

WXPPost
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**President
Optimistic
On Summit**

From News Dispatches

President Nixon returned to the United States from Paris yesterday, expressing confidence after a meeting there with Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny that his visit to Moscow in June will produce positive results.

The President, who traveled to Paris Friday to attend Saturday's memorial services for President Georges Pompidou, met with the leaders of seven nations in the French capital.

Alexander Haig, the President's chief of staff, told reporters during the flight back that Mr. Nixon's visit with Podgorny yesterday morning produced "great progress" on the matter of nuclear arms limitations.

"It was very clear," Haig said, "that the Soviets and ourselves are very optimistic about the outcome [of the Moscow summit], and it is clear that there will be positive results . . . in the areas of trade, technological exchanges, and certainly in SALT," the strategic arms limitations talks.

The White House aide said no date has yet been set for the Moscow trip, but that it would probably take place in late June.

Haig said it was also clear that "Soviet leaders were pleased with the progress of discussions" held late last month in Moscow with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

The President landed at Andrews Air Force Base, and immediately boarded a helicopter to fly to his retreat at Camp David, Md. He is expected to return to the White House today.

In addition to Podgorny, the President yesterday met with Japanese Premier Kakuei Tanaka, who renewed an invitation for the President to visit

See NIXON, A6, Col. 4

NIXON, From A1

Japan. Mr. Nixon said he hoped to do so sometime this year.

Saturday, Mr. Nixon saw officials from Great Britain, West Germany, Italy, Denmark and France.

Both Haig and Ronald L. Ziegler, President Nixon's press spokesman, insisted to reporters that the President's weekend meetings were initiated by the foreign officials with whom he met.

The two Presidential aides did not rule out the possibility of another Nixon trip to Western Europe before the Moscow summit, provided there is substantive progress in developing new cooperation and improved consultations within the Atlantic Alliance.

Haig said the meetings in Paris did not touch on Watergate or President Nixon's other domestic problems.

He said: "It was evident that European leaders and world leaders with whom the President met continue to look to the United States and President Nixon as an essential factor in the realization of the continuing effort to develop a structure for a stable international environment."

The meeting with Podgorny, held at the U.S. ambassadors' residence in Paris, lasted two hours and was clearly the most important conference Mr. Nixon held over the busy weekend.

Haig later said that during the meeting "both sides . . . set the stage for the preliminary stages for finite and real accomplishments during Summit III" in Moscow.

Neither Haig nor Ziegler

would provide any substance to support their expectation of major accomplishments during the June meeting.

Following the meeting with Podgorny, President Nixon mingled among about 200 persons who had gathered outside the ambassador's residence shouting "Vive Nixon" and "Vive le President."

Mr. Nixon shook hands and said, "It's only an au revoir. I'll be coming back. I've had a very nice stay with our

friends in France. Of course we weren't able to discuss many questions because of the circumstances, but I want to come back some day."

The President said he had studied French for four years in school and once could speak and write it.

"Now I can only understand a little bit," he said.

Asked when he would be returning to Paris, Nixon said: "As soon as I have a good excuse . . . I love Paris."

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Associated Press

President Nixon waves as he arrives at Andrews AFB after a flight from Paris.