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Embassy Greeting, Beijing, China, 2/26/89

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Document No. 008355

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/17/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: EMBASSY GREETING - BEIJING, CHINA

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE <i>no comment</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN <i>no comments</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BOSKIN <i>no comments</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY <i>no comments</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: Please provide your comments/recommendations directly to Chriss Winston's office with an information copy to my office by close of business TODAY Friday, February 17. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

1989 FEB 17 AM 9:51

(McNally)

February 17, 1989

9:00 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: EMBASSY GREETING
BEIJING, CHINA
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1989

Thank you very much.

Mr. Ambassador, my colleagues and friends:

It's wonderful to be back. But despite all the trappings of a presidential motorcade, I have to admit I sort of miss the quiet pleasure of pulling up alone aboard a Flying Pigeon bicycle. Not that cycling in Beijing is as safe as it used to be. I'm told that with the traffic today, it should be undertaken with the same degree of alacrity and nonchalance that you would display in authorizing a highly intelligent trained bear to remove your appendix.

On a brisk January afternoon exactly one month ago, I left the White House for the first time as President to salute a group of unsung heroes -- your Washington colleagues in professional government service.

You and your predecessors at the American mission here were very much on my mind that day. Indeed, I told the gathering at Constitution Hall that it was in China and elsewhere that I

came to admire and respect the talent and courage and commitment that characterize the public service you provide.

(SIVD)

Here within the Beijing family, I have some particular thanks, beginning with two groups that are too often mentioned last: American spouses and Foreign Service Nationals. I know as few in Washington ~~could~~^{do} the incalculable value of your contributions and sacrifice, without which, quite simply, our work would be impossible.

To my colleagues here I offer many specific thanks. Late last year the Economist rated the American delegation as simply the best in Beijing, singling you out for praise on impact and analysis. No one values this more than me. Each evening as you wind down your work, at six or seven o'clock in Beijing, it is morning in Washington and my daily briefing is underway. Your sound reporting efforts have consistently provided us with valuable insights into the extraordinary changes that are underway in China.

Your generous assistance to visiting legislators -- such as on the recent trips by Senator Leahy and Representatives Solarz and Lantos -- has ~~increased~~ understanding of U.S. policies and goals on Capitol Hill.

You have shown great skill and perseverance in shepherding American executives through the complexities of doing business in Beijing. And it has paid off for both sides. The recent approval for the Chinese launch of an American-made satellite -- destined to improve communications for the people of

Australia -- is a credit to your hard work and to what Pacific neighbors can accomplish by working together.

Of course, businessmen aren't the only ones coming to China these days. We appreciate your courtesy and your professionalism -- and your patience -- in assisting the thousands of American citizens who pass through Beijing. Earlier someone told me of a restaurant near Wa Fu Jing where three American tourists walked in wearing the most outlandish safari clothes, complete with Panama hats, backpacks, videocameras, a brace of walkmans and a few Chinese phrases picked up from a stateside friend who happens to own a wok. They stood around looking for a waiter and one asked in a loud voice: "How do we attract attention?"

Finally, it's obvious to all that you have devoted your time and energy unsparingly in preparations for this visit. Thank you very, very much. ~~Fortunately, you now live in one of the few lands where the constitution guarantees the right to rest. Well, I wish you all a well-deserved rest after our final event later tonight.~~

? 014
Many of you came to China for the same reasons as I did fifteen years ago: a belief in public service as the highest and noblest calling. Then, as now, this was a challenging and sometimes difficult post. Still, I'm a little envious of your service here during these ^{exciting} ~~heady~~ times. ~~During my tour at the end of the Cultural Revolution, travel outside this city was next to impossible. We had a staff of just 26. Contacts were difficult to make, meetings difficult to arrange. Relations were not yet~~

~~normalized. The future was exciting, but the present was not
always easy.~~

(Parsen)
Today you are an Embassy -- boasting representatives of many agencies, sprawling across three locations, and supported by consulates general~~s~~ in four cities ranging from frozen Shenyang to the bamboo forests of Sichuan. The climate is more open, goods more available, contacts more easily made.

Though serving in Beijing is more exciting than ever, I know this is still a challenging and difficult post. The cultural and political systems differ dramatically from our own. The language is difficult, as I well know from my own struggles with it. Those who think I have occasional difficulties with English syntax should be grateful they haven't heard my Chinese.

