

TOP SECRET/NODIS/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

MESSAGE TO BE DELIVERED BY  
MAJOR GENERAL VERNON A. WALTERS  
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

In the light of recent events, it seems important to have a reliable channel for communication between our two Governments.

If the Government of the People's Republic of China desires talks that are strictly confidential, the President is ready to establish such a channel directly to him for matters of the most extreme sensitivity. Its purpose would be to bring about an improvement in US-Chinese relations fully recognizing differences in ideology. On the United States side, such a channel would be known only to the President and his Assistant for National Security Affairs, and would not be revealed to any other foreign country.

If you are interested in pursuing this proposal, initial contact should be made with the bearer of this communication, Major General Vernon A. Walters, the U.S. Defense Attache in Paris. Dr. Henry Kissinger, the President's Assistant for National Security Affairs, would be prepared to come to Paris for direct talks on US-Chinese relations with whomever might be designated by the People's Republic of China to explore the subject further.

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