

POOL REPORT

Jack Ford touring Pulp and Paper Companies
August 1, 1975

Jack Ford did a lot of walking and a lot of listening today as he toured Nokia, Finland's largest private corporation. Jack walked through sections of a building where monitoring equipment is produced for pollution control and nuclear power plants. Jack asked several questions of the employees who walked him through four floors of equipment. With him was Mark Reynolds, a young American from Salt Lake City who is the company's export manager.

At the assembly line building, Jack marveled at the bright colors, the good lighting and the peace and quiet. There were 20 or 30 women working at keyboards in a huge room decorated with green plants and bright colors.

Jack stopped at a nursery where 20 small children were playing games while their mothers worked. They gave him a gift of a small statu^e consisting of two stones, one on top of the other, with moss on the top stone that appeared to be hair, and felt eyes on the top stone. The children rolled on the floor and sang a game song, then presented Jack with pictures they had drawn of how they imagined President and Mrs. Ford look. The pictures looked like any kindergarden drawing of a parent.

Jack went by car to another corporation called Keskuslaboratorio, which is a research laboratory which refines pulp, paper, and cardboard. Jack toured two floors of the processing equipment and met three Americans from Appleton, Wisconsin, who are working as exchange employees. Jack asked how they would compare Finland to the United States, and the young Americans said Finnish technology is now being used in the plant they come from in Appleton.

The company President asked Jack to sign the guest book. As he sat at the end of a large board table and took the pen, Jack said he felt like he was signing a bill into law as his father does. The company president also gave Jack a 10 Finnmark coin which is a memorial coin. Jack declined a glass of champagne, saying he had had enough of it on this trip.

In a brief interview with poolers outside the paper company, Jack said that he was impressed that the Europeans recognized the value of their forests more so than the Americans. As for plans when he returns to the United States, Jack said his professional plans are indecisive. "If I can work it out I might go back to school to enhance my education." He said he is not sure which field in forestry he might chose as an occupation. Does he enjoy the trip? Yes, but this might be his last. He has trouble keeping up with his father. Jack said "I'm still not sure where he has his energy reserves and his capacity to keep up with it all."

About his father's speech to the delegates, Jack described it as written well and delivered better. Does Jack miss the freedom of being anonymous? "Very much so. It's very difficult, especially traveling internationally not to be the President's son. It's hard to be Jack Ford." Question - do you try to be yourself? "I'm trying, I'm trying. But there are official functions. You just hope you can grab those moments while you can." Jack added he's happy with the Finnish girls, although he has not met enough of them.

Jack returned to the Embassy building about 3:30 p.m.

Ann Compton - ABC

#