

MEMORANDUM

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~SECRET/EXDIS~~

ACTION

February 23, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER

FROM: JOHN H. HOLDRIDGE *JHO*

SUBJECT: Proposed Staffing of Liaison Office in Peking

NSS, DOS Reviews Completed

Ambassador Porter has sent you a memorandum (Tab A) forwarding his thoughts on the staffing of our liaison office in Peking.

He proposes one FSO-1 or FSO-2 with political and language background as the senior officer; two FSO-3s as economic and administrative officers, respectively; two FSO-4s as assistant political and economic officers, respectively; one FSO/FSS as a general services officer; an interpreter, rank unstated; three Seabees for maintenance work; three communicators; and an unstated number of Marine Guards. There would be four secretaries. Exclusive of the Marine Guards, about whom Ambassador Porter has some doubts, the staff would total 17, of which 5 would be substantive and preferably have language background.



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As to the Marine Guards, Ambassador Porter notes that they could be explained to the Chinese as being customarily stationed in our offices for security purposes and would wear civilian clothes if desired.

He states that support details can be firmed up once you have commented, and that Marshall Green will be shepherding the project while he himself is in Paris. He suggests contacting the Chinese in Paris on this subject if this would be helpful to you.

Comment:

This staffing pattern can be taken as a more-or-less standard State breakdown of personnel based on experiences in manning small posts. You will note that while the top officer is an FSO-1 or 2, the next ranking is an FSO-3.

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GDS BYAUTH John H. Holdridge

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In general, Ambassador Porter's proposals seem adequate. Before fixing our staff level more firmly, however, it would be useful to know what the Chinese may have in mind. Their fixation on the principle of "equality and mutual benefit" is such that they would probably not want our staff in Peking to exceed theirs in Washington. This is a point which you might wish to discuss with the Chinese through your private channel. Hopefully, the Chinese would tell us what they want before we tip our own hand. If they want a smaller mission than what we want we can either try to get them to go along with us or adjust our own numbers downward.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

As to the Marine Guards,

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a security force will be necessary. Marines without uniforms could do the job, or State security personnel. The Marines would be preferable, though, since their use is standard. We would expect the Chinese to have security personnel of their own, and they thus might interpose no objections to our Marines.

Recommendation:

That you authorize me to inform Ambassador Porter that you agree to his proposal as a basis for planning, but subject to further information becoming available from the Chinese side.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

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UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

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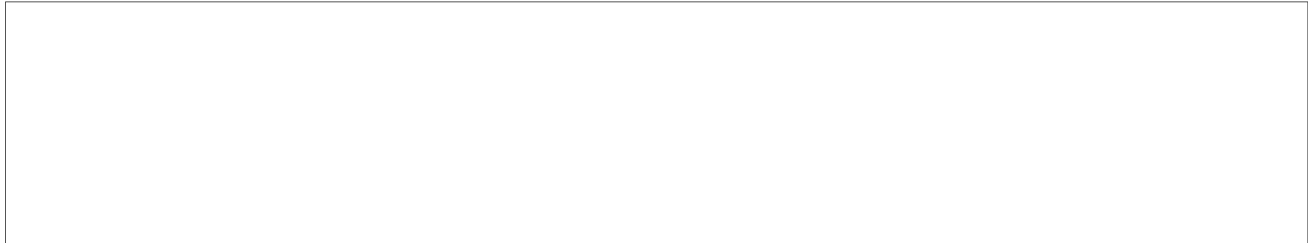
February 22, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Staffing of Liaison Office in Peking

In response to your request, I am attaching an outline of a staffing pattern for the liaison office in Peking.

If it meets with your approval, the next step will be to slot names to the tentative list of positions. If you have any names in mind for participation in this mission, please let me know.



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I have also omitted military personnel. For this category, I await your views.

You will note the mention of Marine Guards. If the Chinese question this, we could explain that they are customarily stationed in our offices for security purposes and that they would wear civilian clothes if desired.

The support details, including finances, will be firmed up when we have your additional comments.

During my absence in Paris, Marshall Green will be shepherding this project. If there is anything we can do for you on this subject in Paris while the Chinese delegation is there, please let me know.


William J. Porter

Attachment:
Staffing pattern.

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Outline of Staffing Pattern
Liaison Office, Peking

1. FSO 1 or 2 - Political, with Chinese language and general background. Secretary.
2. FSO 3 - Economic. Language. Secretary.
3. FSO 3 - Executive/Administrative. Secretary.
4. FSO 4 - Assistant political officer. Language. Secretary.
5. FSO 4 - Assistant Economic Officer.
6. FSO/FSS - General Services Officer.
7. Interpreter, if possible Chinese origin, American-born, American citizen.
8. 3 Seabees -- carpenter, electrician, mechanic.
9. 3 Communicators/Pouch clerks.
- 10, Marine Guards (?)

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