~~For Barbara and me, returning to Beijing is a homecoming. Our work was a source of great personal satisfaction, a happy, challenging time in our lives. We went to church, played ping pong with the Embassy children, rode bicycles down the hutongs of Beijing and came to know so many wonderful~~
~~on wintry evenings. And the echoes remain.~~ Chinese people

~~You know, I think of~~
China is a land of mirrors and mirages, of mystery and myth. On a bicycle at twilight, the soft light mutes your status as a foreigner, and you can get lost near the shadows of the Forbidden City. Turn into the hutongs and time turns back a century, quieting the roar of the city. The breeze rises straight out of the pages of Chinese history, carrying ancient smells of dust, green tea and lamp oil, the timeless sounds of roosters and children and thoughts settling in for the night.

Everyone who comes to China has moments like this. We hope the memories you make are as rewarding as ours, and we hope you will derive satisfaction from the work you are doing to enhance relations between our two great peoples.

I'd like to close by noting the nation's gratitude and my personal admiration for the job Winston Lord has done these past three years. Winston, along with Bette, brings a unique and comprehensive perspective to the history of our relations. Indeed, it is the wonder of America, and the wonder of our times, to stand here with this diplomat and his wife and imagine the scene on the Shanghai docks of the Huang Po river, as Mrs. Doris Bao gathered up eight year old Bette for the forty-year journey that would eventually bring her back to this residence. The Lord's story reminds us that in our lives as in our work, in America the only limits are our imaginations.

Winston, I thank you for your service, and for the exquisite hospitality provided by you and the entire mission.

Thank you and God bless America.

((Winston))

February 19, 1989

5:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: OPENING STATEMENT FOR CCTV INTERVIEW

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1989

It is a great honor for me to be the first American President to speak to the Chinese people in a live broadcast. I feel as if I were speaking to old friends who while out of sight have never been out of heart and mind.

Fourteen years ago, Barbara and I came to your beautiful land when I served as Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office. We knew at once that the relationship that we would establish between ourselves and the Chinese people and between our two nations would be a special one indeed.

We were right. Today, the bridges that we began to build on that day in October so many years ago join our peoples together in friendship and respect. Our two countries continue to weave an increasingly rich fabric of relations through our expanding trade, and cultural and scientific exchange. American students study at many of your finest universities and we welcome thousands of Chinese students and researchers to educational institutions across America.

The understanding and friendship that these students have developed will only help to improve and deepen relations between our two countries in the years ahead.

I have spoken to the American people of a "new breeze blowing" in the world today. I see a worldwide movement toward greater freedom -- freedom of human creativity and freedom of economic opportunity.

We have all begun to feel the winds of change sweep us toward an exciting and challenging new century. These winds are sometimes gentle and sometimes strong and powerful. China was one of the first nations to feel this new breeze and like a ~~young~~ tree in a winter wind, you have learned to bend and adapt to new ways and new ideas.

Many challenges lie before our two nations. Together, we must find political solutions to regional conflicts. We must foster global growth. And, together, we must seek solutions to worldwide concerns such as the environment of our planet, the safety of all people from the threat of terrorism, the use and spread of chemical and biological weapons and international drug trafficking.

I know your leaders share with me a determination to solve these and other problems and, as President, I look forward to continuing to work closely with them as I have done in the past.

The American and Chinese people share many things but perhaps none is more important than our strong sense of family. Just a few weeks ago, Barbara and I were blessed by a new grandchild. When I think of her and the beautiful children of China, my commitment to peace is renewed and reaffirmed.

I am confident that when future generations of Chinese and Americans look back upon this time, they will say that the winds of change blew favorably upon our lands. Thank you for your friendship, your hospitality and the many warm memories of this wonderful country Barbara and I take with us.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 18, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES CICCONI

FROM: Robert B. Hall *RBH*

SUBJECT: Presidential Interview with Chinese Television

The President has agreed to a 15 minute live interview with Chinese Television (CCTV) during his visit to Beijing. The format will be approximately three minutes of opening remarks followed by questions and answers. The State Department has supplied the attached draft opening remarks.

I would be grateful if you would put them into the White House staffing process, beginning with the speechwriters for refinement and fact checking. In particular the opening remark that President Bush is the first American President to appear live on Chinese television should be verified. Thank you very much.

