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(61)

MESSAGE FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

President Nixon has carefully reviewed the May 29, 1971 message from Premier Chou en-Lai which President Yahya Khan so kindly conveyed. President Nixon looks forward to the opportunity of a personal exchange with the leaders of the Peoples Republic of China.

The President appreciates the warm welcome extended by Premier Chou en-Lai to his personal representative, Dr. Kissinger. Because of the shortness of time available and the need to arrange a suitable pretext for his travel, Dr. Kissinger now finds it impossible to leave Washington before the first week of July. Accordingly, President Nixon proposes that Dr. Kissinger arrive in China early on July 9 and leave on July 11, flying in a Pakistani Boeing aircraft directly to and from an airport to be designated by the Chinese.

*(Handwritten initials)*

Dr. Kissinger will be authorized to discuss all issues of concern to both countries preliminary to President Nixon's visit to China. Dr. Kissinger will not require his own telecommunication equipment. It is envisaged that four members of his personal staff will accompany him.

President Nixon appreciates the fact that the Government of the Peoples Republic of China is prepared to maintain strict secrecy

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with respect to Dr. Kissinger's visit and considers this essential.  
Dr. Kissinger will be authorized to discuss a possible <sup>joint</sup> communique  
to be issued sometime after his return to the United States.

President Nixon reciprocates Premier Chou en-Lai's  
anticipation of the meeting between the Premier and Dr. Kissinger.  
He considers it a hopeful first step in improving relations between the  
United States and the Peoples Republic of China.