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4810



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Appointment of Ambassador Gates with
The President

Ambassador Thomas S. Gates has confirmed by telephone that he will meet with the President at 8:45 a.m. on Monday, September 6 in the Oval Office.

for La Wolf
for C. Arthur Borg
Executive Secretary



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

VIA LDX

September 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. C. Arthur Borg
Executive Secretary
Department of State

This will confirm my telephone notification that the President wishes to see Ambassador Thomas Gates at 8:45 a.m. Monday, September 6 in the Oval Office. Please confirm acceptance.

Mike Shultz
Jeanne W. Davis
Staff Secretary
f



J. Davis

RECEIVED

THE WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

TIME SENT:

SEP 3

NATIONAL SECURITY
COUNCIL

'76 SEP 3 PM 0 11

RECEIVED: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1976 SEP 3 PM 9 37

LDX NR:

191

SITUATION PAGES

1

CIA _____
STATE
NMCC _____
ANMCC _____
NSA _____

DIA/G _____
DIA/H _____
TREAS _____
NPIC _____
ERDA _____

DESCRIPTION/COMMENT

FROM:

JEANNE W. DAVIS

TO:

MR. C. ARTHUR BORG

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

NSCIS



SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE:

FROM: Brent Scowcroft

VIA: William Nicholson

MEETING: Call on you by Ambassador Thomas S. Gates,
Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking

DATE: Anytime during the last two weeks of September

PURPOSE: To review recent developments in China.

FORMAT: Oval Office
20 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: Talking points will be provided

PRESS COVERAGE: Meeting to be announced.
White House Photographer only

STAFF: Brent Scowcroft

RECOMMEND: Henry A. Kissinger
Brent Scowcroft

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: You last met with Ambassador Gates on April 13, 1976 prior to his departure for Peking.

BACKGROUND: Ambassador Gates is in the United States on leave and consultation. He arrived in Peking May 6 and presented your letter to Premier Hua Kuo-feng on June 10. He was present during Vice Premier Chang Chun-chiao's conversation with Senator Scott in mid-July. In view of recent developments within China, statements by both political parties in the United States about China policy, and recent reports of a tougher line on Taiwan with visiting American delegations and with correspondents here, it would be useful for you to receive Amb. Gates' firsthand impression of the current situation.



APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE:

FROM: Brent Scowcroft

VIA: William Nicholson

MEETING: Call on you by Ambassador Thomas S. Gates,
Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking

DATE: Anytime during the last two weeks of September

PURPOSE: To review ~~with you~~ recent developments in China
and the current state of play of -- and likely
~~prospects for~~ -- normalization of U.S.-PRC
relations

FORMAT:
- Oval Office
- ~~20~~
- ~~30~~ minutes

CABINET
PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH
MATERIAL: Talking points will be provided

PRESS
COVERAGE: Meeting to be announced.
No photos

STAFF: Brent Scowcroft

RECOMMEND: Henry A. Kissinger
Brent Scowcroft

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS
PARTICIPATION: You last met with Ambassador Gates on April 13, 1976
prior to his departure for Peking.

BACKGROUND: Ambassador Gates is in the United States on leave and
consultation. He arrived in Peking May 6 and
presented your letter to Premier Hua Kuo-feng
on June 10. He was present during Vice Premier
Chang Chun-chiao's conversation with Senator Scott
in mid-July. In view of recent developments within
China, statements by both political parties in the



United States about China policy, and recent reports of a tougher line on Taiwan with visiting American delegations and with correspondents here, it would be useful for you to meet with him.

receive Ambassador Gatto's firsthand

APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

impression of the current situation.



