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NEWS CONFERENCE

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH JERRY TER HORST

AT 12:42 PM

SEPTEMBER 6, 1974

FRIDAY

MR. TER HORST: Today's schedule you have. It is posted, but I will go over it again to bring out some detail in which you might have an interest.

The President held his customary staff meetings this morning -- General Haig, Secretary Kissinger, Bob Hartmann, Counsellor Jack Marsh, myself, and others.

An important addition to the President's schedule was Vice President-Designate Nelson Rockefeller, who met with the President at 9:00 together with Secretary Kissinger. The purpose of that meeting was to provide Nelson Rockefeller with the foreign policy briefs that are customarily provided to the President.

At 10:00 the President also met with Ambassador Annenberg who is back from London. That was a courtesy call, in a sense, by the Ambassador, as he is in Washington today.

At 11:00, the President and Mrs. Ford attended the memorial services for General Abrams at Memorial Chapel, as you know, at Fort Myer. The President has just returned and is now meeting with the women's organizations leaders, after which there will be a briefing by two of the representatives of the groups that are there, and Mrs. Anne Armstrong was also present.

You probably should have or maybe you have already gotten a pool report on the President's attendance at the memorial services.

At 12:15, or about now, as I said, the President is meeting with the women's organizations and, as we said yesterday, the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the President's plans for participation of women in his Administration and to ask for suggestions from the organizations present as to items of priority concern to them.

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We have arranged for a photo session in the room and, as I said, a briefing afterwards, and will also make available a list of the participants in the meeting for you.

At 1:30 the President will meet again with Vice President-Designate Rockefeller in the Oval Office. And we will get a report for you on that meeting after it occurs.

At 2:00 there will be a meeting of the National Security Council in the Cabinet Room with the President.

And at 4:00 the President will meet with representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers and the United States Chamber of Commerce. The names of the participants I think are included on the schedule that is posted.

The topics for that meeting, obviously, are those of great concern to NAM and the Chamber.

At 5:00 the President has a meeting with the American Revolution Bicentennial Administrator, John Warner. This meeting is to provide an update for the President on the Bicentennial plans and to allow the President to express to Mr. Warner some of his own ideas on this subject.

For your information, Mr. Warner is expected to accompany the President to Philadelphia today for the Bicentennial event there.

I think you have the schedule now on tonight's trip.

Q No, we don't.

MR. TER HORST: You do not? You will shortly.

Q Do you have times, Jerry, just for operating purposes?

MR. TER HORST: I think the press leaves at 3:30. The Press will leave from the White House about 3:30 and, incidentally, because of the bad weather also prevailing in Philadelphia, the President will not use a helicopter; he will be going by Air Force One. And the press plane obviously will go, too.

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Q What time?

MR. TER HORST: The President's plans are to leave shortly after 5:00.

Q What time does he arrive, do you know?

MR. TER HORST: I think it is roughly about 35 minutes flying time, and then there will be the trip from the airport to the Bicentennial site. But he has a reception to attend. I think the reception begins at 6:30, if my recollection is correct, and then he attends the dinner and speaks after the dinner.

We hope to have the speech available to you on the plane. You will have plenty of time to file it after you get there because there is about two hours after you arrive before he actually speaks.

I have a couple of logistical points that the Bicentennial people in Philadelphia want us to call to your attention. The pool covering inside Independence Hall must have portable lights. Since this is an historic building, there are no electrical outlets in the building.

Also, people may not smoke in the building since the building has been restored. They tell me they are going to be very firm on that. Anyone who does smoke will be removed and not be allowed back in.

Q Are you taking your pipe, Jerry? (Laughter)

Q Can we chew, if we don't spit?

Q They will have spittoons. (Laughter)

MR. TER HORST: You should probably plan to take umbrellas and raincoats because the weather is very rough in Philadelphia, we are told, with quite a bit of wind. The event itself takes place in a tent which has been erected on Independence Mall across from Independence Hall. The surface will probably be a little soggy underfoot. So that is the advice from the advance people.

