

report ford returns from skiing dec 27, 1975

The Presidential ski party arrived back at the base of the mountain near Gondola number 1 at about 2:20pm. The group put in more than three hours on the mountain in mini-blizzard conditions.

Everybody except the President looked thoroughly winded. Mr. Ford skied up and announced to the pool, "I have a health report." He said, " Russ, Grace and Charlie all survived and did beautifully."

Mr. Ford said the skiing was "great" and "it couldn't be better". Despite the heavy snowfall the President told us the visbility was really quite good. "The snow was ~~really~~ just ideal and nobody was over ~~there~~ but us."

Russ Ward commented at that point: "I am breathing a whole lot harder than you are." Mr. Ford had a good ~~laugh~~ laugh.

I asked Mr. Ford how he could dance until 1:30am then ski three hours and he answered, " well that's just a normal day ~~XXX~~ ...I feel great."

*IN* answer to another question, the President said he is sorry the vacation is more than half over but while he would like more time it can't be done.

Mr. ford complimented the reporters who skied with him. They said he (ford) ~~kept~~ <sup>kept</sup> a tough pace - ~~to keep up with it~~. Sources said Mr. ford did not fall but our colleague <sup>did</sup>.