

immediate  
PRECEDENCE

Unclass  
CLASSIFICATION

FOR COMM CENTER USE ONLY

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM || TOSCO ||  
TO: GEN. SCOWCROFT  
(Peking)

DEX \_\_\_\_\_

DAC 010

GPS \_\_\_\_\_

LDX \_\_\_\_\_

PAGES 8

TTY \_\_\_\_\_

CITE \_\_\_\_\_

INFO:

DTG: - 30 172 0 Z

RELEASED BY: RE

TOR: 301930 Z

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: (Deliver upon Gen. Scowcroft's arrival)

(Best Copy Available)

75 NOV 30 PM 4.20

WITH HOUSE  
IN ROOM

1975 NOV 30 17 19

# RESURRECTION IN CHINA



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 greet 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 resigna-

tion of a President. What it took on the Chinese side was every bit as stunning and unforeseen. It took—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 deputy Premier, Shao-chi. Red Guard publications "heinous crimes," stigmata seemed—as a "demon" and "bourgeois revisionist," "a counter-revolutionary." Nothing suggested that he was redeemed deeply and thoroughly," urged the heady, blissfully anarchic Commune was briefly prom China. "Struggle against him and rendered repugnant. By and oust him so he can Down with Teng Hsiao-ping!"

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

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

In fact, the artfully staged already well-advanced. Prime 77, is thought to be critically ment three months have last reported to have received hospital to which he has supplied for a year and a half. Chai be 82 next month, appears as any politically alert Chi Little has been done for to the photos that appear present, invariably slack-jawed feeble hand to some visiting Teng will presumably succeed Minister; he already has been increasingly evident for of replacing Mao borders for Mao is not simply par embodiment of the revolution tion, irreplaceable. Still, if he than later and—a second if— gets dominant in the Co a reasonable guess, now that Teng will be the man once and future party boss— general for 12 years prior marked out as first among leadership that Chou carefully the start of the year.

To say that analysts of China understand the terms and resurrection is to point to

Once vilified as a 'demon' and 'freak,' Teng is back as first among equals.

