

Premier Chou En-lai's Passing Deeply Mourned

Letter of Condolence From Governor-General John Guise of Papua New Guinea

His Excellency Chairman Mao Tsetung,

Peking,

The People's Republic of China

Your Excellency:

May I very sincerely tender to you and your government and nation my sincere sympathy and the sympathy of this nation in the death of a great leader in your Prime Minister Mr. Chou En-lai.

He was your friend in the successful fight for China's freedom from foreign exploitation and domination. His courage, devotion and loyalty to his people and nation is an inspiration to all those who love freedom.

Please convey my nation's as well as my own love and sympathy to the late Prime Minister's wife, family and relations.

Yours sincerely,

John Guise

Port Moresby, January 12, 1976

Messages of Condolences From Leaders of National-Liberation Organizations and Political Parties

Leaders of a number of national-liberation organizations and political parties have sent messages to Chinese leaders, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China or the Chinese Government, expressing condolences on the death of Premier Chou En-lai.

George Habash, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, said in his message to Chairman Mao Tsetung: "We extend to you our condolences on the passing away of the great fighter Chou En-lai." "Comrade Chou En-lai is a friend and ally of all the oppressed people and the people of all countries fighting for liberation and progress. His death is a tremendous loss to us all." "However, a great man like Comrade Chou En-lai will live in our hearts as he has bestowed on us experience and merits — a crystallization of his stubborn struggle against the imperialists and reactionaries and his struggle for building a great New China following the victory of your great revolution." "We are convinced that victory is surely in store for the fighting peoples as is shown by your precious experience, for which the late Comrade Chou En-lai wrote a shining, glorious epic."

In a message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the Central Committee of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said: "While mourning the death of Comrade Chou En-lai, the Central Committee of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine expresses its admiration and respect for his long-established progressive and internationalist stand on the cause of the Palestinian people. We express deepest condolences to the leading comrades and comrade members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and to all members of the Communist Party of China and all the Chinese people. Comrade Chou En-lai will for ever live in the hearts of the masses of our people and in the hearts of all the oppressed and exploited revolutionary people in the world."

In his message to Chairman Mao Tsetung, Ahmed Jibril, Secretary-General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (General Command), said: "The Palestinian people have always regarded Chou En-lai as a close and faithful friend and an example to learn in the revolutionary struggle against imperialism. To you, we mourn the death of Comrade Chou En-lai."

Expressing deepest condolences on the death of Premier Chou En-lai in a message to Chairman Mao

Tsetung, Holden Roberto, President of the Angolan National Liberation Front (F.N.L.A.), said: "The Angolan people and the Angolan National Liberation Front will never forget the abnegation, the spirit of sacrifice and the contributions of this eminent son of China to the Chinese revolution and to the struggle of the third world people."

Jonas Savimbi, President of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), in a message to Chairman Mao Tsetung, said: "The historic contribution of Comrade Chou En-lai to the revolution of China, to the struggle of the oppressed peoples of the world in general, and that of the oppressed people of Angola in particular is of historic dimensions. His contribution is and shall always be a source of inspiration to the struggle of the oppressed people against imperialism and social-imperialism. Comrade Chou En-lai was one of the greatest statesmen of the 20th century. The oppressed people of Angola share with the Chinese people, the Party and Government this moment of grief for the loss of a great revolutionary of our century. Surely, the heroic Chinese people as in the past will be able to transform grief into a source of strength which will make China stronger, thus contributing better for peace, independence and liberation of mankind."

Lucio Lara, Secretary of the Political Bureau of the People's Liberation Movement of Angola (M.P.L.A.), in a message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, said: "On behalf of the Central Committee of M.P.L.A., I extend to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China our deep condolences on the death of Comrade Premier Chou En-lai, the great friend of the people of Angola. His death is a grave loss to the Chinese people and all the freedom-, peace- and justice-loving people."

