Visit Becomes Reality After Hectic Night's Preparations

"President Ford and Sen. Bob Dole would like to stop in Russell Friday noon, if arrangements can be worked out," the telephone voice said about midafternoon Thursday. The caller town with an new vice-president from President Ford's staff added that an advance team would be in Russell in about three hours be in Russell in about three hours be in Russell in about three hours to look things over and make. At a meeting with the press to look things over and make At a meeting with the press

p.m.," the voice continued. "We A few phone calls later and a half dozen or so motelroom reserback to the Presidential aide to

to look things over and make arrangements for the visit, if security, facilities, and time schedules can be worked out.

"The Senator has given us names of a few people he suggested we could meet with and we'd like to talk with you at about 6 line and not much else."

At a meeting with the press corps late Thursday, Ron Nessen, the White House press secretary, stopped among media people to say: "We are going to Russell, Kan., Friday. There probably won't be more than one phone line and not much else." What Nessen didn't know is

that Russ Townsley, a Kansas like the idea of an open meeting, a real 'homecoming' for Bob Dole, with everyone welcome."

City accountant, was sitting in the press section — assured that treatment in Russell was somewhat more generous and facilities more normal than Nessen dolefully anticipated.

report that the meeting was on - maybe two thousand or more and with fingers crossed, waited people, give a welcome to the

easier.

Early Thursday/afternoon, only a couple of hours after Dole's name was announced in a surprise, startling at the party's national convention in Kansas City, Frank Ursomarso, member of President Pord's staff, called Russell to say that, if everything goes right, the President and Sen. Dole will drop in Russell Friday at noon for a short staff.

Now the last time a president was in Russell, was in 1905 when President Theordore Roosevelt made a "whistle-etop tour."

At that time, there was several days notice. A gaudy platform only a couple of hours after another trip back to the courthouse to map the area and layout locations for the one-hour stop, the crew broke up to response for the party, including the possible for the famous due to salina and Kansas City. Even that wasn't simple.

The helicopter, sedately painted in official colors and bearing official insignia on its flank, had gone back to Salina to refuel its jet engines, to return to Russell, with plans for stops Salina and Kansas City before coming back to Russell Friday with dignitaries.

was built near the Union Pacific tour of Russell looking for a

days notice. A gaudy platform others, the visitors made a quick

after another trip back to the

got down to the basics — food — President Ford.
in the Blue Room of the Elks
Lodge while officers and Secret
Service agents went through depathways at the courthouse tails in a session in the Ramada

ed to find and man six back yard barbecue units on which some

wieners, buns, bread, potato chips, and the rest. A water tank and ice in which some 40 or so at the courthouse. A special place cases of pop were cooled was was set aside southwest of the arranged by other interested per- small speaker's stand.

in Maryland on a return trip from out-of-town press in town Thurs-

through which the honor party Under the leadership of Mrs.

Opal Ehrlich, Russell County
Opal Ehrlich, Russell Committee,

airport. Ambulances were need-

Dorrance Smith, a member of 1,000 or more hot dogs were to be Ron Nessen's staff in Washington, made arrangements for Dell Klema was contacted to canvass local supplies for the wieners, buns, bread, potato paper people on hand, Identifica-

Stern and Winecamp opted for Nancy Lane, president of the a view with the courthouse in the council, was enlisted to step in for background while Smith, under Mayor Roger Williams, delayed pressure from several of the

stand-off. Large R. C. Williams, Inc., trucks, usually used to move the portable bleachers, are sign-ed to move oil rigs Friday and it appeared there might be no way

to provide the vantage point. Mrs. Ford, who originally pla her itinerary after a series of late-night convention sessions in Kansas City. She went directly to Vail, Colo., to await her husband.
The logistics of moving the
President's party were almost as
steep as those of setting up the homecoming. The President's special limousine, with its bullet-proofing and bubble top, was moved to Salina and then to

President's plane. Time sched-

Russell. Helicopter flights were coordinated with Air Force 1, the

Dole says we can have a picture on the Capitol

The Russell Daily Ne

VOL. XLVI — NO. 197

Stage Is Set For Debates

PLAINS, Ga. (UPI) - Jimmy Carter, with the stage set for a debate with President Ford, said today the country has drifte under Ford and the main issue during the fall campaign will be "new leadership in the White House or no leadership and a continuation of drift."

Carter also said he was familiar GOP vice presidential nominee Bob Dole's reputation as an "aggressive campaigner." He said that during Dole's 1974 Senate race he had raised the charge that his opponent—a doctor was an abortionist.

