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RESURFICTION IN (



If the next U.S. President to go to Peking were named Richard Nixon, Americans would witness a turnabout comparable to that of China's effective leader, Teng Hsiao-ping.

By Joseph Lelyveld

No one will be even mildly surprised when Air Force One rolls to a stop on a runway in Peking this week and the first of China's 12 Deputy Prime Ministers, Teng Hsiao-ping, steps forward to great the second President of the United States to visit his country, Gerald R. Ford. And yet, if you think your way back to the perspective of Richard Nixon's trip nearly four years ago, the long-planned, ritualistic encounter between these two men is nothing less than astounding. On the American side, it took the copping of a plea by a Vice President and the forced resignation of a President. What it took on the Chinese side was every bit as stunning and unforescen. in a word—a resurrection.

Don't be misled by his title: Deputy Prime Minister Teng (pronounced "Dung") is the effective head of the Chinese Government and, as such, one of the world's most consequential figures. If that fact has yet to be widely recognized outside China, it is because he arrived in that, position almost by stealth, edging his way not from the wings but from limbo. Four years ago Gerald Ford may have been a minor political figure at home and a nobody on the world scene. Teng was less than a nobody, Politically, he was a nonperson, having been the second most vilified figure in China during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, surpassed

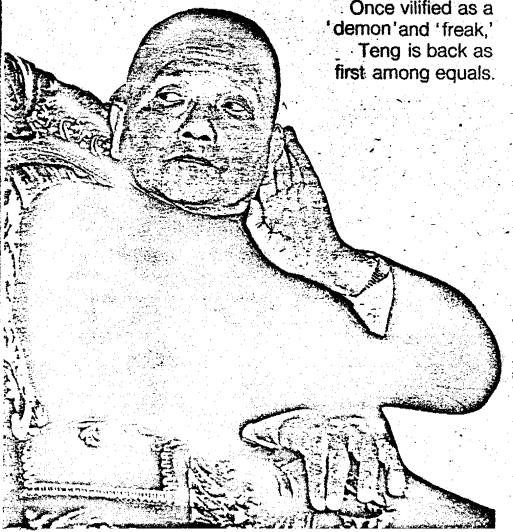
in ignominy only by the depo Shao-chi. Red Guard publicati 'heineus crimes," stigmatis as a "demoa" and bourgenis revisionist," "ca "counterrevolutionary." Noth suggested that he was redet deeply and thoroughly," urged the heady, blissfully anarchic Commune was briefly prom China. "Struggle against him and rendered repugnant. Br and oust hinn so he can Down with Teng Hsizo-ping?

Henry Kissinger is said a remarkable comeback of th Nixon's, circa 1968. That pl case but suggests w usable President to go to China is Americans will have witness political fortunes comparable

Of course, more is at stake fortunes Now nearing 72, in any case, to be other figure. That fact doesn't d does make his task even t put, that task is to preserve unity in the difficult and e of succession that will follow Tse-tung and Cheu En-lai.

In fact, the artfully stagealready well-advanced. Print 77, is thought to be critically ments three months have ; ported to have rece hospital to which he has supp for a year and a halk Chai be 82 next month, appears as as any politically alert Chi Little has been done for to the photost that appear per bent, invariably slack-jawer feeble hand to some visiting to tion, irreplaceable. Still, if he than later and a second ifthe start of the year.

Teng will predumably succeed Minister; he already has to been increasingly evident to of replacing Mao borders a for Mao is not simply par embodiment of the revolution ges as dominant in the Con onable guess, now ass that Ting will be the man once and future party boss— general for 12 years prior marked out as first among e leadership that Chou carefully To say that analysts of Chir. ly understand the terms and resurrection Joseph Lelyveld is a report



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