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Release

Speech at PLA National Defense University
Thursday, July 13

U.S. Attendees: Full Delegation

Chinese Attendees: NDU President, Gen. Xing Shizhong plus senior NDU staff

Background:

You last met with General Xing in March 1999. He was the last PLA leader to visit the U.S. prior to the suspension of mil to mil activities following the Belgrade embassy bombing. A strong NDU to NDU relationship has existed since 1985 when the PLA NDU was established. The strength of the NDU relationship and the coincidence of that meeting were used to help resume mil to mil in early 2000 beginning with US Capstone visits to China. VADM Gaffney, the new NDU President, will visit China continuing the pattern of alternating year visits. The title of the speech is "Security Cooperation in the New Century".

Objectives:

- Use your speech to articulate key themes in U.S. strategic policy, speaking directly to senior PLA leaders without the filters of the Chinese propaganda and political control system

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
- US strategic presence in Asia is long term and resolute
- **BIO FOLLOWS AT NEXT PAGE**

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BY: APA
12/03/2001

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As of 9:19 AM on 07/06/00