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD			LOG NUMBER	
MO.	DA	MO	DA	HR	
8/26	8/26/16	7604810	7617884	Glyptee	INITIAL ACTION

SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES
SCOWCROFT *F*
HYLAND
DAVISFROM: SECSTATE
SECDEF
DCI
STATE EXEC *T*
OTHER

S/S

UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT

LOU NO FORN NODIS
C EYES ONLY EXDIS
S CODEWORD
TS SENSITIVE

SUBJECT:

*Request for Govt wishes for Contact**Thomas L. Gates of the US Mission of
in Beijing Aug 25-27 1976*

DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION				
	ACTION	CONCURRENCE	COORDINATE	INFO
ADV CYS S'CROFT/ WGH				
STAFF SECRETARY				<i>Jarratt</i>
CONGRESSIONAL				
ECONOMIC				
EUR/CANADA/OCEANS				
FAR EAST/ PRC	<i>T</i>			
INTELLIGENCE				
LATIN AMERICA				
MID EAST/ NO. AFRICA				
NSC PLANNING				
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				
SCIENTIFIC				
SUB-SAH/ AFRICA/ UN				

ACTION REQUIRED

MEMO FOR SCOWCROFT

MEMO FOR PRES

REPLY FOR

APPROPRIATE ACTION

MEMO TO

RECOMMENDATIONS

JOINT MEMO

REFER TO FOR:

ANY ACTION NECESSARY?

CONCURRENCE

DUE DATE: *8-26*

COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

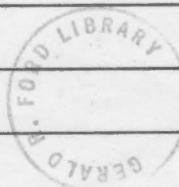
DATE	FROM	TO	STATUS	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN)	DUED	CY TO
8/30	Scroft	X	Decision		9/6	
9/3	NSC/S	D	Scroft sgd SPT to Nodules		9/6	Glyptee Postponed Later
9/3			Davis sgd memo to Borg			
9/6			Recd Borg memo 7618753			
9/6	Glester	S	am further action a OBE			
9/7		C	NFAR / see 7604994 for Talkers			

NSC/S DISP INSTR

DISPATCH *to TCB 9/3/76*

NOTIFY

SPECIAL DISPOSITION:

SPECIAL INDEXING: *7604994*

MATERIAL NUMBER		IF
MICROFILM & FILE ROOMS		
SEP 15 1976		
CRT ID: <i>102</i>	NS DY	
OPEN <i>ADC</i>	WH SA FP	
CLOSE <i>PA</i>	PA	

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED

4994

-4977

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR THOMAS GATES

Monday, September 6, 1976
8:45 a.m. (30 Minutes)
The Oval Office

From: Brent Scowcroft *BD*

I. PURPOSE

To review developments in US-PRC relations, to compliment Ambassador Gates on his performance, and, through announcement of the meeting to the press, to reinforce to the Chinese -- and to American audiences as well -- the continuing importance you place on our relationship with the PRC. Gates will find the fact of his having met with you very useful in his dealings with the Chinese.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS ARRANGEMENTS

- A. Background: Ambassador Gates has been doing a good job since his arrival in Peking in May, although he is understandably restive over the lack of much substantive contact with the Chinese. He has been concerned over recent developments which tend to complicate normalization (e.g. Peking's stress on military liberation of Taiwan and extensive commentary in the United States about the need for post-normalization guarantees for the security of Taiwan.)
- B. Participants: Ambassador Gates, Bill Hyland.
- C. Press Arrangements: Meeting will be announced; press photo session.

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. (2050), E.O. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/19/93, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES
BY HJR, NARA, DATE 5/11/01



III. ISSUESA. Recent harder PRC line on liberation of Taiwan

Because of the PRC's harder line on forceful liberation of Taiwan as well as unhelpful developments here, such as the Republican Party Platform plank on China, Gates has raised the possibility of your making a fairly early statement reaffirming our commitment to the Shanghai Communique -- but including language about our position on a peaceful settlement of the Taiwan question. He may wish to discuss this with you.

B. Gates may also wish to discuss the question of his tenure in Peking.

C. VIP visits to the PRC in the near future include former Defense Secretary Schlesinger (who will be visiting many remote areas of defense importance not normally open to foreigners) and Senator Mansfield. A Congressional delegation, led by Senator Curtis may go in late September or after the elections in November. (This trip was postponed as a result of the Chinese earthquake).

