



Chairman Mao Tsetung meets President Nixon on the afternoon of February 21, 1972.

Joint Communique

The Chinese and U.S. sides reached agreement on a joint communique on February 27, 1972 in Shanghai. Full text of the communique is as follows:

PRESIDENT Richard Nixon of the United States of America visited the People's Republic of China at the invitation of Premier Chou En-lai of the People's Republic of China from February 21 to February 28, 1972. Accompanying the President were Mrs. Nixon, U.S. Secretary of State William Rogers, Assistant to the President Dr. Henry Kissinger, and other American officials.

President Nixon met with Chairman Mao Tsetung of the Communist Party of China on February

21. The two leaders had a serious and frank exchange of views on Sino-U.S. relations and world affairs.

During the visit, extensive, earnest and frank discussions were held between President Nixon and Premier Chou En-lai on the normalization of relations between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China, as well as on other matters of interest to both sides. In addition, Secretary of State William Rogers and Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei held talks in the same spirit.

President Nixon and his party visited Peking and viewed cultural, industrial and agricultural sites, and

they also toured Hangchow and Shanghai where, continuing discussions with Chinese leaders, they viewed similar places of interest.

The leaders of the People's Republic of China and the United States of America found it beneficial to have this opportunity, after so many years without contact, to present candidly to one another their views on a variety of issues. They reviewed the international situation in which important changes and great upheavals are taking place and expounded their respective positions and attitudes.

The Chinese side stated: Wherever there is oppression, there is resistance. Countries want independence, nations want liberation and the people want revolution — this has become the irresistible trend of history. All nations, big or small, should be equal; big nations should not bully the small and strong nations should not bully the weak. China will never be a superpower and it opposes hegemony and power politics of any kind. The Chinese side stated that it firmly supports the struggles of all the oppressed people and nations for freedom and liberation and that the people of all countries have the right to choose their social systems according to their own wishes and the right to safeguard the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their own countries and oppose foreign aggression, interference, control and subversion. All foreign troops should be withdrawn to their own countries. The Chinese side expressed its firm support to the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia in their efforts for the attainment of their goal and its firm support to the seven-point proposal of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the elaboration of February this year on the two key problems in the proposal, and to the Joint Declaration of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples. It firmly supports the eight-point program for the peaceful unification of Korea put forward by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on April 12, 1971, and the stand for the abolition of the "U.N. Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea". It firmly opposes the revival and outward expansion of Japanese militarism and firmly supports the Japanese people's desire to build an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral Japan. It firmly maintains that India and Pakistan should, in accordance with the United Nations resolutions on the India-Pakistan question, immediately withdraw all their forces to their respective territories and to their own sides of the ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir and firmly supports the Pakistan Government and people in their struggle to preserve their independence and sovereignty and the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their struggle for the right of self-determination.

The U.S. side stated: Peace in Asia and peace in the world requires efforts both to reduce immediate tensions and to eliminate the basic causes of conflict. The United States will work for a just and secure peace: just, because it fulfills the aspirations of peoples and nations for freedom and progress; secure, because it removes the danger of foreign aggression. The United States supports individual freedom and social progress for all the peoples of the world, free of outside pressure or intervention. The United States believes that the effort to reduce tensions is served by improving communication between countries that

have different ideologies so as to lessen the risks of confrontation through accident, miscalculation or misunderstanding. Countries should treat each other with mutual respect and be willing to compete peacefully, letting performance be the ultimate judge. No country should claim infallibility and each country should be prepared to re-examine its own attitudes for the common good. The United States stressed that the peoples of Indochina should be allowed to determine their destiny without outside intervention; its constant primary objective has been a negotiated solution; the eight-point proposal put forward by the Republic of Viet Nam and the United States on January 27, 1972 represents a basis for the attainment of that objective; in the absence of a negotiated settlement the United States envisages the ultimate withdrawal of all U.S. forces from the region consistent with the aim of self-determination for each country of Indochina. The United States will maintain its close ties with and support for the Republic of Korea; the United States will support efforts of the Republic of Korea to seek a relaxation of tension and increased communication in the Korean peninsula. The United States places the highest value on its friendly relations with Japan; it will continue to develop the existing close bonds. Consistent with the United Nations Security Council Resolution of December 21, 1971, the United States favors the continuation of the ceasefire between India and Pakistan and the withdrawal of all military forces to within their own territories and to their own sides of the ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir; the United States supports the right of the peoples of South Asia to shape their own future in peace, free of military threat, and without having the area become the subject of great power rivalry.

