

August 19, 1976

Pool Report -- President's Meeting with Governor Reagan
at the Alameda Plaza Hotel

It is about three miles to the Alameda Plaza. Nothing eventful. We went around to a court at the Alameda Plaza, the cars. They went into the elevator lobby, went into the lobby where we were blocked and we spent about five minutes in the lobby.

Originally, Doug Blazer said that Reagan was going to meet the President at the curbside. That was changed quite abruptly. I said Reagan would not come down, and he didn't.

Blazer later later reported that Lyn Nofziger met the President at the door and was shaking hands with him. In the lobby, there was a crowd of people, among whom were perhaps 20 Reagan -- pro-Reagan -- kids who were yelling things like "Right in, Reagan," "No VP," "Four more months," and "Nobody but Reagan." Doug Blazer said the meeting was held on the tenth floor; Cheney and Nessen were not in the meeting; that Reagan's family was present, at least part of the time.

From the time Ford hit the elevator going up until he came out of the elevator coming down was 25 minutes. How long the meeting was I do not know. Then, he had the press conference you saw.

That was really all that happened except somebody from Conservative Digest was hustled through the lobby by the Kansas City Police.

Mort Kondracke - Chicago Sun Times
Muriel Dobbin - Baltimore Sun