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**Dinner Hosted by MND Chi Haotian
Wednesday, July 12**

U.S. Attendees: 25 U.S. INVITED

Chinese Attendees: TBD

Background:

The welcoming dinner at the PLA/MND Headquarters building, hosted by General Chi ("CHIRR") Haotian, will provide you the opportunity to follow up on the formal discussions earlier in the day. Focus should be on relationship building stressing the value in continuing the momentum of the relationship. Yours will be among the first of the formal dinners for visiting dignitaries held at the newly built headquarters which opened this Spring. You should expect General CHI to open the dinner with a welcoming toast. A reciprocal toast would be appropriate.

Objectives:

- Impress upon him the U.S. commitment to peace and stability in the region and the world
- Illustrate the value of working with the U.S. (as the Chinese go into their Beidaihe leadership sessions)
- Focus the Chinese military on the benefits of peaceful resolution of disputes, especially Taiwan

Key Themes:

- Importance of mil-mil relations as key component of bilateral relationship: promotion of dialogue and mutual understanding
- Restraint on Taiwan, peaceful resolution, and no use of force
- Incessant negative rhetoric against U.S. in Chinese official media not helpful to constructive relations between the two sides

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