

2/27-Woth only the early a.m. radio reports to go on and then from only one station on Sunday, I don't know much about the G-N communique, but from the initial, brief description, not direct quotation, it seems like ~~the~~ N. will get the chance I forecast to come back and cite the words of Chairman Chiang. It seems, in the absence of a text to study, to be the statement of general policy we both visualized and as that good in promising, if at no set date, total withdrawal of US troops from SE Asia. That doesn't foreclose either dirty or tricky work in the immediate future, but I think it is the inevitable need of the US and that he will, by and large, live with it and, as some President must, live with the reality of what JFK could not survive the shifting away from a war economy. It is ironic that forces compelled this of the man who in his own right and from his own thinking would not have been capable of it. In retrospect, I'll not be surprised if we are ultimately told that the general terms of SEAsian withdrawal as an ultimate and the general statement, that Taiwan is part of China, were understood, if not set, in advance, which could have accounted for the early and single visit with Mao as well as Mao's shrewdness. I suggest that the wording of the radio report gives something to USSR in that it uses Khrushchev's words of peaceful coexistence between unlike systems. If the USSR takes other language as not vs its interest, I think your forecast that this can involve them and Japan may turn out to be the case in time. I guess the secret of dealing with the US as the one Khrushchev saw, to take advantage of our hangups and use intellectual judo to force us to do what is to our interest, something the realities of neanderthal modern America makes impossible for any politician on his own. And then the other countries can get what they want, we get what we need in spite of ourselves, and it appears that we have scored a major diplomatic victory. I think you will find that this does cut the ground out from underneath the Ashbrooks... An interesting sign of the times is a minor PSA on this station a few minutes ago. I'm listening to the radio, a little

Taiwanese set pretty good on FN, as I write this. Red Women's Detachment as a movie begins its run in Washington tonight. It was not arranged by Kissinger but by a Chinese restaurateur! A real Chinese capitalist who had been permitted to go to China about a month ago, who saw it there and then made the arrangements to get a print of the film. When it gets free radio advertising, and I suspect all the local stations will give that, we do have a sign of the times, no? Without time to think, I suggest that this means the large new military expenditures will be naval and in the traditional sense of the past more closely "defensive", anti-submarine, etc. Again, Chairman Khrushchev can be cited. It can now be

justified on the basis of not end to the SALT talks, which we have kept and will for at least keep for a while longer from the success they can have. We'll make it seem that the USSR alone is responsible. We can use this deal as an argument of our intentions and we'll have to see how they read it....Announcement, if unofficial, of the two reporters who will be permitted to stay is interesting: no immediate press, one weekly man, one columnist....Last word says we didn't give anything away because Kissinger says these are things we were going to do anyway. They are anticipating the actuality, opposition claims that China gave nothing away. N will be claiming that he is the new Perry. He opened the monolith of the east to the world.I think we were pretty good analysts. Not knowing your plans for your retirement, I again suggest that with your background this new world does open an entirely new and I think rewarding and satisfactory career to you both. There will be endless magazine interest in the early days, the American figures in it, and most attractive will be the first-person accounts....I think it appropriate that after a week of rain and fog following a heavy blizzard that leaves drifts four-five feet high still, now we have a very bright sun rising. ...Tidbit on radio: Nixon and Chou had disagreement over women, N asking if C didn't think women were more intelligent in the affairs of the home. C said to have said not necessarily. I do not think this casts N in the women's lib role as much as it does C. But I still can't account for his distance, physical separation from N in the latter days to fatigue. It persisted in Hnagchow, as T made obvious. When they got in the boat, they even sat at separate tables. The cameras got them through the windows. N at Pat were on the side toward the cameras, the dock, and C was clearly visible sitting alone on the opposite side, his right arm, on which I'd commented earlier, raise in a wave. I guess you really have to know N.!