



'Prof. Ford' at Michigan

Ford Criticizes Carter's Policy

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — The Carter administration was overly optimistic and perhaps naive in its recent strategic arms negotiations with the Soviets, says former President Gerald R. Ford.

Ford criticized the public nature of the U.S. stand, which was rebuffed by the Soviet Union.

"I'm positive if I had been re-elected we could have negotiated in three months a SALT agreement and it would have been a good agreement," said the former president.

Ford, who is spending a week as a guest lecturer at the University of Michigan, spoke at a meeting with journalists in a one-year fellowship program at the university. The program is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Ford said he thinks the Carter people "were overly optimistic" about the talks.

"Someone could say they were naive, but I didn't say that ... The net result was that they miscalculated."

Ford criticized Carter for spelling out publicly specific details of the U.S. proposal which now, he said, makes it hard for him to retreat from his initial position.

Every time Carter will change his stance, Ford said, it "gives hardliners in the Senate an opportunity to say he was out-negotiated."

Ford said Carter's public strategy "may turn out to be a bad tactic if you really want to get something you can sign and the Senate to vote for.... I

think it will make it harder for him because the rest of the world by present practice doesn't operate that way."

Ford said he will not decide on his political plans for 1980 until after the 1978 congressional elections.

"I've said I may be a potential candidate in 1980," but, "I am making no organizational plans ... I think the field ought to be kept open, including myself" to see what candidates emerge from the 1978 elections.

Hall Death

James T. Hall, 53, of Route 5, DeLand, Fla., formerly of the Uniontown area, died Wednesday.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Pauline Fields Hall; two daughters, Mrs. Constance Muller of Bethlehem, Pa., and Mrs. Shirley C. Wells of Florida; two sons, Thomas C. and James E. Hall, both of DeLand, Fla.; several brothers and sisters, and four grandchildren.

Friends will be received at the Oats-McGee Funeral Home here from 7 to 9 p.m. tomorrow, 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday, and until 1 p.m. Monday, the hour of services.

Douse Auto Blaze

Fairchance firemen doused a fire about 4 p.m. yesterday in a car located behind Club York. Neal Christopher of Fairchance is the owner of the car.