

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA
SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

JULY - AUGUST 1975

PRESS NOTES

The PRESS NOTES binder should prove to be a convenient reference including the schedule for the President's trip to Germany, Poland, Finland, Romania and Yugoslavia. The volume includes biographical information of officials of host countries, country facts, background information for the countries to be visited with color information on places and sites the President and Mrs. Ford will visit in each country, and information on the United States party and foreign travel of United States Presidents. Detailed press schedules for the visit to these countries will be made available prior to arrival in each country. More general schedules will be made available as far in advance as possible. The book has been designed so that schedule and background material to be issued during the trip can easily be inserted in the book.

There is an American Embassy in all the countries to be visited. USIA personnel from the respective embassies will be on hand at the Press Center to assist you in whatever way they can. Please do not hesitate to ask for assistance in meeting your personal as well as business needs. For Helsinki, the longest stop of the trip, the Embassy of Finland has provided literature on places to go, things to see, etc. It will be distributed on the press planes enroute to Bonn.

SCHEDULES

All schedules must be strictly adhered to. Unless special arrangements have been made with the Press Office or the Transportation Office, pool assignments and plane assignments must be kept. As details of the President's and First Lady's schedules are updated and confirmed, they will be published so that you may incorporate them in your PRESS NOTES.

PRESS AIRCRAFT

The members of the press accompanying the President and Mrs. Ford to Europe will travel aboard two specially configured Boeing 707's. The aircraft are chartered from Trans World and Pan American Airlines. All seats are first class, to provide maximum comfort during the trip.

Individual aircraft assignments will be made prior to the departure from Washington. They must be kept throughout the trip unless changes are cleared in advance with the Transportation Office. Plane manifests are provided in advance to authorities in each country and passports for the members of the party traveling on each plane are carried on board. In the event of a diversion, it might present difficulties if you were on one plane and your passport were on the other. The passports will be handled by a United States Customs official who will be aboard each aircraft. In addition, they will be glad to assist you in immigration and customs formalities.

The PAA plane will be the first off on each leg of the trip. The photographers and technicians who must be on the ground well before a Presidential arrival will be manifested aboard PAA. Most correspondents will be manifested aboard TWA. If you need to be aboard one aircraft or the other, please notify the Transportation Office - 456-2250.

Every effort will be made to keep those traveling on board the press aircraft advised of events on board Air Force One - particularly on the longer flights from and to Andrews Air Force Base. When needed, and when possible, pool reports will be dictated from the President's plane to the press aircraft. All written pool reports from Air Force One will be made available to the press traveling on board the press planes as soon as Air Force One lands.

LUGGAGE

All baggage will be specially tagged in accordance with aircraft manifests when first checked for the trip. All other tags should be removed. Please limit your luggage to one large suitcase. Carry-on items should be available for inspection. Inspect your luggage thoroughly everytime it is repacked and turn it in personally to designated personnel at baggage points only at those times specified. Baggage should not be given to bellmen or to unaccredited people unless it is accompanied by owner.

There will be little space in the cabin of the aircraft to accommodate fragile objects and purchase of gifts should be limited. Gifts should not be wrapped as they may need to be opened for inspection.

The two press aircraft will be secured while on the ground and will be boarded only by authorized airline ground maintenance personnel; therefore, if you would like to leave personal belongings of no great monetary value aboard the aircraft during stops, you may do so. However, it will not be possible to obtain gear left on board, so be sure you take everything with you that will be needed for each stop.

PHOTO AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

As a precaution, it has been required that those transporting camera gear submit to the Transportation Office prior to departure a list giving the serial number and manufacturer's name of all equipment. This is done to avoid a customs dispute at home or abroad -- particularly if similar equipment is purchased while on the trip abroad. European two prong (round) plugs are used in each city visited. However, in Bonn, Belgrade and Bucharest two prong plugs are recessed and will necessitate special plug adapters.

