

SEPTEMBER 5, 1975

POOL REPORT #9 - SENATOR HOTEL TO HOST BREAKFAST AND RETURN

President departed hotel at 7:25 a. m. on schedule, waved to the crowds and said "Good morning." A few people had picket signs saying: "Hands off Angola..." "Ford is a puppet of ITT..." "We want jobs." Also, "High profits equals high unemployment" sign was shown. This was outside the Community Center.

There were an equal number of well wishers as well as protestors, no more than 40 in all. Inside the Community Center there were around 1,000 Captains of California business and industry. Ford sat at a 3-tiered speaker's platform banked by purple, red and green grapes, plums, pears and peaches.

Before Ford spoke, there was an innovation in which a blessing on 'Gerald' was asked. At this point, all out of town guests were introduced in table groups of two. These introductions required nearly one hour during which everyone finished their breakfasts. The President mainly engaged in conversation with those seated next to him. (Nessen said that in the President's speech to the California Legislature, members would read lists of their constituents and then at a luncheon, the Sacramento telephone directory would be read.) (He was kidding of course.)

Ford was then presented with a pair of cufflinks and left slightly ahead of schedule to return to the Senator Hotel where he was greeted by a crowd of about 75 persons with a handful of protestors. Some of the friendlies shouted, "Hey, Jerry your votes are over here!" but President went directly into the hotel where he shook hands and went to the elevator.

Walt Rodgers - AP Radio
Jules Witcover - Washington Post
John Mashek - U.S. News & World Report

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