

The original documents are located in Box 4, folder “People's Republic of China - Premier Chou En-lai” of the National Security Adviser’s Presidential Correspondence with Foreign Leaders Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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1A

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 27, 1976

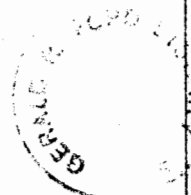
Dear Mr. Premier:

I am pleased to introduce to you by way of this letter Ambassador Thomas S. Gates, Jr. the new Chief of our Liaison Office in the People's Republic. I have the highest confidence in Ambassador Gates, who has been a personal friend and political associate of mine since the period of the Second World War. I know he will effectively represent the views of my Administration, as did Ambassador David Bruce and Ambassador George Bush before him.

Mr. Gates has rich personal experience in matters that are of concern to both our countries. As a former Secretary of the Navy and Secretary of Defense, he clearly understands the global security concerns we face. Moreover, he has long been an advocate of a policy of security through a strong American defense capability.

As I remarked during Ambassador Gates' swearing-in ceremony, while China and the United States have differences which neither side attempts to hide, we believe our common interests in resisting hegemony, and in enabling all peoples to follow their own unique paths of national development, provide a strong foundation for a durable and growing relationship. We must maintain an authoritative dialogue between our two leaderships in this turbulent and complex world, and grasp occasions for parallel or cooperative actions which will support our common objectives.

At the same time, we understand that the opportunities for such action will be enhanced as we are able to consolidate our bilateral relationship. I have indicated




on a number of occasions since returning from your country last December that I remain determined to complete the normalization of our relations through joint efforts based on the Shanghai Communiqué. This not only will serve the interests of our two peoples, but also will contribute to building a more secure world order.

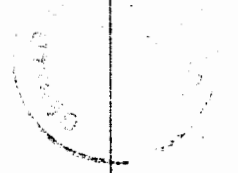
I hope you will share with Ambassador Gates your perspectives on both international developments and our bilateral relationship. He is prepared to sustain our side of this authoritative dialogue. At the same time, we welcome the return to Washington of Ambassador Huang Chen.

In closing, let me again offer you my good wishes in your new post. I hope you will also convey my personal regards to Chairman Mao.

Sincerely,



His Excellency
Hua Kuo-feng
Premier of State Council
of the People's Republic of China
Peking





13

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 21, 1976

General -

Suggested change at Tab I

WJ 4/26/76 Art

General -

HAK has cabled his approval of this ltr thru State channels, per Bud.

Lora = 4/26/76

MEMORANDUM

2308-X

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION
April 20, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: BRENT SCOWCROFT
FROM: RICHARD H. SOLOMON *RHS*
SUBJECT: Presidential Letter of Introduction for Thomas
Gates to PRC Premier Hua Kuo-feng

Per your request, I have drafted in coordination with the State Department a Presidential letter of introduction which the new Chief of our Liaison Office in Peking, Thomas S. Gates, Jr., can carry with him when he departs for Peking at the end of this month. The purpose of the letter will be to serve as a vehicle for a substantive discussion with the new PRC Premier, with whom we have had no direct interaction.

The draft letter (at Tab A) has been cleared with Win Lord and the EA Bureau. They will be sending the text of this draft, and a series of talking points for Mr. Gates to use in a call on Premier Hua, to the Secretary for his review. Thus, you may wish to discuss the attached draft with Secretary Kissinger before forwarding it to the President for his signature.

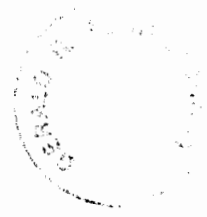
The draft makes three points: the President expresses his personal support for Mr. Gates; he reiterates the importance of maintaining a dialogue between our two countries as we continue to seek ways of dealing with the problem of "hegemony"; and he reiterates his commitment to complete the normalization of U.S. -PRC relations.

