

☆☆ Section A Page 9
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China Logistics Headache

SAN CLEMENTE — (UPI) — China, sealed off for more than 20 years from the rest of the world, may never be the same after a visit from the mammoth traveling White House.

If President Nixon makes the historic journey to mainland China, he will have a lot of company — of circus proportions.

And the People's Republic of China will be treated to a slice of American - style journalism that has stunned other Communist countries Nixon has visited.

A Nixon "advance man" shudders at the logistics involved and keeps saying, "This one is going to be different." He is certain none of the old rules will apply.

The headaches would be

king - size. On previous presidential jaunts abroad, some 200 reporters, photographers and TV technicians, filling two huge commercial charter jet planes, have traveled along.

The President and Mrs. Nixon will fly aboard Air Force One, piloted by jet ace, Col. Ralph D. Abertazie.

Most of the White House staff and Secret Service agents will travel on a "backup" plane. The presidential bullet proof bubbletop limousine, and perhaps two or three jet helicopters, will be shipped on cargo planes to Peking for Nixon's travel needs in China.

Once Peking and Washington get their signals straight and a date is worked out through diplomatic channels, the White House will plunge into full - scale arrangements.