

The original documents are located in Box 20, “12/1/75 - Welcoming Banquet in Peking, The People's Republic of China (Includes draft)” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

REVISED 5:30 PM

THE PRESIDENT'S TOAST
AT THE WELCOMING BANQUET IN PEKING

MR. VICE PREMIER, MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, AND ALL
CHINESE FRIENDS HERE TONIGHT:

ON BEHALF OF MRS. FORD, OUR DAUGHTER SUSAN,
THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARTY, AND THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, LET ME EXPRESS APPRE-
CIATION FOR YOUR FRIENDLY RECEPTION. IT IS
SYMBOLIZED BY THIS GRACIOUS BANQUET YOU HAVE
ACCORDED US TONIGHT.

- 2 -

ALTHOUGH THIS IS MY SECOND VISIT TO THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, IT IS THE FIRST TIME
I HAVE BEEN TO YOUR COUNTRY AS PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES◆ IN 1972 I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO
MEET A NUMBER OF YOUR LEADERS, INCLUDING
PREMIER CHOU EN- AI.

I LEARNED SOMETHING OF THEIR VIEWS, AND SAW THE
IMPRESSIVE WORK OF THE PEOPLE OF CHINA IN
DEVELOPING THEIR COUNTRY. I RECALL YOUR
HOSPITALITY WITH PLEASURE◆

IT IS NOW MORE THAN FOUR YEARS SINCE OUR
TWO COUNTRIES STARTED DISCUSSING HOW TO BUILD
A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.

REALITY AND COMMON NECESSITIES BROUGHT US
TOGETHER IN A BOLD AND FARSIGHTED MOVE◆

IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE OUR TWO
GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZED THAT ^{||}THERE ARE ESSENTIAL
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES
IN THEIR SOCIAL SYSTEMS AND FOREIGN POLICIES.^{||}

BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE ALSO AGREED THAT
NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WOULD BE IN THE
MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR PEOPLES, AND WOULD
CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE
SECURE INTERNATIONAL ORDER◆

WE THEREFORE ESTABLISHED CERTAIN PRINCIPLES
TO GUIDE THE GROWTH OF OUR RELATIONS AND OUR
APPROACH TO THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE◆

THE MOVES THAT WERE TAKEN IN 1971 AND 1972
BY THE LEADERS OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES WERE
OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE.

I TAKE THIS OCCASION TO REAFFIRM MY COMMITMENT
TO THE OBJECTIVES AND THE PRINCIPLES THAT EMERGED
FROM THOSE FIRST STEPS AND SPECIFICALLY TO THE
NORMALIZATION OF OUR RELATIONS◆

DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 1972 VERIFY THE WISDOM
OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.

WE STILL DIFFER ON CERTAIN ISSUES, BUT WE HAVE
PROGRESSED TOWARD A MORE NORMAL RELATIONSHIP.

OUR MANY AUTHORITATIVE DISCUSSIONS HAVE
ENABLED OUR TWO NATIONS TO EXPLORE AREAS OF MUTUAL
INTEREST AND TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S VIEWS ON
THE ISSUES ON WHICH WE DISAGREE.

THE TWO LIAISON OFFICES WHICH WE ESTABLISHED IN OUR
RESPECTIVE CAPITALS FACILITATE OUR CONTACT AND
UNDERSTANDING. THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL
AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES, AND TRADE, STRENGTHENS
THE TIES BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND AMERICAN PEOPLES.◆

- 1Q -

IN THE INTERNATIONAL FIELD, WE HAVE A MUTUAL
INTEREST IN SEEING THAT THE WORLD IS NOT
DOMINATED BY MILITARY FORCE OR PRESSURE -
WHAT IN OUR JOINT STATEMENTS WE HAVE CALLED
HEGEMONY◆

