

Excerpt from article by Clifton Daniel, "Angolan Aid Ban Signed by Ford," filed Ford Ad; story says Ford's remarks were made at White House breakfast with a group of reporters, 10 Feb 76:

On relations with China, Mr. Ford declared that no one in his Government was informed in advance* of former President Richard M. Nixon's plan** to visit China at the invitation of Peking.

He said he had not asked Mr. Nixon to make a "special report" to him on the trip,^{***} and he persisted in minimizing the diplomatic and political importance of the journey.

"He was invited as a private citizen and he is going at their invitation," Mr. Ford said, "and I really have no strong feeling one way or another."

*2 Feb - "Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was informed "in general terms" of the Nixon trip during a visit with [Nixon] at San Clemente [2 Feb]."
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** (Does "plan," as used here, refer to the actual invitation?)

*** See transcript, Agronsky and Company, 15 Feb 76 - Lisagor.