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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

7618753

4810

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 *da Wolf*
C. Arthur Borg
Executive Secretary



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

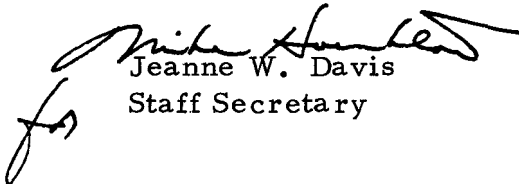
VIA LDX

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.


Jeanne W. Davis
Staff Secretary



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: He 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 in Taiwan
with visiting American delegations and with corres-
pondents 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
- ~~30~~²⁰ minutes

CABINET
PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH
MATERIAL: Talking points will be provided

PRESS
COVERAGE: Meeting to be announced.
~~No photos~~ *White House photo grapher only*

STAFF: Brent Scowcroft

RECOMMEND: Henry A. Kissinger
Brent Scowcroft

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS
PARTICIPATION: You last met with Ambassador Gates on April 13, 1976
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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 Guts' firsthand

APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

*impression of the
current situation.*



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC		RECD			LOG NUMBER		INITIAL ACTION	
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR				
8	26	8	26	16	7604810		Shepster	

SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES	FROM: SECSTATE	S/S	UNCLAS	LOG IN/OUT
SCOWCROFT	SECDEF		LOU	NO FORN
HYLAND	DCI	X REF	C	EYES ONLY
DAVIS	STATE EXSEC		S	CODEWORD
	OTHER		TS	SENSITIVE

SUBJECT: Request for Capt who has for Capt
Thomas S. Gates of the 25 Division of
in Hiking Aug 25-27 1976

DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION					REC CY FOR	ACTION REQUIRED
	ACTION	CONCURRENCE	COORDINATE	INFO		
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: 8-26
SCIENTIFIC						COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)
SUB-SAH/AFRICA/UN						

AGENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

DATE	FROM	TO	STATUS	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	DUE	CY TO
8/30		Scraft	X	Decision	9/6	
9/3		NSC/S	D	Scraft sgd SPT to Nicholas	9/6	Shepster
9/3				Davis sgd memo to Borg		
9/06				Recd Borg memo 7618753		
9/06		Clinton	S	am further action a OBE		

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

9/7			C	NFAA/ See 7604994 for Talker		

NSC/ S INSTR

DISPATCH	2 TLB 9/3/76	NOTIFY	
SPECIAL DISPOSITION:			
SPECIAL INDEXING:	7604994		
SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED			

SEP 15 1976

CRT ID: NR

OPEN: APC

CLOSE: PA

IF: NS DY

WH: SA FP

4994

THE WHITE HOUSE

-4977

WASHINGTON

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

Monday, September 6, 1976

8:45 a.m. (30 Minutes)

The Oval Office

From: Brent Scowcroft *BS*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. 12958, SEC. 2.5

NSC MEMO, 11/2/88, STAT DEPT. GUIDELINES

BY K/R, 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 Communiqué -- 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.

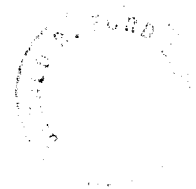
C. VIP visits to the PRC in the near future include former Defense Secretary Schlesinger (who will be visiting many remote areas of defense importance not normally open to foreigners) and Senator Mansfield. A Congressional delegation, led by Senator Curtis may go in late September or after the elections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

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL 26

MH
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



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, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/98, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES

BY KR, NARA, DATE 5/11/01



NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC		RECD			LOG NUMBER	
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR		
9	6	9	7	15	760499A	

2d
INITIAL ACTION 0

TO: PRES F FROM: SECSTATE Stephens UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT
SCOWCROFT F SECDEF LDU NO FORM NODIS
HYLAND DCI X REF C EYES ONLY EXDIS
DAVIS STATE EXSEC S CODEWORD
OTHER TS SENSITIVE

SUBJECT: Talkers for Pres mtg w/ Kenneth
Thomas Gates of the PRC Sept
6, 1976 to Review US-PRC Relations

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION

	ACTION	CONCURRENCE	COORDINATE	INFO	REC CY FOR
ADV CYS SCROFT/ WGH					
STAFF SECRETARY					
CONGRESSIONAL					
ECONOMIC					
EUR/ CANADA/ OCEANS					
FAR EAST/ PRC					
INTELLIGENCE					
LATIN AMERICA					
MID EAST/ NO. AFRICA					
NSC PLANNING					
PROGRAM ANALYSIS					
SCIENTIFIC					
SUB-SAH/ AFRICA/ UN					
<u>Pomberg</u>					

