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NEWS CONFERENCE#299

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH RON NESSEN

AT 10:26 A.M. MDT

AUGUST 16, 1975

SATURDAY

(Vail, Colorado)

MR. NESSEN: The pool needs to leave hurriedly now. The pool consists of the AP, UPI and the AP and UPI photographers, the NBC camera crew and NBC correspondent, Washington Post, U.S. News and World Report and Westinghouse.

They should go straight to the station wagons now, and Bill Roberts will take you over for a picture of the President meeting with Henry Kissinger.

I will give you one or two small items.

The President had a series of meetings with his staff this morning, including Dick Cheney, and myself. He is now winding up an hour with three of his speechwriters -- Paul Theis, Jack Calkins and Bob Orben -- working on the speeches for this forthcoming trip beginning on Monday.

He is meeting Dr. Kissinger at 10:30. At about 12:15 the President will leave the Residence to play golf. The partners today are Dick Bass, a Texas businessman whose house the President is renting; Jim Brown, who is a Utah ranch owner, business executive and long-time friend; and Bob Wolfe, the pro at the Vail golf course, at which the President will be playing.

There are no other plans for today. The President will do some paperwork when he gets back. He plans to have a quiet dinner at home tonight with Dr. and Mrs. Kissinger, and I don't have any plans for tomorrow, although I would anticipate golf for tomorrow and staff meetings in the morning.

The pool for the golf, which should meet there at 11:45 today, is the AP and UPI, the AP photo and UPI photo, NBC camera crew and correspondent, and NBC radio and sound engineer.

Q Are you going to brief tomorrow?

MORE

#299

MR. NESSEN: No. My plan was to say now we have a lid for today, and I don't have any plans really for tomorrow at all.

I would say that maybe, to be on the safe side, I don't anticipate anything tomorrow. Why don't we say that you could check in here at the press room at noon just to see if there is anything going on tomorrow.

Q Do you anticipate church tomorrow?

MR. NESSEN: No, I don't.

Q Do you anticipate anything after today's meeting with the Secretary of State?

MR. NESSEN: No, they asked that about an hour ago. No.

Q Do you expect the President to see Secretary Kissinger tomorrow?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q Are we likely to hear from Kissinger at any time during the weekend?

MR. NESSEN: I don't have any plans for that.

Q What was your yes on?

MR. NESSEN: The President will see Kissinger tomorrow.

Q Do you know when he is leaving?

MR. NESSEN: Tomorrow night or Monday. He has not said yet.

Q Will you be putting out a text of the briefing we have just had?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q How soon can we expect that?

MR. NESSEN: I will see.

Q Do you anticipate any advance texts by tomorrow, or when?

MR. NESSEN: We are looking for a detailed trip schedule by say late tomorrow afternoon or early evening. We will put out a summary schedule today so you will get a rough idea of where he is going. After this meeting, with the speechwriters this morning, I would anticipate that was at least the final word on some of the speeches. We will get them when we can.

Q Can you give us anything on background? Do you anticipate anything on Kissinger before he goes with the President, any guidance on that?

MR. NESSEN: Right now, Phil, there are just no plans for anything.

Q Could you give us a readout on that meeting yesterday?

MR. NESSEN: That would be difficult to do. It was a wideranging discussion that went on over dinner and at a reception and so forth. I don't think there is anything newsworthy out of it.

Q I don't mean to beg the issue here, but when we asked Kissinger last night, he said, "I can't predict as to whether or not there would be an announcement from here." You say as of now there are no plans for anything.

Is it in effect then that you all are saying it is possible or you can't say at this moment?

MR. NESSEN: I don't have anything at this moment, Dick, beyond what Kissinger said.

Q You are not going so far as to say there won't be?

MR. NESSEN: There are no plans for anything now.

Q Is the likelihood of any announcement out of here this weekend based on the Israeli Cabinet meeting tomorrow and how that goes?

MR. NESSEN: I thought Dr. Kissinger talked at some length at the helicopter pad about the whole issue, and I don't have anything to add.

Q He did point out the Israeli Cabinet was meeting, didn't he?

MR. NESSEN: Yes.

Q He did say he talked to the President?

MR. NESSEN: There will be a lid for today then. As I say, you might touch base here at noon tomorrow to see if anything is doing.

The pool for golf today is at 11:45 here.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Ron.

END (AT 10:30 A.M. MDT)