

Pool Report - Pres. and Mrs. Ford to Kennedy Center 1-21-76 p.m.

They sat through the entire performance of Hello Dolly starring Pearl Bailey. Pearl acknowledged their presence toward the end of the show....introducing ~~the~~ Mrs. Ford first....then the President. At that point, house lights went up...and applause.

Pres. and Mrs. Ford were accompanied (in the presidential box) by Sen. and Mrs. Robert Griffin, Rep. and Mrs. John Jarman (R-Okla.) and former Cong. and Mrs. Harold Collier (Ill.)

After the show, President and Mrs. Ford went backstage...but the pool was not allowed to follow. Pool was in the garage for 15 min. ...waiting by the presidential limo. When the President and first lady arrived at the limo....Fran Lewine, AP asked the President if he went backstage. Yes, he replied.

Lewine: "Why aren't we allowed to cover you anymore?"...

Pres: "I don't know."

Back at the white house Lewine called John Carlson to inform him that pool did not follow Pres. backstage. Carlson acknowledged pool should have been allowed to do so.

Gonnie Chung, CBS News