

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
PACIFIC BASIN

November 29 - December 8, 1975

PRESS NOTES

The PRESS NOTES binder should prove to be a convenient reference including the schedule for the President's trip to the Pacific Basin. The volume includes biographical information of officials of host countries, country facts, background information for the countries to be visited with color information on places and sites the President and Mrs. Ford will visit in each country, and information on the United States party and foreign travel of United States Presidents.

There is an American Embassy in Djakarta and Manila and Manila and USIA personnel from the respective embassies will be on hand at the Press Center to assist you in whatever way they can. Please do not hesitate to ask for assistance in meeting your personal as well as business needs.

SCHEDULES

A detailed Press Schedule of the President's visit to the People's Republic of China for Presidential events on December 1, 1975 will be made available at the Minzu Hotel Press Center on arrival of the press corps travelling with the President. Subsequent schedules will be available at approximately 12:00 midnight for the following day.

Schedules for Djakarta, Manila and Honolulu will be made available prior to arrival in each country. More general schedules will be made available as far in advance as possible. The book has been designed so that schedule and background material to be issued during the trip can easily be inserted in the book. All schedules must be strictly adhered to. Unless special arrangements have been made with the Press Office or the Transportation Office, pool assignments and plane assignments must be kept. As details of the President's and First Lady's schedules are updated and confirmed, they will be published so that you may incorporate them in your Press Notes.

PRESS AIRCRAFT

The members of the press accompanying the President and Mrs. Ford to the People's Republic of China will travel aboard two specially configured Boeing 707's. The aircraft are chartered from Pan American Airlines and Northwest Orient Airlines. These aircraft have been specially configured to provide maximum comfort during the trip. They will precede Air Force One on all legs throughout the schedule to Honolulu. Both aircraft will follow Air Force One to Washington, D.C.

LUGGAGE

Members of the traveling press party will be limited to one large suit case plus working equipment. Special tags will be furnished by the Transportation Office to each member of the press. Only bags bearing these special tags will be accepted at baggage calls.

Throughout the trip you are requested to inspect your luggage thoroughly every time it is repacked and to turn it in personally to designed personnel at baggage checkpoints and only at specified times. There will be provisions for hanging heavy coats aboard the press aircraft. Coats, typewriters and hand baggage may not be checked, but must be carried abroad.

Gifts purchased while in the People's Republic of China must be packed in your luggage or carried personally by you on each flight. There will be no provision for checking or handling excess baggage acquired in the People's Republic of China.

PRESS ACCREDITATION

Special White House accreditation for the President and Mrs. Ford's trip to the Pacific Basin will be issued to the traveling press corps. The accreditation will be provided enroute Fairbanks, Alaska. During the flight to the PRC, PRC security forms will be passed out to each member of the traveling press corps. The form must be filled out in duplicate, and returned to a member of the White House Transportation Office during the flight. On December 1 at the Minzu Hotel Press Center, two cards will be given to each member of the press corps. The first card will give you permission and authority to practice journalism, use telephones and telex while in the PRC. The second card that will be issued is an ID card written in Chinese. This card will give you permission to enter and exit the Min zu Hotel. In addition, this card explains to the local Chinese that you a foreigner in Peking and lists the name and address of the Minzu Hotel. Should you become lost in Peking, please present this card and someone will assist you. Needless to say, have both cards with you at all times, and PLEASE DO NOT LOSE OR MISPLACE THEM.

PASSPORTS, CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

You must have an up-to-date passport in order to enter the People's Republic of China, Indonesia and Manila. If it is necessary for you to inspect your passport, or if you are departing the trip before you return to Andrews Air Force Base, passports may be picked up from Ray Zook. Visas are required for each country.

The People's Republic of China customs authorities allow a limited quantity (corresponding to "what may reasonably be consumed by one person") of cigarettes, tobacco, etc., to be brought into the country, although no official document exists confirming this.

