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Ford Protection Remains Same; Day Is Normal

By Austin Scott

Washington Post Staff Writer

The day after an apparent attempt on his life, President Ford told reporters he'd had a good night's sleep, and embarked on a normal round of Saturday activities with no visible increases in security.

After a morning meeting with seven Southern senators in an attempt to win what will probably be a close override vote on his announced veto of a six-month extension of domestic oil price controls, the President left for an afternoon of golf at the Burning Tree Club in Bethesda.

He was trailed by four black limousines of Secret Service agents. "Gee, I'd hate to have all those people following me when I play golf," remarked a bystander who looked to be about 11 years old, and the same height as a golf club.

A spokesman for the Secret Service said "no changes in security are contemplated at this time." The President ambled smiling down the stone walk to where his brown limousine was parked on the South Lawn of the White House, and greeted reporters with, "Did you have a good night's sleep? I did."

Asked whether he thought the Secret Service should make some changes in the way it protects him, he said, "I don't think I should comment on that."

Presidential press secretary Ron Nessen also refused to discuss the issue at his briefing yesterday morning, referring all such inquiries to the Secret Service.

Queen Elizabeth II of England and President Walter Scheel of West Germany were among the heads of state who sent messages to President Ford expressing shock at the attempt on his life, and relief that it failed.

Italian President Giovanni Leone sent a message of "congratulations on your safe escape . . ." Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Miki and British Prime Minister Harold Wilson sent similar communications.

Nessen said the President will veto the six-month oil price control extension bill "probably Tuesday," which is the last day he could do it before it would become law.

See PRESIDENT, A5, Col. 1



United Press International

Mr. Ford carries some reading matter on his way to play golf.

PRESIDENT, From A1

without his signature. The Senate has scheduled a veto override vote for Wednesday.

"He and the congressional liaison office . . . are now confident that the President does have the votes to sustain the veto in the Senate," Nessen said. "It is really up to Congress where you go from there . . ."

"His position basically has not changed from last week, which was that if he got a reasonable assurance that Congress would then pass the 39-month phased decontrol, he would, as he said, not veto a 30 to 45-day extension."

Nessen's announcement that Mr. Ford is sure he has the votes to sustain a veto conflicts with predictions of some of those who have been counting votes in the Senate, hoping to be able to override. They say the vote will be close, but they believe the President will lose.

The seven Southern senators who met with the President for 55 minutes yesterday morning have in the past followed his wishes on a number of issues, but they are now listed as probable or certain to vote to override.

They are Jennings Randolph (D-W.Va.), Harry F. Byrd (Ind.-Va.), John Stennis (D-Miss.), John McClellan (D-Ark.), Robert Morgan (D-N.C.), Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), and John Sparkman (D-Ala.).

The seven emerged from the meeting talking about possible compromise. Nunn said they agreed that some

sort of phased-out control would be the most acceptable route.

Sparkman said the senators urged the President to meet again with Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), and House Speaker Carl Albert (D-Okla.), a position also taken by Senate Democrats when they voted unanimously in a party caucus Thursday to urge overriding of the veto.

"I think they'll start the machinery in motion to get a solution we can live with," Sparkman said. Stennis said, "There is a good chance to find an area of agreement."

Nessen said the President telephoned Mansfield after the meeting, saying, "You know, your Democratic colleagues were here this morning and suggested we sit down again and talk about the possibility of a compromise that would get us a 39-month phased decontrol."

Mansfield agreed to the meeting, Nessen said. It could take place as early as Monday. Mansfield said he didn't know specifically what the President had in mind, but "we'll find out when we go there Monday."

Ford has scheduled a 7:30 a.m. breakfast Monday with Republican senators on the same issue.

That meeting is expected to include Sen. William V. Roth Jr. (R-Del.), who has introduced a bill to extend oil price controls for 45 days that could become the vehicle for a compromise.

Roth said at a news conference in Delaware yesterday that the White House told him all of the senators who met with the President yesterday morning indicated they hoped to work out a compromise and avoid the need to try to override a veto. Mansfield said, however, he assumed a 45-day extension would be possible only if the Senate upheld Mr. Ford's veto of a six-month extension.

Before the morning meeting on oil, President Ford conferred with staff aides. He and Mrs. Ford were scheduled to attend a private party last night for two of his former military aides who are being promoted from lieutenant colonel to colonel.