

August 10, 1975

Report -- Fort Smith to Grand Junction

Took off on schedule, 6:30 EDT en route to Grand Junction.

Nessen came back shortly after take-off and gave with the following:

President Ford expects to be working a little each day, and will play some golf, some tennis and will swim. His first official function in Vail will be on Friday, the 15th---an energy seminar, with Frank Zarb and other experts in attendance.

Nessen said there are two golf courses, one easy and one hard. "I think he will play on the easy one," Nessen added.

The President is going to have some unique housing arrangements this trip. He will be staying in the Bass house, as he did last Winter. But this time he is sharing it with the family of Jim Brown, a Utah rancher and long-time friend.

Nessen explained the complicated financial arrangements as follows: The Bass house normally rents for \$175 a day at this time of the year. Ford's condominium rents at this season for \$110. Ford and Bass are switching homes, and Ford will split the \$65-a-day difference with the Brown family. This means Brown and Ford each will pay \$32.50 a day (in good case your arithmetic is weak). Brown has a big family but we were not told how big.

Nessen will see the President at 9:30 every morning, and the briefing will be at 10:15. He will see the President again in the afternoon between 4:30 and 5:30, and will post between 5 and .

The President has a lot of golf partners lined up, but no names were furnished. He will play at The Vail Golf Course. (That, according to Nessen is the "easier" of the two courses.) Tuesday will be "open golf coverage day" for the press.

Administration officials accompanying the President to Vail include Don Rumsfeld, General Scowcroft, Alan Greenspan, Paul Thois, Dr. Lukash, Terry O'Donnell, Nessen, Red Cavaney, Sheila Weidenfeld. Zarb will be coming later, also possibly Rogers Morton.

Norton, Beckman, Ward