

Nixon Hails China Visit At Iowa Dam

By Ken W. Clawson
Washington Post Staff Writer

CENTERVILLE, Iowa, July 31—President Nixon told a large, friendly Corn Belt crowd today that his plan to journey to China next year is a key element in realizing a generation of peace.

Coupling the China visit with the winding down of the Vietnam war, the President said that prospects for "our children to enjoy a full generation of peace" are better than at any time since the end of World War II.

As he has done at every opportunity since he arrived in the nation's heartland Friday night, Mr. Nixon emphasized his belief that the China journey is a vital requirement in shaping his vision of a highly competitive, but warless, world of the future.

"You cannot have peace in the world if 800 million of the most creative and resourceful people . . . in the world are isolated. That is why I believe the President should establish new communications with those people so we will have a better chance for peace."

In a dam dedication speech today and twice last night in Canton, Ohio, the President made only the briefest mention of the war in Southeast Asia. He appeared to put that issue behind him as he focused on the China visit and even beyond.

The Iowa crowd today, estimated by state police at 15,000 to 30,000 persons listened politely to the President's remarks on China. But it warmed considerably when Mr. Nixon stressed his intention to live without war and also when he emphasized the necessity of rural development in a future peaceful competition with emerging nations.

Mentioning Western Europe, Japan, China and Russia, the President said the United States will have to develop all of its resources to



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Iowa Gov. Robert Ray and President Nixon stand behind dedication plaque during ceremonies at Rathbun dam at Centerville. The plaque will be placed permanently in front of the podium where Mr. Nixon delivered his dedication address.

meet postwar competition or lose its world leadership. "No group can be left out; each person must have a chance to make a contribution so this nation can have the drive, purpose and dedication" to retain its leadership.

Rural America, he said, must make its contribution with projects like the new \$26 million Rathbun Dam and 11,000-acre reservoir that he helped dedicate today in Southern Iowa.

The reservoir, largest in Iowa, is expected to attract recreation-type enterprises that will bolster the economy of the region, which has been losing population over the past 20 years.

The President was joined by Republican Gov. Robert Ray of Iowa and Sen. Jack Miller (R-Iowa) at the dedication here. Following the ceremonies, Mr. Nixon returned to Washington and was to spend the remainder of the weekend at Camp David.

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