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NEWS CONFERENCE

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH BILL GREENER

AT 11:32 A.M. EDT

JULY 21, 1975

MONDAY

MR. GREENER: I have a couple of announcements that were not posted this morning, and these will be out later, but let me read them now.

The President and Mrs. Ford will visit the Federal Republic of Germany from July 26 to July 28. He will be received by President Scheel and will have talks with Chancellor Schmidt and Foreign Minister Genscher about current international questions.

At the invitation of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party, President and Mrs. Ford will make an official visit to Poland July 28 and 29.

At the invitation of the President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu and Mrs. Elena Ceausescu, the President and Mrs. Ford will pay an official visit to Romania from August 2 to 3.

Q I don't think the people downstairs know this is going on.

Q It was called.

MR. GREENER: I will have this for them. It will be printed.

At the invitation of the President of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Joseph Broz Tito, the President and Mrs. Ford will pay an official visit to Yugoslavia from August 3 to 4.

One small -- not announcement -- but for everyone to know, the trip to Europe requires certain updates of your shots. So, the White House Physician's Office will be available to administer these shots to those who are not going to get them from a private physician.

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We have arranged for the corpsman and the nurse to be in the Press Office on Wednesday at 12:30, immediately following the briefing. The three requirements are smallpox within three years, typhoid within three years and tetanus within six years.

Q Typhoid and tetanus are just recommended.

MR. GREENER: Typhoid and tetanus are just recommended. Smallpox is a requirement.

Q Before you go on to housekeeping, I assume the President leaves on July 26?

MR. GREENER: I am getting ready to go into that now.

The President and Mrs. Ford are tentatively scheduled to arrive in Bonn 8 p.m. local time, on Saturday. That is plus five hours, incidentally, from Eastern Daylight Time.

Based on that, I think for planning purposes you can plan on the following baggage and take-off time.

Baggage will be accepted all day until 6 p.m. on Friday, July 25, in Room 87 of the Executive Office Building. Technicians will be manifested aboard Pan Am, and writers on TWA.

There is a 5:45 baggage deadline for Pan Am, and a 6 o'clock a.m. baggage deadline for TWA. There is a 6 o'clock a.m. Pan Am check-in without baggage, and a 6:15 TWA check-in without baggage. At 6:45 Pan Am departs, and at 7 o'clock, TWA departs.

At 7:45, Air Force One departs. Flying time for Air Force One is seven hours and 15 minutes. The time change is plus five hours. The sign-up deadline is 6 p.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, July 22. By that time we must also have the ten passport-size photos, signed on the back, and your passport.

Q In color?

MR. GREENER: Correct, in color. It is most important for you to meet these deadlines so we can guarantee accommodations and proper accreditation.

Q There is a problem with color photos. There are only a certain number of places that can hammer out color photos. Do you know what they are?

MR. GREENER: We will get them for you.

Q What was the deadline on photos?

MR. GREENER: 6:00 p.m. tomorrow. For those of you who are taking camera and sound equipment, for your own protection a list of the items including the manufacturer and the serial number should be given to Ray Zook prior to departure.

For the photos, the places are: Dupont Photography, 1302 Connecticut Avenue; Chase Photography, and Cullin Photography. Cullin is 1716 H Street. And that is all on the trip.

Q Do you have any details of the President's route on his return?

MR. GREENER: I do not at this time.

Q Is there any stop in London?

MR. GREENER: I don't have the details on it yet.

Q All of these are official visits?

MR. GREENER: That is correct.

Q What do you call this? A 9 or 10-day trip?

MR. GREENER: Ten-day.

Q When does he arrive in Helsinki? On the 29th or 30th?

MR. GREENER: On the 29th. Let's double-check that. But I am almost positive it is the 29th.

Q Did you say the stops in Vienna and London are still possible?

MR. GREENER: No, I did not. This is all we have and this is the trip.

The question of London was in connection with -- I think as far as Ralph was asking -- that was whether or not there would be a refueling stop or anything.

Q What about leaving Helsinki? Will we leave Helsinki on the 2nd or 1st?

MR. GREENER: I don't have all the final details, Bob. The 29th is the arrival time, that is correct.