Bob Dole Day Proclaimed

The day was so proclaimed by Nancy Lane, acting mayor of Russell in the absence of Roger

W. Williams, mayor. The occasion arose after Sen. Bob Dole, hometown Russell boy, elect by President Gerald Ford for the November general election. The selection was made Thursday noon at the Republican convention in Kansas City.

Within hours of the announcebegan to roll to have Ford and Dole visit Russell today. By morning plans for the visit was finalized and the two arrived in Russell at noon by caravan down

Russell Courthouse shortly after noon today. The visit the GOP convention in Kansas City. Ford and Dole by President Gerald Ford and Sen. Bob Dole, flew from Kansas City to Salina this morning and then vice-president nominee, opened the 1976 presidential boarded a helicopter which brought them to Russell. campaign for the Republicans. Dole, a Russell native,

THE PRESIDENTIAL CARAVAN arrived at the was tabbed by Ford as his running mate Thursday at

GOP Battle Starts in Russell

Last Presidential Visit Was in 1906 The last time a President of the before the President was due to United States visited Russell was visit Russell. 70 years ago on Wednesday, May An advance train arrived at the

2, 1906, when President Theodore railroad station at about 3 p.m., Roosevelt was cheered and wel- with members of the press, prescomed by a crowd of about 5,000 idential aides, more secret ser-Russell area residents, most of vice men, and a host of state and the population of Russell County national political dignitaries. The town was decorated with

flags and bunting for "Teddy 3:15, and Mr. Roosevelt appeared Roosevelt Day," and the Union on the rear platform of the train, Pacific depot was the scene of most of the activity. Cameras toothsome smile. He was greeted were mounted at every available and introduced by State Sen. location, secret service men were much in evidence, and the town's

U.S. Sen. Robert J. Dole, at noon paign on the Russell County today as he launched his Harry S. Courthouse lawn before an estiTruman-type "Give 'Em Hell
Gerry" campaign as the Republican standard bearer for election
day when he was picked to run as

aminos eight years. In the House
of Representatives he served on the Agriculture Committee and in the Senate he has served with honor and distinction on the effective advocate of the Amerto a four-year term of his own in the vice-presidential candidate that he would come to Russell today for "Bob Dole Day in

President in Russell's history to visit the city during his tenure in office. Theodore Roosevelt is the only other President who has spoken here. He spoke from the Union Pacific Railroad depot to a

President Roosevelt's train steamed into the station at about personal contact with people." waving and flashing his famous tremendous input in his bid for election in November. "He is a statesman, a man who under-Pestana of Russell. On hand were numerous county

almost eight years. In the House al government in Washington,

Agriculture and Finance Com- ican farmer." "He believes that

Russell" and to fire the first salvos in the call to arms in the battle for votes. Ford is the second incumbent in the second in the se Very Lofty' Campaign

and explained the reason he picked him for the No. 2 spot on his ticket "is because he has a personal content with content and present content con would not engage in a "personal" He said Dole will have a campaign against the Carter-mondous input in his hid for Mondale ticket this fall.

The Kansas senator, in an interview on ABC television the stands government. He has been morning after Ford selected him a state legislator, a county attor- to be his running mate, said the

highest regard for Jimmy Carter vessel suffered early this tumulappearance on the podium as a and Sen. Mondale." Dole accomtuous week, Dole was in good gesture of unity, before the conpanied Ford to a breakfast with spirits when he returned from

presidential candidate Sen. Walington later in the day. ter Mondale of Minnesota. Despite the strain of the day

"We don't intend to be person- and a right eye menacingly al," Dole said. "I have the bloodshot from a broken blood

personal attacks on the Demo-cratic nominees, presidential rally at his hometown of Russell, candidate Jimmy Carter and vice Kan., before returning to Washit. It's in great shape. It was the

Referring to Ronald Reagan's

If I Have Had Success It is Because of People

"If I have had success," U.S. he like to be on the ticket. "I said here, Russell is certainly the noon today, "It is because of the years and he is a friend of

people here."
Visibly moved by the intimate impact of so many friends, rela-tives, acquaintences, classmates, the No. 2 spot of the party ticket. tives, acquaintences, classmates, and boosters, Dole broke down briefly when he said: "The times the No. 2 spot of the party ticket. "They told me I was on the list. I saw several lists—but I couldn't I have needed help, the people of find the President's list." Russell helped me."

