

July 10, 1976

Pool #4 - Pool Report

Kissinger and his wife and Richardson and his wife and Mrs. Ford and Susan met Air Force One at Otis. They met him at the foot of the ramp, and they got on the helicopter and he went alone and worked the crowds. For 15 minutes he worked the entire length of the crowd. The crowd numbered maybe 1,000 people at Otis. They were strung out over 80 or 100 yards. I don't think he missed a soul.

He helicoptered to the lawn of the Naval War College, where he was greeted by the Admiral -- that is in the bible -- and he waved at a crowd of several hundred people that were down a grassy slope. He got no closer than 100 yards and he waved at them and walked into the residence.

Before she walked in, Betty Ford informed us she was feeling fine. Helen asked her how she was feeling, and she said "All right," the only conversation we heard. We heard him talking to the Admiral about some Captain on the Monterey, which was his old ship in World War II. The President said, "Tell him I said hello," and the Admiral said, "He would be glad to know you read him."

We could barely hear the conversation. We did not go into the Admiral's house. We have been at the pier. The Queen had just arrived at her ship, at her yacht, and had just gone on board. There was a line of Naval officers at the foot of the ramp that she shook hands with. Mrs. Armstrong, the Ambassador, and her husband were there, and the Governor of Rhode island was there. I didn't recognize anybody else. There were no people to meet Ford at Otis. They were not at Otis. We did not see the Vice President at all.

--Aldo Beckman, Chicago Tribune
Marguerite Michaels, Time