CLOTHING AND WEATHER

During the winter, the average low in Peking is 25 degrees Fahrenheit while the average high temperature is 32 degrees. The temperatures most recently have been dropping to 20 degrees with 30 mph winds. It is extremely dry in Peking. It is highly recommended that you bring such necessary items as nose drops, chapstick, mouthwash and body lotion. Eye drops are highly recommended for those who wear contact eye lenses. Heavy coats are essential for the Peking portion of the trip. Business suits are sufficient for men, and for evening functions we suggest the ladies wear dark pantsuits or floor-length dresses. Bring rubber-soled shoes for sightseeing, particularly at the Great Wall where conditions can be quite treacherous during the winter season. High heels are not worn in the PRC. A wool scarf and sweater are needed when you go out of the hotel and many times inside. Bring warm gloves. Temperatures fluctuate even in buildings.

Suits and street-length dresses are always suitable. It is recommended that the ladies pack an adequate supply of stockings for the trip. You may wish to pack a wash cloth.

The weather in Djakarta and Manila averages in the 80's. It is presently in the middle of the wet season with cloudy afternoon showers. It is recommended that everyone wear casual suits or summer dresses. There is a black-tie function in Indonesia, however, the pool may cover the function in business suit.

HEALTH SUGGESTIONS

The White House Medical Unit recommends that all persons accompanying the President and Mrs. Ford to the People's Republic of China receive the following immunization inoculations:

Smallpox within three years

Cholera within six months

WATER

The water is safe to drink in hotels of all cities visited.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

Those concerned with electrical equipment on the trip should be aware that in the three cities visited the circuits and power is different.

Peking:	220 volts/50 cycles
Djakarta:	220 volts/50 cycles
Manila:	110 volts/60 cycles

The plugs used in the Min zu Hotel are slightly different from the standard European plugs, and consequently, none of the plug adapters available in the U.S. will work in Peking. The desk on each floor of the Min zu has a supply of plugs with an extension cord. You may inquire at the desk if you need one.

A good supply of fresh batteries is recommended for cameras. It will not be possible to charge batteries, unless you are carrying special conversion equipment.

The electrical current at the Hotel Indonesia is 220 volts/50 cycles. Some of the buildings have 110 volts/60 cycles. Plugs used in Indonesia are European two prong round plugs. It is suggested that if you have a converter, carry it with you.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES

Peking:	Yuan 1.9323 = \$1.00
Djakarta:	415 Rupiahs = \$1.00
Manila:	100 centavos in a peso, valued at 7.5 pesos = \$1.00

POOLS

All photo pools will be pre-positioned. Members of the press corps who wish to tour the site before the President's arrival will be bused to the site along with the pool. When the pool pre-positions, the press corps will be led on a tour and will await the President's arrival at the last site before departure. After the President's departure, the pool and the press corps will be loaded on buses and depart for the Press Center.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

The Min zu Hotel provides a very good 9:00-5:00 one-day laundry service. Each room is provided with numbered laundry bags to correspond to the room number. These can be found in the closet drawers. You may place these bags outside your rooms or give to the service attendant on each floor. On the last full day in Peking, make sure to turn in laundry no later than early morning. This service is included in the price of your room.

Dry cleaning service is available.

MEAL SERVICE

There will be 24-hour dining room service. The usual hours of business are:

Breakfast:	7:30 a. m. to 8:30 a. m.
Lunch:	12:00 noon to 1:30 p. m.
Dinner:	7:00 p. m. to 8:30 p. m.

The food is included in the room rates, no chits are necessary. Be prepared to use chopsticks (silverware is provided) and bring an empty stomach.

ROOM KEYS

Whenever you leave your room, please turn your room key over to the service attendant on each floor. Please do not lose or misplace keys.

RESTAURANTS

Abound, especially in Peking. Each has its own specialties.

TIPPING

There is no tipping whatsoever in the PRC. The Chinese word for "thank-you" is hsieh-hsieh--pronounced "see-eh (one syllable) see-eh." If you wish to have some Chinese beer, orangeade, soda or mineral water, check with the service attendant on each floor. This service is also included in the room price.

BARBER SHOP AND HAIR SALON

Is located on the 10th Floor of the Min zu Hotel--included in price of room.

HEALTH CLINIC

The Chinese have provided a Health Clinic at the Min zu Hotel. It is located on the 5th Floor, Room 558. The clinic will be manned by Chinese doctors and nurses, with a supply of U.S. and Chinese drugs.