Bonn	220 volts/50 cycles
Warsaw	220 volts/50 cycles
Helsinki	220 volts/50 cycles
Bucharest	220 volts/50 cycles
Belgrade	220 volts/50 cycles

A good supply of fresh batteries is recommended for cameras. It will not be possible to charge batteries, unless you are carrying special conversion equipment.

It is recommended that photographers bring very long lenses and, if they wish, ladders for coverage of some events where a camera platform is not provided.

PASSPORTS, VISAS, CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

A valid passport is, of course, essential for the trip. Visas are required for three of the stops: Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia. A U. S. Customs official will be aboard each aircraft and will be responsible for getting the passports processed in each country. In addition, they will assist you in filling out documents necessary for the return trip to the United States. Those joining or leaving the trip for independent travel should check host governments for visa requirements. Those members of the press planning to leave the trip before returning to Washington should contact a member of the Transportation Office staff, explaining departure plans, so that their passport will be available for return at the appropriate time. Otherwise, all passports will be carried from country to country by the staff to expedite processing. Should you need your passport within a country, it may be obtained from a representative of the Transportation Office.

HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

The White House Medical Unit advises that those accompanying the President on his trip to Europe and following his itinerary need to have smallpox and thypoid shots up-to-date. In addition, they strongly recommend that tetanus shots be current. Those joining the party or departing before return to Washington should independently determine immunization requirements in areas outside the President's schedule.

This is the period of year for seasonal allergies in the areas being visited. Pollen levels were noted and reported to be high. Those with known "hay fever" should bring a supply of the antihistamine that works best for them.

Special precautions are necessary concerning food for those accompanying the President. In Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia it is best to avoid tap water, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, minced meats (especially pork sausage) and dairy products. However, it is always good practice to avoid foods which are often not fresh or have not been stored properly. Specific examples are antipasto, smorgasbord and similar tables of salads, fish, and hors d'oeuvres as these foods are frequently prepared in advance and then not refrigerated adequately.

TRAVEL STATISTICS

By the time the President returns to Andrews Air Force Base aboard Air Force One, he will have traveled more than 104,218 miles since taking office in August 1974. He will have traveled 56,483 miles on international flights, visiting 16 countries.

The following represents the estimated number of miles and hours the President will travel aboard aircraft during his trip to Europe:

	<u>Statute Miles</u>	<u>Flying Time</u>
Andrews Air Force Base to Bonn, Germany	4,100	7:15
Bonn, Germany to Warsaw, Poland	810	1:45
Warsaw, Poland to Krakow, Poland	145	:40
Krakow, Poland to Helsinki, Finland	1,150	2:25
Helsinki, Finland to Bucharest, Romania	1,800	3:40
Bucharest, Romania to Belgrade, Yugoslavia	310	:55
Belgrade, Yugoslavia to Refueling Stop	1,115	2:30
Refueling Stop to Andrews Air Force Base	<u>3,775</u>	<u>7:30</u>
TOTALS:	13,205	24:80

CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

It is Summer in Germany, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia and the daytime weather is much the same as we have had in the Washington area recently, with intermittent rainshowers and temperatures ranging in the mid-80's. Cooler evening temperatures range in the low to mid-60's. Summer arrives late in the Northern latitude city of Helsinki. Minimum temperatures range from mid-50's to low 60's and maximum temperatures from the mid-60's to mid-70's, with intermittent rainshowers. A sweater, light jacket and/or raincoat will suffice for the cooler evening temperatures and possible rain. Those who wish to be assured of attending social functions should **take black-tie, and appropriate dress for women.**

ACCREDITATION

Special White House Press Corps accreditation will be issued to the press accompanying the President. A representative of the United States Secret Service will be aboard each of the press aircraft and accompany the press throughout the trip. They will distribute special credentials for the traveling press party enroute Bonn. Those joining along the way may pick up their credentials from the Secret Service representatives assigned to the press party.

All host governments will issue local press credentials for those accompanying the President to Europe. These will be distributed either prior to, or immediately upon arrival at each stop. Credentials must be displayed. Pool credentials, when necessary, will be distributed to pool members when they assemble for coverage of events. At events controlled by host governments, last minute substitutions will very likely mean exclusion from events, so poolers must meet their pooling obligations. Poolers should contact a member of the Press Office should any conflict arise.

