

Hangchow Likely Place For Nixon-Mao Meeting

HONOLULU (AP) — President Nixon, tarrying here en route to his China summit talks, is likely to meet Chairman Mao Tse-tung in the picturesque resort city of Hangchow.

American sources said this seemed a logical site for a Nixon-Mao conference since Hangchow, the next-to-last stop on the President's China itinerary, is a favored retreat of the 78-year-old Communist leader.

A **HANGCHOW** meeting would further underscore the apparent political eclipse of Mao inasmuch as Nixon and Premier Chou En-lai are expected to dispose of serious negotiations in Peking before the American visitor sees Hangchow.

The President and Mrs. Nixon, who arrived yesterday afternoon following a 10-hour nonstop flight from Washington, will remain in Hawaii until tomorrow afternoon. Then they will fly to Guam for an overnight stay before proceeding to Shanghai and Peking.

A major reason for the Hawaii stop-over was to allow the Nixons to adjust gradually to the physical and psychological effects of traveling at jetspeed through time zones.

SECRETARY OF STATE William P. Rogers, who was with them aboard the presidential plane, said in response to newsmen's questions that the U.S. government has no confirmation of a report that Le Duc Tho, the Hanoi official who conducted secret negotiations with presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger, would arrive in Peking a day before Nixon.

Rogers offered no support for specu-

lation that the North Vietnamese official would be meeting with Nixon or other Americans in Peking.

Several thousand persons, some waving "Aloha" banners, greeted the President and Mrs. Nixon at Kaneohe Marine Air Station.

The Nixons borrowed the 17-room home of Brig. Gen. Victor Armstrong, a brigade commander. The spacious frame dwelling on the Kaneohe base sits on a hilltop and commands a spectacular view of the Pacific and nearby natural stone attractions such as Pyramid Rock and Chinaman's Hat.

THE PRESIDENT worked during most of the flight from Washington, conferring on his China agenda with Rogers and Kissinger, a principle architect of the historic mission.

Kissinger spent some 2½ hours alone with the chief executive while Rogers was with Nixon for less than an hour. Another measure of Kissinger's paramount influence in the China preparations: He was quartered next door to Nixon while Rogers was housed two doors away.

Chatting with reporters aboard their plane shortly after leaving Washington, the President and Mrs. Nixon were ebullient.

"Isn't this exciting?" exclaimed the First Lady.

Nixon asserted that he needed no advance practice with chopsticks but, pointing to his wife, said, "She does."

The President cautioned reporters to treat Chinese wine with respect.

"Remember," he said, "that Chinese wine is like brandy—it's not 12 per cent."