

The Nixons in the Ming Tombs

Peking

President Nixon descended into the underground Ming tombs yesterday to see the caskets of an ancient emperor, his wife and concubine.

Accompanied by Mrs. Nixon, the President stopped first at the Great Wall of China before driving to the 500-year-old tombs.

Deputy Premier Li Hsiang-shan, Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei and their wives were hosts for the trip.

There were scores of Chinese at the tombs, carrying new transistor radios and sporting colorful clothes, when the Nixons arrived. After the presidential party left, functionaries collected the radios from the people and many in the crowd departed abruptly.

PUZZLING

A senior White House staff member was at a loss to explain the presence of the apparently holidaying Chinese at the remote site in a na-

Nixon TV Coverage

Here are today's special television broadcasts of President Nixon's China visit:

KRON (Channel 4): 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., 5 p.m. to 5:35 p.m.

and 11:30 p.m. to midnight.

KGO (Channel 7): 6:30 a.m. to 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

KPIX (Channel 5): 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

tion of few automobiles and limited tourist buses.

"You raise a good point," he said in response to news-men's questions.

The Nixons entered the tombs by walking along the Sacred Way, lined with giant stone animals, where even Chinese emperors had to dismount.

ANIMALS

The President was bare-headed but wore a tan fur-collared coat in the sunny but brisk weather. Mrs. Nixon wore the red fur-lined coat that has been her emblem since arriving in China. She donned a match-

tombs, peering at crowns and the fine porcelain work for which the Ming dynasty is famous.

WALL

Earlier, they mounted the Great Wall of China to survey the vast ancient barrier that was built to protect the country against barbarians.

"It's unbelievable," the President said as he stood atop the 25-foot-high wall that snakes across 1500 miles of Chinese countryside.

He turned to the vice premier and gazing at the massive Ba Da Ling Gate high on a nearby mountain, continued: "We will not climb the mountain today. We are already meeting at the summit in Peking."

RESPONSE

Li responded with praise of Mr. Nixon for "a great speech" and added: "The American people are a great people."

Mrs. Nixon joked with her hosts about the massive wall built 2200 years ago and sug-

gested it was the only man-made object visible from the moon.

The Nixons made the trip 40 miles outside Peking in a sleek black limousine. Conduits of Chinese soldiers with brooms swept fresh-fallen snow from the presidential route.

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