

# Nixon begins 'journey for peace'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Nixon began his "journey for peace" to China Thursday—a historic mission he said he was undertaking for all mankind in search of a common ground with the long-hostile and isolated Asian Communist power.

As he embarked for the first face-to-face summit meeting ever between U.S. and Chinese Communist leaders, he tempered his words of hope with words of caution.

"We are . . . under no illusion that 20 years of hostility . . . will be swept away by one week of talks," Nixon told some 8,000 persons attending farewell ceremonies at the White House. Then he and Mrs. Nixon winged westward to Hawaii on the first leg of his 20,395-mile, 13-day journey.

"We will have great differences in the future," he said.

"What we must do is find a way to see that we can have our differences without being enemies at war."

From the White House, where school children, Cabinet officers, congressional leaders, government employes and tourists bade him farewell from the winter-faded South Lawn, Nixon flew by helicopter to nearby Andrews Force Base, Md.

There he boarded his blue, silver and white presidential jet, "The Spirit of '76," for the 10-hour nonstop flight to Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station on the northern shore of Oahu.

His departure, which came as light snow fell from slate-gray skies, was televised live nationwide—a prelude to the extensive live television coverage planned for his eight days in China.

After a 45-hour stay in Hawaii, recommended by his physician to readjust to time zone changes, the President flies to Guam on Saturday for an overnight stop.

With his wife and an official party of 13 White House and State Department advisers, Nixon will arrive in Peking on Monday—Sunday night U.S. time—and become the first American president ever to set foot on Chinese soil.

Before returning to the United States Feb. 28, he will have an open-ended series of talks with Chinese leaders Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai, attend a round of four banquets in three cities and visit the Great Wall and other Chinese shrines and historic sites.

Nixon met for 45 minutes Thursday with Demo-

cratic and Republican congressional leaders, giving them what House GOP Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan described as "a realistic appraisal of the possible results." He promised to brief them upon his return.

Then, without a topcoat to ward off the winter chill, the President stepped onto the South Lawn to deliver his brief farewell remarks.

The President recalled his statement of July 15—when he announced that a secret summer mission to Peking by his foreign affairs adviser, Henry Kissinger, had set up the unprecedented summit meeting.

"That statement was, as you will recall, that this would be a journey for peace," he said.

Nixon noted, too, a toast offered by Chou when Kissinger was in China.

"The American people are a great people," he quoted the Chinese premier as saying. "The Chinese people are a great people. The fact that they are separated by a vast ocean and great differences in philosophy should not prevent them from finding common ground."

Nixon said if his talks with Communist leaders

bring progress toward finding that common ground "the world will be a much safer world."

And, motioning to the hundreds of school children on the lawn—many of them chattering excitedly as he talked—Nixon added that he hoped "all those young children there" would have a chance "to grow up in a world of peace."

Before turning to walk across a red carpet between a military honor guard to the helicopter, the chief executive said: "If there was a postscript I hope might be written in regard to this trip, it would be the words on the plaque left on the moon by our first astronauts when they landed there: 'We came in peace for all mankind.'"

About 200 Americans—including 87 accredited news media personnel—are flying into China with Nixon, joining about 100 already there making advance arrangements.

In the months prior to the day of departure, Nixon stressed repeatedly that he had no expectation of spectacular results from the trip.

He spoke after of increased communication between mainland China and the United States—perhaps through an exchange of athletes, scholars, scientists and students.

Saturday — Clear. Light and variable winds. High 72° low 48°.

Sunday — Partly cloudy. Southerly winds 10-12 mph. High 77°, low 48°.

Clear and warmer

# The Battalion

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REVELLE, A&M'S MASCOT, was on hand at the Corps of Cadets review for the Student Conference on National Affairs Thursday. Both the dog and the cadets felt the unseasonably warm weather—especially since the uniforms were Class A's. (Photo by Robert Williams)

## Hughes abandons Bahamas, travels to Nicaragua capitol

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP)—Howard Hughes abandoned his hotel and flew Thursday to Nicaragua on a visit officially described as a business trip. In the familiar Hughes pattern, the 15-room top floor of the pyramid-shaped Intercontinental Hotel in Managua was taken over and sealed off to visitors.

