

Received(Date): 12 JUN 2001 13:46:54
From: Brett M. Kavanaugh (CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
To: Helgard C. Walker (CN=Helgard C. Walker/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
Subject: : Re: POOL REPORT 6-12-01 #3 in Madrid

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)
CREATOR: Brett M. Kavanaugh (CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
CREATION DATE/TIME: 12-JUN-2001 13:46:54.00
SUBJECT: : Re: POOL REPORT 6-12-01 #3 in Madrid
TO: Helgard C. Walker (CN=Helgard C. Walker/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ: UNKNOWN
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P6/b(6)

Helgard C. Walker
06/12/2001 01:45:08 PM
Record Type: Record

To: Brett M. Kavanaugh/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: POOL REPORT 6-12-01 #3 in Madrid

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06/12/2001 01:44 PM -----

06/12/2001 01:21 PM
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Record Type: Record

To:
cc:
Subject: POOL REPORT 6-12-01 #3 in Madrid

Pool Report
June 12, 2001
Madrid and Los Yebenes, Spain

The following is an excerpt from the pooler's upcoming novel, "The Longest Pool." DON'T wait for the movie. (if you are on deadline, cut immediately to the end where the pool had a very brief Q&A with Ari)

We join the POTUS at Barajas International Airport in Madrid, where is disembarks AF1 wearing a dark suit, white shirt and light blue tie that is by now familiar to all of you. Following him on the stairs are Secretary of State Colin Powell, Chief of Staff Andrew Card and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, and an assortment of flaks and aides (models of which are available for purchase in the Flaks and Aides shop in the lobby).

The motorcade motored along M-40 to the Zarzuela Palace. It was most uneventful. Some of the people whose cars were stopped on highway entrance ramps to make way for the POTUS stood beside their cars and watched in a world-weary way that at 50 mph can be describe only as studied nonchalance. No one waved, but no one made obscene gestures either.

When we arrived at the palace, your pooler was diverted to a point on the grounds where he would pose a threat to no one but himself. All details of POTUS meeting with the King and Queen will come from the pre-positioned pool.

The motorcade departed the royal grounds a half-hour behind schedule owing to the longer-than-expected meeting between the POTUS, FLOTUS, King and Queen. (And, yes, a POTUS and FLOTUS do beat a King and Queen in both draw and stud poker.)

The motorcade from the palace to the Cuatro Vientos Air Base was uneventful.

The 50-minute helicopter ride to Los Quintos de Mora (known to POTUS as "The Ranch") was uneventful. Locals say the grounds are located in the town of Los Yébenes.

(A brief aside: The Spanish do not call this place a "ranch" and seem to have a hard time understanding why POTUS does. It is actually a nature preserve. Like there's a difference, right?)

Marine 1 made its usual discreet landing next to the home of Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, blowing trees, small animals and two still photographers into the next county.

(A note for the stylistically uncertain: It is proper and acceptable, according to locals, for western press to refer to President Aznar as Prime Minister Aznar. He is an appointed president and head of government. The King is head of state.)

POTUS exited Marine 1 sans tie and suit jacket. His white dress shirt was open at the collar, but his french cuffs remained cinched by presidential cuff links. PM Aznar walked to Marine 1 wearing a similar get-up: Open collared white dress shirt and dark suit pants without jacket or tie. PE's shirt cuffs were rolled up slightly, however, as if to say we Spaniards have much to teach you Americans about dressy-casual attire!

POTUS introduced PE Aznar to Powell. A few minutes later, he introduced Rice and Card to PE Aznar.

As they walked the grounds in front of the PE's residence, the two men posed before a statue of a good-sized stag. (Much will be read into this image in the years to come; your pooler leaves this powerful image unadorned by his unworthy words.)

The two men, who share a conservative streak and a perchance for rural living, strolled for a few minutes so that they could watch the cameramen and photogs stumble over each other trying to keep up. It was all good fun.

As they walked, PE Aznar would occasionally take POTUS by the elbow and point out features of interest. Judging by the few words your pooler was able to hear as photogs stomped him into the ground, the two men were speaking in Spanish.

The two men strolled into the residence for their meeting. The extended bilateral included Powell, Rice, Card, Heather Hodges, deputy chief of mission here and Dan Fried (pronounced Freed) of the National Security Council. Their Spanish counterparts were also present, but White House aides on the scene did not have a complete list of names and spellings.

This just in from the ubiquitous Gordon Johndroe: After the meeting, the group adjourned to lunch, which included Gespatcho with lobster, cured ham and chesse, paellaya with local fowl, hake (a type of fish) and strawberry ice cake with berries for dessert.

After lunch, the group met again.

The helicopters departed 4:20 p.m. Trip was uneventful.

The motorcade back to the palace for press avail. was uneventful.

ARI Q&A

Ari joined us the pool briefly in our holding area.

Asked about a wire report that two bombs had been found in Madrid on Monday, Ari indicated that they posed no threat to - and may have been unrelated to - POTUS visit. The Secret Service, which normally keeps him apprised of potential threats, issued no such alert in relation the bomb.

Asked about reports of sabotage in Sweden, Ari said he would check with the Secret Service.

Asked about the protestors at the American embassy and whether they were disruptive, Ari said: "Protestors at international summits these day are a modern way of life. Hold a summit and the protestors show up. That won't keep the president from getting his work done."

Ari noted that Clinton and other presidents drew their share of protestors over the years. That's not necessarily a reflection on public attitude toward their policies, he said. Many are protesting on much broader issues or issues the president is not taking up directly, such as

globalization.

Asked if the White House had heard any immediate reaction from Europe on its Climate Change plan, Ari called the president's plan "a very helpful affirmation of what the president stands for - addressing global warming without being alarmists and without hurting the U.S. economy."

Asked if European nations were being disingenuous in their criticisms of Bush for rejecting the Kyoto agreement since many of them are better off without it, Ari said, "None of the European nations voted to ratify Kyoto and that speaks volumes."

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(Sorry, I don't know the number of my Euro Phone.)