IV. TALKING POINTS

A. I want to congratulate you on the excellent job you have been doing, including the efficient and thoughtful care given to Americans in Peking during the earthquake (July 28).

B. Your reporting has been interesting, particularly your account of your meeting with Premier Hua, who you seemed to feel might not have the personal qualities to hang on very long. I would be interested in your current impression of Hua and others in the Chinese leadership.

C. What are your impressions about how developments in China are affecting our interests there? For example, how do you read the hard line on Taiwan which the Vice Premier (Chang Chun-chiao) gave Hugh Scott in July and which was echoed by the Chinese Liaison Office here with a number of correspondents?

D. I imagine you feel that the Republican Party Platform references to China are troublesome. I am told that at a luncheon for the Deputy Chief of the Liaison Office at the State Department last week he criticized the platform in strong terms, saying it was really a two-Chinas position. How do you think we can best repair the damage done -- if you think anything at all should be done.

~~MIK~~ NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL 26
Mike Hornblow -

September 4, 1976

Attached are six copies of the Gleysteen to Scowcroft and Scowcroft to the President memo we did on Saturday re Amb. Gates' meeting with the President.

Your office has no other copies of this. I presume that if Scowcroft's office makes any changes we will be advised.



Alan Romberg



4971
sent forward 2c
9/4/76 6:30 pm

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET/SENSITIVE ATTACHMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR: BRENT SCOWCROFT
FROM: William H. Gleysteen *H*
SUBJECT: Ambassador Gates' Meeting
with the President Monday,
September 6, 8:45 a.m.

Ambassador Gates will be flying down from Maine on the Vice President's plane on Sunday in order to meet with the President at 8:45 a.m. Monday.

Gates, accompanied by Director of PRC Affairs, Harry Thayer, will come to the west lobby at 8:30, where they will be met by Alan Romberg. Thayer will wait in the lobby until the meeting is over.

I am attaching at Tab A a memorandum from you to the President with background and talking points.

SECRET/SENSITIVE ATTACHMENT

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, DEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES
BY KR, NAME, DATE 5/11/01



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD			LOG N ^o	ER	22
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR		
9	6	9	7	15	7604999	INITIAL ACTION O

TO: PRES _____
SCOWCROFT _____ *F*
HYLAND _____
DAVIS _____ *A*

FROM: SECSTATE Stephens S/IS
SECDEF _____
DCI _____ X REF -
STATE EXSEC _____
OTHER _____

INITIAL ACTION O

SUBJECT

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SUBJECT

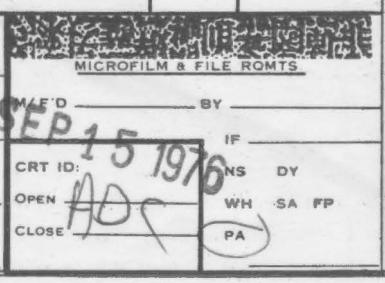
Talkers for See rety w/ Kent
Thomas Gates of the SEC 6/6
6, 1976 to discuss US-SEC Relation

SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

INSTR DISP NSC/S



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: September 3, 1976

FROM: Brent Scowcroft

VIA: William Nicholson

BD

MEETING: Call on you by Ambassador Thomas S. Gates,
Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking

DATE: Anytime during the last two weeks of September

PURPOSE: To review recent developments in China.

FORMAT: Oval Office
20 minutes

CABINET None

PARTICIPATION:

SPEECH Talking points will be provided

MATERIAL:

PRESS Meeting to be announced.
COVERAGE: White House Photographer only

STAFF: Brent Scowcroft

RECOMMEND: Henry A. Kissinger
Brent Scowcroft

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS You last met with Ambassador Gates on April 13, 1976
PARTICIPATION: prior to his departure for Peking.

BACKGROUND: Ambassador Gates is in the United States on leave and consultation. He arrived in Peking May 6 and presented your letter to Premier Hua Kuo-feng on June 10. He was present during Vice Premier Chang Chun-chiao's conversation with Senator Scott in mid-July. In view of recent developments within China, statements by both political parties in the United States about China policy, and recent reports of a tougher line on Taiwan with visiting American delegations and with correspondents here, it would be useful for you to receive Amb. Gates' firsthand impression of the current situation.



APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

MEMORANDUM

4810

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

August 27, 1976

mh
JP
1976

MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: WILLIAM GLEYSTEEN *(initials)*

SUBJECT: Schedule Proposal for Ambassador Thomas
S. Gates

The schedule proposal for your signature to the President at Tab A would recommend that he agree to a brief meeting with Ambassador Thomas S. Gates, Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the schedule proposal at Tab A.



S/S 7617884

4810

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

UNCLASSIFIED

August 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BRENT SCOWCROFT
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Request for Ambassador Thomas S. Gates
to meet with the President

Ambassador Thomas S. Gates, the Chief of the US Liaison Office in Peking, will be returning to the United States for leave and consultations on August 22 and has requested an appointment with the President.

In view of the importance of the US-PRC relationship, the Department believes it would be desirable for Ambassador Gates to meet with the President.

Ambassador Gates plans to be in Washington during the period August 25-27. If an appointment cannot be arranged during that time, a later date might also be possible since the Ambassador will remain in the United States for several more weeks before returning to Peking.

C. Arthur Borg
C. Arthur Borg
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 9, 1976

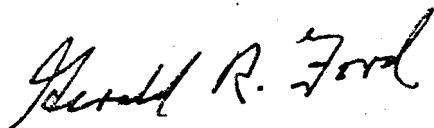
Dear Madame Mao:

Mrs. Ford joins me in extending to you our deepest sympathy on the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Chairman Mao had a profound impact on his era. During my visit to Peking in December 1975, I was privileged to hold wide-ranging discussions with him. Our talks confirmed that we shared a common belief in the importance of strengthening the relations between our two countries. Chairman Mao will be remembered in this country for his leading role in restoring the traditional ties of friendship between the American and Chinese peoples.

Please accept my personal condolences.

Sincerely,



Madame Mao Tse-tung
Peking
People's Republic of China



5027

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 9, 1976

Dear Mr. Premier:

Please accept my personal condolences, and those of the Government and people of the United States, on the occasion of the passing of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Few men in any era achieve historic greatness. Chairman Mao was one of these men. His leadership has been a decisive element in the shaping of the Chinese nation for several decades, and his works have left a deep imprint upon our civilization. He was truly a major figure of our times.

I was privileged to meet Chairman Mao during my visit to Peking in December 1975. Our discussion furthered the development of U.S.-China relations along the lines that our two countries had earlier envisaged. Let me affirm now, as I did then, the determination of the United States to complete the normalization of our relations on the basis of the Shanghai Communiqué. This would be a fitting tribute to his vision, and of benefit to the peoples of our two countries.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford

His Excellency
Hua Kuo-feng
Premier of the State Council
Peking



89/9/16

MEMORANDUM THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION

September 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT *(B)*
SUBJECT: Death of Mao Tse-tung

Funeral Arrangements

The PRC has announced that following a period of mourning from September 11 through September 17, when Chinese will be allowed to pay their respects to Mao as he lies in State in the Great Hall of the People, a memorial rally will be held in Teinanmen Square September 18.

The Chinese almost immediately announced that foreign delegations will not be invited to China to take part in the mourning, but presumably the diplomatic corps will join in the ceremony on the 18th. Ambassador Gates will return to Peking for the ceremony.

Messages

You have already approved and issued a formal statement of condolence.

Attached at Tab A is a proposed letter of condolence from you to PRC Premier Hua Kuo-feng and at Tab B is a proposed letter to Madame Mao.

Calls and Wreaths

Secretary Kissinger has called Ambassador Huang Chen at the PRC Liaison Office to offer condolences. If you concur, I intend to call him also to offer

CONFIDENTIAL - GDS

KJR 5/11/01

condolences on your behalf, as well as my own. When the PRC Liaison Office opens a book for mourners, it is planned that Secretary Kissinger would sign first and I would follow immediately after.