Q There is no refueling on the way to Bonn, is that right?

MR. GREENER: That is correct.

Q But would we need one from Belgrade?

MR. GREENER: Yes.

Q So if I wanted to jump off in Shannon, that is okay?

MR. GREENER: Let's wait and see.

Q Is there any word whether there we will be in tents, dormitories, or what, in Helsinki?

MR. GREENER: We do not have the details yet.

Q Haven't you really heard anything from the advance crew on how bad Helsinki will be?

MR. GREENER: I heard we will all be doubling up.

Q Not tripling or quadrupling, like dormitories?

MR. GREENER: Not so far as I know.

Q We have heard nightmares.

MR. GREENER: So have we.

The Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China has invited a bipartisan Congressional delegation to visit China for about 10 days, beginning August 20. The delegation will be headed by Representative John B. Anderson, Republican of Illinois, with Senator Robert C. Byrd, Democrat, West Virginia, as deputy leader. Members of the group include Representatives John Slack, Democrat, West Virginia --

Q What is Slack's first name?

MR. GREENER: John Slack. Representative Edward Derwinski, Republican, Illinois; Senator James B. Pearson, Republican, Kansas; and Senator Sam Nunn, Democrat, Georgia.

Q What is the name of that institute again?

MR. GREENER: The Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. Details of the trip, which were agreed to in principle during Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's November 1974 trip to Peking, are now being worked out between officials of the White House and the State Department, in consultation with the Liaison Office of the People's Republic of China in Washington.

Q Is the White House going to pick up the travel tab?

MR. GREENER: We will have to check.

Q You mean the White House is naming this as the delegation? Is that what you mean?

MR. GREENER: That is correct.

Q They are not leaving it to Congress?

MR. GREENER: I am sure they worked this out between them, Sarah.

Q This trip is being paid for by whom?

MR. GREENER: We will check that. This will be the ninth delegation of American officials to visit China since the Administration initiated efforts to normalize U.S. and P.R.C. relations in 1971, apart from President Nixon's visit in 1972 and Secretary Kissinger's seven trips to Peking. The eight previous groups included seven Congressional delegations.

These were led by Senator Mike Mansfield and Hugh Scott in April 1972, Representatives Hale Boggs and Gerald Ford, in June of that same year, 1972; a group led by Senator Warren Magnuson and Representative Thomas Morgan, in July of 1973; a visit by Senator Henry Jackson in July of 1974; a second trip by Senator Mansfield in December 1974; a delegation headed by Senator J. William Fulbright and Representative Peter Frelinghuysen, in September of last year, 1974; and a visit by Representatives Carl Albert and John Rhodes, in April of 1975.

The remaining delegation was a visit by six State Governors, led by Governor Dan Evans of Washington, in May of 1974.

Q You said this was going to be a 10-day trip?

MR. GREENER: For about 10 days beginning August 26.

Q Was that a complete list, Bill, for this trip?

MR. GREENER: Yes.

Q Are there wives going?

MR. GREENER: I don't know.

Q When do you expect an itinerary on the Ford trip, and also will we be getting any briefing beforehand?

MR. GREENER: We are working now with State for a couple of briefings, and we will give the details of these perhaps later today. But they have not worked out all the dates and the times.

Q Are wives going on the trip?

MR. GREENER: Let me answer this one, and then I will get back to you.

One, a detailed background briefing on CSCE and the other on the entire trip.

We are checking to see if wives are going with the delegation. I did not have an answer for you on that. That is about it.

Q Has the United States agreed to set up a monitoring system in the Sinai as part of an interim agreement between the Arabs and Israel? Are the Egyptians and Israelis?

MR. GREENER: They are still in the midst of negotiations and I think it is too early to make any announcements until such settlements have been made.

Q Bill, we were given to understand the President would be vetoing that one price extension bill with a rollback today. Is there any word on when the veto message will be available?

MR. GREENER: It will be early this afternoon, and we will have someone down here to brief on it.

Q Another question in connection with that. I was not at Saturday's briefing. I just wanted to be clear on what was said. Did the President say Saturday that he would veto any extension of price controls, or was he referring specifically to this bill with the rollback or a six-month extension?

