

European-U.S. cooperation

Oil-exporters called threat

HOUSTON (AP) — President Ford told Southwestern news executives Tuesday that the U.S. must cooperate with European consumer nations or the oil-exporting countries will "pick us off one at a time."

The President made the comment during a closed-door breakfast with news executives from four states in the last major activity of his 20-hour visit to Texas.

Felix McKnight, the vice chairman of the Dallas Times Herald, quoted Ford as saying European-American cooperation is essential for all of the consumer nations.

He said the President said: "If we don't go together, the OPEC (Or-

ganization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) nations will pick us off one at a time."

Several news executives characterized Ford's breakfast remarks as a "sales talk," but said they were impressed with his frankness.

"I was very impressed by his informality compared with the last three presidents I've been around," said Sam Wood, editor of the Austin American-Statesman.

Wood said Ford was "pretty rough" on the energy positions of some U.S. governors.

"He made the remark that governors up there in the Eastern states didn't want oil refineries or offshore

drilling and said it was hard to find out what they do want," said Wood.

Edwin D. Hunter, vice president and managing editor of the Houston Post, said Ford acknowledge some disagreements in policy with Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe, but that these were not severe.

"He made the point that the points of disagreement with Briscoe were not unresolvable," said Hunter. "He made several references to his long years in Congress and that a president doesn't get everything that he asks for and that he was a practical man."

Everett D. Collier, editor of the Houston Chronicle, said Ford was "persuasive and convincing."

"He gives the impression of candor," said the editor.

"There was nothing new in his remarks but he is willing to answer any question. He seems to have good rapport with the press and respect for its functions."

Earl H. Rast Jr., the vice president of KFDD-TV in Amarillo, said the president met with the group of news executives "to ask the communications media to take his message back to their communities."

The President left the Shamrock Hilton, where he stayed during his visit here, after the breakfast with news executives. He stopped to shake hands on his way out and even gave an autograph to an Eagle Scout, Mike Cunningham, 15, of Houston, who was there to promote a recycling campaign.

Ford and his party went by motorcade to Ellington Air Force Base and left on the presidential jet about 10 a.m. CST, bound for Topeka, Kan., and another day of meetings with local officials on the

White House energy and economic programs.

Just before the breakfast, Ford paused in the hotel lobby to meet the man who is believed to be the oldest Texas Republican.

Leonard C. Ward, 102-year-old Houston nursing home resident, waited for the President in a wheelchair. He was wearing a colorful plaid cap, maroon sweater and white slacks.

Ford, grinning broadly and shaking Ward's hand, said, "That's a real sporty outfit."

Ward grasped Ford's hand in both of his pulled the President near for a few moments of talk. Then the President stood erect and said: "I appreciate a young man like yourself getting up so early to see me."

Ward told newsmen he told Ford "everything is going fine."

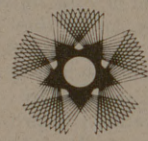
The elderly Texan said he was a life-long Republican and that meeting presidents wasn't a new experience.

"I've known them all," he said. Nixon, said Ward, "was a mighty good man who went bad."

Asked his favorite Republican president, Ward pondered a long moment.

"T. R. Theodore Roosevelt?" suggested a newsmen.

"That's pretty good," replied Ward.



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Illustrations enlarged.

English faculty to participate in conferences

Two members of the English faculty at Texas A&M University will attend a conference in early March while a paper by a third faculty member will be presented at another convention.

Ray Leighman is to participate in a panel discussion at the Conference of College Teachers of English in Austin on Feb. 27-28 and March 1.

During the same conference, retiring department head Harrison Hierth will preside at the general session Feb. 28.

Leighman's panel will discuss individualized instruction and the writing laboratory.

A paper by Paul Angelis, "Sentence Combining, Error Analysis and the Teaching of Writing," has been accepted for presentation at the ninth annual Convention of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) March 4-9 in Los Angeles.

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