Q What is the good news, Jerry? (Laughter)

Q We don't have to stay overnight?

MR. TER HORST: The good news is that we are returning to Washington afterwards.

Just a word further about the Pittsburgh trip on Monday. We will post that schedule for you as soon as we have it in hand.

FOR GUIDANCE, I think the press departure will be about 8:00 in the morning with check-in time at 7:30 at Andrews. There will be no bus from the White House on Monday for that trip, so you will have to make your own arrangements to get to Andrews Air Force Base.

That again is, of course, a direct trip back here afterwards.

We posted during the afternoon yesterday a message from the President to Americans of the Jewish faith on the High Holidays.

And the President is also transmitting to Congress the annual report of the Secretary of the Interior on the administration of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act. We have a transmittal letter and a booklet available for those of you who are interested in the press office.

We have available also for you the text of the remarks of the President on the United Way Campaign this year. These remarks were filmed September 3 in the White House library for airing on television networks this week-end, which is the kick-off week-end for the nationwide United Way drive.

It will probably be seen at various times. The first it is being shown, I am told, is Thursday night, and other showings will occur Saturday and Sunday nights.

This is an announcement which is also being made in Moscow today. The President has chosen the following members for the United States delegation to the reconvening of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks which will resume in Geneva on September 18.

The United States representative and chief of the delegation will be Ambassador Alexis Johnson. The other members are: Dr. Harold Brown, Former Secretary of the Air Force, presently President of the California Institute of Technology -- I believe you have a paper on that, too, don't you? All right. Lieutenant General Edward L. Rowny, Mr. Boris Klosson, Mr. Ralph Earle, II, and Dr. Michael May.

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And finally, we are announcing within the Press Office the appointment of Philip Warden, late of the Chicago Tribune, to be editor of the President's daily news summary. I am certain most of you probably knew Phil or know him well. He has been a part of the Washington scene for a long time.

He has covered Washington for seven Presidents, during the terms of seven Presidents. We have some biographical information which I think has been given to you.

Q Who does he replace, and how much money does he make?

MR. TER HORST: Can I get back to that in a minute? I don't want to miss some of the announcements, Helen.

Looking to the President's schedule next week, we have already announced that Israeli Prime Minister Rabin will be making an official visit to Washington. This is his first as Prime Minister. He will arrive in Washington on Tuesday, September 10, and will leave Washington on Friday, September 13.

He will be greeted by the President in an arrival ceremony on the South Lawn on Tuesday afternoon, followed by his first meeting with the President immediately thereafter.

The Prime Minister will have a second meeting with the President on Thursday morning, the 12th, and that evening the President and Mrs. Ford will host a formal dinner at the White House for Prime Minister Rabin. Mrs. Rabin will be accompanying the Prime Minister.

Q That is the night of the 12th?

MR. TER HORST: That is the night of the 12th for the State dinner, yes.

While in Washington, Prime Minister Rabin will also meet with Secretaries Kissinger, Schlesinger, and Simon.

This visit gives the President and the Prime Minister an opportunity again to review the Middle East situation following the discussions held here this summer with both Israeli and Arab representatives, and to discuss future progress toward a Middle East settlement.

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They will also have the chance to discuss bilateral matters between Israel and the United States in line with our long-standing and close relations between the two countries.

And, obviously, this is all within the framework of the elements of cooperation that were announced in Jerusalem in the joint statement that was issued on June 17.

Also this afternoon, regarding attendance at future inflation conferences, all agencies involved in these inflation conferences will make available for you, as of today, the names of those delegates who plan to attend the various respective conferences still to come before the major and overall conference on inflation.

As you know, we have posted the dates and locations for those so-called mini-summit meetings. We will have those lists here at the White House -- well, I hope within a matter of hours, or certainly by tomorrow. But in case it slips until Monday before we have all of them, they will be available here if you don't need them until then.

