

JUL 21, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China has invited a bipartisan Congressional delegation to visit China for about ten days beginning August 20. The delegation will be headed by Representative John B. Anderson (R-Illinois), with Senator Robert C. Byrd (D-West Virginia) as deputy leader. Members of the group include Representative John Slack (D-West Virginia), Representative Edward J. Derwinski (R-Illinois), Senator James B. Pearson (R-Kansas), and Senator Sam Nunn (D-Georgia).

Details of the trip, which was agreed to in principle during Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's November, 1974 trip to Peking, are now being worked out between officials of the White House and the State Department in consultation with the Liaison Office of the People's Republic of China in Washington.

This will be the ninth delegation of American officials to visit China since the Administration initiated efforts to normalize U.S. -PRC relations in 1971 -- apart from President Nixon's visit in February, 1972 and Secretary Kissinger's seven trips to Peking. The eight previous groups included seven Congressional delegations. These were led by:

- Senator Mike Mansfield and Hugh Scott in April, 1972.
- Representative Hale Boggs and Gerald Ford in June of that same year (1972).

-- A group led by Senator Warren Magnuson and Representative Thomas Morgan in July, 1973.

-- A visit by Senator Henry M. Jackson in July of 1974.

-- A second trip by Senator Mansfield in December, 1974.

-- A delegation headed by Senator J. William Fulbright and Representative Peter Frelinghuysen in September of last year (1974).

-- And a visit by Representatives Carl Albert and John Rhodes this April (1975).

There was also a visit by a delegation of six state governors, led by Governor Daniel Evans of Washington, in May of 1974.

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