- 11 -

IN PURSUING OUR OBJECTIVES, EACH OF US WILL,
OF COURSE, DETERMINE OUR POLICIES AND METHODS
ACCORDING TO OUR DIFFERING POSITIONS IN THE
WORLD AND OUR PERCEPTIONS OF OUR RESPECTIVE
NATIONAL INTERESTS◆

- 12 -

IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY
CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. THE
WORLD CONFRONTS US ALL WITH DANGERS, BUT IT ALSO
OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES. THE UNITED STATES WILL
STRIVE BOTH TO REDUCE THE DANGERS AND TO EXPLORE
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE WITHOUT ILLUSIONS◆

THE CURRENT SITUATION REQUIRES STRENGTH, VIGILANCE,
AND FIRMNESS. BUT WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE OUR
EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD EVEN
AS WE REMAIN DETERMINED TO RESIST ANY ACTIONS
THAT THREATEN THE INDEPENDENCE AND WELL-BEING OF
OTHERS◆

- 14 -

I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR FRANK AND BENEFICIAL DISCUS-
SIONS● WE WILL EXPLORE AREAS OF AGREEMENT, AND
SEEK TO FOSTER UNDERSTANDING WHERE OUR
PERSPECTIVES DIFFER.

IN THAT SPIRIT, WE REMAIN FIRMLY COMMITTED
TO THE PROCESS OF BUILDING A NORMAL RELATION-
SHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ON THE BASIS
OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, AND TO ENLARGING
THE AREAS OF COOPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES
OF MUTUAL CONCERN

- 16 -

SO AS I BEGIN MY VISIT, I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE

A TOAST:

- TO THE HEALTH OF CHA IRMAN MAO:
- TO THE HEALTH OF PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI:
- TO THE HEALTH OF VICE PREMIER TENG HS IAO-P'ING;
[DUNG SEE-OW PING]

- 17 -

-- TO THE HEALTH OF OTHER OFFICIALS AND FRIENDS
HERE TONIGHT:◆

-- TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS HERE THIS
WEEK:◆

-- AND TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND THE
UNITED STATES◆

NOT USED

②

WELCOMING BANQUET

PEKING, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MONDAY - DECEMBER 1, 1975

MR. VICE PREMIER, MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, AND ALL CHINESE

FRIENDS HERE TONIGHT:

ON BEHALF OF MRS. FORD, OUR DAUGHTER SUSAN, THE MEMBERS

OF OUR PARTY, AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, LET ME

EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR YOUR FRIENDLY RECEPTION.

- 2 -

IT IS SYMBOLIZED BY THIS GRACIOUS BANQUET YOU HAVE ACCORDED

US TONIGHT.

ALTHOUGH THIS IS MY SECOND VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA, IT IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE BEEN TO YOUR COUNTRY AS PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES. IN 1972 I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET A
NUMBER OF YOUR LEADERS, INCLUDING PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI. (JOE-EN-LIE)

I LEARNED SOMETHING OF THEIR VIEWS, AND SAW THE IMPRESSIVE WORK
OF THE PEOPLE OF CHINA IN DEVELOPING THEIR COUNTRY. I RECALL YOUR
HOSPITALITY WITH PLEASURE.

IT IS NOW MORE THAN FOUR YEARS SINCE OUR TWO COUNTRIES
STARTED DISCUSSING HOW TO BUILD A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.
IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZED THAT
|| THERE ARE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES
IN THEIR SOCIAL SYSTEMS AND FOREIGN POLICIES.||

BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE ALSO AGREED THAT NORMALIZATION OF
RELATIONS WOULD BE IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR PEOPLES, AND
WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE SECURE INTERNATIONAL
ORDER. WE THEREFORE ESTABLISHED CERTAIN PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE THE
GROWTH OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND OUR APPROACH TO THE
INTERNATIONAL SCENE.

THE MOVES THAT WERE TAKEN IN 1971 AND 1972 BY THE LEADERS
OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES WERE OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE.
I TAKE THIS OCCASION TO REAFFIRM MY COMMITMENT TO THE OBJECTIVES
AND THE PRINCIPLES THAT EMERGED FROM THOSE FIRST STEPS.

DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 1972 VERIFY THE WISDOM OF THE SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE. DIFFERENCES REMAIN, BUT WE HAVE PROGRESSED TOWARD
A MORE NORMAL RELATIONSHIP.

OUR MANY AUTHORITATIVE DISCUSSIONS HAVE ENABLED OUR TWO NATIONS
TO EXPLORE AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S
VIEWS ON THE ISSUES ON WHICH WE DISAGREE. THE TWO LIAISON
OFFICES WHICH WE ESTABLISHED IN OUR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS FACILITATE
OUR CONTACT AND UNDERSTANDING.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES, AND TRADE,
STRENGTHENS THE TIES BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND AMERICAN PEOPLES.

IN THESE PAST FOUR YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY CHANGES
IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. A WORLD OF CHANGE CONFRONTS US
ALL WITH DANGERS, BUT IT ALSO OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES.

THE UNITED STATES WILL STRIVE BOTH TO REDUCE THE DANGERS AND TO

EXPLORE THE NEW OPPORTUNITIES. WE HARBOR NO ILLUSIONS.

THIS TASK REQUIRES STRENGTH, VIGILANCE, AND FIRMNESS.

WORDS ARE NO SUBSTITUE FOR RESPONSIBLE ACTION. ~~THUS,~~ WE WILL
CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE BETTER RELATIONS WITH POTENTIAL
ADVERSARIES, EVEN AS WE REMAIN DETERMINED TO OPPOSE ANY ACTIONS
THAT THREATEN THE INDEPENDENCE AND WELL-BEING OF OTHERS.

WE HAVE A MUTUAL INTEREST IN SEEING THAT THE WORLD IS NOT
DOMINATED BY MILITARY FORCE OR PRESSURE.

IN PURSUING THESE OBJECTIVES, EACH OF US WILL, OF COURSE,
DETERMINE OUR POLICIES AND METHODS ACCORDING TO OUR DIFFERING
POSITIONS IN THE WORLD AND OUR PERCEPTIONS OF OUR RESPECTIVE
NATIONAL INTERESTS.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO CONSULT, BUT EACH OF US ~~---~~ BEING NATIONS
WHICH VALUE SELF-RELIANCE ~~---~~ ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE INSTRUCTION
OF THE OTHER.

I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR FRANK AND BENEFICIAL DISCUSSIONS:

WE WILL EXPLORE AREAS OF AGREEMENT, AND SEEK TO FOSTER

UNDERSTANDING WHERE OUR PERSPECTIVES DIFFER.

IN THAT SPIRIT, WE REMAIN FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE PROCESS OF
BUILDING A NORMAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ON
THE BASIS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, AND TO ENLARGING THE
AREAS OF COOPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

SO AS I BEGIN MY VISIT, I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST:

-- TO THE HEALTH OF CHAIRMAN MAO:

-- TO THE HEALTH OF PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI; (JOE EN-LIE)

- 20 -

-- TO THE HEALTH OF VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO -P'ING;
(DUNG SEE-AW PING)

-- TO THE HEALTH OF OTHER OFFICIALS AND FRIENDS HERE

TONIGHT;

- 21 -

-- TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS HERE THIS WEEK;

-- AND TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND

UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND THE

UNITED STATES.

END OF TEXT

JUST USE Q



WELCOMING BANQUET
PEKING - THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MONDAY - DECEMBER 1, 1975

MR. VICE PREMIER, MR. FOREIGN MINISTER, AND ALL CHINESE

FRIENDS HERE TONIGHT:

ON BEHALF OF MRS. FORD, OUR DAUGHTER SUSAN, THE MEMBERS

OF OUR PARTY, AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, LET ME

EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR YOUR FRIENDLY RECEPTION. IT IS SYMBOLIZED

BY THIS GRACIOUS BANQUET YOU HAVE ACCORDED US TONIGHT.

