

**Pool Report KTRK Studio to Hobby Field to North Philadelphia Airport
October 30, 1976**

The President did not go into the studio until 1:30 p.m. EDT. Press was not allowed. Connally, Green on show; Garagiola, of course. Dick Cheney said afterward that this one was lively; Connally was spirited.

President left studio at 1:55 p.m., CDT, no explanation was given for 20 minute delay. He rode alone in back of the talking car, which did its bit much of the way on 20 minute ride to airport.

Back at studio, Ray Hutchinson, the Texas GOP Chairman, said he was well satisfied with crowd, considering especially two problems: they had merely three days to prepare, and Fred Hofheinz, mayor of Houston, is strong Carter man. Police were issuing warnings on radio (and TV, Nessen says) advising people there would be no parking in nearby shopping centers and they would have to walk a quarter to a half a mile. PFC publicized disclaimers and there was plenty of parking near rally site. "It was still a pretty good crowd," Nessen said aboard AF 1.

At station, Hutchinson discussed problem in Rio Grande Valley where devaluation of peso has devastated cross-border trade. He seems to think merchants there will stay with Ford for fear a new President would need a year or more to familiarize himself and react.

Hutchinson also called pool attention to college polls and straw votes which he said favor Ford by margins of 60 percent or better at Texas A & M, TCU, University of Texas and Stephen F. Austin. Claiming Ford has caught up in Texas, Hutchinson said, "My hunch is, the people are becoming oriented in the last few days to things that affect them economically and philosophically. Number two, the ambivalence of Carter is showing; that's my impression of "the student reaction."

Mrs. Ford and Sen. Jacob Javits will join Edith Green and the President on Sunday's NY TV Show, Nessen says.

Trivia: Noticed middle-aged woman in full length pink housecoat watching motorcade on last long, apartment-house-lined road to airport.

Correct spelling Hlavati to Hlavaty in previous pool report. Also, middle initial: John B. (not P.) Connally IV.

Dyckman, St. Petersburg Times
Jarriel, ABC

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