Messages of condolences have also been sent by Djawoto, Secretary-General of the Afro-Asian Journalists' Association; Samy Atari, Secretary of the General Command of the Palestine Al Sa'eqa Commandos; the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; Mohamed Ahmed Salem of the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman; Potlako Leballo, Acting President of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania; the Committee of Work for the Proletarian Unity of Venezuela; Moises Moleiro, General Secretary of the National Political Commission of the Leftist Revolutionary Movement of Venezuela; Jorge Rodriguez, General Secretary of the Socialist Union of Venezuela; Roberto Aponle Toro, Secretary for International Relations of the Independent Party of Puerto Rico; the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Puerto Rico; Francisco Mosquera, General Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Independent and Revolutionary Workers' Movement of Colombia; the Central Committee of the Party of Dominican Liberation; and the National Directorate of the Sandinista Front of National Liberation of Nicaragua.

Messages of Condolences From Prominent Political Figures Abroad

Prominent political figures in a number of countries have sent messages to Chinese leaders, expressing condolences on the death of Premier Chou En-lai.

In a message to Chairman Mao Tsetung, Mohamad Naim of Afghanistan said: "Deeply grieved by the sad news of the death of His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai. Allow me to extend to Your Excellency the expression of my heartfelt sympathy and condolences on this immense loss which is felt by all his friends everywhere.

"Having known the late Premier for many years, his passing away is a sad personal loss which is all the more pronounced by the memories of my call at the hospital during my visit to Peking in 1974."

In a message to Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, Princess Ashraf Pahlavi of Iran said: "Premier Chou whom I had the great pleasure of meeting during my memorable visit to your great country was a statesman of universal vision whose pragmatic political wisdom served admirably to realize so many of China's national goals. I request Your Excellency to accept and to convey to the family of the late Premier the expressions of my heartfelt condolences."

In a message to Chairman Mao Tsetung, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Arab Socialist Union of Egypt, Rifaat el Mahgoub, said: "I have learnt with extreme grief that the fine Comrade Chou En-lai, Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, has passed away. On behalf of the Arab Socialist Union and myself, please accept, Excellency, our sincere condolences, profound sympathy and deep feelings of sorrow towards this tremendous loss."

In a message to Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Chu Teh, Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf R. Denktas said: "I have heard with profound grief the passing away of His Excellency Chou En-lai, the Premier of the People's Republic of China and a great statesman. I would like to extend on my behalf and on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot community our heartfelt condolences to Your Excellency and to the Government and people of the People's Republic of China, over your great bereavement."

Former Vice-President of Egypt Hussein el Shafei said in a cable to Chairman Mao Tsetung: "Shocked to learn of the passing away of Chou En-lai, a great leader of state. I made acquaintance with him in his work for the building of New China and during his visit to Egypt and later, in 1973, I had the honour of meeting him again during my visit to your country. I wish to express to you my heartfelt condolences on the passing away of this great personality."

Secretary-General Mahmoud Riad of the League of Arab States said in a cable to Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping: "The passing away of Premier Chou En-lai has been received with profound grief by the Arab people. In the name of the League of Arab States as well as that of my own I wish to express my sincere condolences for the loss of such a great statesman and outstanding leader. Please convey my heartfelt condolences to Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Government and people of China."

Former President of the Confederation of Switzerland Max Petitpierre said in a cable to the Chinese Government: "I learnt with distress of the passing away of His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai. I had twice met and conversed with him, in Berne in 1954 and in Peking in 1973. This enabled me to appreciate the brilliance radiated by his strong and charming personality. Thanks to his exceptional qualities, he clear-sightedly and effectively orientated the policy of his country and often played a decisive role on the international stage. He was, therefore, among the small number of great statesmen of our time. I personally shall keep a heart-warming memory of him and of my contacts with him."

Chairman of the Christian Social Union of the Federal Republic of Germany Franz-Josef Strauss said in a cable to Chairman Mao Tsetung: "In the name of myself and my party, I wish to extend to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the great Chinese people our condolences on the passing away of the Premier of your country, Mr. Chou En-lai. You and your people have lost a leader of state who steered, by your side as the head of government, the destiny of your important and rapidly developing country over 25 years and more.

With his profound historical knowledge and rich political experience, Premier Chou En-lai, along with you, decisively shaped the face of New China. He contributed to making China a world factor which no one today can overlook any longer.

