



August 20, 1955
**Cable from Wang Bingnan, 'Potential Topics at the Private
Dinner with Johnson'**

Citation:

"Cable from Wang Bingnan, 'Potential Topics at the Private Dinner with Johnson'," August 20, 1955, History and Public Policy Program Digital Archive, PRC FMA 111-00068-01, 4. Translated by Yafeng Xia.

<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/110214>

Summary:

Wang drafted certain issues that might be touched upon during the private dinner with Johnson and asked for permission from the Foreign Ministry. The US might: (1) Explain the current situation and wish to improve Sino-US relations; (2) Continue searching China's bottom-line with soft methods; (3) Want to test China's attitude on improving Sino-US relations; (4) Test China's opinion on the second agenda.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from the MacArthur Foundation.

Original Language:

Chinese

Contents:

- English Translation

[To the] Foreign Ministry:

The US representative has invited me for dinner. The anticipated topics [of discussion] may include the following:

- 1) To explain the unfavorable US situation and to express wishes to improve Sino-American relations; the US attempt to break a deadlock;
- 2) To attempt to use soft approaches to achieve the goal of getting US nationals released; to continue to probe our bottom line on the release of US nationals;
- 3) To feel out our attitude toward the improvement of Sino-American relations;
- 4) To probe our opinions regarding Agenda II;

Are they fitting? Please instruct.

Wang Bingnan

10:45 p.m., 20 August [1955]