

The original documents are located in Box 38, “9/9/76 - Remarks on the Death of Chairman Mao Tse Tung” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON MAO'S DEATH

THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 9, 1976

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ANNOUNCED TODAY THE
PASSING AWAY OF CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG.

CHAIRMAN MAO WAS A GIANT FIGURE IN MODERN CHINESE
HISTORY. HE WAS A LEADER WHOSE ACTIONS PROFOUNDLY AFFECTED
THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS COUNTRY. HIS INFLUENCE ON HISTORY
WILL EXTEND FAR BEYOND THE BORDERS OF CHINA.

2.

AMERICANS WILL REMEMBER THAT IT WAS UNDER CHAIRMAN MAO THAT CHINA MOVED TOGETHER WITH THE UNITED STATES TO END A GENERATION OF HOSTILITY AND TO LAUNCH A NEW AND MORE POSITIVE ERA IN RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE TREND OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES, WHICH CHAIRMAN MAO HELPED CREATE, WILL CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD PEACE AND STABILITY.

ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE I OFFER CONDOLENCES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

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