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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301

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JUL 19 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: China Trip (July 12-14, 2000) (U)

~~(S)~~ I have just completed a successful visit to China. My primary objective, which was achieved, was to confirm the resumption of U.S.-China military-to-military relations. The atmospherics (along with substantive nuances) throughout the visit were positive. As examples, there was no mention of "US hegemony," only oblique reference to the embassy bombing, and a willingness to say "yes" to a number of proposals I made on military engagement.

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(U) The most impressive moments were those with Jiang Zemin. Although our meeting was to last no more than 40 minutes, we engaged in metaphorical warfare for a full one and a half hours. Your time at the September UN General Assembly meeting will be limited, but you might want to beef up on the wit and wisdom of Lao Tsu, Confucius, Mao Zedong, and Plato (Jiang seemed most impressed with Socrates' fate of being forced to drink hemlock; I suggested the U.S. was, by contrast, offering him the nectar of the gods).

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(U) Speaking of Janet, she was a big hit in Beijing and Shanghai. As a result of her visit to China Central TV, she is going to arrange a joint interview program with a Chinese talk show anchor (who has a viewership of 400 million) and has secured agreement with Chinese authorities to have their military musicians perform with ours at a joint concert that we hope will take place in late fall.

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(U) All in all – a great trip!

(U) Details of my trip to China are attached. I will send a separate memorandum on my two-day visit to Australia, which was part of this successful and enjoyable trip.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Q. Q.' with a stylized flourish.

Attachment

cc:
Sandy Berger

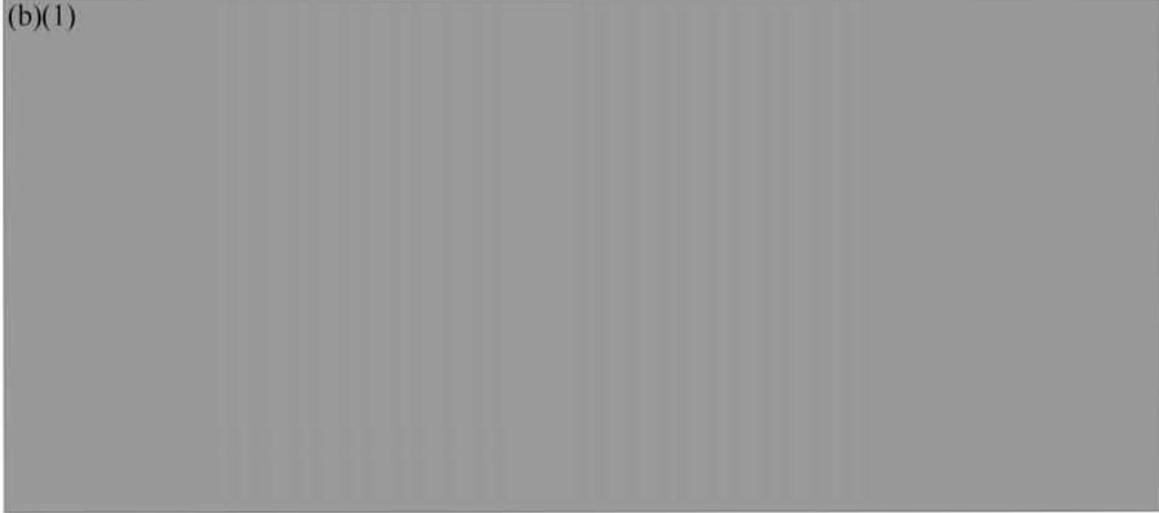
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China Trip
July 12-14, 2000

(U) I visited China 10-15 July, with stops in Beijing and Shanghai before going on to Australia. Admiral Denny Blair, our Pacific commander, accompanied me in China.

