

OCTOBER 31, 1974

ANNOUNCEMENT
BY
BILL ROBERTS

11:05 P.M. PST

If I may have your attention, please. I have a little more information for you. If the President does visit the former President tomorrow, we will take a very limited three-man press pool with him. It will consist of the AP, the UPI, and NEWSWEEK Magazine. The rest of the press and the balance of the Air Force One pool will go from here to the Los Angeles airport and then on to Fresno.

Now there is a possibility that the buses may depart from the hotel here slightly earlier than the 9:00 time, which is in the bible. We should have more information for you available here in this Beverly Hills Room about 8:00 in the morning, 8:00 a.m.

That is about it.

Q Bill, is there any chance that if this pool goes, it will go well before 8:00?

MR. ROBERTS: I would not think so.

Q Can you explain why the limited pool like this?

MR. ROBERTS: Yes. We were able to get only one small helicopter as the number two helicopter, and there will be some staff and Secret Service aboard that, and there are only two seats available for the press.

Q Is it a matter of the President's schedule as to whether he visits the former President or is it Lungren's decision?

MR. ROBERTS: I think the President, in his conversation with Mrs. Nixon, as reported said that he would be available to go if it would be all right to visit the former President.

Q The President said he had a busy schedule and he would see if he would be able to do it. You are saying it is all up to Lungren now; is that right?

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MR. ROBERTS: No, I am not saying that. But I am saying that that plays a good part in the decision.

Q Bill, when are we going to get some information on this? What time are you going to tell us whether or not he is going?

MR. ROBERTS: I should think we should have that at 8:00 California time.

Q You don't think it will come any earlier than 8:00?

MR. ROBERTS: It might come 15 minutes earlier than 8:00, or half an hour earlier, but not much more than that.

Q One of the things we will need to know -- all the networks have live cameras at the hospital. We will need help from the White House on which entrance the President intends to use, and those other facts.

Really we need those at 8:00.

MR. ROBERTS: I think that information should be available. We will do our best to make it available.

Q Bill, it is real mechanics in terms of where he will be, what door.

MR. ROBERTS: I understand. We will do our best.

Q We now have a lid until what time?

MR. ROBERTS: We now have a lid until--let's make it 7:30 tomorrow morning, PST.

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