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NEWS CONFERENCE

#440

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH RON NESSEN

AT 10:55 A.M. EST

FEBRUARY 17, 1976

TUESDAY

MR. NESSEN: Let me just tell you some things that we are going to have here today and tomorrow so that you can get organized.

Tonight at 8 o'clock the President will have a news conference in the East Room and it will be opened by a statement of three or four or five minutes, outlining the changes he proposes to make in the intelligence organizations.

Prior to the news conference, at 6 o'clock, the President will brief the Republican and Democratic leaders of Congress on these changes.

Then tomorrow morning here we will have all the various documents involved in the changes and a briefing embargoed for noon tomorrow at which time this will be sent to Congress, or at least those portions of it involving legislation.

Q What time will that be tomorrow, do you know that?

MR. NESSEN: I don't have the exact time of this, or the name of the briefer, for that matter, but that will be tomorrow morning.

On New Hampshire --

Q Is this the regular briefing now?

MR. NESSEN: No, this is just an announcement of the day's events. I am not going to have a briefing today.

Q Will that be televised?

MR. NESSEN: It is really up to the networks, Helen. We don't have any objections if they care to carry it.

Q Will you carry it?

Q What do you think?

MORE

MR. NESSEN: The President will go to New Hampshire at the close of business on Thursday somewhere in the 5:00 or 5:30 area. He will go to Keene first and there will be an event there in Keene Thursday night and the President will spend the night in Keene.

Then on Friday the President will be in the Dover-Portsmouth area.

Q Will he drive all that way across?

MR. NESSEN: We don't have the exact details of any of this worked out. I just wanted to give you the dates.

Then he will return to Washington on Friday some time in the middle of the afternoon.

This trip, all the exact events and how he gets from place to place and so forth, have not been worked out yet but I wanted to give you that much.

Q Can we rule out a stop in Boston, then, on the way home?

MR. NESSEN: At this point, there are no plans to do that, Frank.

That ought to really do it, I hope, until it is time for the President's news conference.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END (AT 11:00 A.M. EST)