"His particularly acute sense of the political reality helped him to gain a remarkable understanding of the essential goal of the German policies and show keen interest in an independent and unified Europe. He, with the most important statesmen of your country, came to see that our world should no longer be dominated by the two superpowers but should observe the principle of diversity, the principle of independence of the people of all countries and their resistance to oppression."

Among those who sent messages of condolences were also Portes Gil, ex-President of Mexico; Andre Betencourt, President of the France-China Friendship Group of the French National Assembly; Pridi Banomyong, former Prime Minister of Thailand; Robert F. Williams, a leader of the black people in the United States, and his family; Marcelino Jaen, President, and Carlos Perez Herrera, Vice-President, of the National Commission of the Legislature of the Republic of Panama; Yasuhiro Nakasone, Secretary-General of the Liberal-Democratic Party of Japan; Tomomi Narita, Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party; Yoshikatsu Takeiri, Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Komei Party of Japan; Ikko Kasuga, Chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Democratic Socialist Party of Japan; John J. Rhodes, Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; and Mario Soares, General Secretary of the Portuguese Socialist Party.

Messages of Condolences to Madame Teng Ying-chao

Heads of state or government or their wives and prominent figures of various countries have cabled or written to Madame Teng Ying-chao, lifelong comrade-in-arms and widow of Premier Chou En-lai, to extend condolences on the death of Premier Chou En-lai.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Democratic Cambodia and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and his wife Monique Sihanouk say in their letter: "We learn with extreme grief of the sad news of the demise of His Excellency Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. His death is an immense loss not only to China, but also to Cambodia, the third world and the peoples the world over.

"From his youth to his last breath, His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai dedicated himself heart and soul to the Chinese people, his fatherland, and to the struggle, under the leadership of the respected and be-

loved Chairman Mao, for national liberation, and for the triumphant realization of the ideals of people's democracy, justice, social progress, economic development, socialism and communism. This struggle was also aimed at supporting all the oppressed people and all those countries that had fallen a victim to imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and Zionism as well as helping all the countries which want to free themselves from the state of under-development to realize their desire for independence, sovereignty, liberty, social progress and economic development.

"In this lofty revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people led by Chairman Mao, His Excellency Chou En-lai, as a worthy and faithful comrade-in-arms and number one intimate co-worker of Chairman Mao, had played a most important role. His highly patriotic spirit, his ability, dynamism, efficiency and wisdom had won boundless admiration throughout the world. The entire

Life of His Excellency Chou En-lai was characterized by his unreserved dedication and devotion — perfect and exemplary devotion — to the nation, the people, Chairman Mao, the Chinese Communist Party, the people's army of China and to internationalism of the People's Republic of China."

The letter says: "From the first day of our struggle to its victory, His Excellency Chou En-lai, consistently following the lofty directions of Chairman Mao, spared no effort in rendering the greatest assistance to the Cambodian people. Following Chairman Mao's guidance, His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai worked day and night to solve questions relating to assistance to Cambodia. People's China had given immeasurable and incomparable support and assistance to Cambodia which won complete victory on April 17, 1975."

"His Excellency Chou En-lai will always remain in our hearts, and we will always cherish his memory."

"We are convinced that the Cambodian people will always remember the respected Premier Chou En-lai, for he was the best and greatest friend and supporter of the Cambodian people," it adds.

In conclusion, the letter says: "At the time of your extreme grief, you have the biggest consolation that the respected and beloved Chairman Mao and all the Chinese people mourn with deep grief your most outstanding husband and correctly regard that he is an immortal image of revolutionary China and that he had performed magnificent services to the prosperity of China, the rapid development of socialist construction in all fields and to the unmatched high prestige China enjoys in the world. You have also the consolation that all peoples and all countries, Democratic Cambodia in particular, unanimously pay respects to the memory of His Excellency Chou En-lai and maintain that he was one of the greatest men in world history. The freedom-, justice- and peace-loving and progressive people of all countries will always remember him."

Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Government of Democratic Cambodia and Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Penn Nouth say in their letter: "We were overwhelmed with grief to learn of the news of the death of His Excellency Chou En-lai. We feel sad at the loss of an eminent hero of the Chinese people. We express our deep condolences to you, Madame, and to all the Chinese people."

