

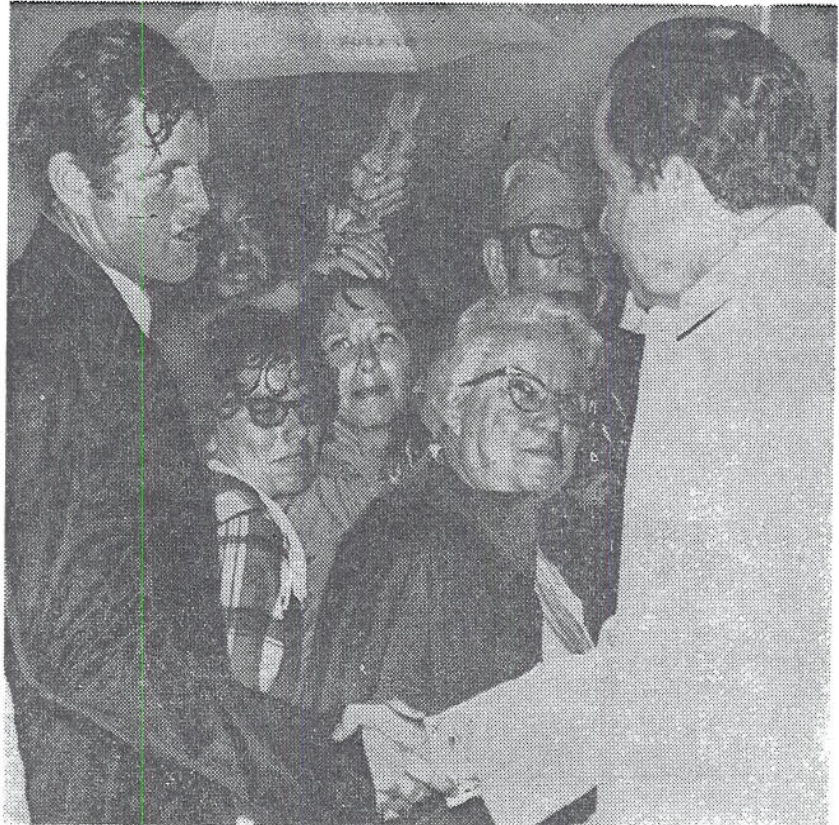
End of World Journey

A rainstorm was drenching Andrews Air Force Base Sunday when President Nixon arrived back from his round-the-world trip.

But it didn't bother the ebullient President, who addressed the welcoming crowd, then waved a farewell as he boarded a helicopter for the short flight to the White House.

Among his wet welcomers was Senator Edward Kennedy (Dem.-Mass.).

Yesterday, the President spoke about his Asian policy to a congressional delegation. The story is on Page 1.



AP Wirephoto

Kennedy Inquest Order and the Law

Edgartown, Mass.

District Court Judge James A. Boyle apparently is required by law to grant a request for an inquest into Senator Edward M. Kennedy's July 18 auto accident, court sources said yesterday.

The inquest is being sought by District Attorney Edmund Dinis. Boyle received formal notification of Dinis' request yesterday but said only that he would comment "within a reasonable time." He did not elaborate.

The law in question says:

"The attorney general or the district attorney may . . . require an inquest to be held in the case of any death supposed to have been caused by external means."

The accident on Chappaquiddick Island, next to Martha's Vineyard where this summer resort town is located, claimed the life of a Washington, D.C., secretary, Mary Jo Kopechne, 28.

Dinis mailed his request to Boyle last week but did not say why he wanted the inquest.

Boyle presided when Kennedy pleaded guilty July 25

to a charge of leaving the scene of the accident. Boyle gave the senator a suspended two-month jail sentence and a year's probation.

Kennedy's car plunged off a narrow, rickety wooden bridge and landed wheels-up in a tidal pond. A medical examiner said the cause of Miss Kopechne's death was accidental drowning.

Dinis is known to be investigating the possibility of asking that her body be exhumed to permit an autopsy.

Miss Kopechne was buried in her childhood home of Plymouth, Pa., however, and there are problems of interstate cooperation.

The district attorney for Pennsylvania's Lucerne county, in which Plymouth is located, said Dinis queried him Friday on the possibility of exhumation.

Associated Press



President Nixon returns from his round-the-world tour and greets Sen. Ted Kennedy among well-wishers at Andrews Air Force Base, Md. One result of the trip has been an Administration reassessment of U.S. global commitments.