

Pool report on trip to State Department  
For Foreign Diplomats Travel Program Lunch

President was greeted at State Dept. entrance by Mel Laird, a director of the travel program and chairman of the annual lunch.

Ford ate lunch, then read his speech virtually word for word according to the prepared text. He received only rather polite applause

As the speeches ended, Laird noted what Ford had said in South Bend on Monday that he had heard the song before that America should go it alone and would not dance to that tune. Laird said the lunch was "a splendid demonstration that ~~we~~ we Americans are not going to dance to it."

As Ford left the State Department a group of high school students waiting outside to go in, greeted his appearance with applause and squeals. He shook hands with several of the kids and kissed one black girl on the cheek.

Motorcade returned to the White House about 1:55 p.m.

dick madden, ny times