MR. GREENER: He was specifically talking first about the rollback that we talked about today, and secondly, he said he would veto any six-month extension, simple extension at the present levels.

Q But he was referring to one for six months, so if they were to come up with a 30 or 60-day extension, he is not saying at that point he would automatically veto that.

MR. GREENER: He would have to see it and look at it.

Q Are the President's energy advisors working on another possible alternative at the present time should Congress fail to accept the plan of last week?

MR. GREENER: I think they have been working with him all weekend in various ways, but the President considers the bill that he has sent up there as a compromise, and it certainly has been.

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Q But the question is, are the President's energy advisers working on another standby plan?

MR. GREENER: I think they are looking into all possible areas, Phil.

Q You are not answering yes or no, then?

MR. GREENER: No, I am not.

Q I thought Frank Zarb said up on the Hill Friday that if the controls come off September 1, the price of gasoline will go up 7 cents within six to nine months. Ron this morning said that was not correct.

What is the Administration's estimate of how much gasoline prices will go up if there is no compromise and all the controls go off at once on Labor Day?

MR. GREENER: Do you have an answer to that, John?

MR. CARLSON: Six to 7 cents. The only question is how many months would it take it to reach that level, and I would think it would take six to nine months.

MR. GREENER: I would point out Frank will be down here to brief this afternoon and can answer most of the technical questions.

Q What time is that briefing?

MR. GREENER: Sometime around three, but I am not positive of the time.

Q Tennis is at three, with Billie Jean King.

MR. GREENER: Frank is not playing with Billie Jean King.

Q On what basis is the President seeing the tennis champ?

Q Will there be a ceremony for the veto today?

MR. GREENER: None planned.

Q We will not see the President down here?

MR. GREENER: It is not planned.

Q Did the President invite the tennis champs for substantive reasons or something to do with the image or what will he have to gain -- to quote a famous spokesman here -- by meeting with the tennis champs?

MR. GREENER: I think he would like to congratulate them on representing the United States well and proudly.

Q Is Solzhenitsyn going to be here?

Q Will he be his guest at the veto?
(Laughter)

Q Bill, do you happen to know if the White House Press Office has had any correspondence with the Associated Press Radio Division about an article that Newsweek carried in which they said something about some correspondents have been heckling Nessen?

I understand the Associated Press Radio Division was worried about the manner in which Mr. Nessen was treated.

MR. GREENER: I have no knowledge of any correspondence on that, Sarah.

Q Would you check that with Ron, please?

MR. GREENER: I certainly would. I would think I would know it, however.

Q I understand there was a letter written, and I don't know whether they wrote it or whether Ron wrote it, but I would like to find out about this.

MR. GREENER: I would be glad to check.

Q Where is Mr. Nessen, by the way?

MR. GREENER: Mr. Nessen is in the President's office right now.

Q Why aren't you sitting at the table?
(Laughter)

MR. GREENER: On the China trip we were talking about, it is a Presidential mission traveling on Presidential aircraft.

Q That means we pay for it?

MR. GREENER: While in-country, they are guests of the People's Institute, and that is it.

Q What does that mean on the tab?

MR. GREENER: The People's Institute picks up the tab while in their country.

Q But the travel?

MR. GREENER: The travel is on Presidential aircraft. so it is White House.

Q Are we going to do something in return, like an exchange?

MR. GREENER: I have no idea.

Q All other trips had included the wives. Why not this one?

MR. GREENER: I am not sure. We will check on it. This one does include the wives.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END (AT 11:55 A.M. EDT)

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH RON NESSEN

AT 2:40 P.M. EDT

JULY 21, 1975

MONDAY

MR. NESSEN: I want to give you a short statement here.

The meeting lasted from 2:02 until 2:19. At the request of the family there were no photographers there, but also at the request of the family, David Kennerly took a photo which the family requested be released and there will be copies available for all the press somewhere between 5:00 and 6:00.

I cannot really add anything to the statement.

The Frank Zarb briefing will probably slip a few minutes to allow time for those of you who want to take pictures of the Billie Jean King/Arthur Ash meeting, and then we will begin the Zarb meeting after that.

