

White House-HEW-Capitol pool report

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Just before leaving the White House, the President stopped to talk to about a half dozen youngsters, most of them black, who were ~~xxxxx~~ visiting the White House as part of the D.C. Recreation Department's Summer in the Parks program.

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"Hi, kids," the President said. "Did you have a good lunch? What did you have."

Several children replied, "Hot dogs."

~~Mxx~~ Mr. Ford: "Hot dogs. I like them too. Well I hope you had a good time. Come back and see us."

The President was asked by a pooler if he would keep Gov. Rockefeller as his vice presidential running mate in 1976. He smiled broadly but ~~did not answer~~ did not answer.

~~At~~ In front of the HEW building, ~~the President~~ a crowd of several hundred gathered. The President was applauded when he arrived.

He went over to a group of pre-school children from the "Penthouse Nursery," an HEW child care center for the department's employes.

"It's ~~President~~ President Ford," one child who appeared to be about three years old said.

"I've seen you on t-v," said another.

The President touched a few hands and said things like, "Good to see you," "All right, pal."

Inside the building, Mr. Ford was applauded by HEW workers who ~~xxxxx~~ stood outside of ~~xxxxx~~ their doors. The President shook a few hands as he walked through on the way to the auditorium.

There was full coverage inside the auditorium.

At the Capitol, the poolers were barred by Capitol Police, operating on the instructions of the Sergeants at Arms of the two houses from ~~x~~ providing any sort of coverage.

~~x~~ When the President arrived ~~xx~~ back at the White House, he was asked by a pooler if he planned to be a candidate for re-election ~~xx~~ in 1976.

"I think the governor well expressed that yesterday," he said, referring to Mr. Rockefeller's remarks to reporters on Capitol Hill.

He was asked if he would like to say it in his own words.

"I want to let you worry about that," he said.

Norman Kempster

Washington Star-News