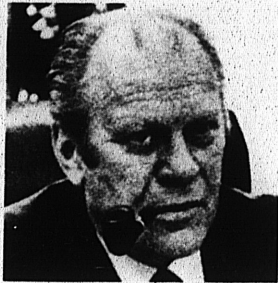


# FORD ESCAPES ASSASSINATION

President Gerald Ford escaped an assassination attempt in Sacramento, California last Friday when a woman aimed a revolver within two feet of him but the gun misfired.

The President apparently saw the brandish of the weapon and ducked as a Secret Service agent lunged and knocked down the assailant and unarmed her.

Ford, who was visibly shaken a few minutes before, told a crowd that the dangerous incident would not deter him from



NATION'S PRESIDENT

appearing among crowds of people as his campaign for presidency to succeed himself brings him to centers of populations.

The woman, Lynette Fromme, turned out to be a friend and follower of the mass murderer Charles Manson who is now confined in San Quentin Prison in California.

At the time of the incident, President Ford was walking in the park on his way to meet California Governor Edmund G.

Brown.

"I saw a hand coming up behind several others in the front row," recalled the President. "And obviously there was a gun in that hand. I then saw almost instantaneously, very quick and effective action by the Secret Service in taking care of the matter."

The woman, Fromme, is now being held with a \$1 million bail in Sacramento County Jail.

President Ford's escape from assassination generated sympathy

throughout the nation including prominent people.

"Thank God that he was all right. It is a tragic situation that people resort to an attempt of that kind," said Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy who lost two brothers through firearm action had this to say:

"The great majority of the American people want to see their president and talk with him" and risking the perils of

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# Ford . . .

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public appearances is a "personnel decision each president has to make." ♦

The nation's First Lady Betty Ford said, "I'm very grateful to the Secret Service and the great job they do."

President Ford, although shaken by the incident as it happened, seems unruffled and said:

"This incident, under no circumstances will prevent me or preclude me from contacting the American people as I travel from one community to another."