(S) My primary objective, which was achieved, was to confirm the resumption of U.S.-Chinese military-to-military contacts so that our successors can start from a solid base in moving forward. The trip also allowed me to hear Chinese views and lay out U.S. perspectives on a range of issues. The basic messages I carried were that

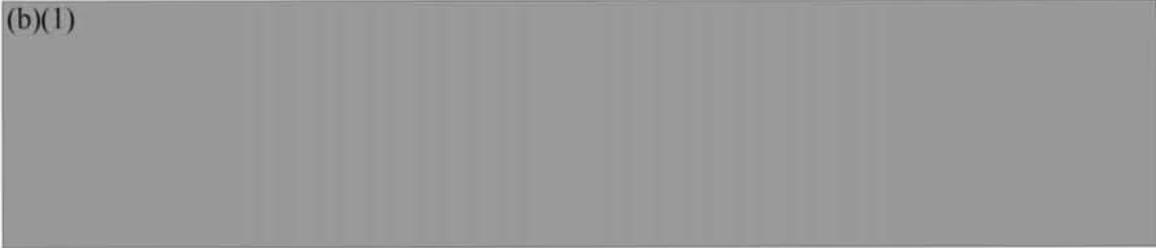
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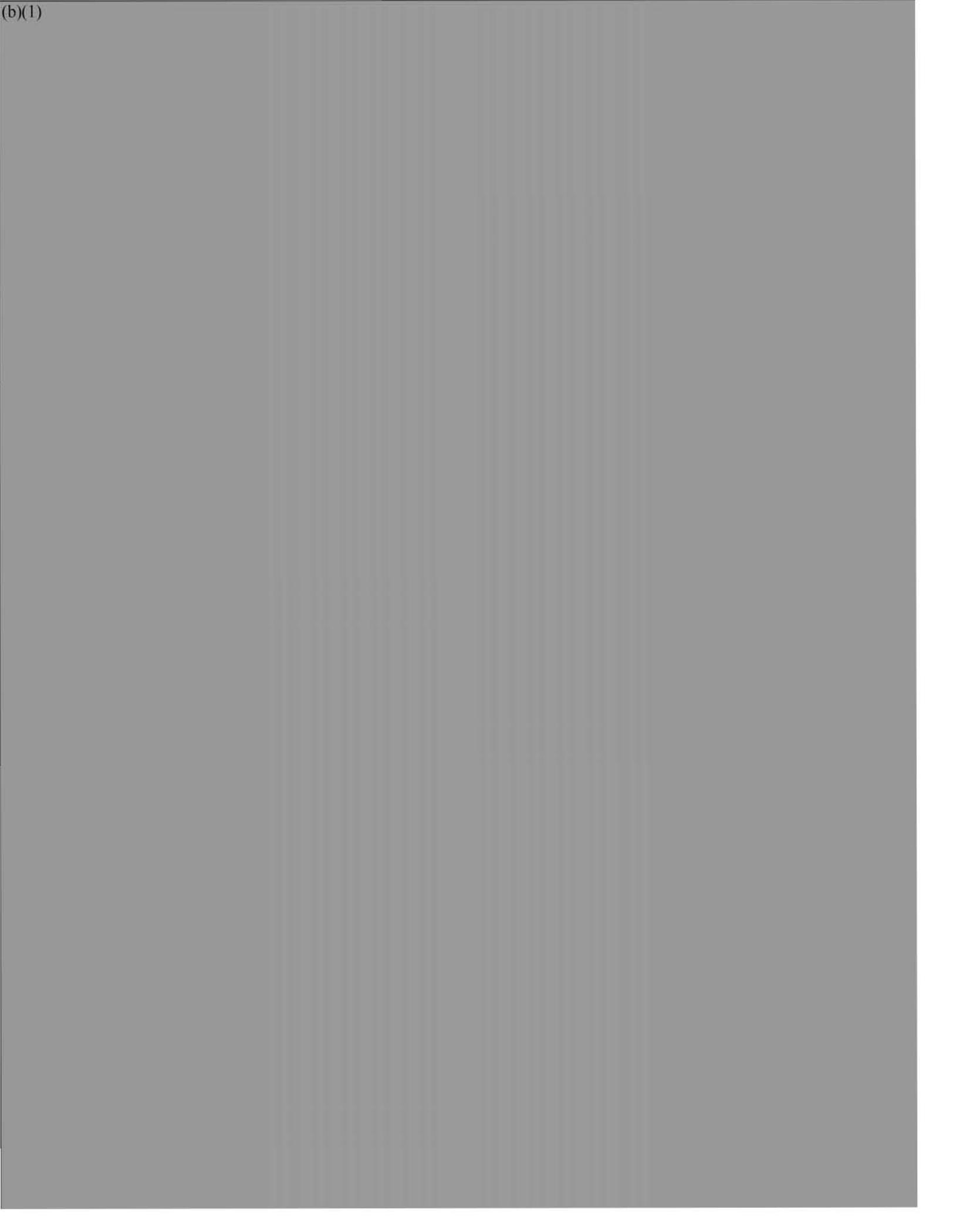
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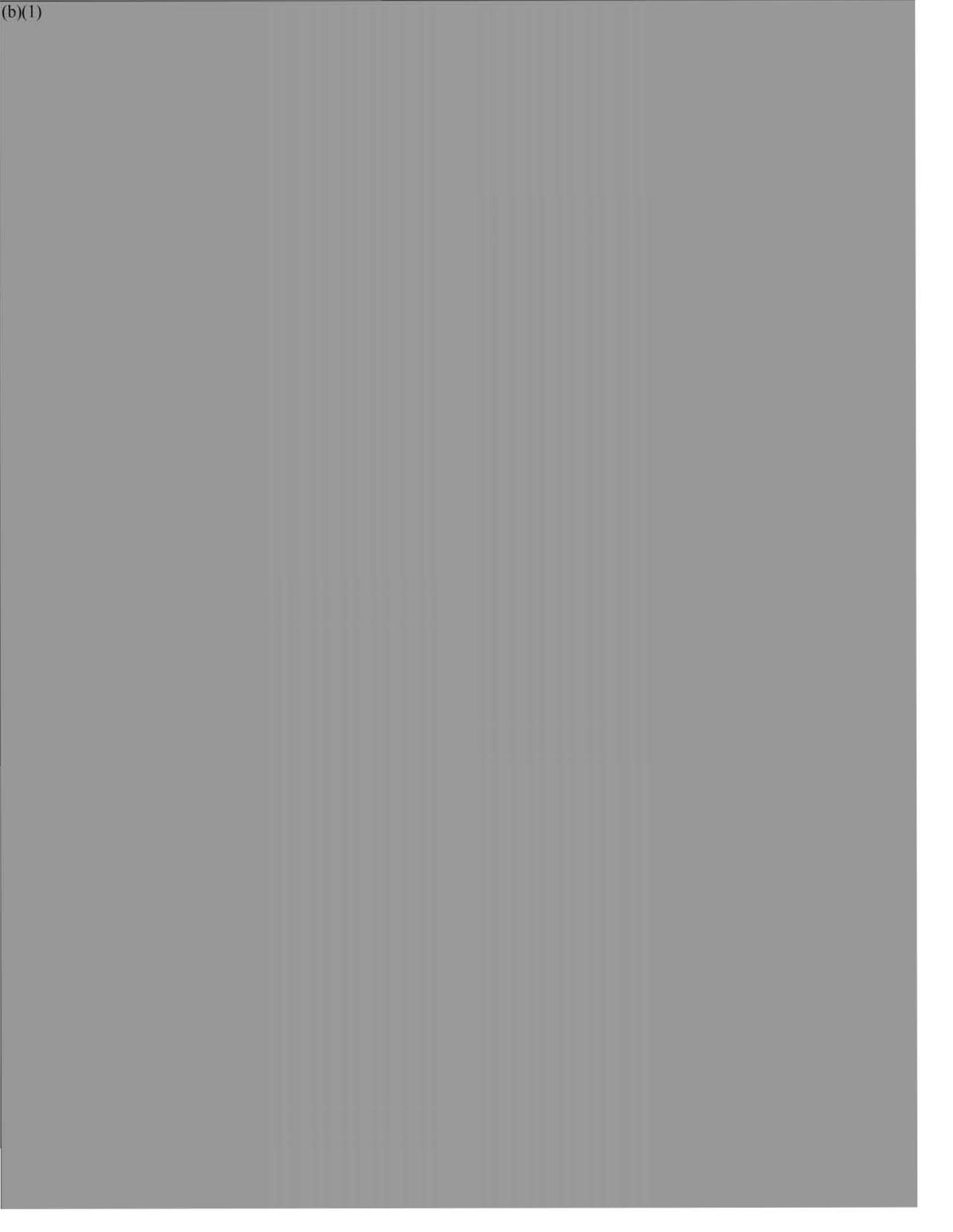
(U) I had two very full days of meetings with the senior Chinese leadership in Beijing. The extensive access I was afforded is a measure of the importance the government attaches to the relationship. I was received by President Jiang Zemin, General Chi Haotian, the Minister of Defense, Hu Jintao, PRC Vice President and recently appointed civilian Vice Chairman of the Central Military Committee (widely touted as Jiang's heir apparent; I was the first senior American official to meet him), General Zhang Wannian, Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission and de facto, chief operational leader of the PLA, Qian Qichen, Vice Premier (former Foreign Minister and still a leading figure on foreign affairs), and General Fu Quanyou, Chief of the General Staff. In addition, I had the opportunity to present U.S. policy positions publicly to key PLA officers in an address at the National Defense University.

