

POOL REPORT

Motorcade from Hyatt House
to St. Francis, and reception for World
Affairs Council lunch

September 22, 1975

The President's motorcade went from the Hyatt along Post Street against the normal traffic pattern to the Post Street entrance of the St. Francis. Agents ran alongside Mr. Ford's car. The ride lasted 24 seconds. One agent fell jumping on the runningboard of the back-up car, but he got right up.

The President posed with somebody for photographers at the entrance to the hotel for about 10 seconds. When the pool got there Mr. Ford was going inside.

The President went to his suite for about 20 minutes before coming down to the reception in the Italian Room, arriving at 12:07 pm. The room is about 60 x 100 feet with ceilings about 30 feet high. It is decorated in Ersatz early Italian renaissance with gold-bronze balconies, ceiling decoration and friezes. It has 4 chandeliers hanging from the ceiling. There were 4 bars, all cash, staffed by red-jacketed waiters. The room had 10 4-legged, cloth-covered tables, each set with 3 green ashtrays and 3 packs of black-jacketed St. Francis Hotel matches.

The people milled around, talked, and clanked glasses for about a half hour before the President arrived. The pool was kept behind a twisted white rope.

Mr. Ford, with Terry O'Donnell and half a dozen Secret Service aids, came quietly into a side door and slowly worked his way through the crowd across the brown and blue close-weave carpet. He shook dozens of hands, signed at least one autograph, then finally disappeared into an adjoining room to mingle with other guests.

Spotted in the crowd was George Shultz, who told the pool he lives on the Stanford University campus, and enjoys his life away from government.

O'Rourke
DeFrank
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