

June 1, 1975

POOL REPORT #7

Arrival of President Ford
and First Head to Head Meeting
With President Sadat

The President and Henry Kissinger arrived in the Presidential limousine at 4:55 p.m. for the Head to Head meeting. The President shook hands with someone who appeared to be some sort of household official of the Chancellor's Residence. Then the President and his party walked up three long flights of red carpeted stairs, through a 100 foot long hallway with 75 foot ceilings and magnificent frescoes, to the cavernous room, where the meeting took place. The official party sat on red brocade sofas at one end of the huge room. Sadat was on the President's left; on Sadat's left were Egyptian Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy. Kissinger sat on the President's right and Under Secretary of State Joseph Sisco sat on Kissinger's right. There was a pipe, presumably the President's, on the table in front of Ford and Sadat.

The pool could not hear any of the discussion, although the President was animated, gesturing with his hands and doing most of the talking. Sadat did most of the nodding and smiling. Behind the two Presidents was a landscape painting. Except for the sofas, tables, and paintings, the rest of the enormous hall was empty, lending a movie-set air to the scene.

As the pool was ushered out of the hall, one of the technical types fell down prompting Kissinger to say, "we nearly lost another one." As the press was leaving, uniformed waiters were bringing petit fours for the official party.

On the way into the hall, Dr. Lukash was asked if the President had suffered any ill effects from his fall at the airport and he said no. He said he had a chance to talk with the President about it and that the President was fine. He did not mention him.

Tom DeFrank
John Cochran
Gene Risher
Ed Hodges

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