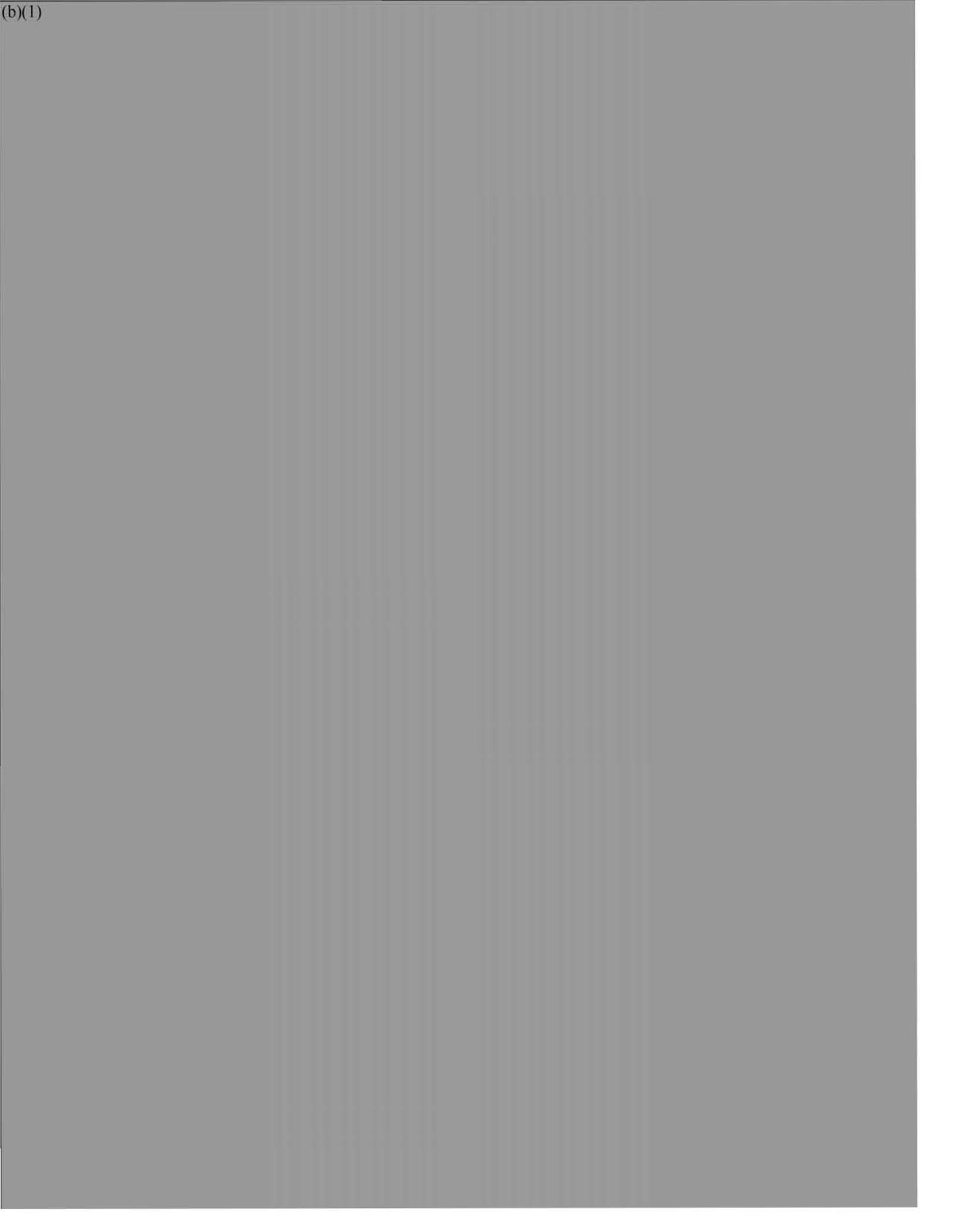
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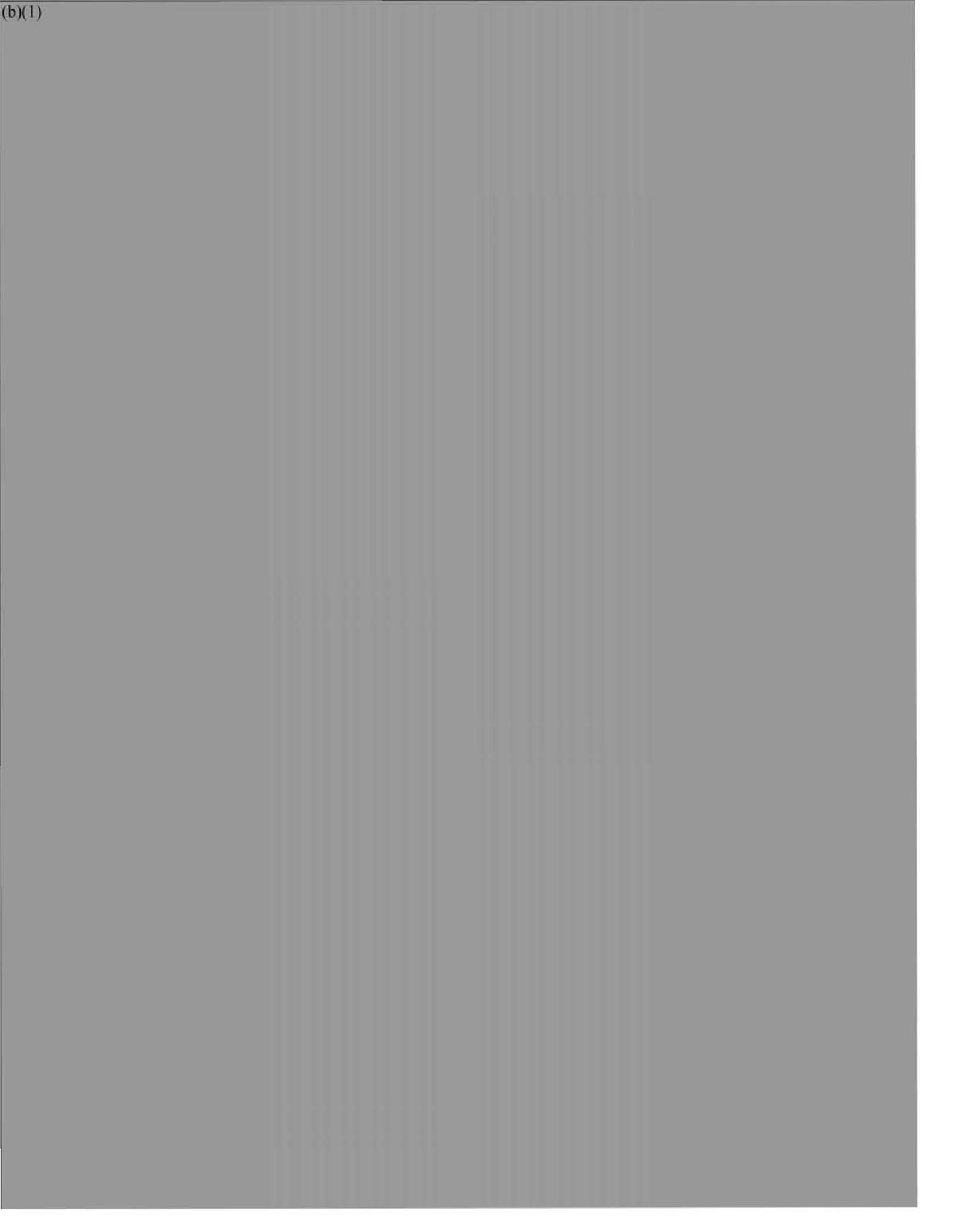


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(U) I also had a unique opportunity to give a speech on the floor of the Shanghai Stock Exchange. My speech was built on the theme of a virtual cycle – U.S. presence in Asia, regional stability, investment opportunities, and economic growth, which eventually leads to democratic political reform, which, in turn, leads to greater stability. The day in Shanghai ended with a dinner with American and Chinese businessmen, a group that seems generally excited about business prospects in China.