

China Said to Show No Desire to Buy Arms From the U.S.

WASHINGTON, April 25 (UPI)—The Chinese are "emphatically not interested" in formal defense agreements with the United States or in purchasing United States arms, a Congressional delegation reported today on its return from a seven-day visit to China.

The nine Representatives, members of the House Armed Services and International Relations Committees, said they saw no evidence of the rioting earlier this month that accompanied the ouster of Deputy Prime Minister Teng Hsiao-ping and the naming of Hua Kuo-feng as Prime Minister.

The Armed Services Committee chairman, Melvin Price, Democrat of Illinois told reporters at Andrews Air Force Base this morning that the Chinese "stress the current Soviet military threat both to themselves and to the West."

But, he said, "they are emphatically not interested in any more formal defensive association with the United States than now exists in the Shanghai communiqué."

"You go your way and we'll go ours," sums up their position," Mr. Price said.

The Shanghai agreement was reached during former President Richard M. Nixon's 1972 visit to China. It affirmed a need for increased contacts between China and the United States but established no formal commitments.

In addition, the delegation said that the Chinese "expressed no interest at all in acquiring U. S. weapons or military technology, preferring instead to rely on independence and self-reliance."

Slightly longer story, SFC, China file.