

AUGUST 24, 1975

POOL REPORT #2

From Grand Junction, Colorado to Kalispell, Montana

The President left Avon 9:05 a. m. Nothing else to say there. Copter touched down at Grand Junction 10:10 a. m. At the airport he was met by Ted and Maxine Alberts, she being one of the Mesa County Commissioners, GOP County Chairman Warren Gardner and Betty Huber, Vice-Chairman, Grand Junction Mayor Larry Kozisck, and State Senator Tillman Bishop. Ford worked the crowds--about 300 people--including one lady with a terrific set of dentures who wished him luck, waved her jeweled finger at him and then said, "You need it." Ford told the Mayor, "We enjoyed it--we'll be back in December." Mrs. Ford did not accompany the President.

Air Force One took off at 10:26 a. m. with Greenspan, Cheney, Theis, Orbèn, O'Donnell, and "myself" Nessen.

Ford will be using the one-hour, forty-five minute flight time to work up some energy and Canadian policy addition to his Libby Dam speech.

Ford will be met in Kalispell by Governor and Mrs. Thomas L. Judge, Senator Mike Mansfield, Congressman Max Baucus, and Attorney General Bob Woodahl, the titular head of the Montana Republican party. The Governor and his wife, Senator Mansfield and Baucus will accompany Ford in the helicopter to the dam. The President will go up to the Treaty Tower, 57 feet above the 42-story dam, where he will meet MacDonald, make his remarks and then, with MacDonald, activate the hydroelectric power switch. The four flags flying at the dam are those of the U.S., Canada, Montana and British Columbia. You will also note the mural carved in the granite dam: The Indian restraining the two rearing horses represents man's harnessing of nature.

Nessen went through the Libby Dam backgrounder briefly adding only that the dam would create a 90 mile lake, 50 miles of it in the States--40 in Canada.

During our filing time at the airport, Ford will meet privately with about 19 local Republicans: the State Chairman, the National Committee Woman, a couple County Chairmen, the State Auditor, legislative leaders, etc.

Ford will be met at O'Hare Airport by Mayor Richard J. Daley who will then accompany the President in the President's car to the Chicago Yacht Club, a 35-minute ride. The reception and dinner is for the International Star Class Yacht Racing Association 1975 world championship.

Daley is the host of the dinner. There will be about 50 guests. This year is the 100th Anniversary of the Chicago Yacht Club. The 52nd annual star class championship begins tomorrow and lasts a week. Six races will be run. 710 boats are participating from the U.S., Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, Bahamas, Canada and Brazil. The star class boat is a 23-foot sloop--the oldest class sailboat for racing--that's what Nessen said anyway. Check with Russ Ward.

The President will speak informally, off-the-cuff, after dinner. There will be pool coverage. Ford was invited to the dinner after Daley found out Ford would be in Chicago this evening. Ford will finish his hardware speech on the flight from Montana to Chicago. Texts should be ready around 9:00 p. m. There will be no advance text for the President's few remarks at the White House Conference in Milwaukee.

(MORE)

***** OFF THE RECORD ***** OFF THE RECORD *****

August 30, Ford will travel to Augusta, Maine, for an AFL-CIO clambake, followed by a Republican fundraiser in Portland and another such fundraiser in Newport, Rhode Island. There may be one or two other events. At the moment it is scheduled to be just a one-day trip.

Michaels, Time
Schieffer, CBS News
Thomas, UPI
Lewine, AP
Kilpatrick, Washington Post

Add: Today's mileage: 100 miles from Vail to Grand Junction
1886 miles from Grand Junction to Kalispell
to Chicago (666 miles from Grand Junction
to Kalispell)
58 miles each way from Kalispell to dam.
All miles are nautical.

The generator that goes on line today is 105 megawatts--whatever they are. Three other generators of similar capacity will be added later. The dam is designed to handle 8 power generators someday God knows when. This is a three-purpose dam: flood control, electric power generation, and recreation. Bring your inner tubes.

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