

PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG'S TOAST AT THE BANQUET

GIVEN BY PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW

13 MAY 1976

Your Excellency Respected Prime Minister and

Mrs. Lee Kuan Yew,

Distinguished Guests from Singapore,

Friends and Comrades,

We are very glad tonight to attend this farewell banquet at the invitation of His Excellency Prime Minister and Mrs. Lee Kuan Yew and gather joyously again with our friends from Singapore.

The current visit to China by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew at the head of the goodwill delegation is a major event in the relations between China and Singapore. Chairman Mao has met and had a friendly conversation with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. In the last few days, our two sides held talks and had a sincere exchange of views on matters of common interest. His Excellency the Prime Minister and the other distinguished guests from Singapore visited places of interest in Peking and came into contact with the Chinese people. This visit by His Excellency the Prime Minister is of benefit to promoting the friendship

between the peoples of China and Singapore and the mutual understanding between our two countries. I am confident that through our joint efforts the friendly relations between our two countries will continue to develop on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.

His Excellency the Prime Minister and the other distinguished guests will soon leave Peking to visit other parts of China. I wish our distinguished guests a pleasant journey and good health.

Now I propose a toast

to the prosperity of the Republic of Singapore and the well-being of her people.

to the steady growth of the traditional friendship between the peoples of China and Singapore and the friendly relations between the two countries,

to the health of His Excellency Benjamin Henry Sheares, President of the Republic of Singapore,

to the health of Prime Minister and Mrs. Lee Kuan Yew,

to the health of the other friends of Singapore, and

to the health of all friends and comrades!

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