Hughes slipped secretly away from the suite in Nassau where he had been secluded for 15 months. But in the background of the abrupt pullout was a squabble with authorities over the work permits of his staff.

The trip came while court hearings were in progress in New York on a purported autobiography of Hughes written by Clifford Irving, a book that has been called a hoax by Time magazine.

Both President Anastasio Somoza's office and Hughes spokesmen in the United States confirmed the trip, but the 66-year-old Hughes eluded newsmen in his usual fashion.

It was not known whether Hughes, who hasn't been seen publicly since the 1950s, was in the hotel or at Somoza's country estate 200 miles away.

Hotel officials declined even to say whether the suddenly inaccessible 8th floor was reserved for Hughes and his staff. The elevators were disconnected to that floor and the fire doors sealed. It was reported the reservations were for five days.

After a flurry of reports over Hughes' movements, his public relations man, Richard Hannah, issued this statement in Los Angeles:

"Mr. Hughes is in Managua, Nicaragua. He is there at the invitation of President Somoza. His trip is related to business discussions which have been going on for some time between representatives of the Nicaraguan government and executives of Hughes Tool Co."

Hannah said this was everything he knew about the journey and "anything else would be guesswork."

The office of President Somoza, himself a multimillionaire, also announced that Hughes had accepted his invitation to visit Nicaragua.

In Las Vegas, Nev., a Hughes Tool Co. spokesman said Hughes "is considering investments in Nicaragua and he considers the economic and political situation good."

He added that the length of the visit is indefinite—"we aren't saying how long he'll be there but 'indefinite' could indicate a certain degree of permanence."

He also said that Hughes had "no definite plans to return to the United States or to Las Vegas and no plans to conduct a press conference at the moment."

Earlier reports said he might go to the United States shortly and meet with the press. An Eastern Airlines Jetstar, believed to have been the plane bringing 66-year-old Hughes to Managua, landed at the Nicaraguan air force strip near the municipal airport at 9:15 a.m.

A spokesman for the U.S. Em-

bassy said that Hughes' representatives were in contact with the embassy a few days ago to arrange the visit. He denied reports that the U.S. ambassador, Turner Shelton, knew Hughes personally and had helped arrange the trip.

The Jacksonville man also testified that leaky pipes and pumps caused petrol chemicals such as benzene to collect in the bilge beneath the pumproom. Fumes from these chemicals, he said, often were so thick in some areas on the vessel that he had to wear a breathing apparatus to do his work.

He said a pump which failed reportedly heated up and sparked

while being used to transfer benzene.

This revelation triggered a heated exchange between attorneys for the tanker's owner, Texas City Tanker Co., and a Maritime Union lawyer.

Attorney B. D. McKinney, for the tanker company, closely questioned Floyd about the sparks at some length, causing the sailor to repeat his earlier testimony several times. After about 10 minutes, Marvin I. Barish, the union lawyer, interrupted the proceedings with a shout.

"If you don't want the board to know there were sparks aboard your vessel, that's just too damned bad," said Barish.

The hearing was adjourned moments later.

The inquiry recessed at 1 p.m. today and will not reconvene until Feb. 29. At that time testimony is expected from divers who have explored the sunken tanker in its watery grave.

Officials said currents are extremely swift in the area where the tanker went down and this poses danger to divers.

A Coast Guard vessel is stationed near the tanker to warn marine traffic. The radar antenna on the tanker extends two feet above the surface.

## Handler emphasizes

# Scientific pursuit is important

National Academy of Sciences President Philip Handler told a University Lectures Series Audience at A&M Thursday the world cannot afford to turn its back on the pursuit of scientific knowledge.

Handler, one of the nation's most articulate spokesmen for science, warned that "to reject science, the only tool

with which we can manage our future . . . is to invite the spectres of pestilence, famine and nuclear holocaust."

The former Duke University professor said he was concerned about a variety of subtle changes in national thinking which he noted appear to operate against scientific research as an essential ingredient of our national life.

"There is abroad a growing anti-rationalism, which has grasped the minds of at least some fraction of our brightest youth," he noted. "They suggest affection, tenderness and love can substitute for reason and evidence in the management of human affairs."

Dr. Handler added he found the suggestion by others that some aspects of science should be left unexplored "equally surprising."

