

Nixon Talks Briefly With China Envoy

San Clemente

President Nixon met yesterday with Huang Chen, China's representative to the U.S., in what appeared to be an effort to reassure Peking that the recent summit meeting with Russian leader Leonid I. Brezhnev did not disturb the building of better relations with China.

The meeting in the President's office here lasted only 40 minutes. The head of the Chinese liaison office in Washington conferred at much greater length with Henry A. Kissinger, Mr. Nixon's chief adviser on National Security. Kissinger said one of the subjects discussed was an effort to reach a negotiated peace in Cambodia.

"The ambassador and I reviewed the international situation in a friendly and constructive manner," Kissinger said after a morning session with the Chinese envoy. They then went into the meeting with the President.

CEASE-FIRE

Although no specifics of the discussions were disclosed, Kissinger made no effort to put down speculation that the Administration is seeking to work through China as a means of reaching a cease-fire in Cambodia.

"I think all major countries, as we have expressed repeatedly, that have an interest in Indochina should use their influence in the direction of restraint, which is our policy," Kissinger said in response to reporters' questions. "Therefore, all of the countries with a stake in peace in Indochina can make a contribution."

At another point, he said, "The public expressions of the Chinese leaders have been in the direction of peace throughout Indochina."

TRIP

Kissinger confirmed that he would make a trip to Peking later in the summer to confer with Premier Chou En-lai, but he said no date had been set.

Earlier, White House spokesmen had said Kissinger hoped to talk to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the exiled Cambodian leader, while in Peking. Sihanouk said earlier this week that he would not meet with Kissinger and that such a meeting would be futile.

Asked if he took Sihanouk's words seriously, Kissinger replied, "That is almost inconceivable to me. I don't want to comment about the negotiations that are now going on, and we will just have to wait for what develops in the next month."

"I just do not want to conduct any discussions with Sihanouk in public," he added.

STEP

Yesterday's meeting between Mr. Nixon and Huang Chen was the first on policy since the envoy arrived a few weeks ago to set up the liaison office as a step toward full diplomatic relations. The U.S. has a similar office in Peking.

Kissinger and Huang Chen held further discussions yesterday afternoon, and last night Kissinger hosted a dinner party at The Bistro, a Los Angeles restaurant, for his visitor. About 50 guests were invited, including representatives from the business and entertainment communities.

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