

KGO-AM San Francisco
ABC network news feed
Noon newscast

7 February 1976

Announcer --The New York Times says President Ford has expressed irritation about former President Nixon's scheduled trip to China two weeks from now, just days before the New Hampshire primary. Mr. Ford ~~said~~ is said to feel the trip will remind voters of a fallen Republican administration and Watergate, just as President Ford is trying to win votes in a psychologically important primary.

[end item]

KCBS-AM San Francisco
CBS network news feed
noon newscast

7 February 1976

Announcer --Newsmen in New Hampshire asked President Ford again about the impending visit to Peking by his predecessor, Richard Nixon. Mr. Ford pointed out this is to be a private trip, by a private citizen.

Ford (voice) -- Approximately ten thousand Americans have visited China in the last several years, and I'm certainly delighted that his health is such that he can go. I asked him to extend my best wishes to the -- uh -- Chairman Mao and the others.

Announcer -- The "others" now include one surprise figure. China today announced a temporary replacement for the late Chou En-lai. The choice is not Teng Hsiao-ping, as most of the experts have been predicting; it is rather Hua Kuo-feng, the public security minister, or top cop. Hua is in his mid-fifties, and had ranked far down the hierarchy of leadership as seen from the outside. Teng Hsiao-ping had been the acting premier during Chou's illness, and was the most visible official during President Ford's recent trip to Peking. He had made enemies, though, during the cultural revolution, and perhaps this finally came back to haunt him. [end item]

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