"We will never forget that His Excellency Chou En-lai and you, Madame, laid the foundation of the great friendship between Cambodia and China."

"We should turn grief into strength and work for further consolidation of the great lasting friendship between the peoples of our two countries."

Comrade Kim Song Ae, wife of Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, says in her message: "Deeply grieved to learn of the death after long illness of Comrade Chou En-lai, a long-tested outstanding leader of the Communist Party

of China and the People's Republic of China, a close friend of the Korean people, a famous activist of the international communist movement and workers' movement, I extend with deep sorrow my profound condolences to you.

"Comrade Chou En-lai has passed away, but his immortal services to the victory of the Chinese revolution and prosperity of the country, to the victory of the common cause of the peoples of Korea and China and the revolutionary peoples the world over will shine for ever."

Comrade Vito Kapo, Chairman of the Albanian Women's Union, says in her message: "I share your sorrow over the passing away of Comrade Chou En-lai. As we know personally, Comrade Chou En-lai was a great leader of the Chinese Party and state, a dauntless revolutionary, an unswerving Marxist-Leninist much cherished by the Chinese people and internationally, and a closest and sincerest friend of our people. He will be engraved in our hearts for ever."

President Ne Win of Burma says in his message: "I share your grief at this sad hour. Premier Chou En-lai bore his pain with his usual fortitude and bravery, and you who had stood by him all the historic years have done likewise. I missed him for not being able to go to his bedside when I was last in Peking recently, though you were kind enough to personally take my greetings to him. We shall all miss him ever more as time goes by, for what he had achieved in his life of dedicated service will stand as monuments to his memory."

President Moktar Ould Daddah of Mauritania says in his message: "On the occasion of the demise of Premier Chou En-lai, I extend to you the deepest sympathy on behalf of my wife and in my own name. We share your grief, because the death of your husband not only caused a loss to the whole mankind, but also bereaved us of one of our dearest friends. We had the privilege of appreciating the inimitable enthusiasm, noble qualities, illustrious talent and wisdom of the great one who had passed away."

Prime Minister Takeo Miki of Japan says in his message: "I am extremely grieved to learn of the demise of Premier Chou En-lai. I sincerely wish that Premier Chou will rest in peace, and I extend my condolences."

Premier Mamdouh Salem of Egypt says in his message: "I am extremely grieved to learn of the demise of His Excellency Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

"For this great misery of the friendly Chinese people, in my own name and on behalf of the government, I extend to Your Excellency and your family my deepest and heartfelt condolences and most cordial sympathies."

Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel of Turkey says in his message: "Deeply grieved by the sad news of the passing away of your beloved husband His Excellency Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council of the Peo-

ple's Republic of China, my wife and I hasten to express to you and the members of your family our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy."

Prime Minister Martti Miettunen of Finland says in his message: "Deeply moved by the news of the passing away of your husband Premier Chou En-lai, longstanding and eminent Chinese statesman. I wish to extend to you, Madame, my sincere feelings of sympathy at this time of deep sorrow."

Prime Minister J.M. den Uyl of the Netherlands says in his message: "Please accept also on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands my most sincere condolences with the passing away of your husband. The death of Premier Chou En-lai has bereft your country and the world at large of a gifted leader and eminent statesman. I share your profound personal loss."

Prime Minister Leo Tindemans of Belgium says in his message: "Grieved to learn of the news that has brought you great misery, I extend to you my deep condolences. All those who were fortunate to be acquainted with the Premier will always remember him."

President Gerald R. Ford of the United States says in his message: "Mrs. Ford and I wish to express to you our deepest sympathy on the death of Premier Chou En-lai."

"In my meeting with the Premier during my first visit to China, his wisdom and understanding of human affairs left a lasting impression on me. It was these qualities which enabled him to make such an important contribution to the history of his country. Americans will particularly remember him for his major role in forging new ties of friendship between our two peoples."

Shahbanou Farah Pahlavi of Iran says in her message: "I am profoundly saddened by the news of the death of your esteemed husband."

"The loss of Premier Chou En-lai, whom I had the great pleasure of meeting during my memorable visit to your country, has deprived China of a wise and dedicated leader and statesman whose devotion to the welfare and prosperity of his people has earned the admiration of all."