I think that is all the announcements I have. I am ready for questions.

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Q Will Governor Rockefeller be sitting in regularly from now on in the President's foreign policy briefings?

MR. TER HORST: As he can. He will be attending them from time to time periodically and obtaining the same general guidance on foreign policy and national security matters which President Ford received as a nominee for the Vice Presidency.

Q Will he attend the NSC meeting today?

MR. TER HORST: I am not aware that he will, no.

Q What is the purpose of the second meeting?

MR. TER HORST: I don't know that. We will find out for you.

Q Is the NSC meeting to review the position on SALT?

MR. TER HORST: As you know, we never discuss the agenda of NSC meetings, but it will be a far and wide-ranging discussion, which they always are.

Q When is the SALT delegation actually leaving for Geneva?

MR. TER HORST: I don't think I have a date on that.

Q Is there an agreed position on SALT, an agreed negotiating position?

MR. TER HORST: When they sit down to the table -- you mean an agreed United States position on SALT?

Q Yes.

MR. TER HORST: When they sit down to the table with the Soviet representatives, I am certain the United States will have an agreed position at that time.

Q Do they have it now? The President said they don't have one. He indicated differences.

MR. TER HORST: There are differences of opinion and emphasis naturally, between various members of the Government concerned with SALT, as we all know. But at the time they sit down to the table, those differences, as he indicated, will be thrashed out so there will be a unified American position, obviously.

Q Jerry, you are saying, at least by implication, that the President has directed Secretary Kissinger and Secretary Schlesinger to have their differences resolved, ironed out, and so forth, on or before September 18; is that right?

MR. TER HORST: No, I am not trying to imply anything. I am just trying to state the obvious, that the United States delegation is not going to negotiate with the Soviet Union without having an agreed position approved by President Ford.

Q By September 18th?

MR. TER HORST: That is the date of the first meeting, yes.

Q But you can't say whether they have one now?

MR. TER HORST: I cannot go beyond what the President has said. But, as you know, there are ongoing talks constantly on this subject and the differences are not such that cannot be worked out between them. I don't want to leave the impression that there is a serious break in the dialogue between people who hold different views.

Q Is President Ford confident that by the time Mr. Brezhnev reaches here for Summit IV that there will be agreement in principle or a conceptual breakthrough towards SALT II?

MR. TER HORST: I think we would have to wait as we go down the road toward that. A lot will depend on what transpires at Geneva in the next round of the SALT talks.

Q Jerry, how do you see the weekend and the format for amnesty? Is it going to be a TV address?

MR. TER HORST: The weekend looks like another busy one, both tomorrow and certainly Monday with the Pittsburgh trip and on Sunday, I know the President, on BACKGROUND, intends to go to church and hopes to get in some golf, if he can, I believe. But Monday will be another busy day and as I have indicated, the amnesty decision will be upcoming, I am hopeful, early in the week, hopefully Tuesday, if possible. But as to -- you had a third question, Helen.

Q What will be the format?

MR. TER HORST: I have no guidance to give you on the format.

Q How about tomorrow?

MR. TER HORST: I will probably not brief tomorrow. I think we can post the schedule and it won't be necessary to brief.

Q But he will stay in town?

MR. TER HORST: Yes. We will be here in the office, at least part of the staff will be here.

Q Where is he going to church on Sunday?

MR. TER HORST: I think the President's plan, ON BACKGROUND, is to attend St. John's Church on Sunday.

Q Anything for tomorrow?

MR. TER HORST: We will have to let you judge that when you see the schedule, I guess. Everything that happens here is important.

Q Do you have any information to confirm a reported meeting between the Cuban Foreign Minister and U.S. diplomatic officials in Bern, Switzerland?

MR. TER HORST: I am not aware of any specific meeting on that subject. I think perhaps State Department might be a place to direct it to.

Q Jerry, does the White House intend to fight in court the subpoenas from John Ehrlichman for papers that are held by the Secret Service now?

