

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~

November 12, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Commentary of U. S. Government Officials
on Internal PRC Developments

The President has directed that there should be no comments by U. S. Government officials, whether on a background basis or otherwise, to the press or the public concerning internal political developments in the People's Republic of China, notably the apparent purge of Lin Piao.


Henry A. Kissinger

NSS/NSC Review Completed.

~~SECRET~~

34563

SECRET

ACTION

November 10, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER
FROM: JOHN H. HOLDRIDGE
SUBJECT: Press Commentary on Purge of Lin Piao

You have no doubt read the Stan Karnow and Joe Alsop articles in today's Washington Post on the purge of Lin Piao. These stories are unfortunate in that the Washington dateline suggests, undoubtedly correctly, that the information about Lin came from U.S. Government sources. Obviously Karnow and Alsop were given many of the details about the Lin case

2525X1

The problem is that the Chinese may feel that the U.S. is trying to cause them embarrassment and this may reflect to some extent on the President's trip. You may wish to dampen down this situation to the extent possible by directing the U.S. Government agencies concerned to avoid speculation to the press and public, whether on a background basis or otherwise, concerning Lin Piao and the Chinese domestic situation. A memorandum to this effect is at Tab A.

Recommendation:

That you sign the memorandum at Tab A.

SECRET

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Commentary of U. S. Government Officials
on Internal PRC Developments

The President has directed that there should be no comments by U. S. Government officials, whether on a background basis or otherwise, to the press or the public concerning internal political developments in the People's Republic of China, notably the apparent purge of Lin Biao.

Henry A. Kissinger

SECRET