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CITE:	(U) 306/103	
SUBJ: S	SECDEF LETTER TO GEN CHI HAOTIAN ON PLA'S 73RD ANNIVERSARY (U)	
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JOINT STAFF V1 1 (U,8,F) ACTION INFO NMCC:CWO(*) CMAS(*) CMAS(1) J5(*) JSAMS(*) JSAMS UNCLAS DMS(*) +USDP:ESC SECDEF V2 1 ACTION (8) INFO SECDEF-C(1) SECDEF-C(*) TOTAL COPIES REQUIRED #7489

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SARAH DISKETTE TABLE OF CONTENTS RELEASING DOCUMENT

CREATION DATE: 030800 CREATION TIME: 09220000 SARAH VERSION NUMBER: 3.03

MAXIMUM CLASSIFICATION OF THIS DISKETTE: UUUU HIGHEST CLASSIFICATION ON THIS DISKETTE: UUUU

DISKETTE RELEASING OFFICIAL'S NAME: WILLIAM S. COHEN

ORG:

OFFICE: PHONE:

TOC FILE CRC: 8180

	MSG PREC ACT	ON DATE/TIME	FILETIME	TOT/	SPEC	AT
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ORGANIZATION/OFFICE SYMBOL/PHONE NUMBER

WILLIAM S. COHEN



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

9 3

AUG 0 2 2000

General Chi Haotian
Vice Minister of the Central Military Commission
and Minister of National Defence
People's Republic of China

Dear General Chi:

On behalf of the United States Department of Defense, I would like to extend my congratulations on the 73rd Anniversary of the founding of your country's armed forces.

I would also like to thank you for hosting me and Janet on our recent trip to China. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. I was pleased to cover such a wide range of issues that are of common concern to both countries. Our meetings and discussions most certainly strengthened Sino-U.S. military-to-military relations as part of the overall engagement between the United States and China.

I regret that I was unable to attend your Embassy's celebration of PLA Day in Washington, D.C. My representative at that occasion, Mr. Walter B. Slocombe, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, conveyed to your Defense Attaché, Major General Gong Xianfu, my sincere best wishes.

I look forward to the continuation of our joint efforts to promote Sino-American defense and military relations into the 21st century, and, again, thank you for your kind hospitality. Janet joins me in sending our very best wishes to you and your wife.

Sincerely,

2 Aug 00



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CHINA	DD173 RR UU REDY	030923ZAUG00	. -		ZYUW N	31157

ORGANIZATION/OFFICE SYMBOL/PHONE NUMBER

WILLIAM S. COHEN

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DTG: 030923Z AUG 00 PAGE 01 of 02

Drafter's Name :

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Office/Phone : ISA/AP,

Releaser's Info : WILLIAM S. COHEN

Action Prec : ROUTINE Info Prec : ROUTINE

Specat :

From: SECDEF WASHDC

To: USDAO BEIJING CH Info: AMEMBASSY BEIJING

> SECSTATE WASHDC//EAP-C// JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J-5// USPACOM HONOLULU HI//J-5// SECDEF WASHDC//CHAIRS//

> > TEXT FOLLOWS

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: SECDEF LETTER TO GEN CHI HAOTIAN ON PLA'S 73RD ANNIVERSARY

- 1. SECDEF REQUESTS USDAO BEIJING CONVEY TEXT SOONEST. HARD COPY TO FOLLOW.
- BEGIN TEXT.

GENERAL CHI HAOTIAN VICE MINISTER OF THE CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION AND MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

DEAR GENERAL CHI:

ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND MY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 73RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF YOUR COUNTRY'S ARMED FORCES.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR HOSTING ME AND JANET ON OUR RECENT TRIP TO CHINA. WE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED OURSELVES. I WAS PLEASED TO COVER SUCH A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES THAT ARE OF COMMON CONCERN TO BOTH COUNTRIES. OUR MEETINGS AND DISCUSSIONS MOST CERTAINLY STRENGTHENED SINO-U.S. MILITARY-TO-MILITARY RELATIONS AS PART OF THE OVERALL ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.

I REGRET THAT I WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND YOUR EMBASSY'S CELEBRATION OF PLA DAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. MY REPRESENTATIVE AT THAT OCCASION, MR. WALTER B. SLOCOMBE, UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY, CONVEYED TO YOUR DEFENSE ATTACHE, MAJOR GENERAL GONG XIANFU, MY SINCERE BEST WISHES.

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PAGE 02 of 02

I LOOK FORWARD TO THE CONTINUATION OF OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SINO-AMERICAN DEFENSE AND MILITARY RELATIONS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY, AND, AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND HOSPITALITY. JANET JOINS ME IN SENDING OUR VERY BEST WISHES TO YOU AND YOUR WIFE.

SINCERELY, //SIGNED// WILLIAM S. COHEN

3. END TEXT.



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2400



MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE GOP, Por.

THROUGH:

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

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FROM: Assistant Secretary of Defense for International

Security Affairs
Prepared by: (b)(6) ISA/AP, (b)(6)

SUBJECT: PLA Day Letter
-- ACTION MEMORANDUM

PURPOSE: Obtain SECDEF signature on letter to PRC Minister of Defense,
General Chi Haotian

DISCUSSION: August 1 marks the 73rd Anniversary of the founding of the Chinese PLA. It is appropriate on this occasion for you to send a letter conveying your regards to PRC Minister of Defense General Chi.

RECOMMENDATION: Sign the PLA Day letter to the PRC MOD (Tab A).

45C	Approved
AUG 0 2 2000	Disapproved
<u></u>	Other:
ATTACHMENTS:	
Tab A. SECDEE PI	LA Day Letter to PRC MOD