

This Copy For _____

N E W S C O N F E R E N C E

#16

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH JACK HUSHEN

AT 11:30 A.M. EDT

AUGUST 28, 1974

WEDNESDAY

MR. HUSHEN: We have a few brief announcements.

Jerry is continuing to meet with the President on the press conference, which, as you know, is coming up at 2:30 today, and that is why I am here.

The President was in the office at 8 o'clock this morning. He has met with staff members, including Al Haig, Secretary Kissinger, Jerry terHorst, Paul Miltich, Jack Marsh and Bob Hartmann. He has, of course, spent much of the morning preparing for his first press conference, and he will continue to meet with his aides up until the press conference.

As we have already announced, on the President's schedule, the President will meet at 4:15 with Secretary Morton, and then at 5 o'clock the President will discuss Project Independence with Secretary Simon, Secretary Morton and John Sawhill, the Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration.

I have one addition to the posted schedule.

At 6:15, the President will meet with Governor Scranton as a follow up to their meeting on Monday on transition matters.

This evening, as the east side has already announced, the President and Mrs. Ford will host a dinner for the members of the Cabinet and their wives and husbands. The White House senior staff also will be attending, as will be Mr. and Mrs. Rockefeller. This will be at 7 o'clock in the Residence.

Helen Smith's office is working up the pool coverage on that, and I would refer you over there for details.

MORE

#16

The President will have a full schedule tomorrow, as it appears now, but we will wait until that is firmed up before announcing it.

On Friday, the President will address the summer commencement at Ohio State University. He will speak about 10 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time in the St. John Arena, which is the basketball coliseum at Ohio State.

We will have details on the trip sometime tomorrow, but I can say for your guidance the press plane check-in is 6:15 a.m., departure at 6:40.

Q Will there be a bus from here, Jack?

MR. HUSHEN: I don't think so. Bus drivers don't get up that early, either. (Laughter)

This weekend it is likely that the President and Mrs. Ford will spend some time at Camp David, as most of you already know. We are not sure whether they are going to be going up Friday or Saturday, but we will keep you advised.

Let me give you a few logistical details about this afternoon's press conference, to save some of your questions. We will take the reels, sound men, and still photographers over to the East Room about 1:45, and the reporters shortly after 2 o'clock.

Just so you are not surprised by the set-up over there, which we have rearranged somewhat, the President will be speaking from a podium located on the west side of the East Room in front of the doorway that leads into the Grand Hallway.

In other words, as you face the President, the Green, Blue and Red Rooms will be on your left. I can say on BACKGROUND the reason for this change from the recent practice is that we want to use the room as it is, in its more natural setting, and to get away from the blue backdrop, which sometimes gave the appearance of a stage effect. The podium will also be less massive than the one previously used.

I have one announcement that is embargoed until noon.

President Ford has invited the First Secretary of the Polish United Workers Party, Mr. Edward Gierak, to visit the United States beginning October 8, 1974. First Secretary Gierak has accepted the President's invitation with pleasure. The visit will permit the President and the First Secretary to review developments in U.S.-Polish relations and to exchange views on matters of mutual interest.

Q He is the Head of State, isn't he?

MR. HUSHEN: No, he is head of the party, the Polish Workers Party.

Q Do you have any background on when the President -- did President Nixon pay a visit to Poland?

MR. HUSHEN: Yes.

Q Do you have a date on that?

MR. HUSHEN: Yes, President Nixon visited Poland May 31 through June 1, 1972, at which time he invited the First Secretary to visit the United States; therefore, this is, in effect, a return visit of President Nixon's 1972 visit to Warsaw.

Q This is obviously not a State visit, but is it an official visit?

MR. HUSHEN: An official visit, yes.

Q Has there ever been a visit by a working head of government, the Polish Government to the United States?

MR. HUSHEN: This is Mr. Gierek's first visit to the United States.

I might add for your information that President Ford visited Warsaw in 1959 when he was a member of the U.S. delegation to the Interparliamentary Union Conference.

Q Were the Soviets advised privately or in any way in advance of the invitation?

MR. HUSHEN: I can't answer that.

Let me say in response to your question, when was the last time that a Polish leader paid a visit to the United States, to the best of my knowledge there has not been a comparable visit in the past from a leader of the Polish People's Republic. There have been visits at the Vice Premier level, but not at the First Secretary level.

Q Jack, how long will he answer questions?

MR. HUSHEN: Probably not as long as you would like and probably longer than he wants, but --

Q An hour?

MR. HUSHEN: I would guess it would probably be the standard time.

Q Which is a half hour, or 30 minutes?

MR. HUSHEN: I would presume about 30.

Q Are you going to have a text on the commencement address?

MR. HUSHEN: Nothing is firm on that yet. There will be a guidance, I would predict, a text at least, on the plane.

Q Will the President have any announcements before the --

MR. HUSHEN: No, I do not.

Q What will be the pattern of the news conference, Jack? Will it be twice a week; I mean, more than once a month? What are you aiming for?

MR. HUSHEN: Often. Jerry spoke in the past about trying to have them every couple of weeks.

Q Jerry?

MR. HUSHEN: Jerry terHorst, excuse me. You will know when I am talking about the President.

MORE

Q Or Jerry Warren. (Laughter)

MR. HUSHEN: All right.

Q Jack, how long is this Polish First Secretary going to be here?

MR. HUSHEN: I can't give you a -- we haven't set the itinerary so I can't answer that.

Q Is he going to travel around the United States as well as visit Washington?

MR. HUSHEN: That is the usual case, but again we don't have a firm itinerary.

Q No details?

MR. HUSHEN: We expect he will.

Q Expect he will what?

MR. HUSHEN: Travel outside of Washington, D.C.

Q Is the Administration considering a \$4 billion public works program?

MR. HUSHEN: Why don't you save that question until 2:30; you will probably get a better answer.

Q Shall we save all the others? (Laughter)

Q Will he have any announcements before the news conference?

MR. HUSHEN: Will the President have any announcements?

Q Yes.

MR. HUSHEN: The President will have an opening statement.

Q On what?

MR. HUSHEN: We will just keep you in suspense, Helen.

Q Probably on the \$4 billion public works program. (Laughter)

Q Do you have any idea on the return from Columbus, roughly what time?

MR. HUSHEN: In the early afternoon.

Q He is not going to do anything else?

MR. HUSHEN: I doubt it.

Q You mean that we will be back here by early afternoon or he will leave there in the early afternoon?

MR. HUSHEN: He will be back here by early afternoon; I would expect you to be back shortly thereafter.

Q Where will we be landing in Columbus?

MR. HUSHEN: I don't know. We will have that for you, probably tomorrow.

I just have one other announcement I would like to make before I get out of here.

I have been asked to announce that Robert W. Miller has been named Deputy Executive Director of the White House Summit Conference on Inflation. Mr. Miller will be detailed from the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission where he is the Senior Assistant Administrator. We will post the biographical information on Mr. Miller who will serve as Deputy to Bill Seidman.

Q Where did you say he is?

MR. HUSHEN: He is presently with the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

Q As what?

MR. HUSHEN: He is Senior Assistant Administrator there.

Q Do you have his home town?

MR. HUSHEN: It will be in the bio.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

(11:37 A.M. EDT)