

President to Visit China Next Year

By Joseph Lelyveld
New York Times

Tokyo

President Ford will visit China next year, it was announced early yesterday after Secretary of State Henry Kissinger arrived from Shanghai.

A senior American official said the trip will take place following the visit to Washington of Soviet Communist party leader Leonid Brezhnev.

The announcement of the visit was the only substantive disclosure in a terse four-sentence communique. It was the first communique on relations between China and the United States to be issued without any mention of progress since former President Nixon's trip nearly three years ago.

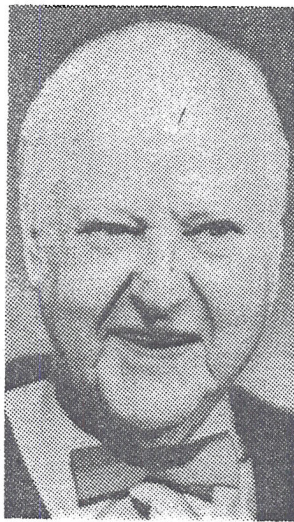
Kissinger ended his 4½-day visit without having received an invitation to

meet Chairman Mao Tse-tung. There was no hint from either Chinese or American sources that Mao, who will be 81 next month, was indisposed or otherwise preoccupied.

Thus, it seemed that the Chinese, in a typically indirect manner, were indicating their displeasure over the lack of progress in the bilateral relationship.

At the same time, by their invitation to President Ford, they were showing that they will place a high value on their contacts with the United States for broader strategic reasons. These are generally presumed to be the leverage it gives them against the Soviet Union.

The senior American official who briefed newsmen on Kissinger's plane said that the United States made no commitments to Peking on normalization of diplomatic relations or other is-



AP Wirephoto

Hunt Dies

Billionaire H. L. Hunt died yesterday in a Dallas hospital. He was 85.

He had been hospitalized since September. Story and photo are on Page 5.

sues in connection with the presidential visits.

He repeated earlier assertions that the Chinese had

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not been pressing for full diplomatic relations. In fact, he went so far as to say that both sides reached a decision to let the relationship stand at its present level.

The two governments exchanged diplomatic missions 18 months ago, but the United States still recognizes the Nationalist regime of Chiang Kai-shek on Taiwan as the Republic of China.

By the time Mr. Ford lands in Peking, five confer-

ences between Soviet and American heads of state will have occurred since Mr. Nixon went to China in February, 1972.

The most recent, in the Siberian city of Vladivostok last week, may have especially nettled the Chinese, because of the apparent disregard of their feelings shown by the Americans in agreeing to the meeting place.

Vladivostok, which is only about 35 miles from the Chinese frontier, was ceded

by the Manchu dynasty to czarist Russia in a 19th Century treaty that Peking now denounces.

American officials have been saying that the Chinese never complained about the Vladivostok site. However, they left in the hotel room of every newsman who accompanied Kissinger to Peking a copy of an article castigating the Soviet Union for giving Russian names to towns near the present frontier that were once Chinese. The article noted that Vladivos-

tok means "rule over the east" and that its proper Chinese name was Haishenwei.

In the absence of progress on normalization of relations, another meeting in Peking may have been considered necessary to show that the United States is not taking China for granted. But the senior official insisted that Kissinger went to China without any intention of arranging a summit meeting.

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