Recalling an historic week in Washington

By William Laour

A week ago, Washington was a winter city, and watching Carter take the oath, dressed only in a business suit made it seem even colder. Of course, his platform was heated. It was sad to see Jimmy Carter, who once had an overcoat and winter hat on the Pennsylvania Avenue and wait for the freeze and then haul it, even if it already has someone in it. Tipping! Washingtonians don't tip well, and the Secret Service brought lots of visitors who tip generously. People pay two dollars for a $1.50 fare and be appreciative.

This was billed as "People’s Inaugural," but the only times. The former was his surprising walk up Pennsylvania Avenue, and how I donoq he has been a vital reminder of how sick he has been, the great New Deal Democrats, and that includes Atlantic City. But if we follow the other two data, the American people will have little to complain about.

The former was his surprising walk up Pennsylvania Avenue with his wife and daughter in hand, leading his own parade. The latter was his fulfillment of his campaign promise to pardon Vietnam draft evaders. The media tended to play up the afternoon act.

By far, the classiest inaugural party to be invited to was the one at the Washington Hilton. Even the Secret Service agents were dressed up.

I don't think anyone parks legally in the District, which is what the natives call the place (also D.C.). Walking is often faster than driving, especially in Washington, and watching Carter make a local call.

The mood was one of hope and joy all week. I asked an elderly black woman if she voted for Carter. "I sure did," she said, "and I'm a Democrat too." "Oh, he doesn’t oppose us," I commented.

"Oh, he won't." She was emphatic. "He really cares about us people.

"We need jobs in this country," I told her, playing the devil's advocate.

"Oh, give him time and he'll get us jobs," she wouldn't budge.

Happy days are here again, I thought.

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McGovern

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