

Pool Report Air Force One en route Washington from Columbus : Ford departed St. John Arena at 10:48 a.m. About 75 protesters outside chanting "Gerald Ford is ~~Nothing new~~ Nothing new, he is just a puppet, too." Ford smiled and waved at them as he entered his limousine. Another 150 persons protesting U. S. policy in Cyprus were across the parking lot. They seemed directed more at Kissinger than at Ford.

En route to Airport, the crowds were very light. His motorcade was slowed on East 5th street to allow two firetrucks to answer a call at the Columbus Coated Fabrics Co. Plant. In front of a tavern, two hardhats held up a sign saying "Beat Michigan"--a reference to football rivalry--and Ford waved at them.

a large cardboard sign on a truck in front of a garage said "Ford has a better idea--I hope."

He arrived at General Aviation terminal of Port of Columbus airport at 11:08 and spent several minutes shaking hands with in crowd of perhaps a hundred people. He spotted Janie Speck, a five-year-old in a wheel chair, and another youngster in a wheelchair and went over to shake their hands. "Hi, Sweetie, how are you," he said.

Inside the general aviation facility he met with about 20 Ohio Gop notables (list attached) for about 10 minutes.

According to Ter Horst, he was told by former Gov. James Rhodes, who acted as spokesman for the group: "Now that the climate has changed I think our republican candidates have got a good chance."

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PRESS MESSAGE

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

DEAD LINE

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To which, according to the press secretary, Ford replied: "That's good news and let's hope the momentum ~~mmm~~ continues for you through November."

~~Ter Horst~~ ^{said Ford} was asked if he could return to Ohio to help in the campaign and ~~hanmephmanthattubhampmnmnmfhanmnm~~ the President replied that his plans were indefinite and flexible. If he did come to Ohio or any other state it would have to be on the basis of a state-wide meeting of some kind, Terhorst ~~mmm~~ said Ford said.

"A fund raiser or some other," Ford said, according to Terhorst.

Outside ~~mmmm~~ on the apron were ~~abnmamhampmnmnmnm~~ a few hundred people and he spent about 15 minutes shaking hands.

"I like the way you carry that flag," he said to a young girl.

A woman asked Ford: "Where's Betty." He replied "She's working." The woman responded, "You guys are going to bring back marriage again." Ford smiled.

After shaking hands with a line of police, he boarded plane and lift-off at 1133 a.m.

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Aboard the aircraft, Ter Horst said Ford will make his decision on amnesty in a "relatively short period" after receiving the report from ~~Sanjusmnmnmnmnm~~ AG and Secy of Defense Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

On background: Ter Horst said Ford is considering going to Philadelphia next Thursday or Friday for the reconvening of the Continental Congress in connection with the bi-centennial but the trip is "very tentative."

(~~more later~~) boyd, defrank, riser

Group attending Airport departure
event at terminal:

Governor James Rhodes, GOP candidate for
Governor

Mayor Ralph Perk of Cleveland, GOP candidate
for U.S. Senate

Lt. Gov. John W. Brown, GOP candidate for
Lt. Governor

Sec. State Ted W. Brown, GOP candidate for
Secretary of State

Mr. Roger Tracey, GOP candidate for State Auditor

Mr. George Smith, GOP candidate for Attorney
General

Mr. Richard Harris, GOP candidate for Treasurer

Mr. Ray Bliss, National Committeeman

Miss Martha Moore, National Committeewoman

Mr. Kent B. McGough, State GOP Chairman

Mr. W. R. Timken, Jr., GOP State Finance
Chairman

Mr. Henry Pierce, Franklin County GOP
Finance Chairman

Mr. Russell Leach, Franklin County GOP Chairman

Mr. C. William O'Neill, Ohio Supreme Court Chief
Justice

Mr. Thomas Herbert, Ohio Supreme Court Justice

Mr. Sheldon Taft, Candidate for Ohio Supreme
Court Justice

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