WASHFAX RECEIPT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 17 P 6 54

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MESSAGE NO. **035384** CLASSIFICATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE No. Pages 4

FROM: MLEVITSKY S/S 647-5301 7224
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION Levitsky-Scowcroft: President's Draft Statement
for CCTV Interview in Beijing

TO: (Agency)	DELIVER TO:	Extension	Room No.
NSCS	Bob Perito	2224	GPHW
	Executive Secretary		
	J Kelly		
	Chriss Wintson	Speechwriter	

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS: PLEASE DELIVER URGENTLY TO ADDRESSEE. ADVANCE COPY --
ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW VIA COURIER.

S/S Officer: *B. J. for*
Mel Levitsky



515 0503425
United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 17, 1989

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MEMORANDUM FOR BRENT SCOWCROFT
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: President's Draft Statement for CCTV Interview in
Beijing

Attached is the draft opening statement to be made during
the President's interview for CCTV in Beijing, February 26.
Suggested points to be made during the interview will follow
under cover of a separate memorandum.

Melvyn Levitsky

Melvyn Levitsky
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

President's Draft Opening Statement

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Barbara and I often recall those wonderful years. We enjoyed both the hard work and the happy times -- our summertime picnics in the beautiful countryside near the Ming Tombs, our early morning walks and bicycle excursions in Beijing. In the intervening years, Barbara and I have returned to China many times. Each visit added to our warmth toward the Chinese people and to our admiration for your accomplishments.

So, as President, improving, deepening, and developing U.S.-China relations is a high priority for me and a source of personal satisfaction.

Our two countries continue to weave an increasingly rich fabric of relations through our expanding trade, cultural and scientific exchange, and most importantly, through human contacts. Our students study the Chinese language in many of your universities. And we continue to welcome thousands of Chinese students and researchers to educational institutions across America. Our exploration of these paths of people-to-people contact has even opened a pathway to the stars. Our two nations are working together to launch U.S. satellites on China's rockets.

The whole point of our growing contacts and cooperation, of course, is to make a better world here, on earth, for our peoples and all peoples. In the years ahead, our two nations must continue to work together to ensure a peaceful and prosperous world.

Together, we must further political solutions to regional conflicts. We must foster global growth. And, together we must seek solutions to worldwide concerns such as environmental issues and the proliferating dangers from terrorism, the use and spread of chemical and biological weapons and international drug trafficking.

During my years as President, I look forward to cooperating with your leaders with these objectives in mind.

I have spoken to the American people about a "new breeze" blowing in the world today. I think we all have begun to feel this new breeze. China was one of the first nations to feel it and to move with it. The winds of change are sometimes gentle, sometimes bracing, but they are sweeping us forward. Old ways of doing things are changing. I see a worldwide movement toward greater freedom -- a freeing up of human creativity, and *economic opportunity* ~~market forces~~, an opening up of new opportunities for the future.

To me, that future is not an abstraction. I wish I had my family here with me now so that you could see them. Just a few weeks ago, Barbara and I were blessed by our eleventh grandchild. I know that our two peoples share a very strong sense of family. It's another value that unites us. And that is why I am confident that we will work very hard together to shape a better future for the generations that follow.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT'S OPENING STATEMENT -- CCTV INTERVIEW

Today, I am pleased to be the first American President to broadcast live on Chinese television. And the message I bring from the American people is one of friendship. This broadcast symbolizes the importance both our countries attach to direct Chinese-American contacts. There are many bridges to be built between us, but this is the most important of all because it spans the distance between nations with the contact between peoples.

America and China are destined to cooperate. That I believe. And history bears me out. American citizens of Chinese descent have made valuable contributions to our national heritage. The American people as a whole have long been fascinated by your rich history and beautiful land. Over the last two decades, not only our leaders, but the American and Chinese people, have gotten to know each other much better. Both Barbara and I have been privileged to play a part in this process.

As you may know, we made our home here some thirteen years ago when I served as Chief of the U.S. Liaison Office. Those personal contacts with our neighbors, the friendship and hospitality we experienced across this vast land -- that's how we remember China and the memories are dear to us.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 20, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: NELSON LUND *NJ*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Opening Statement for
CCTV Interview

At the request of James W. Cicconi, Counsel's Office has reviewed the captioned remarks. We have no objections.

We appreciate the opportunity to review these remarks.

Attachment

cc: James W. Cicconi