

WHY THE White House Said to Oppose Soviet Plan to Have Nixon Go to Yalta

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By HEDRICK SMITH
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MOSCOW, June 21—A disagreement has developed between the Soviet authorities and the White House advance team over whether President Nixon should go to Yalta during his forthcoming visit, reliable sources reported tonight.

American officials see this a matter of political importance, and not merely of scheduling.

The White House, informants said, is refusing to have Mr. Nixon go to Yalta because of the unfavorable connotations in the West involving decisions made there during the 1945 wartime meeting of Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. Their decisions led to the division of Europe and, in particular, Communist control of Poland.

American officials have told the Russians that Mr. Nixon would prefer to take up another suggestion from Moscow and go to Pitsunda, another resort in the Black Sea, where the

Soviet leader, Leonid I. Brezhnev, met last March with President Georges Pompidou of France.

Che Earlier Agreement

The Soviet side was reported to have told the American advance group, led by Henry E. Catto Jr., chief protocol officer of the State Department, and William Henkel, a special assistant to Mr. Nixon, that other American officials had agreed that President Nixon would visit Yalta and Minsk as well as Moscow.

The Americans have insisted that no firm agreement had been reached before the advance team arrived last night, the informants said, and the question has been referred to Mr. Nixon and Mr. Brezhnev to resolve.

The American group is due to fly to the Black Sea area tomorrow morning, but it did not know to which city it would go.

The Russians have been making preparations for months

in Yalta. Special crews of artisans have been restoring the old imperial palace at Livadiya, which was used by President Roosevelt in 1945. Taxi drivers and others have warmly greeted American tourists and said that "soon your President will be coming here."

Brezhnev Likes Area

Mr. Brezhnev likes to take visiting Western statesmen to the Black Sea and Crimean resort areas. In 1971 Chancellor Willy Brandt of West Germany went to Oreanda, and last spring Mr. Pompidou was in Pitsunda.

In the last two weeks Soviet officials have treated Yalta as a firm site for Mr. Nixon's visit, though Mr. Brezhnev said last Sunday that plans to go to Yalta and Minsk were tentative and indicated that the matter was up to Mr. Nixon.

But Ambassador Walter J. Stoessel Jr. and other American officials here have always been uncertain about White House

willingness to agree to a Yalta visit.

The American sensitivity over the Yalta accords, in which President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill agreed, under insistent demands from Stalin, that the pro-Soviet provisional government would be the basis for a postwar government in Poland and that the Soviet Union, as occupying power, would have the authority to determine which parties were eligible for the Polish elections.

Stalin also won the agreement of the Allies to have a part of Poland, including Lvov, included in the Soviet Union, and a part of Germany up to the Oder-Neisse line incorporated into Poland though it had been German territory for three centuries. President Roosevelt, in return for Soviet participation in the war against Japan, also agreed to Soviet annexation of Sakhalin and the Kurile islands.

Not only Mr. Nixon's itinerary but substantive matters as well are still being negotiated, in preparation for the President's arrival next Thursday. United State embassy sources said that a team of specialists that arrived three weeks ago was still meeting with Soviet negotiators to try to work out an agreement imposing limits on underground nuclear testing.

In Western Europe, the Yalta conference has often been criticized as the meeting where the Allied leaders carved up Europe. In America, a controversy arose over charges that Mr. Roosevelt "sold out Poland and China."

American officials are fearful of stirring up such memories when Western Europe is already nervous about American negotiations with Moscow and when some American politicians contend that Mr. Nixon may be under negotiating pressures from Moscow because of his weak domestic political position.