

August 15, 1976

PCCL REPORT - AIR FORCE ONE - ANDREWS TO KANSAS CITY

Only thing new from Nessen was that after dinner tonight, Ford will hold a series of meetings in his suite with various campaign advisers and strategists. Nessen said "probably about a dozen or more (persons)" would attend and the meetings probably would last a couple of hours. No names given the pool, but Nessen promised a list after arrival.

Now, Farwigs, Nessen has disclosed the real reason for the trip to Kansas City. The President, he says, "is going there to accept the nomination of his party, to pick and announce a vice presidential running mate and to get his campaign off to a good start." Ear is appalled.

As for the rest of it: Ford motorcaded to Andrews because of a rainstorm. This delayed takeoff, which was at 4:58 p. m. instead of 4:40.

On board, as listed by Nessen: Alan Greenspan, Max Friedersdorf, Bob Crben, Doug Smith, Jim Connor, Ed Schmultz, Jim Cannon, Don Penny, Maria Downs, Bob Hartmann, Brent Scowcroft, Jack Marsh, Sheila Weidenfeld, David Kennerly and Senator Jacob Javits. Nessen said Javits was in Philadelphia today to attend the funeral of his assistant who was killed in the attempted hijacking. Javits could not get commercial transportation back to Kansas City and called the White House to see if it could help, so the President invited him to come along on Air Force One.

Nessen said Ford would be welcomed at the Kansas City airport by Gov. Robert Bennett of Kansas and Mrs. Bennett. Gov. Christopher S. (Kit) Bond of Missouri, who was to have been at the airport, had a schedule conflict--he is giving a reception--and could not get to the airport, Nessen said.

At the Crown Center Hotel, the President and Mrs. Ford will be welcomed by the Vice President and Mrs. Rockefeller and the three Ford children who are already in Kansas City--Jack, Steve, and Susan. Sheila says Michael and his wife Cayle will arrive Tuesday evening. She also says Mrs. Ford will go to a reception for the Michigan delegation this evening and then to a reception for Rocky, while Steve will attend the Wisconsin caucus, also tonight. Family dinner in the Ford suite at the Crown Center tonight about 8 p. m., as you already know.

The briefing room and Nessen's office will be on the third floor of the Crown Center. Nessen says each day's Bible will be available the night before and his briefing time will be posted on the bulletin board in the pressroom some time this evening.

]

Deakin--St. Louis Post Dispatch
Boyd--Mutual

#

#

#