

Reagan, Carter confer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter, rivals no more, sat down together in the Oval Office on Thursday for their first private meeting since the long presidential campaign ended in Reagan's landslide victory.

When the meeting broke up after nearly 1½ hours, the president-elect praised Carter for cooperating in the transition to the Reagan administration.

"He has made it much easier than it otherwise would have been," Reagan said as the two men posed for photographs in front of the marble fireplace in the Oval Office.

"We have a very good working relationship personally," Carter said. He said he and Reagan discussed the transition and "some of the issues I have faced as president."

Carter emphasized that he and Reagan are in agreement that the outgoing chief executive will be president "in the fullest sense of the word" until Inauguration Day, Jan. 20.

The meeting ran far longer than the 30 minutes originally scheduled, and Carter said the

two leaders emphasized "some of the common commitments we share."

A short time after the meeting, Carter left the White House for a visit to Camp David, Md.

Although the White House meeting had been planned for several days, the two men and their wives actually encountered each other in a less-than-planned fashion.

The Reagans arrived at the sun-bathed South Portico of the White House one minute early, at 1:59 p.m. EST, and the president and his wife, Rosalynn, rushed out of the Diplomatic Entrance there to greet them.

The president and the president-elect grinned broadly, each looked at his watch, and Reagan acknowledged that he was "a little bit early."

"We're very glad to have you here," Carter told his successor and the incoming first lady, Nancy Reagan. "I think you'll like the place."

Carter then escorted Reagan to the Oval Office — as much a symbol of presidential power as it is a workspace — and Mrs.

Carter took Mrs. Reagan on a White House tour.

The Reagans arrival by motorcade from their government-owned residence one-half block from the White House was heralded by the wail of sirens from police escort motorcycles driven by the same corps that has ushered Carter around Washington for four years.

In addition to more than 100 reporters, photographers and technicians who witnessed the arrival, there were numbers of White House staff members, some with cameras, awaiting the new first family.

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Madame Mao weeps as 'clique' trial begins

PEKING (AP) — Chairman Mao Tse-tung's widow, the once-powerful leader of the radical "Gang Of Four," walked calmly into court Thursday and with nine other defendants heard charges they persecuted nearly 35,000 people to death and brought "untold disasters" to China. Her composure deserted her during the reading of the charges and she broke into tears, Chinese reporters said.

The long-awaited trial of China's much publicized "Gang," as well as six members of the "Lin Piao clique," got under way before 35 judges and 880 invited observers in a courtroom not far from Peking's central square. The 10 could face death sentences if convicted.

Seven minutes of film of the trial were shown on Chinese television, with promises of more detailed coverage in the days ahead. Foreign reporters were barred on grounds state secrets would be discussed.

It was the first public look at the defendants since their imprisonment from four to nine years ago.

The bespectacled widow Jiang Qing, 67, her jet-black hair cut short and brushed back from her face, entered the courtroom escorted by a female

guard and, head held high, looked around slightly.

The leader of what now is called the "Jiang Qing Clique" lost her composure and wept at one point, Chinese reporters said. They said some of the other defendants shed tears as well. Two of the elderly male defendants apparently had to be helped to their seats.

The opening session was devoted to the reading of the 20,000-word, 48-count indictment against the 10, who sat in a row in front of microphones.



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