MR. TER HORST: As you know, the Justice Department has been asked to provide a ruling to the White House governing the whole issue of the tape question and the documents and all the other matters that have been discussed here in the past and until we have that opinion, why I guess I will have to remain in the dark as much as you are.

Q Jerry, in line with the policy of letting the States handle as many of their own affairs as they can, does the President have a position on lotteries which is being discussed in the Justice Department today?

MR. TER HORST: No. As you know, the Attorney General did meet with and did call attention to the various States which have lotteries, to the fact that there is a matter of a Federal anti-gambling statute on the books but I am certain that the Members of Congress are also aware of that statute and the fact that the practices of some States may not square with that statute. And it is quite likely that there could be some Congressional action one way or the other on that issue.

Q Jerry, there is a report saying that the White House has decided not to send the Threshold Nuclear Test Ban Treaty to the Senate this year. Do you have anything on that?

MR. TER HORST: I don't, Russ. I think perhaps State might be able to give you some help on that.

Q Jerry, you said the President was seeing Ambassador Annenberg as part of a courtesy call, in a sense. What did you mean by "in a sense"? And has the subject of a replacement for Ambassador Annenberg been discussed?

MR. TER HORST: Well, that is possible. As you know, the Ambassador is back in the United States currently, and the President asked him to come in and he did. I was not at the meeting and so I can't give you a fill on what transpired. That is something I will try to do along with your query on Nelson Rockefeller this afternoon.

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Q Any more on the status of Senator Fulbright for that post?

MR. TER HORST: No, this is a matter that is under active consideration by the President and when we have an announcement, and we do hope to have one not too far in the distant future, we will inform you.

Q Would he agree to take it -- Fulbright?

MR. TER HORST: I have no further guidance to give you on that, Helen.

Q But you will confirm he is being actively considered for that post; is that right?

MR. TER HORST: Senator Fulbright is a man who is held in high regard for his long experience and foreign policy expertise as Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. But that whole matter, as I said before, is under discussion or under consideration, and I hope to have an announcement on that shortly.

Q Jerry, the schedule for these mini-summits calls for one to be held here in Washington next Wednesday involving officials of unions, trade unions, and the schedule, I understand, also calls for the President to be in Pinehurst, North Carolina on that day playing golf.

Who is going to preside at that meeting if the President is not here, and why is he not presiding at the meeting with the labor leaders?

MR. TER HORST: I think when you see the schedule for that day, you will understand that the President will not be leaving without having met with the labor delegation as well.

Q You mean he will be there in the morning and then take off for Pinehurst in the afternoon?

MR. TER HORST: That is the President's hope that he can meet with the members of the labor delegation.

Q What is the subject of the speech?

MR. TER HORST: We will have to firm that up when we get to the date of the schedule.

Q Can you give us the subject of the speech tonight?

MR. TER HORST: I cannot give it to you now, no, but it might be -- you see, I don't have the final draft in hand, but I think it will be a very timely and interesting speech and, as you know, it is going to be carried live on television in the Philadelphia area.

Q What do you mean "timely"?

MR. TER HORST: Well, it so happens that the Third Session of the original Continental Congress, which is the anniversary date to which the President is addressing himself tonight in Philadelphia, happened to have considered inflation in the Colonies as one of its major issues, so I wouldn't be surprised to see the President also bring up the matter of economy and inflation when he is in Philadelphia tonight.

Q What time is the President due back Monday, and will he have a public schedule on Monday afternoon?

MR. TER HORST: Yes. I can't tell you for sure, I can't recall exactly what time we get back, but we do get back and he does have a schedule here in the afternoon.

Before I forget, let me give you this advisory on the departure time. The bus will depart from the southwest gate here at 3:30 for Andrews. The check-in at Andrews for those of you who are not taking the bus is 4:15, and the press plane departure from Andrews is 4:45.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Jerry.

END

(1:07 PM EDT)

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