

POOL REPORT ON TRIP OF PRESIDENT FORD FROM PHILADELPHIA
TO ANDREWS - SEPTEMBER 6, 1974

The President came back about ten minutes before landing to talk on the record with the pool. He had a scotch in one hand as he leaned on the seat cushion. Photographers took pictures.

He was asked if he hadn't just made the earliest acceptance of a presidential appearance in history.

He said, "Can you imagine July 4, 1976, in Philadelphia, a little political. . . . They can't say my appearance would be political. I just thought it was an invitation and I better take it. I might not get another one from Philadelphia.

He was asked if he would take the U. S. and Soviet astronauts and cosmonauts tomorrow to the crab picnic in Alexandria. "I may take the cosmonauts. I don't know whether they can accept. If they want to go, we'll take them. I'm going to see them first and think we'll suggest it."

A reporter asked if the cosmonauts know how to pick crabs. The President said, "I'm not sure I do either."

Then he confirmed that his amnesty plan would be announced Tuesday. He said it is going to have a review board. terHorst said it will be a clemency review board dealing with amnesty cases individually and by category. The board can be created administratively. The President will set the broad guidelines. The board will take up knotty cases. Entire graph attributed to terHorst. President said he has not yet picked the head.

He was asked if he ever gets tired. He said, "No, never."

There was no audio tape made of this conversation.

As the plane went into its final descent, he turned away, saying, "I hope you had a good time. I enjoyed it."

The flight ran from 10:45 to 11:10. It was bumpy. It was raining heavily in Washington. He came down the ramp wearing a black overcoat. An aide held a black umbrella over his hatless head. The President got into a helicopter at 11:16 for the flight to the White House.

Mashek
McManus
O'Rourke