The draft letter is covered by a memorandum from you to the President. The memorandum indicates that the draft reflects Secretary Kissinger's views as well as your own.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

*Tab I Fedby
4.26.1976
10
HH
1200*



ID

I



FBI



84/27

11


2308-X

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

April 26, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT 
SUBJECT: Letter of Introduction for Ambassador
Gates to Present to the New PRC
Premier

You discussed with our new PRC Liaison Office Chief Tom Gates, Secretary Kissinger, and myself the value of having Ambassador Gates carry a letter of introduction from you to the new Chinese Premier, Hua Kuo-feng. Such a letter would provide an occasion for a review of world issues with the new Premier.

The suggested letter at Tab A makes three basic points: It expresses your high personal confidence in Ambassador Gates. You reiterate the value to both countries of maintaining an authoritative dialogue as we cope with issues of common concern in the world. And you reaffirm your determination to complete normalization of US-PRC relations. Doug Smith of Mr. Hartmann's office has approved the text.

The draft has been coordinated with Secretary Kissinger.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter at Tab A.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTONACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT: Letter of Introduction for Ambassador Gates
to Present to the New PRC Premier

You will ~~recall~~ ^{ed} discussing with our new PRC Liaison Office Chief Tom Gates, Secretary Kissinger, and myself the value of having Ambassador Gates carry a letter of introduction from you to the new Chinese Premier, Hua Kuo-feng. Such a letter would provide ^{an occasion} a ~~pre-~~ ~~text~~ for a review of world issues with the new Premier, ~~a man we have had no direct exposure to (other than Mr. Nixon's very brief evaluation)~~.

The suggested letter at Tab A makes three basic points: It expresses your high personal confidence in Ambassador Gates. You reiterate the value to both countries of maintaining an authoritative dialogue as we cope with issues of common concern in the world. And you reaffirm your determination to complete normalization of U.S. -PRC relations.

The draft has been coordinated with Secretary Kissinger.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter at Tab A.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTONACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT: Letter of Introduction for Ambassador Gates
to Present to the New PRC Premier

You will recall discussing with our new PRC Liaison Office Chief Tom Gates, Secretary Kissinger, and myself the value of having Ambassador Gates carry a letter of introduction from you to the new Chinese Premier, Hua Kuo-feng. Such a letter would provide a pretext for a review of world issues with the new Premier, a man we have had no direct exposure to (other than Mr. Nixon's very brief evaluation).

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FBI



ACTION

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FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

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RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letter at Tab A.

Rewrtn: Gen S/AH/lrs/4-26-76



ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT
SUBJECT: **Letter of Introduction for Ambassador
Gates to Present to the New PRC
Premier**

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FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT: Letter of Introduction for Ambassador Gates to Present to the New PRC Premier

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NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC		RECD			LOG NUMBER
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR	
4	20	4	20	18	760 2308x

INITIAL ACTION 0

1M

TO: PRES ✓ FROM: SECSTATE _____ S/S _____
 SCOWCROFT _____ SECDEF _____ LOU _____ NO FORN NODIS
 HYLAND _____ DCI _____ X REF _____ C _____ EYES ONLY EXDIS
 DAVIS _____ STATE EXSEC _____ S _____ CODEWORD
 OTHER Solomon TS _____ SENSITIVE

SUBJECT: Per ltr of introduction to PRC Premier
HWA Kuo Feng for Thomas Gates - CA

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION

	ACTION	CONCURRENCE	COORDINATE	INFO	REC CY FOR
ADV CYS S'CROFT/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					

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)

SUBSEQUENT ROUTING/ACTIONS

DATE	FROM	TO	STATUS	SUBSEQUENT ACTION REQUIRED (OR TAKEN):	DUE	CY TO
4/20		Scroft	X	Per to spec ltr	(4/30)	
4-26		Pres		spec ltr to Kuo Feng		
4-27		NSC/15		Pres spec ltr to Kuo Feng		

NSC/S DISP INSTR

DISPATCH _____ NOTIFY _____

SPECIAL DISPOSITION: _____

SPECIAL INDEXING: _____

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED _____

MICROFILM & FILE ROOMS

M/F/D _____ BY _____

CRT ID: _____ IF _____

OPEN _____ NS DY _____

CLOSE _____ WH SA FP _____

PA _____