

KISSINGER IS GOING TO CHINA 4TH TIME TO TALK WITH CHOU

JUN 15 1972

Leaves Today or Tomorrow
for 'Concrete' Discussion
—Broad Agenda Is Seen
NYTimes

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 14—

Henry A. Kissinger, the President's adviser on national security, will go to China next week for five days of talks with Premier Chou En-lai and other officials on a variety of issues, presumably including Vietnam.

A joint announcement made here and in Peking today said that Mr. Kissinger, who will be making his fourth trip to the Chinese capital in less than a year, would be engaging in "concrete consultations with Chinese leaders to further the normalization of relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States."

Any Topic Can Be Raised

Ronald L. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, who made the announcement, would not confirm that Vietnam was on the agenda, but he noted that Mr. Kissinger did not intend to engage in discussion of "routine matters."

Mr. Ziegler added that he expected that many international matters of consequence would be discussed and that each side was "free to raise any subject" it wished.

Mr. Kissinger, who returned early this week after official conversations in Tokyo, is expected to leave for Peking tomorrow or Friday, to stop briefly in Hawaii and to leave there Sunday, with a refueling stop in Guam. He will arrive in Shanghai on Monday afternoon and return directly to Washington on Friday, June 23.

Mr. Ziegler, who was asked to explain the mission, said that recent American bombing in North Vietnam near the Chinese border had "nothing to do with the timing of the visit or the visit itself."

Two Purposes Suggested

He also denied any relationship between Mr. Kissinger's trip and the visit by the Soviet President, Nikolai V. Podgorny, to Hanoi. Mr. Podgorny, with whom Mr. Nixon conferred several times during the Moscow meeting last month, is on his way to North Vietnam.

The press secretary recalled that the joint communiqué issued in Shanghai near the end of the President's trip to China in February provided for later visits by senior United States officials. He said the Kissinger mission had been agreed upon in principle then and that final arrangements were completed after Mr. Nixon returned from

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Moscow on June 1.

Privately, State Department officials said they saw at least two reasons why Vietnam might play a considerable role in the talks.

First, while they agreed with Mr. Ziegler that the American bombing of North Vietnamese targets was probably not the primary motive for Mr. Kissinger's trip at this time, they pointed out that the Chinese had sharply criticized the raids and that Mr. Kissinger would have an opportunity to reassure them that there was no threat to their security.

A second reason suggested was that genuine progress in Chinese-American relations that goes beyond the modest improvements since Mr. Nixon's visit to China in February, could not occur until the Vietnam war was settled.

Following a 16-day trip to China in late April and early May, Mike Mansfield, the Senate majority leader, reported publicly to his Senate colleagues and privately to Mr. Nixon that the Chinese leaders had indicated that there could be no progress on other issues until the United States withdrew from Indochina.

Speculation and Hope

Another reason, presumably, would be Mr. Nixon's intense desire to arrange a peace settlement this year and his hope that the Chinese, as much as the Russians, might be persuaded to nudge North Vietnam toward a settlement or at least to serious bargaining in Paris.

The mere fact of the Kissinger visit, combined with Mr. Podgorny's trip to Hanoi in the wake of Mr. Nixon's week of talks in Moscow, stirred speculation—and even some hope—that a new effort to arrange a settlement was under way.

Mr. Ziegler said that Mr. Kissinger fully informed Japanese leaders last week of his plans to go to Peking. That was in sharp contrast to the situation last year, when Mr. Nixon shocked and disheartened the Japanese by failing to inform them of his plans to visit the Chinese leaders.

Asked about the possibility that Mr. Kissinger might also visit Hanoi, Mr. Ziegler said only that his schedule was as announced.

Mr. Kissinger first visited Peking last July on a secret mission to arrange the summit meeting he made another trip to arrange the agenda in October and accompanied the President to Peking in February.

Gradual Development

Since then the development of relations has been gradual, perhaps the major accomplishment being the establishment of diplomatic contacts in Paris. Talks between the Ambassadors there, and between officials of lesser stature, have been occurring at roughly 10-day intervals since March 13.

According to public testimony, the talks have focused largely on economic issues and visitor exchanges, but sources in Paris do not exclude the possibility that the Vietnam question has also been raised. It was in Paris that the United States first assured the Chinese that air raids near the Chinese border were no threat to their security.

On the economic front, officials here estimate that the United States has purchased some \$5-million of Chinese products this year and that the figure may double shortly.

The United States has sold the Chinese little so far, mainly a television satellite ground station in Shanghai costing \$2.5 million, but the Boeing Aircraft Corporation is said to be in the advanced stage of negotiation for the sale of 727 jet aircraft and, possibly, a few 707's. The Chinese are also interested in grains, fertilizers, chemicals and electronics.

As for visitors, some 400 Americans, mainly scientists and academicians, have gone to China this year, but the Chinese seem in no rush to follow suit.