Our Liaison Office in Peking will send a wreath on your behalf and on behalf of the American people. Secretary Kissinger will send a second wreath on his own behalf.

Impact on China and on U.S.-PRC Relations

Mao Tse-tung has been a towering figure in China over the past quarter century and more, and his passing is a major event which will involve significant emotional as well as political factors. The future course of events is thus uncertain.

The obituary notice published by the official Chinese news agency laid great stress on unity and continuity of policy. This is consistent with the full leadership turnout a week ago, ostensibly to praise the heroic workers of the earthquake disaster, but in retrospect perhaps designed to demonstrate that with the imminent demise of Chairman Mao there would be no split at the top. Premier Hua Kuo-feng's speech on that occasion also emphasized practical work rather than ideological campaigning, suggesting that both in the post-earthquake and post-Mao period the leadership sees a need for the people to follow normal living patterns rather than be swept up in unsettling political activism.

Included in the obituary was a call to "continue to carry out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and policies in foreign affairs resolutely." Whatever other rhetoric may say about struggling against imperialism, the quoted phrase has always been used to indicate, among other things, the opening with the United States. Reference to it on this occasion underlines the intention of the successors to continue along that path. The leadership transition may well add to obstacles along the way, but the basic commitment to the Shanghai Communiqué clearly remains valid.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That you approve my calling Huang Chen to express condolences on your behalf.

APPROVE

HR

DISAPPROVE



CONFIDENTIAL

3

That you sign the proposed letter from you to Premier Hua Kuo-feng at Tab A.

That you sign the proposed letter from you to Madame Mao at Tab B.

The texts have been cleared with Bob Hartmann.

CONFIDENTIAL - GDS



MEMORANDUM

5027

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION

September 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: WILLIAM GLEYSTEEN *(H)*

SUBJECT: Death of Mao Tse-tung

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum from you to the President outlining steps that need to be taken in connection with Mao's death.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

H/c to
Jim Connors
of 104 pm
9/9

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/83, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES
BY *KR*, NARA, DATE *5/11/01*



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: BOB LINDER
FROM: TRUDY FRY

The attached is sent to you for
review before it is forwarded to the
President.



RR

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

September 9, 1976

Note: The original and one copy were bypassed to Scowcroft's office this morning. Tabs A and B were prepared over there, the memo to the President was also redone, then the completed package was sent on to the President.

Mary Ann

WT



NSC/S 9/9

Orig. It is 1/c to Slysteen

Off. 1/c to Slysteen

1 " " Scroft

There 2 cgs in ph
There won't no folder. JB



6027

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~ACTION~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT
SUBJECT: Death of Mao Tse-tung

Funeral Arrangements

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The Chinese almost immediately announced that foreign delegations will not be invited to China to take part in the mourning, but presumably the diplomatic corps will join in the ceremony on the 18th. Ambassador Gates will return to Peking for the ceremony.

Messages

You have already approved and issued a formal statement of condolence.

Attached at Tab A is a proposed letter of condolence from you to PRC Premier Hua Kuo-feng and at Tab B is a proposed letter to Madame Mao.

Calls and Wreaths

Secretary Kissinger has called Ambassador Huang Chen at the PRC Liaison Office to offer condolences. If you concur, I intend to call him also to offer

~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~

HHR 5/11/01

Retyped per Bud McFarlane/s1/9-9-76



condolences on your behalf, as well as my own. When the PRC Liaison Office opens a book for mourners, it is planned that Secretary Kissinger would sign first and I would follow immediately after.

Our Liaison Office in Peking will send a wreath on your behalf and on behalf of the American people. Secretary Kissinger will send a second wreath on his own behalf.

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Included in the obituary was a call to "continue to carry out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and policies in foreign affairs resolutely." Whatever other rhetoric may say about struggling against imperialism, the quoted phrase has always been used to indicate, among other things, the opening with the United States. Reference to it on this occasion under-lines the intention of the successors to continue along that path. The leadership transition may well add to obstacles along the way, but the basic commitment to the Shanghai Communique clearly remains valid.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That you approve my calling Huang Chen to express condolences on your behalf.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3

That you sign the proposed letter from you to Premier Hua Kuo-feng at Tab A.

