Dai Qing: Born in 1941, Dai Qing was trained as a missile engineer at the Harbin Military Engineering Institute and is the adopted daughter of Ye Jianying, one of China’s most senior military leaders. In the 1960s, Dai Qing became a Red Guard activist during the Cultural Revolution and underwent secret service training in the military. In the early 1980s, she became a journalist at Guangming ribao (Enlightenment Daily) where she began doing investigative reports on intellectual persecution throughout Chinese Communist Party (CCP) history. She reported on the cases of Wang Shiwei, Liang Shuming, and Chu Anping, all prominent intellectuals who were purged by Party leaders in the 1940s and the 1950s. Dai Qing is a strong advocate of press freedom and environmental protection, and she has collected documents from many scientists and economists opposed to the Three Gorges dam project. In 1989, Dai was imprisoned after the June fourth crackdown in Tiananmen Square. At the same time, her book on the Three Gorges dam, Changjiang! Changjiang! (Yangtze! Yangtze!), was banned for allegedly contributing to the “turmoil.” Later released, Dai was allowed to travel abroad and has since been a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University and a fellow at the Freedom Forum, School of Journalism, Columbia University.

Deng Xiaoping: Born in 1904 in Sichuan Province, Deng Xiaoping was the eldest son of a landowner. In 1920, he traveled to France as a work-study student where he joined the European branch of the Chinese Communist Party. On returning to China in 1927, he assumed his first position as an instructor at the Xi’an Military and Political Academy. In 1929, he helped organize communist military forces in the southwestern province of Guangxi and became a political commissar. During the 1945–49 Civil War with the Nationalists, Deng was a member of the Second Field Army in the Crossing the Yangtze River and Huaihai battles. In 1952, he was appointed a vice premier and in 1956 became a member of the CCP Politburo Standing Committee and head of the Party Secretariat. He was condemned in the Cultural Revolution (1966–76) for having previously criticized the personality cult of Mao Zedong and for his “liberal” policies on agriculture and industry. He
reeappeared in 1973 as a vice premier, and in 1975 he was reappointed to the Politburo Standing Committee, only to be dropped again in 1976 following the April Tiananmen demonstrations. Deng reappeared again in July 1977, when he assumed all of his previous posts and also became chief of staff of the People’s Liberation Army. In 1981, he became chairman of the Central Military Commission. In November 1987, he “retired” from all posts except the Military Commission, a position which he finally yielded in November 1989. Deng Xiaoping died on February 19, 1997, at the age of ninety-two.

**Guo Shuyan:** Born in 1935 in Zhenping, Henan Province, Guo Shuyan joined the CCP in 1957. In 1959, he graduated with a degree in Metallurgy from the Polytechnical College of the Urals in the Soviet Union. In the same year, in the midst of the Great Leap Forward (1958–60), Guo returned to China and became deputy director of the Shenyang Manufacturing Research Institute of the First Ministry of Machine Building. He was also appointed deputy director and chief engineer of the High Energy Physics Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, deputy director of the Bureau of Development Estimates of the State Science and Technology Commission, deputy director of the Science and Technology Leading Group of the State Council, deputy director of the State Science and Technology Commission, and vice governor and governor of Hubei Province. Guo also served as Party secretary of Hubei Province.

**Huang Shunxing:** Born in 1923 in Taiwan, Huang Shunxing was, from 1964 to 1969, a freely elected county executive in Taiwan. Huang subsequently moved to China and, since 1988, has been a member of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress. He is an expert on agriculture and environmental protection.

**Huang Wanli:** Born in 1911 in Chuansha (now part of Shanghai) in Jiangsu Province, Huang Wanli graduated from the Department of Civil Engineering of Tangshan Communications University in 1932. He then traveled to the United States and in 1935 received a master’s degree in civil engineering from Cornell University. In 1937, he earned a Ph.D. in the same field from the University of Illinois. Upon returning to China, under the Nationalist government, Huang became the technical supervisor of the Water Resources Department of the All-China Economic Commit-

tee, an engineer in the Water Resources Bureau of the Sichuan Province government, and engineer-in-chief and director of the Water Resources Bureau of Gansu Province in China’s northwest. After the Communist takeover in 1949, Huang was appointed to professorships at Tangshan Railway College and Qinghua University where he conducted research in the field of water resources and hydrology (shuiwenxue) as well as water resources planning. He is the author of many works, including a major research study entitled “Harnessing the Yellow River.”

