

April 12, 1976

Pool report : reception for PFC workers and volunteers

The president and Mrs. Ford entered East room at 6 pm to the applause of several hundred PFC workers and volunteers. After thanking them for their efforts ("I know how little you get in the way of glory or public exposure") the President recounted his experiences in political campaigning, which began in 1940 when he campaigned for ~~Walter~~ Wilkie.

Ford said, as he has so often in the past, that he is behind in Texas and reiterated that with a little more effort, "we could surprise them down there and we have an opportunity to win."

Ford described his recent Texas trip as consisting of "two long yet very productive days."

He said his policy was: "you prepare for the worst because the best'll take care of itself."

He said he believes "in a good fight, and ^(that) a little competition never hurt anybody as long as everybody lives by the rules." he said he was living by the rules. His only reference to Reagan was to "our opponent" who is not entered in Pennsylvania.

When he finished speaking, Betty gave a very short speech, in which she told the workers "Thanks a heap and keep pushing."

A reception in the state dining room followed. Good Roast beef. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ and Betty Ford) shook hands for several minutes. (X)

--Van Riper, NY News