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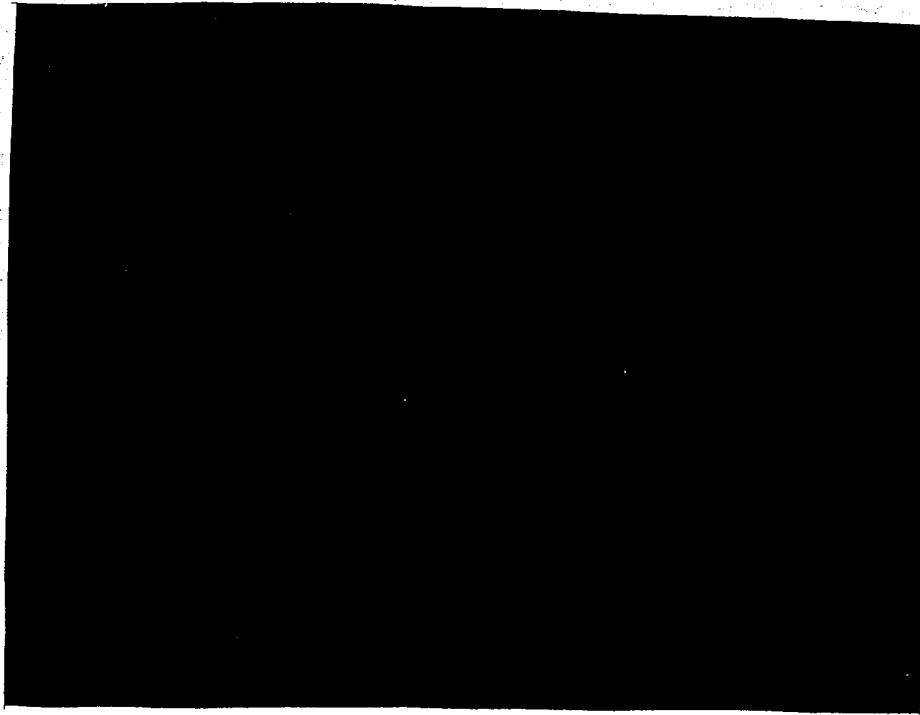
CHINA:

Political Crackdown Still the Priority

Jiang Zemin's first speech as party General Secretary indicates the leadership will concentrate for now on tightening control, giving only lipservice to economic reform. [REDACTED]

In a speech to nonparty officials on Wednesday, he said that the political crackdown will be drawn out and thorough. He promised swift harsh punishment of regime opponents without the "slightest leniency." Jiang reaffirmed the regime's commitment to economic reform and the opening to foreign investment but stressed these are to be conducted in a "socialist" context and not to build capitalism. [REDACTED]

Jiang's comments echoed statements this week by antireform party elders and party security officials, who also severely criticized the ousted Zhao Ziyang for neglecting party building and "ideological-political" work. A communique issued by party security officials, while supporting economic reform, emphasized the need for enforcing party discipline, even to the extent of expelling party members and purging party organizations. Conversely, Beijing's Hong Kong newspaper touted the appointment of Politburo member Li Ruihuan to handle propaganda as indicating a "less severe" attitude toward the intelligentsia. [REDACTED]



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