A Warm Welcome At Airport

N.Y. Times Service

Washington

President Nixon returned here last night from his journey to China and told a large welcoming crowd that he had established there "the basis of a structure for peace" without sacrificing America's commitments to any of its allies.

"We have agreed that we will not negotiate the fate of other nations behind their backs, and we did not do so in Peking," he declared. "There were no secret deals of any kind. We have done all this without giving up any United States commitment to any other country."

Mr. Nixon's plane, the Spirit of '76, arrived in front of a huge hangar at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland at 6:14 P.M. PST after a seven-hour flight from Anchorage, Alaska, where he spent part of the day resting and adjusting to the 13-hour time difference between Peking and Washington.

WELCOME

The crowd awaiting him inside the hangar, estimated by Air Force officials at more than 5000, consisted of cabinet members, congressional leaders, the diplomatic corps, members of the White House staff who had not made the journey and thousands of government employees and their wives recruited for the occasion.

Army trumpeters greeted the President with "Hail to the Chief" when he and Mrs. Nixon emerged from the plane.

Vice President Spiro Agnew presented him to the crowd and thanked him by saying "We feel easier tonight because of the trip you took."

As the Air Force band played spirited marches, Mr. Nixon boarded his Mar-

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ine Corps helicopter for the flight home and his first night's sleep at the White House in nearly two weeks.

REMARKS

It was not immediately clear whether the President plans another, formal report to the nation on his voyage to Peking. But from the tone and content of his remarks last night, he appeared to have intended them as a summation of the results of the trip as he viewed them.

Mindful, perhaps, of criticism not only from Taiwan, but also from members of his own party that he had traded away too much and gained too little from his efforts, Mr. Nixon seemed to go to unusual lengths to say that he had not intended to sacrifice old friends even as he opened new channels to his enemies.

He also said that he suffered no illusions that the communique issued by the two governments in Shang-

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hai Sunday would "guarantee peace in our time."

"We did not bring back any written or unwritten agreements that will guarantee peace in our time. We did not bring home any magic formula which will make unnecessary the efforts of the American people to continue to maintain the strength so that we can continue to be free."

COMMUNIQUE

In addition, the President described the communique as "unique" in the sense that it tried "honestly" to set forth differences between the two nations "rather than trying to cover them up with diplomatic double-talk."

Finally, as if to reinforce his practicality as a negotiator as well as his patriotism, Mr. Nixon wound up his remarks by saying that he had been reminded "of the greatness of our country" as he flew above it on the trip from Anchorage.

"Most of all, I thought of the freedom, the opportunity, the progress that 200 million Americans are privileged to enjoy. I realized again this is a beautiful country."

One conspicuous absentee from the gathering was James C. H. Shen, the ambassador from Taiwan. A spokesman for the Taiwan embassy here said that the Ambassador had previously scheduled a dinner engagement. He conceded, however, that Shen wished also to reflect his government's displeasure with the Mr. Nixon visit and with the joint communique.

Ambassador Shen entertained 14 people at a dinner to honor Alfred P. Chamie, the retired national commander of the American Legion, who received a decoration entitled "Cloud and Banner" on behalf of President Chiang Kai-shek.

COMMENTS

In his comments, Mr. Nixon did not depart in terms of substance, from what he had

HECKLERS

While most of the large gathering was friendly, a small knot of hecklers clustered together in a far corner of the hangar and occasionally shouted hostile but largely inaudible words. Some of the demonstrators carried umbrellas by which they intended to link Mr. Nixon symbolically to Neville Chemberlain, the British prime minister who was accused of appeasement after he signed th Munich pact before World War II.

Other demonstrators, who seemed equally opposed to Mr. Nixon's trip, carried signs supporting Representative John Ashbrook of Ohio, who represents Mr. Nixon's conservative challenge in the New Hampshire primary.

The gathering was clearly well orchestrated. The White House staff had been urged to come, and tickets had been distributed in large blocks in the various government departments.

The President will brief both the cabinet and Congressional leaders on details of his trip today.

said earlier in Peking and what was said in the joint communique.

Among what he called "necessary and important beginnings" he listed agreements to expand cultural and journalistic contacts between the two nations; agreements to broaden trade; and an agreement that communications between the two governments must be "strengthened and expanded."

More broadly, he insisted, both sides agreed that they were opposed to "domination of the Pacific area by any one power" and that international disputes should be settled by peaceful means.

He recalled also that part of the communique in which he had told his Chinese host that the United States would gradually reduce its forces on Taiwan "as tensions ease." But it was at this point in his remarks that he insisted that he had made "no secret deals of any kind." FEB 2 9 1972

The Homecoming



After their arrival at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., last night, the Nixons stood on the speak(PI Telephoto

er's stand with Vice President Spiro Agnew to salute as the national anthem was played.