

POCL REPORT* ROBINSON NBC RADIO NEWS

President and Mrs. Ford arrived at Anderson House early last evening.

(11 minutes after 7pm). They were greeted by the first couple of Jordan.

1,000 guests were invited to the reception. The President, the King,

and the wives stood in the receiving line for about 45 minutes.

Cabinet members, Washington diplomats, and other notables (Pearlle Mae etc)

were present. At one point Kissinger was asked if he had talked with

Assad about the situation in Lebanon. He replied " I speak to him

everyday". Helen Thomas said "really?" (as if to say are you telling us

the truth) . He backtracked and said " I speak to him frequently".

Nothing truly earth shaking happened. Ford and Hussein spoke

briefly after all the guests filed thru the receiving line.

We exit in a rush.

Arrived at the House-Senate Republican dinner at the Washington

Hilton (after 8:15) . They ate until about 20 of ten. Minority

Leader John Rhodes and Senator Barry Goldwater gave short "thank you"

speeches to those Republicans retiring from the House or Senate ^{AT the end of} this term.

The President spoke. Ford thanked the Republicans for the work they

had done so far in the 94th Congress. He blamed the Democrats for

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results of a survey that showed only 9% of the American people ~~XXX~~_X had faith in Congress. He said " the record of that majority (democrats in Congress) has been a record of failure and timidity".

Ford said the legacy of 21 years of Democratic control of congress can be found in the governmental red tape, the heavy tax burden on citizens, and in big government spending. " the democratic party is the cause of big government, the Republican Party is the cure ", he said.

Ford said he vetoed 46 bills so far and loyal hard working Republicans helped him sustain 39 of those vetoes. He said he would veto the

Defense package if the Congress did not give him what he needs for a national defense. He said the congressional energy policy is one of delay. He asked what the Democrats are going to do about the social security deficit. " A strong and solvent social security system means more Republicans in Congress ", he said .

Mr Ford urged Republicans to seek victory in November to secure our country's future.

robinson signing out 12:10pm