

POOL REPORT

From Pool Number 15

Airport reception, motorcade, cattle barn
October 9, 1976

There are a few quotes back at the airport. At the private reception at Love Field terminal, the President met with about 200 supporters of the President from throughout Texas -- some of them Democrats for Ford, Independents for Ford, and heads of other committee.

Connally said that "Today begins a massive campaign to keep the momentum going from the past 30 days." Connally said, "The last 30 days have shown that President Ford is on the right side. Carter is on the wrong side." Said Connally, "President Ford is a friend of Texas."

The President got up to speak had one slight goof, saying that last night he was in Lawton, Texas. Everybody groaned. Connally stepped in to save him by saying, "Mr. President, you don't have to go that far to show your bi-partisan support."

The President repeated his joke of last night in Lawton that if Carter were attending the football game today, "My opponent would do his best to sit on both sides."

The President then started talking about Carter's denial of the \$15 billion defense cut, and he said, "We have two verifications that Carter did say that." "And," said the President, "You just can't believe him." From back behind the President came the word from John Connally, "Amen." And the President said, "If you buy Carter, you buy weakness." Those are the most important quotes from that reception.

Ann Compton gave a play-by-play of the motorcade. I just have one thing to add. John Conally, who rode on the jump seat throughout the motorcade, got out of the car. We asked him if he had had any apprehension about the motorcade. He said, no, "I never felt any different about this city than any other city in the United States. It just happened to be the locale of an evil mind" referring, of course, to the Kennedy assassination. "I was delighted to see the warm and wonderful reception he got."

We are now in the swine barn where we are getting our swine flu shots.

Phil Jones
Tom DeFrank
Joe Albright
Mr. Ajemian

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