That you sign the proposed letter from you to Madame Mao at Tab B.

~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~



Dear Mr. Premier:

Please accept my personal condolences, and those of the Government and people of the United States, on the occasion of the passing of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Few men in any era achieve historic greatness. Chairman Mao was one of these men. His leadership has been a decisive element in the shaping of the Chinese nation for several decades, and his works have left a deep imprint upon our civilization. He was truly a major figure of our times.

I was privileged to meet Chairman Mao during my visit to Peking in December 1975. Our discussion furthered the development of U.S.-China relations along the lines that our two countries had earlier envisaged. Let me affirm now, as I did then, the determination of the United States to complete the normalization of our relations on the basis of the Shanghai Communiqué. This would be a fitting tribute to his vision, and of benefit to the peoples of our two countries.

Sincerely,

His Excellency
Hua Kuo-feng
Premier of the State Council
Peking

GRF:BS:s1:9/9/76



Dear Madame Mao:

Mrs. Ford joins me in extending to you our deepest sympathy on the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Chairman Mao had a profound impact on his era. During my visit to Peking in December 1975, I was privileged to hold wide-ranging discussions with him. Our talks confirmed that we shared a common belief in the importance of strengthening the relations between our two countries. Chairman Mao will be remembered in this country for his leading role in restoring the traditional ties of friendship between the American and Chinese peoples.

Please accept my personal condolences.

Sincerely,

Madame Mao Tse-tung
Peking
People's Republic of China

GRF:BS:feg:9/9/76



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT:

Death of Mao Tse-tung

Peking has announced that Chairman Mao Tse-tung died shortly after midnight September 9, Peking time.

Funeral Arrangements

The PRC has announced that following a period of mourning from September 11 through September 17, when Chinese will be allowed to pay their respects to Mao as he lies in State in the Great Hall of the People, a memorial rally will be held in Tienanmen Square September 18.

The Chinese almost immediately announced that foreign delegations will not be invited to China to take part in the mourning, but presumably the diplomatic corps will join in the ceremony on the 18th. Ambassador Gates, at a minimum, will almost surely be coming to Washington, though he may not wish to go back to Peking. *I will return to Peking for the ceremony.*

Messages

You have already approved and issued a formal statement of condolence.

Attached at Tab A is a proposed message of condolence from you to PRC Premier Hua Kuo-feng and at Tab B is a proposed message to Madame Mao. When you approve them, they will be transmitted by State to the Chinese.

Calls and Wreaths

Secretary Kissinger has called Ambassador Huang Chen at the PRC Liaison Office to offer condolences. If you concur, I intend to call him also to offer

CONFIDENTIAL - GDS

KRS 5/11/101



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

condolences on your behalf, as well as my own. When the PRC Liaison Office opens a book for mourners, it is planned that Secretary Kissinger would sign first and I would follow immediately after.

Our Liaison Office in Peking will send a wreath on your behalf and on behalf of the American people. Secretary Kissinger will send a second wreath on his own behalf.

Impact on China and on U.S. -PRC Relations

Mao Tse-tung has been a towering figure in China over the past quarter century and more, and his passing is a major event which will involve significant emotional as well as political factors. It would be impossible to predict with precision the future course of events.

But the obituary notice published by the official Chinese news agency laid great stress on unity and continuity of policy. This is consistent with the full leadership turnout a week ago, ostensibly to praise the heroic workers of the earthquake disaster, but in retrospect perhaps designed to demonstrate that with the imminent demise of Chairman Mao there would be no split at the top. Premier Hua Kuo-feng's speech on that occasion also emphasized practical work rather than ideological campaigning, suggesting that both in the post-earthquake and post-Mao period the leadership sees a need for the people to follow normal living patterns rather than be swept up in unsettling political activism.

