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How Kissinger Flew to Peking

Saigon

Presidential adviser Henry Kissinger flew from Pakistan to Peking by commercial airliner under an assumed name and with a foreign passport to conceal his secret trip July 9, informants here said yesterday.

In the first report on the mechanics of the trip, the informants said Kissinger and three assistants from the national security staff traveled by Pakistan International Airways to mainland China and returned July 11 on the same airline.

They said the German-born Kissinger used a foreign passport, probably German. Officials at the Western White House in San Clemente declined to give any details of Kissinger's secret trip that arranged President Nixon's planned visit to Peking.

Informants in Saigon said Kissinger dared not make the trip in a White House staff plane, or a Chinese military plane. They said this would have revealed the mission to the crewmen and also that radar stations along the way would have picked up military planes and become suspicious.

Accompanying Kissinger were John Holdridge, Winston Lord and Richard Snyder.

Kissinger's trip to China was one of the most closely held secrets in U.S. diplomacy.

At the time Kissinger was in Peking conferring with Premier Chou En-lai, it was announced that he was recovering from a stomach indisposition in the mountains of Pakistan.

He canceled a formal dinner with Pakistani President Mohamed Yahya Khan scheduled for that evening

and was reported to have gone to recover at the Nathiagali Hill Station about 50 miles from Rawalpindi.

He left behind in Pakistan the U.S. Air Force plane assigned to him so that it would be noticed, the informants said.

Officials in Washington feel

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Associated Press

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