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: ()
COMMENTS: (INCLUDING SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS)

DATE	FROM	TO	STATUS	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	DUE	CY TO
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9/7			C	Noted by Pres		

DISPATCH NOTIFY

SPECIAL DISPOSITION:

SPECIAL INDEXING:

7604810

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED

YES

MICROFILM & FILE ROOMS

SEP 15 1976
CRT ID: AD5 IF NS DY
OPEN AD5 WH SA FP
CLOSE AD5 PA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTONSCHEDULE PROPOSAL
DATE: September 3, 1976
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 corres-
pondents here, it would be useful for you to receive
Amb. Gates' firsthand impression of the current situation.



APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

4810

ACTION

August 27, 1976

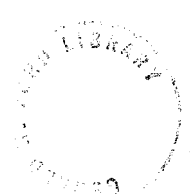
MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: WILLIAM GLEYSTEN *WJ*
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
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED



5027
3

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 9, 1976

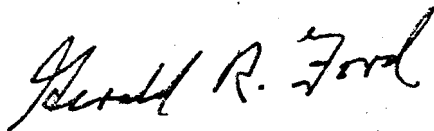
Dear Madame Mao:

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



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 9, 1976

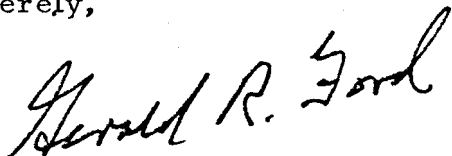
Dear Mr. Premier:

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 Communique. 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



MEMORANDUM THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

89/9/11

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

BR 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.

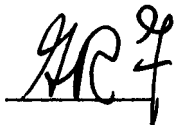
The obituary notice published by the official Chinese news agency laid great stress on unity and continuity of policy. This is consistent with the full leadership turnout a week ago, ostensibly to praise the heroic workers of the earthquake disaster, but in retrospect perhaps designed to demonstrate 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



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 GLEYSTEN *WJ*
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 1:04 pm
9/9*

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.5

NSC MEMO, 11/24/99, STATE DEPT. GUIDELINES

BY HR, 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.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "RFR" or similar, written in a stylized, cursive-like font.

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

UH



NSC/S 9/9

Orig ltr h/c to Heysteen
ofc. 1 cgy to Heysteen

1 " " 8 cropy

There 2 cgy in phg
won no folder. JB



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ACTION

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

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - GDS

HR 5/11/01

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



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RECOMMENDATIONS:

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APPROVE _____ 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.

~~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 1973. 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:sl: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. *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* message of condolence from you to PRC Premier Hua Kuo-feng and at Tab B is a proposed *letter* 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

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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 _____

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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 _____

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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. - ^{our two countries} 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 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

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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

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NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC		RECD			LOG NUMBER
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR	
9	9	9	9	18	760 5027

INITIAL ACTION O

SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES _____ FROM: SECSTATE _____ S/S _____ UNCLAS LOG IN/OUT _____

SCOWCROFT X _____ SECDEF _____ LOU _____ NO FORN _____ NODIS _____

HYLAND _____ DCI _____ X REF _____ C EYES ONLY _____ EXDIS _____

DAVIS _____ STATE EXEC _____ S. _____ CODEWORD _____

OTHER Slayton _____ TS _____ SENSITIVE _____

SUBJECT: Death of Mao Tse-tung

DISTRIBUTION/INITIAL ACTION ASGMT

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION					REC CY FOR	ACTION REQUIRED
	ACTION	CONCURRENCE	COORDINATE	INFO		
ADV CYS SCROFT/ 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						
<u>Romberg</u>					<u>X</u>	
<u>Conrad, M</u>					<u>X</u>	

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

DATE	FROM	TO	STATUS	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	DUE	CY TO
9/9		Scroft	X	Pres for decision	(9/14)	
9/9		Pres	P	Decision		
9/9		NSC/S	C	Pres sgd ltr		

NSC/S DISP INSTR

DISPATCH done by Slayton

SPECIAL DISPOSITION: Hand Carried to Pres Chancellery by Slayton 8-9-76

SPECIAL INDEXING: cc with Central file

NOTIFY _____

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED X

SEP 21 1976

NSC 76-21

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