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WITH WIREPHOTO

JOHNSON-KENNEDY (250)

BY CORNELIUS F. HURLEY

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BOSTON, SEPT. 29 (AP)-PRESIDENT JOHNSON PAID A 45-MINUTE VISIT TO SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, D-MASS., TODAY BEFORE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON AFTER A QUICK CAMPAIGN SWING THROUGH NEW ENGLAND.

IT WAS 12:40 A.M. WHEN THE PRESIDENT ARRIVED AT NEW ENGLAND BAPTIST HOSPITAL, WHERE KENNEDY IS RECUPERATING FROM A BROKEN BACK INCURRED IN A PLANE CRASH LAST JUNE.

MRS. JOAN KENNEDY, WIFE OF THE SENATOR, WAS IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM WITH HER HUSBAND DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

AFTERWARD, SHE ESCORTED JOHNSON TO THE DOOR WHERE IN AN IMPROMPTU NEWS CONFERENCE, JOHNSON SAID HE FOUND "TED IS VERY CHEERFUL AND IN WONDERFUL SPIRITS."

"WE TALKED ABOUT LEGISLATION, THE RECORD OF THE CONGRESS AND ABOUT THE ELECTION AND TED EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WE WILL COME BACK IN OCTOBER," THE PRESIDENT SAID.

JOHNSON ADDED, "I WILL TRY TO."

IN ANSWER TO A REPORTER'S QUESTION WHETHER THE SUBJECT OF KENNEDY'S BROTHER, ROBERT F. KENNEDY, THE FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL NOW A CANDIDATE FOR THE SENATE IN NEW YORK, HAD COME UP, THE PRESIDENT SAID IT HAD.

"BOTH OF US ARE INTERESTED IN HIM AND WE ARE VERY SURE HE'S GOING TO WIN," HE SAID.

HE ALSO PREDICTED THAT PIERRE SALINGER, FORMER WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY, WILL WIN HIS SENATE RACE IN CALIFORNIA.

THE PRESIDENT SAID THE REMAINDER OF THE CONVERSATION WITH KENNEDY WAS ABOUT "HIS PRETTY WIFE AND HIS CHILDREN AND ABOUT MY FAMILY."

THEN THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE HAD HAD "A WONDERFUL DAY HERE IN NEW ENGLAND."

OTHER KENNEDY CALLERS THROUGH THE EVENING WERE SOME 15 MEMBERS OF THE SENATOR'S WASHINGTON AND BOSTON STAFF, MANY OF WHOM WERE SEEING HIM FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE PLANE CRASH JUNE 19.

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