The senator was referring to a campaign tomorrow in the heart-cil acting in behalf of Mayor period after World War II, when land of America. That's why I am (Continued to Page 5) brought funds to pay for a vital operation on a shoulder and upper arm which refused to heal. His road to recovery and later carried him from state legislator, county attorney, congressman and U.S. Senator, was launched at the hands of famous Chicago surgeon H. Kilickian — with the

support of the people of Russell. "That was long time ago, Dole said, "and I thank you for it." The nominee for vice-president of the nation on the Republican lost none of his wit, even in the company of President Ford, who

"Friday is a good day in Russell," Dole said. It was a good day for Teddy Roosevelt who campaigned here in 1905. Roosevelt is the only other American

Dole said he was surprised when President Ford called him

Sen. Bob Dole, Russell, told a yes — after I though it over — nation's heartland," Dole stated. tightly packed crowd of over 3,000 about one second," Dole said. "I am proof," Dole said modpacked crowd of over 3,000 about one second, both sell's courthouse lawn at "I've known Jerry Ford for 16 estly, "that a person today can vears and he is a friend of come from a small town and doesn't need wealth and material "It was a surprise to me," Dole things to move ahead." "I am glad to be home," Dole

"Ford said we will start on our

said." "And with fine people like the ones here today, we might even be able to convert Nancy," he said turning to Miss Nancy Lane, president of the city coun-

(Continued to Page 5)

Cary Grant broke his rule against the Fords. appearing on television to intro-duce Betty Ford to the Republi-happy to do the same thing for can convention's closing session. Nancy and Ron who are very old The retire movie star said he and dear friends.

would have been equally pleased "But there isn't any way I to do the same for Nancy Reagan. would think of refusing the Pres-"This speech has nothing to do ident. I'm proud of the fact that I with politics. It's a personal thing," Grant explained a few been to the White House a couple hours before heading for the of times — most recently last convention hall Thursday night. 'Mrs. Ford is a friend.

either side. People should be left alone to make up their own

"I don't campaign and I don't President at a banquet a few endorse candidates. I'm careful months ago in Los Angeles and, not to say anything to influence I'm happy to say, I was Mrs. Ford's escort at a party in Beverly Hills last May.

support either the President or Ron against the other. I'm just sorry they aren't on the same

"I'm a registered Republican, but I often vote for Democrats. John F. Kennedy was a friend. I knew Bobby Kennedy. Wonderful

people.
"I think the President is a man on the Screen Actors Guild board

for vice president."
Grant, 72, was tanned and fit. He looked a score of years younger than his age. He had just left his daughter Jennifer, 10, at a

town of 6,000 were surprised and elated over President Ford's choice of native son Bob Dole as said. "I don't think they could be needed to the prejudiced, of course, but I admire him." Bob worked in my father's ing. I know him from days when the played basketball for me. I'm would be nice, I felt it was beyond that he is completely honest... both of Russell, were in Kansas one of Bob's strongest points is Dole is, he is clean, and his wife would be nice, I felt it was beyond that he is completely honest... and although at the time he was coming as the door form. I'm would be nice, I felt it was beyond that he is completely honest... and although at the time he was coming as the door form. I'm would be nice, I felt it was beyond the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their oil driller, said, "we're all just the news on television in their o

It's been some time since Dole elated."

choice of native son Bob Dole as said. "I don't think they could mire him." have picked a better man. I was Elliott de

It's been some time since Dole lived in Russell, just barely visible from Interstate 70 to the south. But almost everybody in town knows Dole.

Bub Dawson a friend of the Bub Dawson a

crowd estimated at 5,000 persons

"This guy is great for the party tickled pink."

Elliott described Dole as a and the country. He has tremen-"terrific competitor" and said dous ability and firm convictions Dole's basketball coach in high wrong side and the wrong people school, said Dole's "very deserv-since Franklin D. Roosevelt and I've followed his campaigns with Dole, and his brother Kenneth, campaign for re-election. And for him. The best thing about (Continued to Page 5)

Manager Everett Dumler of Mrs. Kate Lee Ewing — "I man, he wa the Russell Chamber of Commerce said Dole's selection was great personality. I like him. But

Ralph Dumler - "Bob's selec- help to the POW's and the MIA's. will be a marvelous balance. ning mate is a good thing. He will out union help. He has wide Bob's ability to speak and to run real well in the Southwest and appeal, because he is intelligent project himself will be a tremen- West. Both the Reagan forces and and handsome, and because he

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