

September 27, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

POOL REPORT
Bethesda Naval Hospital

Ron Nessen said that Mrs. Ford is in very good spirits. The President arrived here at about 8:55 p.m. having left the WH at 8:30. He came directly into the hospital. He was accompanied by son, Michael and Michael's wife, Gayle, Susan had come out earlier. She was not with the President.

The President went up to the VIP suite where Mrs. Ford was eating steak and french fries. Also, eating with Mrs. Ford were Susan, Nancy Howe, Dr. Lukash and Joanne O'Brien, a Navy nurse. The President, as he walked in the room, joked saying "I see you are having a party". The President also observed that the last time he was out here as a patient (probably when he had the knee cartilage) last year that he had never had as nice a suite as that one or as good food.

So far as we are able to ascertain, the President is still going through with his morning and afternoon schedule, which begins with the french minister meeting, then on to the Economic Conference.

We don't know when the surgery will be performed. No guidance on that yet.

Maggie Hunter
New York Times