There are essential differences between China and the United States in their social systems and foreign policies. However, the two sides agreed that countries, regardless of their social systems, should conduct their relations on the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states, non-aggression against other states, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. International disputes should be settled on this basis, without resorting to the use or threat of force. The United States and the People's Republic of China are prepared to apply these principles to their mutual relations.

With these principles of international relations in mind the two sides stated that:

— progress toward the normalization of relations between China and the United States is in the interests of all countries;

— both wish to reduce the danger of international military conflict;

— neither should seek hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region and each is opposed to efforts by any other country or group of countries to establish such hegemony; and

— neither is prepared to negotiate on behalf of any third party or to enter into agreements or understandings with the other directed at other states.

Both sides are of the view that it would be against the interests of the peoples of the world for any major country to collude with another against other countries, or for major countries to divide up the world into spheres of interest.

The two sides reviewed the long-standing serious disputes between China and the United States. The Chinese side reaffirmed its position: The Taiwan question is the crucial question obstructing the normalization of relations between China and the United States; the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government of China; Taiwan is a province of China which has long been returned to the motherland; the liberation of Taiwan is China's internal affair in which no other country has the right to interfere; and all U.S. forces and military installations must be withdrawn from Taiwan. The Chinese Government firmly opposes any activities which aim at the creation of "one China, one Taiwan", "one China, two governments", "two Chinas", an "independent Taiwan" or advocate that "the status of Taiwan remains to be determined".

The U.S. side declared: The United States acknowledges that all Chinese on either side of the Taiwan Strait maintain there is but one China and that Taiwan is a part of China. The United States Government does not challenge that position. It reaffirms its interest in a peaceful settlement of the Taiwan question by the Chinese themselves. With this prospect in mind, it affirms the ultimate objective of the withdrawal of all U.S. forces and military installations from Taiwan. In the meantime, it will progressively reduce its forces and military installations on Taiwan as the tension in the area diminishes.

The two sides agreed that it is desirable to broaden the understanding between the two peoples. To this end, they discussed specific areas in such fields as science, technology, culture, sports and journalism, in which people-to-people contacts and exchanges would be mutually beneficial. Each side undertakes to facilitate the further development of such contacts and exchanges.

Both sides view bilateral trade as another area from which mutual benefit can be derived, and agreed that economic relations based on equality and mutual benefit are in the interest of the peoples of the two countries. They agree to facilitate the progressive development of trade between their two countries.

The two sides agreed that they will stay in contact through various channels, including the sending of a senior U.S. representative to Peking from time to time for concrete consultations to further the normalization of relations between the two countries and continue to exchange views on issues of common interest.

The two sides expressed the hope that the gains achieved during this visit would open up new prospects for the relations between the two countries. They believe that the normalization of relations between the two countries is not only in the interest of the Chinese and American peoples but also contributes to the relaxation of tension in Asia and the world.

President Nixon, Mrs. Nixon and the American party expressed their appreciation for the gracious hospitality shown them by the Government and people of the People's Republic of China.

February 28, 1972



Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, arrived in Peking by special plane on the morning of February 21 on a visit at the invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China.

Mrs. Patricia Nixon accompanied him on his visit.

Other members of the official party accompanying President Nixon were William P. Rogers, Secretary of State; Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Assistant to the President on National Security Affairs; H. R. Haldeman, Assistant to the President; Ronald L. Ziegler, Press Secretary to the President; General Brent Scowcroft, Military Assistant to the President; Marshall Green, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs;

Dwight L. Chapin, Deputy Assistant to the President; John A. Scall, Special Consultant to the President; Patrick J. Buchanan, Special Assistant to the President; Miss Rose Mary Woods, Personal Secretary to the President; Alfred le S. Jenkins, director of a bureau of the State Department; John Holdridge, Senior Staff Member on the National Security Council; and Winston Lord, Senior Staff Assistant to Dr. Kissinger. Also accompanying President Nixon were an unofficial party of 22 members as well as technical personnel and the press corps.