"What deeply disturbs me," he said, "is the easy concomitant damning of science which is now held to account for all the abuses of unregulated technology by insufficiently understanding individuals."

Dr. Handler said there has been a failure to recognize the collective public responsibility to examine, in advance, the social consequences of new technology before it is made available, and he feels government must take greater responsibility in this area.

Describing modern resistance to sciences as the modern equivalent of book-burning, Handler said he could see no wisdom in deciding what not to know, but he added that society must use its authority to say how knowledge is employed.

"Since Prometheus stole fire from the gods, man has been using energy to alter his own world," Dr. Handler pointed out. "Our era began when Francis Bacon delineated the essence of the scientific method early in the 17th century."

"Armed with Bacon's intellectual instrument and the fire of Prometheus, he concluded, "man has altered the world to suit himself, multiplying his numbers, fashioning the landscape, determining the fate of all other creatures on the planet and now there can be no turning back."

## Fogg said to be dangerous ship

GALVESTON, Tex. (AP)—A former pumper on the sunken tanker V. A. Fogg testified here Thursday of leaking pumps and of seeing sparks flying about the vessel while it carried highly volatile chemicals.

The pumper, Charles Floyd Jr. of Jacksonville, Fla., told a Coast Guard investigation board that a major pump aboard the tanker broke down and heated up while it was being used to transfer highly inflammable benzene.

Floyd, who served on the V. A. Fogg until just two days before it exploded in the Gulf of Mexico Feb. 1, said he also saw sparks on one occasion flying from the stack of the jumbo tanker.

The Fogg exploded and sank about 50 miles off the coast from Galveston while on a short cruise from Freeport to Houston. All 39 men aboard are missing and presumed dead.

The Jacksonville man also testified that leaky pipes and pumps caused petrol chemicals such as benzene to collect in the bilge beneath the pumproom. Fumes from these chemicals, he said, often were so thick in some areas on the vessel that he had to wear a breathing apparatus to do his work.

He said a pump which failed reportedly heated up and sparked

## Share it with administration

# McGrath pushes college student power



Dr. Earl J. McGrath

The students of the university should share the power in the administration of the college campus, Dr. Earl J. McGrath said Thursday night at the Student Conference on National Affairs.

There is a pervasive momentous relationship between characteristics and qualities of society and the characteristics and qualities of education, he said.

Director of the Higher Education Center at Temple University in Philadelphia, McGrath said that if the universities were closed, "society would be seriously impaired."

"Science and technology provide the bulk of society, but if sociology, psychology, economics and philosophy were halted, what would happen?" he asked.

"There would be a supply of boundless energy that could not be expended. The continuing of the university is fruitfully extended to all areas of living. If

the activity cannot be entwined with society, then we would be culturally bankrupt," he said.

Teaching must be relevant to the social atmosphere, he added.

There are two aspects needed to be considered with the relevancy, he said.

First is that students are not the first to make the function of the university relevant to the society.

Secondly, the relevancy of society is entwined with politics. There exists a moral position on social issues in society. Though it exists, there should not be concern about Vietnam, race, or politics.

McGrath stressed the need for the administration to give the students a role in legislative bodies. This enhances patrons, he said.

In these law making positions, students invoke necessary and

various generalizations, McGrath said. Students give a consciousness of social problems and the disarray of culture such as war, economy, ecology and women's liberation to society.

He felt that students get more action on issues than other groups.

McGrath also backed student representation on boards of universities. As well as this, the faculty should be willing to accommodate student assistance on content of courses, teaching processes, fees, and degree plans.

He called for the reexamination of the faculty, saying that they dominate higher education and need to be watched. Too, students should seek membership on administrative boards because this is where education begins for the college student.

All items of student life should be governed by the student, he said.

## SCONA XVII Program

8-9:30 9:30	Friday Senator John G. Tower Social Gathering—Ralph's Pizza, East Gate
8:30-9:45 a.m. 10:15-12 noon	Saturday Sixth Round-Table Session Dr. John R. Silber

## Installment due

The second installment board payment for the Spring Semester is due on or before February 22, 1972. The amount is \$95.50 for the 7-day Board Plan and \$86.00 for the 5-day Board Plan. Please pay now at the Fiscal Office, Richard Coke Building, to avoid penalty.

University National Bank  
"On the side of Texas A&M."

—Adv.