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UNITED NATIONS

Ford meeting with Waldheim, then new General Assembly President Bouteflika.

When we entered Waldheim's office on 38th floor, the President and the Secretary General were seated on a couch with Ambassador Scali. Kissinger was to their left. Hartmann was in a chair to their right.

They were talking about skiing and Ford's place in Colorado. "We'll have to get you out there," Ford said, asking Waldheim: "You must be a skier."

"Oh, yes," Waldheim replied.

Ford observed, "It's great for families... That's what I like."

Then Kissinger said he had a student at Harvard, an Austrian, Wilfried Friedner. But most of his conversation could not be overheard, although his comments got a big laugh.

About five minutes later, Ford moved down the hall to the office of Bouteflika. They were seated on a leather couch and their conversation, through a translator, went this way:

Bouteflika said he conveyed "The deepest esteem for you" from President Boumediene. He spoke of Kissinger as a "good friend."

"I know he will fully report to the President," he said.

Ford said: "Let me congratulate you on the assumption of the Presidency. It is a greatly deserved and fine honor." Kissinger interjected: "I cannot quite imagine him in an impartial role." That brought a laugh. Then Bouteflika spoke of the need for frankness and said he would "do my utmost to be as impartial as possible."

Ford said, "I know you understand the Secretary has a great sense of humor we have to understand."

"Bouteflika said, "But it is a very direct, straight to the point sense of humor... maybe that is why we get along so well."

"This is a steady straight line," he said.

Gaylord Shaw, AP  
Reinhard M. Sorge, UPI

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