

# Nixon's China Visit Will Have Impact on Primary

By WALTER R. MEARS  
WASHINGTON (AP) —

President Nixon's seven days in China will end as the presidential primary season of 1972 begins, and his mission is sure to have maximum political impact when New Hampshire voters cast the year's first ballots March 7.

Republican sources say Nixon will be an avowed candidate for a second term by the time of that leadoff primary, with his name on the ballot in New Hampshire and a pledged state of convention delegates entered in his behalf.

## News Analysis

NIXON IS scheduled to be in China from Feb. 21 until Feb. 28. That means he will be coming home almost on the eve of the New Hampshire balloting.

If also means his journey will be dominating the news, and commanding television attention, during the peak days of the New Hampshire campaign.

The White House announced Nixon's schedule yesterday, and Henry A. Kissinger, his national security adviser, said the February dates were chosen as the earliest time that technical preparations and

"all other arrangements indicated a reasonably successful outcome."

A NIXON campaign organization headed by former Gov. Lane Dwinell already has been set up to deal with the New Hampshire primary challenge posted by Republican Rep. Paul N. McCloskey of California.

Nixon's political men hope to roll up a New Hampshire landslide of proportions that would end the McCloskey insurgency on opening day. Nixon's name can be entered by others in the New Hampshire presidential pref-

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erence poll, but to put a pledged state of 14 convention delegates on the ballot, the candidate himself must give written consent.

The filing deadline in New Hampshire is Feb. 6.

AN ALTERNATIVE, and one that would not require Nixon's direct involvement, would be to enter a state of delegates listed as favorable to the re-nomination of the President.

But, under that option, the Nixon organization could not determine whose name would go on the ballot as favoring the President.

The risk involved was dem-

onstrated in 1968, when then Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy won a near sweep of New Hampshire Democratic delegates in his challenge to former President Lyndon B. Johnson.

McCarthy entered a compact, pledged state of delegates, and most of them won when a long list of contending delegates who favored Johnson divided the loyalist Democratic vote.

The Florida presidential primary comes one week after New Hampshire, on March 14, and Nixon's name will be on the ballot there, too.