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Announcer (Snitow): The United States government, under both Presidents Nixon and Ford, has been moving slowly toward some kind of agreement with the Peoples Republic of China. However some people on the right of the Republican Party do not believe that Kissinger and Ford are moving fast enough toward recognition of Peking. Banning Garrett of Internews has that story.

Garrett: The Ford administration is under strong internal pressure to to move forward in relations with the Peoples Republic of China during the current political upheaval in that country and before Mao dies. The latest indication of that pressure is the publication of a rare public critique of administration policy by a senior CIA analyst who argues that furth delay in formally recognizing ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ China runs the risk of destroying the new American relationship with Peking. In the latest issue of Foreign Policy magazine, published yesterday, Roger Glen Brown of the CIA argues that the new relationship wath China may not be strong enough to survive the death of Chairman Mao Tze-tung, and, without Mao to hold the pro-Western groups together, China will move either toward a new isolationism or toward accomodation with the Soviet Union. Either move, according to Brown, would undermine Secretary Kissinger's balancing act with Peking and undercut an important source of leverage on Moscow.

Foreign Policy points out that the views of the author are his own and the CIA has tried to distance itself from Brown, which the New York Times says may be due to heavy criticism of the agency for allowing publication of the article. Nevertheless the article also serves as another signal from Washington that the U.S. does want to upgrade ties with China, even though President Ford is now bogged down in a presidential campaign where his challenger has charged him with planning to sell out Taiwan. Just last week rumors surfaced in Congress that the administration was planning to recognize Peking after the November election, a rumor which was given a highly qualified denial by the White House. The same day Secretary of Commerce Elliott Richardson told reporters at a press conference in Tokyo that the U.S. would be willing to discuss arms sales to China. The administration has also let it be known that it approves arms sales to China by U.S. allies, and that Washington itself is considering direct sales of highly advanced computers which have military uses.

The administration hopes that these signals will be sufficient to bolster those in the Chinese leadership afvocating a quasi-alliance with the U.S. to counter the Soviet Union. But the article by CIA analyst Brown indicates that there are some in the administration who fear that if Mao dies before open ties are established, the administration's quiet signals to Peking will not have been enough. This is Banning Garrett, for Internews. [end item]

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