

POOL REPORTS #6 AND #7GOP Reception to Memphis International
To Louisville, Kentucky

As he was leaving the Holiday Inn in Memphis, Ford encountered a three-year-old elephant called "Sneezy." The keepers of Sneezy were laden with peanuts which prompted Ford, with some symbolic overtones, to ask, "You know what elephants do with peanuts?" There was a pause and then Ford said, "Eat 'em." Then Ford tried to feed Sneezy, but the elephant refused. But it did wave around a red-and-white "President Ford" poster.

En route to Louisville, Larry Speakes said Ford was "pleased," with his trip to Tennessee and had "a good feeling" about the State. Speakes said Ford found the crowds "large and enthusiastic." Speakes said the President would have a bill signing ceremony near his hotel suite in Louisville. The bill is S. 2215, the Reserve Call Up Authority. The ceremony, including remarks by Ford, will be open to coverage about 6:15 p.m., edt. Under the bill, the President would have the authority to call up reservists to active duty for a limited period of time, such as the 1973 Mideast conflict.

Patrick Sloyan - Newsday
Lee Thornton - CBS
John Lindsay - Newsweek

ADDENDUM:

At Memphis International Airport the President received a large red, white and blue "bicentennial" pillow from a group of sixth graders. Students from Christ United Methodist Day School. The kids worked nine months on the gift. President posed and chatted with them a bit. They sang God Bless America to him.

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