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CHINA INTERNAL: RECTIFICATION AND LEADERSHIP.

SUMMARY.

1. RENEWED STRESS ON PARTY BUILDING. CONTINUED HIGH PROFILE BY PARTY VETERANS. DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AMONG STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS. YAN MINGFU REAPPEARS.

DETAIL.

2. THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE C C P WHICH FELL ON 1 JULY WAS USED NOT AS A CELEBRATION BUT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICISE THE TASK OF PARTY BUILDING, WHICH IS NOW BEING STRESSED. A PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL ON 1 JULY AND A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF VETERAN CADRES ON THE SAME DAY ADDRESSED BY JIANG ZEMIN BOTH FOCUSED ON THIS SUBJECT. THE RECENT UNREST IS BEING EXPLAINED NOT ONLY BY THE 'FRENZIED' EFFORTS OF 'HOSTILE FORCES' OUTSIDE THE C C P (DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN) BUT ALSO BY LAXITY WITHIN THE PARTY. THE LAX APPROACH TO IDEOLOGICAL WORK AND THE CONSEQUENT NEGLECT OF THE 4 BASIC PRINCIPLES AND GROWTH OF BOURGEOIS LIBERALISATION ARE OF COURSE THE LONG-TERM CHARGES BEING MADE AGAINST ZHAO ZIYANG. CURRENT PROBLEMS LIE NOT ONLY WITH IDEOLOGICAL SLOPPINESS BUT ALSO ECONOMIC CORRUPTION. EFFORTS ON PARTY BUILDING ARE SAID TO BE NECESSARY TO RESTORE THE HEALTH AND

PRESTIGE OF THE PARTY AND ARE AN URGENT TASK FACING THE PARTY AT ALL LEVELS.

3. THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE CENTRAL DISCIPLINE INSPECTION COMMISSION (ISSUED 24 JUNE) SPOKE IN STRICT TERMS OF THE NECESSITY OF EXPELLING FROM THE PARTY OR OTHERWISE PUNISHING THOSE PARTY MEMBERS WHO HAD BEHAVED INCORRECTLY DURING THE UNREST. THE TENOR OF THESE MORE RECENT STATEMENTS IS THE NEED TO DEAL WITH LONG-TERM PROBLEMS IN A MORE SYSTEMATIC WAY. JIANG ZEMIN SPOKE IN TERMS OF A 'SERIOUS IDEOLOGICAL AND ORGANISATIONAL RECTIFICATION AT ALL LEVELS OF THE PARTY', BUT A FORMAL RECTIFICATION CAMPAIGN HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED.

4. JIANG ZEMIN WAS GIVEN FRONT-PAGE TREATMENT BY 2 JULY PEOPLE'S DAILY BUT HE HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN A HIGH PROFILE SINCE HIS ELEVATION. THE 1 JULY PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL SPOKE MERELY IN TERMS OF THE 'NEW CENTRAL LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE WITH JIANG ZEMIN AS GENERAL SECRETARY'. JIANG'S REPUTATION WITH THE PUBLIC WILL NOT BE ENHANCED BY THE EXTREME DEFERENCE HE PAID TO THE VETERAN LEADERS IN HIS 1 JULY REMARKS. THESE REMARKS WERE MADE AT THE MEETING OF PARTY VETERANS, ATTENDED BY BO YIBO AND SONG RENQIONG AND ADDRESSED BY A NUMBER OF OTHERS, INCLUDING IDEOLOGUE HU QIAOMU. TWO SPEECHES MADE BY DENG XIAOPING IN 1965 ON PARTY BUILDING HAVE BEEN RE-RELEASED AS GUIDING DOCUMENTS.

5. HONG KONG NEWSPAPERS HAVE REPORTED THAT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE HAVE BEEN DECIDED. JIANG IS TO BE IN OVERALL CHARGE, LI PENG AND YAO YILIN ARE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ECONOMY, QIAO SHI FOR SECURITY MATTERS AND PARTY BUILDING AND LI RUIHUAN FOR IDEOLOGY. SONG PING IS TO ASSIST QIAO. THIS IS A PREDICTABLE DIVISION. SONG'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE PARTY BUILDING FIELD WERE UNDERLINED BY HIS CHAIRING THE 1 JULY MEETING OF PARTY VETERANS.

COMMENT.

6. THE LANGUAGE OF THE LATEST CALLS FOR PARTY BUILDING AND THE ELIMINATION OF CORRUPTION ARE REMINISCENT OF THE TIRED CAMPAIGNS MOUNTED OVER RECENT YEARS. THE SITUATION IS NOW DIFFERENT OF COURSE. IT MAY BE CONDUCTED MORE ENTHUSIASTICALLY BY THE PEOPLE CURRENTLY IN CONTROL AND OFFENDERS MAY BE FRIGHTENED INTO MENDING THEIR WAYS. PUBLICITY IS STILL BEING GIVEN TO QUITE A NUMBER OF CASES OF CORRUPTION INVOLVING PARTY MEMBERS, BUT THESE ARE LOW- AND MIDDLE-RANKING PEOPLE. IT STILL SEEMS DOUBTFUL WHETHER THE

SYSTEMIC CHANGES THAT ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE REAL PROGRESS IN THEIR AREA WILL BE ADOPTED OR WHETHER HIGH-RANKING CULPRITS WILL BE CHARGED. MANY OF THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF TOP LEADERS ARE IMPLICATED IN CORRUPT ACTIVITIES. UNTIL THIS HAPPENS, NOBODY WILL BE CONVINCED OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP'S DETERMINATION TO ROOT OUT CORRUPTION AND THIS WILL BE A CONTINUING DRAIN ON THE PARTY'S ALREADY LOW SVMCK OF PRESTIGE AND POPULAR SUPPORT.

7. FINALLY, ON LEADERSHIP MATTERS, THE NPC STANDING COMMITTEE REMOVED ZHAO ZIYANG FROM HIS LAST LEADERSHIP POST - THAT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE (STATE) CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION - ON 30 JUNE. ONE OF THE THREE PARTY LEADING FIGURES REMOVED WITH PHAO FROM HIS LEADING POSITION - YAN MINGFU - CONTINUES TO APPEAR AS HE DID BEFORE HIS SACKING. HIS LATEST APPEARANCE WAS AT JIANG ZEMIN'S MEETING WITH NON-C C P FIGURES ON 28 JUNE. HE ATTENDED IN THE CAPACITY OF HEAD OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE UNITED FRONT WORK DEPARTMENT. THIS PRESUMABLY MEANS THAT YAN - THE MOST JUNIOR OF THE FOUR - HAS THE CLEAREST PATH AHEAD OF HIM FOR A COMEBACK. HIS CAREER WILL BE WORTH WATCHING.

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