The original documents are located in Box 300, folder "Presidential Campaign - Clippings (2)" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Crosby S. Noyes: Don't Count Ford Out



newyork June

Reagan vs. Carter

By William Safire

David S. Broder How Did He Get Into Such a Predicament?

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak Ford's Strategy Switch

The Republican Dilemma

David S. Broder

How'd We End Up With h Front-Runners?

Rod MacLeish New Hampshire Nonsense

Ford's Staffers Held Liability In Campaign

By Warren Brown Washington Post Staff Writer

White House press secretary Ron Nessen refused to comment yesterday on a report that a Ford campaign advisory committee has accused White House staff—including Nessen—of hurting the President's election chances.

Nessen was asked at yesterday's news briefing about an NBC report that the committee met secretly last Friday at the Mayflower Hotel to try to identify problems that may have contributed to four straight primary losses for Mr. Ford.

The NBC report said the committee concluded that many of the President's problems were caused by members of his administration.

The committee members described Nessen's job performance as being "generally inept" and criticized Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz for not campaigning hard enough for the President in Indiana, where Mr. Ford was defeated last week by Republican challenger Ronald Reagan, according to the NBC report.

Nessen confirmed that the meeting took place. But when asked to comment on the reported substance of the conference, he said: "I'm just not going to give a report on that meeting. I wasn't there."

Bryce Harlow, one of Mr. Ford's political advisors, also confirmed yesterday that the meeting took place.

"The committee was created a year ago to give political advice to the chairman (Dean Burch). It is not supposed to give advice to the public . . . The chairman of the committee can talk about it if he wants to, but I don't," Harlow said.

Burch could not be reached for comment.

Nessen again expressed confidence that Mr. Ford would triumph in future primaries and would go on to win a first ballot nomination at the Republican National Convention in August.

In other matters yesterday, President Ford marked the beginning of Armed Services Week in a ceremony at the Washington Monument.

The President told an afternoon crowd

that the nation's military might is important in insuring world peace.

"We must never forget the purpose for which our arsenal is intended," Mr. Ford said. That purpose is not to terrify the weak, to provoke armed confrontation nor to lay claim to that which is not ours. Our purpose is to defend freedom and to maintain a foundation of strength on which a better and more peaceful world can be built."

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No need for panic

Ford should resist urge to lunge right

Charles Bartlett

Scrambled Primaries

Nicholas von Hoffman lixon made us

Ford's Campaign Remains in the White House

In their quest for the Republican Presidential nomination, Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan have been paying an increasing amount of attention to a decreasing number of available delegates to their party's national convention. In all likelihood, they will not know the results of their efforts with certainty until the convention is held in August and perhaps not until the first ballot is taken.

first ballot is taken.

As of Friday, Mr. Ford held 963 of 1,130 delegates needed for nomination; the former California Governor had 879. Mr. Reagan is expected to capture most of the 255 delegates at stake in state conventions being held from this weekend until July 17, narrowing Mr. Ford's lead to about 30.

In lowa, where 36 delegates were

In Iowa, where 36 delegates were being chosen this weekend, preliminary indications were that Mr. Ford would get 19 and Mr. Reagan 17. In Delaware 17 more delegates were being selected, and Mr. Ford was the favorite. In the state of Washington, 38 were being picked, and Mr. Reagan was considered ahead.

Whatever the outcome of the state conventions, each candidate will probably need at least some of the 162 delegates who have already been chosen but who remain uncommitted. Their allegiance will probably be unverifiable until they cast their votes at the convention.

Each candidate is wooing the uncommitted with the argument that he would be more electable than his opponent in a contest with Jimmy Carter, the certain Democratic nominee. Mr. Ford has also been using his incumbency to advantage: He has gotten Cabinet members to telephone delegates and is reportedly considering inviting some delegates to the White House.

Mr. Ford also demonstrated the advantages of tenancy of the White House when he decided to remain there on Friday, canceling plans to go to the Iowa convention. He said the situation in Lehanon was the reason; there was no apparent reason why the Lebanese situation required his presence in Washington. Mr. Ford's advisers were reported divided, as they have been in the past, about whether the candidate is more effective when he is out campaigning or when he stays in the capital, acting in a Presidential manner.

when he is out campaigning or when he stays in the capital, acting in a Presidential manner.

In contrast to the deeply divided Republicans, the Democrats were consolidating their new-found unity behind Mr. Carter. The party's platform drafting committee adopted a document last week that offered something to each of the party's constituent groups. Like the primary campaign of Mr. Carter, whose representatives played a key role in the drafting, the platform was muted in tone and designed to appeal to a broad spectrum of voters. (The purpose of platforms, Page 4.)

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June 19, 1976

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Ford Skips Iowa Showdown, Opponents Whisper Chicken

By James R. Dickenson
Washington Star Staff Writer

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CARTER SAYS HE WON **JE EXPOSURE V3 DEBATES**

Charles Bartlett Brawl in the GOP

June 19,

8

Ford Cancels Trip to Iowa Because of Beirut Exodus

Presidential Aides Strongly Defend His
Decision to Stay in White House and
Deny Any Political Implications

By JAMES M. NAUGHTON
Special to The New York Times

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak Campaign Trail: 'The Mother's Day Massacre'

Without Watergate, the Campaign Is Part Illusion

OST OUT TO CARTER BY DEFAULT

GOP Turns to the Black Voter

By VERNON JARRETT
Of The Chicago Tribune