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Memorandum from Zbigniew Brzezinski for the Director of Central Intelligence, 'Intelligence Estimate on Reaction to Normalization of Relations with the People's Republic of China'

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Summary:

Brzezinski outlines the conditions under which the Carter administration would move to recognize the PRC. They include both that the US would cease to recognize the Republic of China on Taiwan, but that the people of Taiwan would still be able to live in peace and maintain a prosperous economy.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET GDS

July 7, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Intelligence Estimate on Reaction to Normalization of Relations with the People's Republic of China

As per the June 27 PRC meeting on our China policy, you are requested to undertake a study of the impact of our establishing full diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China under the following conditions:

1. With the establishment of diplomatic relations with Peking, diplomatic relations and the Treaty with the Republic of China would lapse.

2. The terms of recognition would enable the people of Taiwan to sustain a prosperous economy and evolve their relationship with the mainland in peace.

3. Advanced consultation with Taipei and our allies most directly concerned -- Tokyo, Seoul, Manila, Bangkok, Jakarta, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Canberra, Wellington, London, Paris, and Bonn -- would have been undertaken. The move would not come as a surprise or shock.

4. Key Congressional figures would have been forewarned of the move and the reasons for it.

Naturally, were such a delicate inquiry to become public, it would have a significant policy impact. I therefore request that the intelligence estimate be undertaken through particularly secure channels.

Zbigniew Brzezinski

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