



AP Wirephoto

Preacher Carl McIntire served as an aide held up the playing table, which was not allowed to be put down near the White House fence.

Preacher in Washington

The Ping Pong Protest

Washington

Fundamentalist radio preacher Rev. Carl McIntire played a while-you-walk game of table tennis in front of the White House yesterday to protest what he called President Nixon's appeasement of Communist China.

McIntire's opponent in the game was Dr. James T. Shaw, director of the International Relief for the International Council of Christian Churches, McIntire called it "a Mickey Mouse" game with a serious purpose.

It was "a preliminary," McIntire told his band of 60 followers, for the "massive" rally he plans for October 23 to try and persuade Mr. Nixon to call off his trip to Peking.

It will be his fourth "March For Victory" gathering. The last one, on May 9, drew a crowd estimated various at from 5000 to 25,000.

The ping pong was a walking game, the Collingswood, N.J., preacher said, because the Interior Department wouldn't let a table with legs be

used "because they were afraid somebody would jump on it and climb over the White House fence."

So the heavy table was carried along Pennsylvania with a McIntire follower holding up each corner.

McIntire, 65, and Shaw, 46, kept the ball going with pit-pat strokes. The balls in play skidded off several times and three were scooped up by souvenir hunters.

After the pass in front of the White House the crowd moved across the street to Lafayette Park, where the table legs were attached for an exhibition by a team of tourist Nationalist Chinese players.

McIntire has said he invited the Nationalist Chinese players to this country because Mr. Nixon issued an invitation to Red China's table tennis team, following admission of an American team to Red China.

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