**Li Boning:** A major figure in China’s water resources bureaucracy, Li Boning is a primary supporter of the Three Gorges Dam Project. In the late 1950s, Li Boning was the deputy director of the Capital Construction Department of the Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power. In 1978, he was identified as a vice minister of water resources and electric power. In 1989, he became the leading member of the Central Flood Prevention and Control Office. In 1988, he was elected vice chairman of the Economic Committee of the CPPCC.

**Li Eding:** Born in 1918 in the city of Tianjin, Li Eding graduated as a civil engineer from Qinghua University in 1940. In 1943, he moved to London and worked as a visiting scholar at an engineering consulting firm. In 1946, he returned to China and held several positions, including chief engineer and director of engineering in the Hydropower Department for the Longxi River, Changshou, of the Sichuan Water Resources Commission. After the Communist takeover in 1949, he became deputy director of the General Hydropower Bureau of the Ministry of Fuel Industry, deputy chief engineer of the Survey Design Research Institute of the Hydropower Bureau of the Ministry of Electric Power, and chief engineer of the Hydropower Engineering Bureau of the Shizitan dam project. In 1956, he became a member of the CCP, and in the same year he was recognized as a All-China Labor Hero. In subsequent years, he held many positions in the water resources bureaucracy, including: chief engineer in the Three Gate Gorge (Sanmenxia) Engineering Bureau and in the General Hydropower Bureau of the Liujia Gorge dam project; deputy chief engineer of the General Bureau of Hydropower Construction; chief engineer of the Capital Construction Bureau; senior engineer and vice minister of the Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power; deputy chairman of the Association of Chinese Hydropower Engineering; chairman of the China Electrical Engineering Association; member of the Standing Committee of
the China Water Resources Association; and deputy chairman of the International Dam Committee.

Li Fudu: Born in 1928 in Pucheng, Shaanxi Province, Li Fudu earned a Ph.D. from the Department of Water Resources of the Hanover (Germany) Polytechnical University. On returning to China, he was appointed chief engineer of the North China Water Resources Commission, director of the Water Resources Engineering Institute of Tianjin, director of the Research Office for Harnessing the Dan River of the Sichuan Water Resources Bureau, director of the Design Group of the Yellow River Planning Commission in Xi'an, and director of the Engineering Department of the same commission. After the Communist takeover in 1949, Li was appointed minister of water resources of the Northwest Military and Administrative Committee, deputy director of the Yellow River Planning Commission under the Ministry of Water Resources, and deputy chairman of the Henan Province Political Consultative Conference. He was also a member of the Standing Committee of the Sixth People's Congress of Henan Province, a member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (one of China's largely powerless satellite parties), a delegate to the second, third, fifth, and sixth National People's Congresses, and a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. He is best known for his proposals for extensive reservoir construction and the buildup of sedimentation behind the Three Gorge Dam as solutions to the soil erosion problem on the middle reaches of the Yellow River.

Li Peng: Currently the premier of China, Li Peng is the adopted son of Zhou Enlai. Li Peng was born in 1928 in Sichuan Province to parents active in the CCP, both of whom were executed during the early 1930s. From 1948 to 1954, Li was trained as a power engineer in the Soviet Union, and from 1955 to 1979 he worked in China in numerous positions in the power industry. In 1982, he became vice minister of the Ministry of Water Conservancy and Power and in the same year became a member of the Central Committee at the Twelfth CCP Party Congress. In 1985, he was appointed to the Politburo and, in 1987, to its Standing Committee. He became premier in 1988. In June 1989, he reportedly transmitted the order issued by Deng Xiaoing for troops to use force against pro-democracy demonstrators. His official term as premier expires in March 1998.

