

## Mandel Returns From China Trip

By Charles A. Krause Washington Post Staff Writer

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Maryland Gov. Marvin Mandel returned yesterday from an 11-day tour of mainland China, saying, "it was a great experience but it's to be back home."

Mandel held a brief press conference at Andrews Air Force Base after descending from the blue, white and silver U.S. government plane that had flown him and five other governors on their State Department-sponsored journey to the world's most populous country.

Mandel said that, based on talks with Chinese leaders, he was convinced "that they want to normalize relations" with the U.S.

He refused to answer any questions about Maryland. "I haven't had one word of news" about events in the state since leaving May 12, he said.

Mandel, wearing a tan bush jacket, white jeans and carrying his ever-present pipe, was greeted on his arrival by his sister, Esther Potash, his son, Gary, his daughter-in-law, Donna, and his press secretary, Frank A. DeFilippo.

Also at Andrews were three representatives from the Chinese liaison office in Washington, who thanked the governor

for "promoting friendship between our two countries."

Mandel said he was told while in the People's Republic of China that trade with the U.S. would increase—but slowly. He also said that he and the other governors on the trip had invited the Chinese to send a delegation to the United States.

Mandel said he had had the opportunity "to learn to understand their way of thinking." But, he said, he wasn't planning to nationalize industry or agriculture in Maryland as a result of his trip to the world's largest Communist country.

He left Andrews for Annapolis in his black Lincoln limousine.