ALTHOUGH THIS IS MY SECOND VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA, IT IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE BEEN TO YOUR COUNTRY AS PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES. IN 1972 I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET A NUMBER OF
YOUR LEADERS, INCLUDING PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI. (JOE EN-LIE)

I LEARNED SOMETHING OF THEIR VIEWS, AND SAW THE IMPRESSIVE

WORK OF THE PEOPLE OF CHINA IN DEVELOPING THEIR COUNTRY. I RECALL

YOUR HOSPITALITY WITH PLEASURE.

IT IS NOW MORE THAN FOUR YEARS SINCE OUR TWO COUNTRIES
STARTED DISCUSSING HOW TO BUILD A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.
IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZED THAT
"THERE ARE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES
IN THEIR SOCIAL SYSTEMS AND FOREIGN POLICIES."

BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE ALSO AGREED THAT NORMALIZATION OF
RELATIONS WOULD BE IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR PEOPLES, AND WOULD
CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE SECURE INTERNATIONAL ORDER.

WE THEREFORE ESTABLISHED CERTAIN PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE THE GROWTH OF
OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AND OUR APPROACH TO THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE.

THE MOVES THAT WERE TAKEN IN 1971 AND 1972 BY THE LEADERS OF
CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES WERE OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE. I TAKE
THIS OCCASION TO REAFFIRM MY COMMITMENT TO THE OBJECTIVES AND THE
PRINCIPLES THAT EMERGED FROM THOSE FIRST STEPS.

DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 1972 VERIFY THE WISDOM OF THE SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE. DIFFERENCES REMAIN, BUT WE HAVE PROGRESSED TOWARD A
MORE NORMAL RELATIONSHIP. OUR MANY AUTHORITATIVE DISCUSSIONS HAVE
ENABLED OUR TWO NATIONS TO EXPLORE AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND TO
UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S VIEWS ON THE ISSUES ON WHICH WE DISAGREE.

THE TWO LIAISON OFFICES WHICH WE ESTABLISHED IN OUR RESPECTIVE
CAPITALS FACILITATE OUR CONTACT AND UNDERSTANDING. THE
DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES, AND TRADE,
STRENGTHENS THE TIES BETWEEN THE CHINESE AND AMERICAN PEOPLES.

IN THESE PAST FOUR YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY CHANGES IN
THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. OUR TWO COUNTRIES HOLD DIFFERING
VIEWS ON CERTAIN ISSUES AND PURSUE POLICIES ACCORDING TO OUR OWN
RESPECTIVE SITUATIONS.

BUT NECESSITIES BROUGHT US TOGETHER IN A BOLD AND FARSIGHTED MOVE:

WE CONTINUE TO SHARE CERTAIN COMMON PERCEPTIONS, AND WE HAVE

A MUTUAL INTEREST IN SEEING THAT THE WORLD IS NOT DOMINATED BY

MILITARY FORCE OR PRESSURE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR FRANK AND BENEFICIAL DISCUSSIONS.

WE WILL EXPLORE AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND SEEK TO FOSTER UNDERSTANDING

WHERE OUR PERSPECTIVES DIFFER.

IN THAT SPIRIT, WE REMAIN FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE PROCESS OF
BUILDING A NORMAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ON THE
BASIS OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, AND TO ENLARGING THE AREAS OF
COOPERATION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN.

SO AS I BEGIN MY VISIT, I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TOAST:

-- TO THE HEALTH OF CHAIRMAN MAO;

-- TO THE HEALTH OF PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI; (JOE EN-LIE)

-- TO THE HEALTH OF VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-P'ING;
(DUNG-SEE-AW PING)

-- TO THE HEALTH OF OTHER OFFICIALS AND FRIENDS HERE TONIGHT;

-- TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS HERE THIS WEEK;

-- AND TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDER-

STANDING BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

END OF TEXT