CURRENCY

A currency conversion chart is located behind the General Press Information tab in your PRESS NOTES book. It should be noted that all currency exchange transactions should be conducted at hotel cashiers' desks at all stops. Under no circumstances should you exchange currency with unauthorized persons as it is illegal and closely watched in Eastern European countries.

HOTELS

Every effort is being made to secure single accommodations at all stops. The Transportation Office is making reservations each night for all those in the travelling party. You will be expected to pay all personal charges including hotel rooms. In the case of morning departures, it is recommended that every effort be made to settle hotel accounts the evening prior to departure. You will be billed for your transportation costs subsequent to your return to Washington. Room assignments will be available on press aircraft during flights or immediately upon arrival in the Press Centers of the cities visited.

PRESS HOTELS

BONN, GERMANY

Tulpenfeld Hotel
53 Alliangplatz
Bonn, Germany

PRESS CENTER: Tulpenfeld Hotel
Telephone: 226-073
Telex: 0886328

and

Steigenberger Hotel
D-5300
Am. Bundeskanzler Platz
Bonn, Germany
Telephone: 02221

The Press Center is at the Tulpenfeld Hotel in the Dining Room - Grand Halle. Telex are located in the Press Building #1, 30 yards adjacent to the hotel.

WARSAW, POLAND

Forum Hotel
Nowowogrodzka 24/26 St.
Warsaw, Poland

PRESS CENTER: Forum Hotel
Telephone: 2109
Telex: 814-704

The Press Center is located in the Balowa Mata (small ballroom) and the Balowa Duza (large ballroom). Telex is located in Masovia, a small room in the press center complex.

HELSINKI, FINLAND

Vaakuna Hotel
#2 Asemaaukio
Helsinki, Finland

PRESS CENTER: Vaakuna Hotel,
9th Floor, Dining Hall
Telephone: 11811

and

Seurahuone Hotel
#12 Kaivokatu
Helsinki, Finland
Telephone: 10441

The White House Press Corps Press Center is located in the Vaakuna Hotel, 9th Floor, Dining Hall. The Marski Hotel is the main Conference Press Center hotel. All telex and telephones are located at the Marski Press Center. The Marski is a seven minute walk from the Vaakuna Hotel, and runners will be available to run copy from the Vaakuna to the Marski. In addition, there are telex facilities in the post office and runners will take copy there also.

The Press Center in Finlandia Hall (Congress Wing) has 52 telex machines, 50 long distance telephones and 18 telephones for local calls. For working journalists there are some 500 table seats in Congress Wing as well as radio and TV studios which can be booked from the National Broadcasting Company (YLE). The rear balcony of the main auditorium has 470 seats for journalists. The balcony to the left from the Chairman is reserved for photographers and TV crews. Due to limited space, photo pools for still photographers and TV film crews must be formed for special occasions.

A Video screen will be installed in the Chamber Music Hall where the journalists may also follow the meeting in the main auditorium. A monitoring network with 30 color TV sets will also facilitate the following of the meeting proceedings.

The White House Press Office in Helsinki will be located only in the Vaakuna Hotel. All proceedings at Finlandia Hall will be piped to the Vaakuna Hotel Press Center via closed circuit television.

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

Intercontinental Hotel
4 Nicolae Balcescu Blvd.
Bucharest, Romania

PRESS CENTER: Intercontinental Hotel
Ronda Ballroom, First Floor
Telephone: 13-70-40 or 14-04-00
Telex: 011-541-542

BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

Metropol Hotel
Bulevar Revolucije 69
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

PRESS CENTER: Metropol Hotel,
Dining Room, First Floor
Telephone: 330-910-19
Telex: YU Metropol 11-364

and

Slavia Hotel
Beograd Susave 9
Belgrade, Yugoslavia
Telephone: 450-842
Telex: Yuslavia 11545

The telex in the Metropol Hotel Press Center is located one floor below the Press Center.