

POOL REPORT

El Toro AFB - Las Vegas, Nevada

May 24, 1976

Peter Kaye brought back Oran Gragson, President Ford's state chairman and a former mayor of Las Vegas, and Robert List, state attorney general and a recently - appointed member of the President's national advisory board.

Gragson said he believes the primary will be "reasonably close" and that Mr. Ford's appearance today will help his' cause. "I think he will come awfully close to breaking out of Nevada with an equal number of votes" with Reagan. There are 18 delegates in the state which will be divided on a proportional basis according to the Tuesday vote. The delegates were chosen earlier at the state convention. They will be bound for two ballots.

They said the total budget for the campaign is \$22,000. There are two full-time paid employees, one each in Reno and Las Vegas. List said they benefit from the news coverage of the California trip since Nevada gets the California television stations. Gragson said they have some phone banks and a get-out-the-vote organizations. "We're as fully active if not more active than the Governor," he said.

They conceded Reagan benefits from the fact that Senator Paul Laxalt is his national chairman. List called Reagan "like a second governor to Nevada". He said Mrs. Reagan worked the northern cities recently and that Reagan spent about 24 hours in Reno, Elko, and Las Vegas late last week.

Gragson said Jimmy the Greek's 8-5 odds was to win but said nothing about how much.

List said Jerry Brown will win by a substantial margin in Nevada, that he is "pretty strong" in the state, particularly among the younger office holders. "He's a very bright fellow." Governor Mike O'Callaghan supports Senator Jackson, he said.

Nessen said the Navy League speech will probably be run off in Las Vegas and be available for 6 pm release. It will contain no blockbusters and will deal with shipbuilding and the B-1 bomber. He said he hoped to have some guidance on primary coverage a little later on.

Tom Foley
Bob Moore
Aldo Beckman

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