Li Rui: Born in 1917, a one-time secretary on industrial affairs to Mao Zedong in the 1950s, Li Rui served as vice minister of electric power from 1955 to 1958, and in 1955 was appointed director of the General Bureau for Hydropower Construction in the Ministry of Electric Power. In 1956, Li Rui served on the Yellow River Planning Commission and the State Planning Commission. In 1958 and 1959, he was a vice minister of the Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power. He was purged for his support of Peng Dehuai's opposition to the Great Leap Forward. In 1979, Li was rehabilitated and appointed vice minister of the power industry and director of the State Bureau of Computers. From 1982 to 1985, he was a member of the CCP Central Committee, and in 1985, he was appointed to the Central Advisory Commission, a largely honorific organization established for semiretired Party leaders.

Li Xiannian: Born in 1909 to poor peasants in Hubei, Li Xiannian was trained as a carpenter and then joined the Communists in 1927. Rising to the top of the CCP hierarchy as a military commander, Li Xiannian became a member of the Central Committee in 1945, and after 1949 he became head of Wuhan and in 1954 Party Secretary of Hubei Province and a vice premier. He was made a member of the CCP Politburo in 1956 and became minister of finance in 1957. He continued to serve on the Politburo throughout the Cultural Revolution (1966–76) and remained a central figure in economic and financial affairs through the 1980s. From 1983 to 1988, he was president of the People's Republic of China. Li Xiannian died in 1992.

Liu Jinhua: A veteran of the Shaanxi Province “Dare-to-Die” corps in the 1930s, Liu Jinhua became the first secretary of Guangxi Province in 1957, and served from 1958 to 1961 in the same post in the reconstituted Guangxi Autonomous Region. In 1958, he also became an alternate member of the CCP Central Committee. He served as first secretary of Henan Province from 1961 to 1966 and from 1971 to 1978. Liu Jinhua disappeared in 1978 due to “grave errors and crimes,” and in 1980 he lost his last remaining post as a delegate from Henan Province to the National People's Congress.

Liu Lanpo: As vice minister of the Ministry of Fuel Industry in 1954, Liu Lanpo accompanied Li Rui to the Soviet Union where he met Li Peng, who was studying to become a hydrological engineer. During the ensuing years,
Liu Lanpo had Li Peng appointed to positions in the Chinese electric power bureaucracy so as to groom him for future leadership. Purged during the Cultural Revolution, Liu was rehabilitated in 1979 and appointed minister of power industry, where he appointed Li Peng as his successor.

Mao Zedong: Chairman of the CCP from 1938 until his death in September 1976.

Peng Dehuai: Born in 1898 in Hunan Province, Peng Dehuai left his family at an early age and joined local military forces. In 1919 he was profoundly influenced by the writings of Sun Yat-sen and the liberal ideas of the 1919–25 May Fourth Movement. Peng joined the CCP in 1928 and became one of the foremost military figures in the communist movement, commanding CCP forces in a major battle with the Japanese in 1940 and leading the First Field Army during the Civil War with the Nationalists. Peng then commanded Chinese forces during the 1950–53 Korean War in which his troops fought against American forces, but with extremely heavy losses on the Chinese side. A strong supporter of a professional military in China, Peng helped introduce ranks in 1954 and he became a marshal, the highest ranking position in the PLA, as well as minister of national defense. Peng’s letter, in August 1959, to Mao Zedong raising questions about economic policy in the Great Leap led to his purge. Efforts to rehabilitate Peng in the early 1960s provoked Mao’s wrath, and during the Cultural Revolution Peng was denounced and paraded through the streets by Red Guards. Peng died in obscurity in 1974.

Qian Zhengying: Born in 1923 in the United States and trained as a civil engineer in China, Qian Zhengying was appointed deputy director of the Water Resources Department in the East China Military and Administrative Council in 1950. In 1952, she became vice minister of water resources, and in 1957 she was made vice chairman of the Commission for Harnessing the Huai River. In 1958, she became vice minister of the new joint Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power. In 1975, Qian was appointed minister of water resources and electric power and, in 1983, she visited the United States as part of an electric power delegation. In 1982, she was appointed to the CCP Central Committee and reappointed in 1987. Since the mid-1980s, Qian Zhengying has strongly supported construction of the Three Gorges Dam.