"In these mournful circumstances, I wish to convey to you and the members of your family the expression of my deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences."

Queen Mother Ratna of Nepal says in her message: "Heartfelt condolence on the sad demise of your beloved husband."

Others who have sent messages or letters of condolences are: Kakuei Tanaka, former Prime Minister of Japan; Lois Snow, widow of Edgar Snow; Mike Mansfield, Democratic Party leader of the U.S. Senate; Julie Nixon Eisenhower, daughter of former U.S. President Richard Nixon; Chen Pien Li, Li Cheng-tao and Wu Chien-hsiung, U.S. scholars of Chinese origin; Han Suyin, famous writer; and other foreign friends.

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Leaders of some Marxist-Leninist Parties, their wives and some other foreign friends also sent telegrams or letters to Comrade Teng Ying-chao, expressing grievous condolences.

The letter from Comrade Thakin Ba Thein Tin, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Burma, says: "Comrade Chou En-lai was a great proletarian revolutionary. He granted a tremendous help to the Communist Party of Burma and the Burmese revolution. His death is an enormous loss not only for the Communist Party of China but also for all the political parties and organizations which uphold Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, the Communist Party of Burma included.

"Let us turn grief into strength, learn from the brilliant example of Comrade Chou En-lai, and redouble our effort in the struggle for fulfilling the unaccomplished cause of the proletarian revolution in Burma, China and the rest of the world!"

The message from Comrade E.F. Hill, Chairman of the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist), and his wife Comrade J.A. Hill, reads: "Dearest Comrade Teng Ying-chao our personal heartfelt sympathy in your tragic loss."

The letter from Comrade Kazimierz Mijal, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Poland, says: "I learnt, with extreme grief, of the death of Comrade Chou En-lai, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and your dearest. . . Please accept profound regards from me, who had the honour to be acquainted with Comrade Chou En-lai and who personally felt his wisdom, modesty, and tremendous warmth and attention for the revolutionary activities in Poland."

The letter from Comrades Khieu Ponnary and Ieng Thirith says: "The news on the death of Comrade Chou En-lai, a lofty leader of the great Chinese people, fills us with extreme grief. Comrade Chou En-lai devoted his valuable life unconditionally and wholly to his motherland, to the Chinese people, to the Communist Party of China and to the Chinese proletariat.

"Moreover, Comrade Chou En-lai was an outstanding hero of the international proletariat. Comrade Chou En-lai worked painstakingly day and night for the people's democratic revolution and socialist revolution the world over. And particularly for the national-liberation struggle of the weak and small countries which were bullied by imperialism and colonialism, Comrade Chou En-lai was their active supporter and staunch guard."

The letter continues: "For us the Cambodian people, Comrade Chou En-lai was our most intimate, most sincere and great comrade-in-arms. He was a builder of the great militant unity and great fraternal friendship

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between the Cambodian and Chinese people. Throughout our Cambodia, from the vast plains to remote hilly areas, everyone knows that Comrade Chou En-lai was their great comrade-in-arms. Especially after the coup d'état staged by the treacherous clique on March 18, 1970, Comrade Chou En-lai unconditionally devoted his energy to the revolutionary cause of our Cambodia. All these will become shining chapters in the history of the relations between our two countries; at the same time, they will be remembered deep in the heart of everyone of us for ever and ever.

The letter from American friends Ruth Coe and Frank Coe says: "We wish to express to you our heartfelt condolences and sympathy on the death of your beloved husband, Comrade Chou En-lai. When such a

great revolutionary passes away, grief can only be profound, not only in China but throughout the world.

"We were fortunate in having the opportunity of talking with or listening to the Premier many times. We treasure the memory of these occasions, which were of great help to us politically and ideologically. Comrade Chou En-lai was a great proletarian internationalist; and we, along with many, many other foreign comrades, owe him a high debt of gratitude."

The letter from American friend Sol Adler and British friend Pat Adler says: "We wish to convey our deepest condolences to you over your grievous loss. We trust that you will draw strength from grief and that Comrade Chou En-lai's immortal achievements will not only be a permanent consolation but also continue to be a source of inspiration to you, as to all of us."