# The original documents are located in Box 120, folder "New Hampshire" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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### NEW HAMPSHIRE CAMPAIGN

- Q. This is your second trip to New Hampshire. How do you feel now about your campaign? Are you encouraged, and do you believe you will win?
- A. I am impressed and enthusiastic, and confident.

I am impressed by my campaign workers and by the effort they are putting into my campaign.

I am enthusiastic about the reception I have been given by the people of New Hampshire. It is far different from the newspaper and television reports of doom and gloom I've been getting in Washington.

And I am confident that even though it is a close race. I am going to win next Tuesday, and that that victory will carry me to the nomination and to victory against the Democrats next November.

#### CLOSING FT. DEVON

- Q. You have said you will not close Portsmouth Navy Yard. Do you have any plans to close Ft. Devon in Massachusetts, which employs many New Hampshire residents?
- A. The Defense Department is currently reviewing our entire military base structure to keep it in line with the fiscal constraint I have applied to all parts of the federal budget, including defense.

That review will weigh heavily in any decision **make.** It would be premature to comment now on any specific base.

NOTE: Senator Edward Kennedy has said Ft. Devon is on the list of bases to be closed.

OMB SAYS THIS IS A SENSITIVE ISSUE.

A direct answer should be avoided.

### JBS/2-19-76