A strictly private visit to China is planned by former President Richard Nixon and Mrs. Nixon. A spokesman said Mr. Nixon will pay any costs involved himself, and China is expected to send a plane to provide transportation for the journey.

The official Chinese news agency first announced the invitation earlier today. Later on the White House said that President Ford and Secretary of State Kissinger had both spoken by telephone with Mr. Nixon about the trip, and Mr. Ford asked the former President to convey best wishes to China's leaders.

[Complete.]