

OCTOBER 7, 1976

POOL REPORT - POOL NO. 9

After leaving the USC rally, the President went to the Faculty Center where he had a private lunch. Your pool was not invited. At approximately 1:40, the President entered the lounge area of the Faculty Center, where several hundred University officials, students and guests were there to shake his hand. There were no remarks. The President had changed his shirt after the rally. It was hot in the room, and he was noticeably perspiring as he mingled with the guests who were drinking California chablis wine and iced tea and eating small bun sandwiches.

The President was in the lounge for approximately 30 minutes and departed for the Beverly Hilton Hotel. There were no crowds along the route of the motorcade. On arrival at the hotel, the President entered through the garage and shook hands with approximately 25 to 30 people as he went through the hallway to the elevator. He received 2 "God Bless You's" and 1 "I wish you luck in November." The President retired to his suite on the 7th floor and your pool did not see him again until 5:15 when we were escorted inside for a photo opportunity.

The President and Ronald Reagan were seated together on a beige couch in the sitting room of the suite making small talk. The President said, "I had a nice meeting with Mr. Hyakawa. He sure doesn't look 70, and doesn't feel it, the way he campaigns." That was the extent of the conversation that your pool could overhear. The President, as the pool was departing said, "Nice to see you all. Nice to be out here and it's been nice weather." He turned to Reagan and said, "We've had two beautiful days, but it was foggy this morning."

Reagan and the President were to hold a half-hour private meeting in the suite before leaving for the Empire Room where the President and Mrs. Ford and Reagan and Mrs. Reagan were to form a receiving line to greet Presidential dinner special guests.

A little about the suite -- very little -- it had beige furniture, there were fruit bowls placed around the room, and the two men were dressed in tuxedos.

Just prior to the meeting between Reagan and the President, Mr. Ford met briefly with the Foreign Minister of Indonesia, Adam Malik, who is staying in the hotel and had a speaking engagement in Los Angeles tonight. The substance of the meeting is not known.

DON OLIVER - NBC

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