Qiao Shi: Leader of the Shanghai student movement in the 1940s, Qiao Shi worked in the Communist Youth League and in the steel industry in the 1950s and early 1960s. In 1982, he was appointed director of the International Liaison Department of the CCP, and in 1984, he was appointed director of the Party Organization Department. In 1985, he became a member of the Politburo and the Party Secretariat specializing in political and legal work and became head of the Political and Legal Affairs Commission of the CCP. In 1987, he was appointed to the Politburo Standing Committee, and since 1993 he has headed the National People’s Congress.

Tan Zhenlin: A early follower of Mao Zedong in the 1927 Autumn Harvest uprising, Tan Zhenlin became a political commissar in the New Fourth Army. In 1956, he was appointed to the Secretariat of the Central Committee and in 1962 became a vice chairman of the State Planning Commission. In 1967, he participated in the so-called “February Adverse Current” that attempted to terminate the Cultural Revolution and outlaw the Red Guards. He was purged in 1967 and reappeared in 1973, when he was reappointed to the Central Committee.

Wang Huayun: Born in Guangtiao, Zhi (today’s Hebei Province), in 1908, Wang Huayun graduated from the Department of Law of Beijing University in 1935. In 1938, he joined the CCP and held numerous posts in the Chinese Communist border region government, including director of the Yellow River Planning Commission of the Ji-Lu-Yü (Hebei, Shandong, Henan) Border Region. After the communist takeover in 1949, he was appointed vice minister of the Ministry of Water Resources and director of the Yellow River Planning Commission, where he became involved in the campaign to harness the Yellow River through numerous proposals involving the Three Gate Gorge dam.

Wen Shanzhang: Trained as a hydrologist in the Soviet Union, Wen Shanzhang has served as a senior engineer of the Yellow River Water Resources Planning Research Institute (Zhongguo Huanghe shuili guihua yanjiuyuan).

Xi Zhongxun: A political commissar in the Northwest PLA during the Civil War and a director of the Communist Party Propaganda Department, Xi Zhongxun was elected to the Central Committee of the CCP in
1956. In 1962, he disappeared as a result of his close association with Peng Dehuai. In 1978, he reappeared as Party secretary of Guangdong Province and Second Political Commissar of the Guangzhou Military Region. He was a member of the Politburo from 1982 to 1987.

Zhang Hanying: Trained as a civil engineer at the University of Illinois and as a hydrologist at Cornell University, Zhang Hanying was appointed chief engineer to the Yellow River Planning Commission in 1933, during the Nationalist era. After the Communist takeover in 1949, Zhang was appointed vice minister of the Ministry of Water Resources specializing in dam design and surveying.

Zhou Enlai: Perhaps the most astute and cosmopolitan politician among top CCP leaders, Zhou Enlai was born in 1898 to a well-to-do gentry family. After 1949, Zhou served as foreign minister and premier. He endorsed a liberalization of policies toward intellectuals in the 1950s and assumed initially a neutral position on the Great Leap Forward. Zhou stuck with Mao Zedong through thick and thin, and during the Cultural Revolution Zhou reluctantly supported the widespread purges of Party leaders but made every effort to protect old colleagues from Red Guard attacks. Zhou also provided protection for China’s historical relics, such as the Forbidden City, which were often targeted for destruction by the rampaging Red Guards. Zhou Enlai died in January 1976.

Zou Jiahua: A graduate of a Moscow Engineering Institute, Zou Jiahua served in the 1950s and 1960s as a director of a machine tool plant in Shenyang City in Northeast China, and then he worked in the First Ministry of Machine Building. In 1977, he was identified as a deputy director of the National Defense Industry Office under the State Council and he was elected as an alternate member of the CCP Central Committee. In 1982, he became vice minister of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense, and he was appointed minister of ordnance industry. In 1988, he became a state councillor and minister of machine building and the electronics industry. In 1991, he became head of the State Planning Commission and a vice premier. He became a member of the Politburo at the Fourteenth Party Congress in 1992.