

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

PRESS BRIEFING
BY
LARRY SPEAKES

July 2, 1986

The Briefing Room

12:25 P.M. EDT

MR. SPEAKES: We would like to welcome ten journalism students who are here under the guidance of Dom Bonafede. Dom is their leader and one who knows the White House as well as anybody. They are from American University -- graduate students. And as I always issue this disclaimer, what they see here bears no resemblance to journalism. So take no notes, forget what you see.

The President today is announcing the appointment of Lynn M. Hansen to be Assistant Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency for Multilateral Affairs, and his intention to appoint Wilhelm C. Kast to be a Delegate to the National White House Conference on Small Business, and two Members of the Council of the Administrative Conference of the United States, Arnold I. Burns and Mark Sullivan III.

We are also releasing a statement on the receipt of the final report of the Packard Commission, and there has been a briefing in progress on that.

Today at noon the President is having lunch with the Vice President, and then at 1:30 p.m. he meets with Secretary Shultz.

Tomorrow his schedule includes staff meetings and pre-taping the Saturday radio address, which will be released in New York. The advance text for the Thursday night address in New York, the opening ceremony at the Statue of Liberty, will be available at check-in time at Andrews.

Late this afternoon at about 5:00 p.m. we will receive the detailed trip schedule for the President's visit to New York. An overview of the schedule and how the coverage will work -- the check-in for the press plane is 12:30 p.m. and there will be a 1:30 p.m. departure for White Plains, New York. The traveling pool checks in at 2:00 p.m. and departs aboard a C-9 aircraft at 2:30 p.m. The C-9 is a DC-9 -- military equivalent of a DC-9.

The President and Mrs. Reagan will be leaving Andrews at 2:50 p.m. and they will be traveling aboard a C-20A Gulf Stream twin engine turbofan jet, and the seating on that plane is less than Air Force One or less than the C-9, and that is why the pool is not on that aircraft, but will be on the other aircraft with some staff people.

Q You're taking no press at all on the President's plane?

MR. SPEAKES: No.

Q Well, I think -- don't you think you ought to take at least one or two people?

MR. SPEAKES: No.

MORE

#1822-07/02

That evening there will be several press helicopters to take what is becoming known as the "super pool" -- be virtually one representative from every organization traveling to Governor's Island for the opening ceremony. The press helicopters will originate from Westchester County Airport, as all will during the trip.

The press will arrive at Governor's Island shortly before 7:00 p.m., and transported to the grandstand where writers and correspondents will be seated and photographers will proceed to the camera platform. There will be a mult in the seating area and telephones in the press tent behind the grandstand.

The Reagans leave Pocantico Hills at 7:30 p.m. by helicopter for Governor's Island with a tight pool and a press helicopter following from the airport. They arrive and drive the short distance to a holding area where they will be joined by President and Mrs. Mitterrand. The Reagans and the Mitterrands will go to their respective viewing booths to watch the ceremonies.

Shortly before 9:20 p.m., the Reagans are introduced by Lee Iacocca and the President speaks, with the Statue of Liberty being illuminated at the conclusion of his remarks. His remarks will be piped into the filing center at White Plains.

The ceremony continues, and shortly before 10:00 p.m., the President will present the Medals of Liberty to twelve distinguished citizens. Shortly before 11:00 p.m., the President speaks again, and this time, his remarks end with the relighting of the Statue's torch.

After the remarks, the Reagans motorcade back to the landing zone and chopper to Pocantico Hills.

The tight travel pool will leave at the same time by helicopter for Westchester County Airport. The super-expanded pool will be bused to a nearby elementary school where there are telephones available for filing, and then back by helicopter to White Plains. You should be at the hotel a little after midnight.

The next day, there's an early morning --

Q Larry, can I go back to -- tomorrow at check-in we are just going to get the first set of remarks or both sets of remarks?

MR. SPEAKES: First set of remarks. You'll get the entire night's remarks. The two sets of remarks in the evening -- you'll get the entire night's remarks.

Q We'll get both sets?

MR. SPEAKES: Yes.

And then on the 4th, Friday, the pool will leave around 6:30 a.m. to pre-position on the USS Iowa. The travel pool will leave at 7:15 p.m. for the Westchester Airport.

The Reagans depart Pocantico Hills by helicopter at 8:00 a.m. for the USS Iowa. They arrive at 8:35 a.m., after honors, including inspection of the Honor Guard, and proceed to the gun turret from which they will watch the International Naval Review. Coverage onboard the Iowa is by two expanded pools, but there are no remarks.

Meanwhile, even before the Reagans get to the USS Iowa, another super-expanded pool is leaving White Plains by helicopter for Governor's Island. This pool will cover OP Sail and leaves around 7:30 a.m. It is choppered to Governor's Island and takes position similar to those from the opening ceremony the previous night.

The Reagans conclude their visit to the USS Iowa around 10:00 a.m., and with the travel pool, fly by helicopter to Governor's Island. The pre-positioned pool choppers back to White Plains. They arrive at Governor's Island and proceed to their viewing box with the Mitterrands again.

The President speaks at 10:55 a.m. with the Mitterrands -- and then with the Mitterrands -- then goes to a tent to view OP Sail.

The travel pool will go with them for a brief photo op.