Greeting President Nixon and his party at the airport were Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council; Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission; Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Premier of the State Council, and his wife Madame Lin





Left: The meeting between Chairman Mao Tsetung and President of the United States Richard Nixon took place in Chung-nanhai. They held serious and frank discussions.

Present on the American side was Dr. Henry Kissinger, Assistant to the President on National Security Affairs.

Present on the Chinese side were Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council, Wang Hai-jung, Deputy Director of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Tang Wen-sheng, interpreter.

Chia-mei; Kuo Mo-jo, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Chi Peng-fei, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his wife Madame Hsu Han-ping; Wu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee; and others.

Premier Chou En-lai and other Chinese leaders shook hands with President and Mrs. Nixon and the others in welcome as they stepped off the plane (*lower left*).

Also present at Peking Airport were members of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; a member of the Standing Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference; and leading members of government departments, the Chinese People's

Liberation Army, the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and other organizations concerned.

Premier Chou En-lai gave a banquet in the banquet hall of the Great Hall of the People on the evening of February 21 to welcome the President and Mrs. Nixon.

Premier Chou En-lai and President Nixon proposed toasts at the banquet.

Attending on invitation were members of the official party, members of the unofficial party, and technical personnel, the press corps and the plane crew accompanying President Nixon.

Prior to the banquet, Premier Chou En-lai and other Chinese leaders met President and Mrs. Nixon and other American guests and had photographs taken with them (*below*).





Above: Premier Chou En-lai held a number of talks with President Nixon. Taking part in the talks on the U.S. side were Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, John Holdridge and Winston Lord. Taking part in the talks on the Chinese side were Chiao Kuan-hua, Chang Wen-chin, Wang Hai-jung and Chao Chih-hua; and interpreters Chi Chao-chu and Tang Wen-sheng. Simultaneously, Chinese Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei and U.S. Secretary of State William P. Rogers met for a number of talks.

Below: On the evening of February 22 President and Mrs. Nixon attended a performance of the modern revolutionary ballet *The Red Detachment of Women*.

Also attending the performance were Secretary of State William P. Rogers, Dr. Kissinger, H. R. Haldeman, Ronald L. Ziegler and other members of the official party, members of the unofficial party, technical personnel, the press corps and the plane crew.

Accompanying President and Mrs. Nixon at the performance were Premier Chou En-lai; Comrade Chiang Ching; Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien; Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Kuo Mo-jo; Comrade Teng Ying-chao; Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei; Vice-Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua; and Wu Teh, Leader of the Cultural Group under the State Council and Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee.





President and Mrs. Nixon gave a banquet in the banquet hall of the Great Hall of the People on the evening of February 25. *Right:* Hosts and guests enter the banquet hall.



President and Mrs. Nixon, accompanied by Chinese Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei, visited the Great Wall and the Ming Tombs on February 24. U.S. Secretary of State William P. Rogers and other American guests also went on the visit. President Nixon and his party also went to places of cultural, industrial and agricultural interest in Peking.





President and Mrs. Nixon and the presidential party, accompanied by Premier Chou En-lai and others, left Peking for Hangchow by special plane on the morning of February 26. Photo shows them before they entered the airport.

At Hangchow they were greeted by Nan Ping, Chairman of the Chekiang Provincial Revolutionary Committee, and others. President and Mrs. Nixon and the presidential party went on an excursion to the West Lake and other scenic sites in Hangchow.

On the morning of February 27 President and Mrs. Nixon, accompanied by Premier Chou En-lai and others, arrived in Shanghai from Hangchow by special plane. *Below:* They are greeted at the Shanghai airport by Chang Chun-chiao, Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Revolutionary Committee, and others. There the American guests visited the Industrial Exhibition, the Children's Palace and attended an acrobatic performance.

Concluding their visit to China, President and Mrs. Nixon and the presidential party left Shanghai for home by special plane on the morning of February 28. Premier Chou En-lai and Comrade Chang Chun-chiao and others saw them off at the airport.

