POOL REPORT May 15, 1976 Whistle Stop

Tour of the President's Coach

It is called the track inspection car used by Amtrak executives.

Immediately inside the back door is a plush sitting room with two overstuffed chairs and a sofa that would comfortably seat at least three, and perhaps five people.

The room is equipped with television lights for interviews to be conducted in that room. Also rose tinted windows on one side. It has gold carpeting and dark wood paneling throughout, as does the entire car.

A dish of potato chips and a box of the President's pipe tobacco, a copy of Field and Stream magazine, plus candy, gum, cigarettes and matches are on a small table in the lounge. In one corner of the lounge is heavy PA equipment.

Immediately behind that are four compartments. The first two small ones are jammed with communications equipment. The third is a bathroom, and the fourth is a bedroom equipped with a double bed pushed against a mirrored wall. A plush spread covers the bed, and a copy of the Detroit News is on the bed. A decorative net is strung across the upper area of the mirror, with three decorator pillows inside the net. There is a private bath in the bedroom compartment.

Behind the four compartments is a large dining room. The large table seats eight people. At one end of the table is another package of the President's pipe tobacco, his call box to summon his steward Rogelio Guillermo. One reporter pushed the call button and the steward came out of the galley and said, "Is the President here?"

On the table there were four copies of the Detroit Free Press. The paper's main headline read, "Reagan turns Panama Canal into red hot issue in Michigan."

There was a counter behind the table with 15 cups and saucers, a large fruit basket and the usual range of candy and gum condiments. There was the President's White House stationery on the table as well, and a bouquet of white, red, and purple flowers.

Behind that is a galley in which a cook and several helpers were working.

Beckman Eisele Wright

P.S. It sure beats first class air travel.

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