Included in the obituary was a call to "continue to carry out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and policies in foreign affairs resolutely." Whatever other rhetoric may say about struggling against imperialism, the quoted phrase has always been used to indicate, among other things, the opening with the United States. Reference to it on this occasion underlines the intention of the successors to continue along that path. The leadership transition may well add to obstacles along the way, but the basic commitment to the Shanghai Communique clearly remains valid.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That you approve my calling Huang Chen to express condolences on your behalf.

APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - GDS

KJR 5/11/01



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3

That you approve the proposed letter from you to Premier Hua Kuo-feng.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

That you approve the proposed letter from you to Madame Mao.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL - GDS~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GDS

Dear Mr. Premier:

Please accept my personal condolences, and those of the Government and people of the United States, on the occasion of the passing of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Few men in any era achieve historic greatness. Chairman Mao was one of these [rare] men. His leadership has been a decisive element in the shaping of the Chinese nation for several decades, and his works have left a deep imprint upon our civilization. He was truly a major figure of our times.

I was privileged to meet Chairman Mao during my visit to Peking in December 1975. Our discussion furthered the development of U.S. - China relations along the lines that we had earlier envisaged. Let me affirm now, as I did then, the determination of the United States to complete the normalization of our relations on the basis of the Shanghai Communique. This would be a fitting tribute to his vision, and of benefit to the peoples of our two countries.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford

His Excellency
Hua Kuo-feng
Premier of the State Council
Peking

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GDS

HR 5/11/01

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ DS

Dear Madame Mao:

Mrs. Ford joins me in extending to you our deepest sympathy on the death of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Chairman Mao had a profound impact on his era. During my visit to Peking in December 1975, I was privileged to hold wide-ranging discussions with him. Our talks confirmed that we shared a common belief in the importance of strengthening the relations between our two countries. Chairman Mao will be remembered in this country for his leading role in restoring the traditional ties of friendship between the American and Chinese peoples.

Please accept my personal condolences.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford

Madame Mao Tse-tung
Peking
People's Republic of China

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GDS

KRS/11101



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD		LOG NUMBER		
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR	99 99 18 7605027

INITIAL ACTION O

TO: PRES
SCOWCROFT *X*
HYLAND
DAVIS

FROM: SECSTATE
SECDEF
DCI
STATE EXSEC
OTHER *Glysteen*

S/S _____
UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT
LOU NO FORN NODIS
C EYES ONLY EXDIS
S CODEWORD
TS SENSITIVE

SUBJECT:

Death of Mao Tse-tung

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION

	ACTION	CONCURRENCE	COORDINATE	INFO	REC CY FOR	ACTION REQUIRED
ADV CYS S'CROFT/ WGH						MEMO FOR SCOWCROFT
STAFF SECRETARY						MEMO FOR PRES
CONGRESSIONAL						REPLY FOR
ECONOMIC						APPROPRIATE ACTION
EUR/CANADA/OCEANS						MEMO _____ TO _____
FAR EAST/ PRC						RECOMMENDATIONS
INTELLIGENCE						JOINT MEMO
LATIN AMERICA						REFER TO _____ FOR: _____
MID EAST/ NO. AFRICA						ANY ACTION NECESSARY?
NSC PLANNING						CONCURRENCE
PROGRAM ANALYSIS						DUE DATE: _____
SCIENTIFIC						COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)
SUB-SAH/AFRICA/ UN						

DATE	FROM	TO	STATUS	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	DUEDUE	CY TO
9/9		Scowt <i>X</i>	X	Pres for decision	(9) 14	
9/9		Pres <i>P</i>	P	Decision		
9/9	NSC/S	C	C	Pres agd ltrs		



DISPATCH	NOTIFY	MICROFILM & FILE REQUESTS	
Hand Carried to Pres Chancery by Glysteen 8-9-76		M/F/D	SEP 21 1976
cc wth Central file		OPEN	NS DY W/ SA FP
SPECIAL DISPOSITION:		CLOSE	PA
SPECIAL INDEXING:		SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED <i>X</i>	