

AUGUST 16, 1976

POOL REPORT--PRESIDENT TO JOHN RHODES RECEPTION

The President left the hotel at 6:10 p. m. for the uneventful drive to the Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel for the reception being given by House Republican Leader John Rhodes of Arizona. He was alone in his car except for the agents.

Rhodes met him in the lobby. They boarded an elevator but it wouldn't work, so the President and party climbed a steep flight of stairs to the mezzanine ballroom. As he reached the mezzanine and began shaking hands with the crowd, Elizabeth Ray was noticed standing behind the President.

She was wearing a blue T-shirt. Advanceman Doug Blaser, saying that Ms. Ray did not have proper credentials, escorted her behind the rope. The President apparently was not aware of Ms. Ray's presence.

The pool was not allowed in the reception. The President left after less than a half hour, waving to the crowd on the street outside (maybe 300 or so, chanting "We want Ford" and waving the usual signs). Arrived back at 6:47 p. m.

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