

WIFE ASSERTS FORD ACTED IN GOOD FAITH

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WASHINGTON, Sept. 8 (UPI)

—Betty Ford said Sunday that the President had acted in "good faith" in granting an absolute pardon to former President Richard M. Nixon. She reported that her husband went to church and received communion before making the announcement.

The First Lady learned of the pardon only when Mr. Ford announced it to the country, her press secretary, Helen McCain Smith, said.

She quoted Mrs. Ford as saying that her husband "gave a great deal of thought" to the matter of a pardon and was "well aware of the problems involved."

Mrs. Ford also feels that Mrs. Nixon and her two daughters "must be greatly relieved and she is happy for them," Mrs. Smith said.

The First Lady also "wishes the country would stress the great things that Nixon has done for the country," Mrs. Smith said, adding that the President's wife agreed with the thought that Mr. Nixon had "suffered enough."