MONEY - PRC

Traveller's checks and foreign currency may be exchanged at the Bank of China branch in the Min zu Hotel lobby. The hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Exchange services are also available at the Bank of China branches in the Friendship Store (the first outside door to the left of the main entrance to the Friendship Store). The hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. It is recommended that you buy Yuan sparingly. No PRC currency may be brought into or taken out of the country. Currently, the only place for exchange of Yuan to U.S. dollars, is at the airport terminal and due to the departure times from the PRC, the press and press office staff will not be able to go to the exchange desk. Presently, we are trying to make special arrangements at the hotel. However, it is still recommended that you buy Yuan sparingly.

TOURS

Tours are being arranged for members of the press to include the sites the President will visit as well as other side trips. Details will be provided in the Press Center at the Min zu Hotel.

POST CARDS AND STAMPS

Post cards may be sent to the United States from the PRC. Cards and stamps are available in the hotel lobby. It takes approximately ten days for delivery to the U.S.

COURTESIES

Punctuality.

PHOTOGRAPHING IN PEKING

Historic buildings and monuments present no problem, but one should not photograph the airport, bridges, obvious military facilities and equipment, wall posters, soldiers and policemen. Ask permission before taking photographs in which individuals are the obvious primary object. This is especially true of the Red Guards. This also applies to the little children. Their mothers often whisk them away. Taking pictures without permission is considered discourteous and has been known to lead to embarrassing incidents.

SHOPPING

The Friendship Store has a complete range of local goods of Chinese export products and handicraft items. The Friendship Store has a very good selection of all goods available in Peking. All of the prices are fixed--as in all the Chinese shops--and there is no bargaining. A shuttle bus service has been arranged from the Min zu Hotel every hour to the Friendship store.

A shopping and restaurant guide of Peking has been compiled and will be made available to the press. One of the Chinese shopping areas is within easy walking distance from the Min zu Hotel.

PRESS HOTELS AND FILING FACILITIES

In each city visited, the White House Press Corps, the White House Press Office staff and the Transportation Office staff will be staying at the same hotel. Filing facilities will be located in each Press Hotel.

The cost of the hotel accommodations and meals in the People's Republic of China will be included as an itemized portion of your transportation bill. In Manila and Djakarta, you will be expected to pay hotel and meal charges prior to departure from each city.

PEKING

MIN ZU HOTEL (HOTEL OF THE NATIONALITIES)

Peking, People's Republic of China
Telephone: 668-541

Press Center: Min zu Hotel, 10th Floor

Facilities: 15 long distance telephones
10 telex

JAKARTA, INDONESIA - PRESS HOTEL AND FACILITIES

Hotel Indonesia
Jakarta, Indonesia
Cable Address: INHOTELCOR
Telex: HIPAJKT 44233; HIJKT 46347
Telephones: pick up

MANILA, PHILIPPINES - PRESS HOTEL AND FACILITIES

The Hilton Hotel
United Nations Avenue
Manila, Philippines

Press Center: 3rd Floor, Coral Ballroom A and B

Cable Address: HILTELS, Manila
Telex: 3387

PHONE SERVICE

There will be 15 long distance telephones in the Press Center, 10th Floor. Phone calls may be made collect or by Bell Credit Card. Calls may also be placed from your rooms. If you wish to call another room inside the hotel, dial the appropriate room number. If you wish to call a local number in Peking, dial the operator. For long distance calls, you will be charged \$12 for the first three minutes and \$4 for each additional minute. Phone costs will be settled after return to Washington.

TELEX SERVICE

Credit card arrangements have been made for all accredited correspondents with the U.S. carriers and will settle accounts after the trip. There are 10 telex located in the Press Center on the 10th Floor. Four telex - ITT; 3 telex - RCA; 3 telex - WUI. The PRC will share traffic equally over the circuits. To avoid delay in sending copy, the Chinese would prefer that press blanks with routings not be used. Therefore, it is highly recommended that everyone bring a very ample supply of plain paper and carbons. Payment for telex may be made only with a UIT Communications Card. If anyone plans to file copy to a country other than the U.S., you must have a credit card for the country you are filing to.