

December 3, 1975

PRESS POOL #16 - Bilateral Meeting, Guest House #18

Morning official talks were held at Guest House #18, President Ford's official residence. The American officials formed a receiving line along the red carpeted entrance to the foyer. They stood with President Ford at the head of the line followed by Secretary Kissinger, George Bush, Brent Scowcroft, Philip Habib, Winston Lord, William Gleysteen, and Dick Solomon.

At 9:30 a.m. The Chinese officials arrived led by Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-Ping. There were smiles and handshakes as they filed by the members of the receiving line. President Ford said to the Vice Premier, "Good morning, it is nice to see you." The officials walked together down a hallway into a large first floor conference room. They sat on opposite sides of a table with green velvet top, cups of tea, and folded towels, and notepads. There were ten representatives on each side of the table.

President Ford spoke first to the Vice Premier saying, "I am going to take a walk this afternoon through the garden and see the beautiful lake as well as the beautiful grounds." After translation, the Vice Premier said, "Yesterday Mr. President, you had a very significant conversation with Chairman Mao Tse-teng." The President responded saying, "I agree. It was a significant conversation. It covered a very wide range of matters involving the international scene as well as our bilateral relations."

Teng said, "Yes I agree."

The President said, "I'm looking forward to this afternoon to the visit to the Agricultural Exhibit."

Teng said, "During your last visit, you didn't have time to see this agricultural progress."

They continued speaking through translation with the President saying he didn't have a chance to see the agricultural exhibit but he did have an opportunity to see several agricultural communes in 1972. The Vice Premier was smoking but the President did not light up while the pool was there.