Q About 3:30?

MR. NESSEN: I think it will be closer to 3:10 or 3:15.

Q Will you put out the statement first?

MR. NESSEN: The statement will be put out at 2:45, embargoed for 3:00.

Q Ron, did the Olson family ask for this meeting?

MR. NESSEN: No, the President asked them in.

Q This statement is the Olson family statement?

MR. NESSEN: The top part of it is a White House statement and the bottom part of it is an Olson family statement.

Q Did he tell them any information beyond what was in the public accounts?

MR. NESSEN: He told them his counsel's office would provide them with the information and also their lawyer would be getting together with the Attorney General to discuss the claims they made.

Q Is the President lending himself now to the validity of the Olson family's claims against the CIA, Ron?

Q How did this all come about, Ron?

Q Did they request the meeting?

MR. NESSEN: I said the President invited them in.

Q There is a standing question here.

MR. NESSEN: Peter, other than the facts you see there, the President apologized, and mentioned the fact that the legal representative of the family will be meeting with the Attorney General to discuss the claims.

Q At the request of the President? He said he has asked the Attorney General to meet with the legal representative.

MR. NESSEN: Well, let me add, from a personal point of view and from knowing the President's reaction to this episode personally, he feels very strongly about this and that is how the meeting did come about -- his own personal strong feelings that he wanted to meet with the family; he wanted to apologize, and he wanted to get these other items into the works.

Q Does he have details about the case that have not been made public? He said the counsel's office is going to talk to them. Is the President aware of some information that the public doesn't have?

MR. NESSEN: The President is aware of what the counsel's office has in the way of information.

Q Ron, does this mean that the President is going to accept their legal claims against the Government?

MR. NESSEN: It does not say that, Frank.

Q But I am asking you if he is going to not contest the claim.

MR. NESSEN: It is a legal question and I can't go beyond what the statement says.

Q The question that you didn't answer was, does the President have information that the public does not have in this case?

MR. NESSEN: I don't know that because I don't know what the public has. I have not kept up that closely with what the public has, but the family will get together with legal counsel's office.

Q Why didn't the President get them the information if he is aware of what the counsel's office knows?

MR. NESSEN: I can't answer your question other than to say the President felt strongly about it and wanted to apologize and wanted to see them personally and to tell them that the legal counsel's office will give them the information.

Q Did he learn of this through the newspaper, or what?

MR. NESSEN: Well, the Rockefeller Commission report made a reference to it and then I guess the family was identified in the newspaper, also.

Q When did he start to feel strongly about it? It has been in the papers for a month.

MR. NESSEN: The first time I heard him talk about it was at least a couple of weeks ago.

Q Ron, has he made any other statements to the people, personnel who were given this by any other agencies of the Government?

MR. NESSEN: Not that I am aware of.

Q And he invited them in?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q Do you recall what claims the family has made -- amount of money?

MR. NESSEN: I don't have that here.

Q They have not filed a suit yet.

Q Ron, is there any intention at all in this to kind of side the Government with the family so that the family does not go into court in an adversary where they might be getting legal rights to all sorts of information which the President, protecting the CIA, might not want out?

MR. NESSEN: I have not heard that discussed.

Q Was that any motivation?

Q Would the President like to see this out of court?

MR. NESSEN: I don't have any idea, Phil.

Q Ron, I assume that because it is printed on White House paper that the President subscribes to the last sentence of the Olson family statement and I would like to ask you just for the record whether that is correct or not, that people in all parts of the world are safe from abuses of power by American intelligence agencies?

MR. NESSEN: I don't think you need to relate it to the Olson statement, Peter. You have heard the President say that he expects all Government agencies to abide by the law.

Q Is the President opposed to the experimentation of any drugs or substances on any citizens whether in military or in the civilian agencies without their knowledge?

Q There is some information about tests. What does he think of that?

MR. NESSEN: I have not discussed it in a general way like that with him.

Q Are you going to hand out the statement?

MR. NESSEN: We will have the veto statement here for you.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Ron.

END

(AT 2:50 P.M. EDT)