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RELEASE

Meeting with President Jiang Zemin  
Thursday, July 13

**U.S. Attendees:** CORE 10

**Chinese Attendees:** TBD

**Background:**

You last met President Jiang in January 1998 during your visit to China. Previously you met him during his 1997 visit to the U.S. Receiving you for a courtesy call in Beijing will again allow him to set a visual template that he is in charge of the People's Liberation Army. As head of the Central Military Commission, he is the titular head of the Chinese armed forces. However, Jiang does not have a military background himself, nor the close ties to the military that his predecessors enjoyed. Nonetheless, his relationship with the military is good and he enjoys the support of the military. Note: President Jiang is expected to visit U.S. in September to attend the United Nations General Assembly Millennium meeting. If so, he likely will meet with President Clinton.

**Objectives:**

- Provide U.S. perspective on serving globally and in Asia, including focus on Taiwan, missile defense, proliferation, Korea, and range of other international security issues
- Counter China's misperceptions about U.S. strategy and intent internationally
- Accentuate importance of constructive and sustained mil-mil relationship to build confidence and avoid miscalculation

**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
- Importance of US approval of PNTR and China/Taiwan entry into WTO

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- Incessant negative rhetoric against U.S. in Chinese official media not helpful to constructive relations between the two sides
- **BIO FOLLOWS AT NEXT PAGE**

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