

October 1, 1971

12:30 p.m.

EYES ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. H. R. HALDEMAN

FROM:

DWIGHT L. CHAPIN

SUBJECT:

China

In preparation for Henry's October trip, there are a number of areas where some direction is needed from you or the President. Perhaps Henry has all of this information; however, if I am to make the trip it would also be helpful for me to have directly from you a good understanding of the tone which the President wishes to have regarding his visit. Usually on these foreign trips, the President has some very firm opinions as to how he expects it to be set up and executed. To be more specific, I am talking about such things as the following:

How does he want to have his working days in China structured? Does he want to work early in the morning for U.S.A. live TV consumption? Does he want to have the substantive portions of his trip broken into segments on either side of some travel around China or would he prefer to do all the substantive portion and then travel? What pattern do you feel is best for him?

The Chinese will control everything! But, what degree of traveling about is the President looking for? Does he want to visit such things as an automobile factory - an industrial town - does he hope to get out among the people some way? Is a visit to the Wall desired? What are Henry's instructions?

Another important area to focus upon is the possible November advance trip. If we work out a plan now for the formal advance, realizing that there will undoubtedly be changes and complications, we may be far better off in what approaches and subjects are raised with the Chinese during Henry's trip. It would seem that we should determine what the ideal advance would be in terms of people, length of time, and procedure so that if the opportunity presents itself, it could be

discussed during Henry's trip.

In addition to the above guidance, it would seem practical for us to develop a list of various talking points which I would be at liberty to discuss with those Chinese representatives with whom I would be put in touch. Procedurally, this list should probably be developed by me and then run past you for your review and discussion with Henry prior to departure.

One of the most helpful things from our standpoint would be to get plugged in on some of the various planning meetings regarding Henry's trip which are now in progress. Obviously, I am not speaking so much of the substantive sessions as I am of the logistical sessions. To listen and know of the problems and the "whys" about Henry's trip would prove to be most beneficial. Therefore, once you have me locked as the one to go, I feel the suggestion should be made to Henry or Al Haig that I start sitting in (for educational purposes) on some of the meetings. In addition, I would request permission to work with General Hughes and General Redman to become familiar with the logistical problems of Henry's trip and to get a feel for those problems which we may encounter later on.

In terms of those areas for which you hold me responsible, I would suggest that during my absence we handle my office similar to what we did when I went to Europe last year. Dave Parker would move into my office and handle the schedule items - daily and weekly planning. In addition to Steve's regular duties, he should serve as the contact with you on any trips which would come up as well as to help keep Mark Goode coordinated. Walker obviously would be ready to roll with any trip but Steve should be kept in the loop since he is close at hand and best at catching the details.

If Henry is still set to depart on the seventeenth, I would suggest that beginning the twelfth you let me move to getting ready for the trip. This would mean spending whatever time possible discussing the trip with you, reading whatever background material is available and just generally getting ready for the trip and thinking through exactly what it is that I am going to be doing and accomplishing while in China. As you will recall, this is precisely what you did when I got ready to go on the European advance and that action, I think, was fairly successful.