giant white modern structure, with fountain in front observed on the way into town. American and Yugoslav flags hung at the entrance. It is located in the new city where you observed much new construction.

As to the substance of the Ford-Tito talks, Nessen said he did not have his book with him but assumed that trade would be the major item.

Mort Kondracke
John Cochran
John Mashek

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AUGUST 3, 1975

POOL REPORT NO. 9

Bucharest to Sinaia

The Presidential motorcade arrived about 15 minutes late at a special railroad station in Bucharest that, the pool was advised, is reserved for President Ceausescu. Mrs. Ford did not make the trip. We were told that she was tired and at the President's suggestion was taking the time to rest.

The train pulled away from the station in a fairly heavy rain. It passed through a rather extensive railroad yard, with a few boxcars bearing the legends "San Francisco" and "Red Line." The roadbed was smooth, and the tracks rested on concrete railroad ties.

The train maintained a steady, moderate speed throughout the hour and 47 minutes trip, most of which was across a flat plain of farm country that resembled Iowa. The major crops seemed to be corn, sunflowers, and tomatoes, grapes, apples, hay and there was substantial evidence of the recent heavy rains that have caused the disastrous floods in Romania. Chickens, turkeys, pheasants, ducks and geese could be glimpsed from the train.

The train passed by the extensive petrochemical works, oil refineries, pipelines, storage facilities and a tire plant at Ploiesti, said to be the largest such complex in Europe. Gas was flaring off some towers.

In many of the villages there were small groups of people who waved at the train. People in peasant dress could be spotted in the field gathering grain. Several passenger trains, jammed with people, were sidetracked to permit the Ford train to pass.

After about an hour's travel the 16 car train reached the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains. It climbed steadily, sometimes through narrow wooded valleys and along streambeds reminiscent of West Virginia.

A two-man pool of Growald and Lisagor was taken to the compartment occupied by the two Presidents. Most of the pool time was spent in a tight corridor lined with a mahogany-looking wood. At length the photographers were admitted two by two, and the writing pool got a brief glimpse of the principals sitting side-by-side at a small table against the wall. Cups of Turkish coffee were on the table. Secretary of State Kissinger sat across from Ford and Ceausescu, and two others, presumably Romanians, also occupied the compartment. Just outside where they sat was a bunk covered by a brocaded coverlet. There was no audible small talk overheard. (End of glimpse).

As the train pulled into Sinaia the top of the first ridge was made invisible by fog. A Romanian insisted that this was not Transylvania, that it is 35 kilometers away and that the people there do not pay much attention to the legend of Count Dracula, but he said there are bats.

O'ROURKE
RINGLE
LISAGOR
DUDMAN

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