Q To view what?

Q OP Sail.

MR. SPEAKES: OP Sail. The tall ships.

Around noon, the President then will go to the Admiral's residence for a working lunch with President Mitterrand. Before lunch is served, President Mitterrand will present the President with the deed to the Statue of Liberty which will be followed by the working lunch, of which there will be a photo op in the beginning.

Following lunch, the Reagans fly back to Pocantico Hills.

Both the travel pool and the super-expanded pools will be flown back by helicopter to White Plains and there will be a briefing there at 3:00 p.m. in the filing center on the Mitterrand meeting.

Late that afternoon, about 5:00 p.m., another super-expanded pool -- this one with almost everyone on the trip -- leaves by helicopter for the USS Kennedy.

The Reagans leave Pocantico Hills at 8:00 p.m. An expanded pool will follow by helicopter in the press helicopter.

Q The press goes at 5:00 p.m. and three hours later the President goes?

Q There is a later departure, isn't there?

Q What is the reason for that?

MR. SPEAKES: You'll have to ask Mark. He can tell you. I've presented now nearly four pages of remarks which include the major events that take place and you ask a question like that.

Go ahead, Mark.

Q Well, there's an --

Q Now, Mark, why is there a three-hour --

MR. WEINBERG: I can't be that petty -- sorry.
(Laughter.)

Q Yes, you can. Try. Work at it.

MR. WEINBERG: It's so you don't disrupt the USO show.

Q What USO show?

Q But is there a way for those people doing evening newscasts to get --

MR. WEINBERG: The one he was about to tell you about before he was interrupted.

Q Is the President --

Q Does the expanded pool leave after 6:30 p.m.?

MR. SPEAKES: Late that afternoon, at 5:00 p.m., another super-expanded pool -- this one with almost everyone on the trip -- leaves by helicopter for the USS Kennedy.

The Reagans will leave at 8:00 p.m. They arrive aboard the Kennedy and have honors presented to them and take their seats for the end of the USO show.

Coverage of the show is --

Q But they do disrupt the USO show. It's all right.

MR. SPEAKES: Coverage of the show -- you might find it more entertaining for you to stay home.

Q No, I'll cover what I can --

MR. SPEAKES: And it might be a little -- it might be a little --

Q -- but by going three hours early --

MR. SPEAKES: -- better for us.

Q By going three hours -- I'm sure it might.

MR. SPEAKES: You don't have to go.

Q But then that's not my consideration, is it? By going three hours early, you prevent many of us from being able to do our work on the previous things that we've covered that day.

MR. SPEAKES: What you ought to do then is use the time between about 1:00 p.m. and about 5:00 p.m. to do your work.

Q We're not back until 2:00 p.m.--something.

MR. SPEAKES: Or, better still, you could skip the nighttime thing and sit up there alone in the White Plains press center and hear it piped in at midnight.

Q No, we wouldn't be alone. I judge some of my colleagues would be there.

MR. SPEAKES: Coverage of the show is by the travel and the super-expanded pools. After the show -- you told me, didn't you, Mark? You told me about if I did this what it would lead to.

Of course there is only one in this room that's doing that. It just dawned on me.

Coverage of the show is by travel and super-expanded pools.

Q The others are thanking God they're not going.
(Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKES: After the show the Reagans will attend a ceremony for the promotion and reinlistment of some Kennedy personnel, with a travel pool pooling -- covering. They require the -- they will retire to the captain's quarters for personal time and at that point they will watch television -- some of the other activities.

Then at 9:40 p.m. the President will speak to the Kennedy crew. Coverage will be by everyone aboard. At the end of the speech the fireworks begin and the Reagans will watch until 10:20 p.m., when they fly by helicopter back to Pocantico Hills.

The travel pool flies back with them to White Plains and the others in the super-expanded pool will be flown back a little while later. Everyone should be back at the hotel at 11:30 p.m.

The next day the Reagans leave White Plains at 11:20 a.m., press plane leaving at 11:35 a.m. and the C-9 and its pool leaving at 11:50 a.m. The Reagans are back here at 12:30 p.m. The press plane is back at the same time as the C-9 pool, and the C-9 pool is in at 12:45 p.m.

Mrs. Reagan has an event Saturday morning and her press office has the details. The radio address, prerecorded, will be piped through the filing center mult that morning and be embargoed for the usual time.

Q Any events on the weekend after they return?

MR. SPEAKES: No.

Q Forgive me if you've mentioned this, but have you discussed the content of various presidential remarks on these two days?

MR. SPEAKES: No, I haven't.

Q In terms of substance or ceremonial -- Can you just feel for which remarks might be -- if any?

MR. SPEAKES: I think they will be more patriotic and ceremonial than any specific announcements on major policy.

Q And would you expect that the President would be using Mitterrand to deliver any messages or is this just --

Q Dear Jacques.

MR. SPEAKES: No, this would be an opportunity for the --

Q Would you be sending a message to Gorbachev through Mitterrand?

MR. SPEAKES: I certainly wouldn't presume to suggest that at all. The President will have a discussion with President Mitterrand over lunch. It will certainly include U.S.-Soviet relations and arms control, and will solicit Mitterrand's views on the Soviet Union.

Q Has he signed the supplemental yet?