

# First Lady

## Calls Chou a

# 'Real Charmer'

By Peter Lisagor

ANCHORAGE (Alaska) — (CDN) — President Nixon's wife described Chinese Premier Chou En-lai today as "a real charmer" and someone with "a delightful sense of humor."

"He's a man who knows the world," Mrs. Pat Nixon said aboard the Spirit of '76 enroute here from Shanghai.

"And if you believe it, we had some fun moments. His capacity for detail amazes me."

### Spoke English

Mrs. Nixon said she coaxed Chou into speaking English to her during their several dinners together, and that the Premier obliged her.

Although the President and his top advisers were not accessible to most of us in a press pool aboard the presidential jetliner, the First Lady spent part of the eight-hour flight discussing Chou and her impressions of the week in China.

Mrs. Nixon confessed that at times during the frequent, repeated rounds of toasts, she raised her glass of potent Mao Tai wine and touched her lips without sipping.

### Tea, Tangerines

And she allowed herself only tea and tangerines during the days because of the huge feasts prepared for them at night. She said that whenever her plate was empty someone filled it again.

Mrs. Nixon said she found the Chinese women very friendly and that they seemed pleased whenever she brought them greetings from the people of America.

All the Chinese were friendly as the Nixons departed their Shanghai Hotel

to the airport for the flight home.

### Friendly Farewell

The hotel's staff in their white coats stood in a row in the shivering outdoors to applaud the President and Mrs. Nixon as they left, and hundreds of Chinese lined the sidewalk in a friendly farewell. Chinese children waving flags greeted the Nixons at the airport.

On the plane, Mrs. Nixon declined to discuss the politics of the trip, saying "You have to look at the main event."

"I think a great deal was accomplished," she said, then added that she was proud of her husband.