

“SLEEPING GIANT” - SYNOPSIS

by Ira Israel

New York. While researcher **JIM WEBER** awkwardly prepares for his first official state dinner, a group of mountain climbers are brutally murdered in the Himalayas, there's a coup d'etat within the Standing Committee of the Chinese government and the new Standing Committee immediately begins to conduct military exercises off the coast of Taiwan. An emergency backroom meeting is called and Jim's mentor, Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security **JOHN DRAKE**, allows Jim to sit in the strategy session with Secretary of State **OLIVER COLEMAN**. As Coleman decides to rush America towards World War III, Jim contradicts him. Coleman dismisses Jim's hifalutin theory but Drake has enough faith in Jim to bring him to Washington to research it. In the background, **KIMBERLY GREY** reports live from Beijing about the coup d'etat and the missing mountain climbers. Coleman is suspicious of Jim and has him tailed by CIA AGENT **CAL THURSTON**. In Washington Jim discovers that a CIA sleeper agent, **NAVIGATOR**, deep in the Chinese government may be trying to warn them about something, something that deals with the coup d'etat and the mountain climbers. Jim convinces Drake that locating Navigator is their only way of learning China's real intentions. Drake sends a reluctant Jim to Beijing as part of the official envoy with former President **MORRISON**.

Beijing. The new Standing Committee continues to taunt Taiwan into war, which would immediately draw America into World War III due to the 1979 U.S.-Taiwan treaty. Jim meets Kimberly and they work together to figure out what is really going on. Jim is still followed by Cal Thurston who claims to only be watching out for him. However, Jim suddenly becomes the target of assassination and narrowly escapes death. Jim and Kimberly head to the American Embassy where they complete their theory about the Chinese invading India via Tibet. At an official state function with the entire Politburo, Jim confronts the government about the missing mountain climbers and the military exercises; Jim's outburst draws the attention of the Politburo member who Jim suspects is Navigator. Jim and Kimberly arrange to confront the supposed Navigator; they lose their MSS and CIA tails and arrive at the Temple of the Five Pagodas. As Jim shakes Navigator's hand, Navigator is shot dead by Cal, who also tries to assassinate Jim. After a chase through the streets of Beijing, Cal, Jim, and Kimberly are captured and arrested by the MSS for the murder of the Politburo Member. The head of the MSS interrogates Cal and Jim: Cal attempts to stop Jim from telling the truth about Navigator and is quickly and brutally executed. Finally the head of the MSS leads Jim and Kimberly to their supposed executions. When they are finally alone, the head of the MSS turns to Jim and Kimberly and announces that he is the real Navigator and that Jim's theory about the new Standing Committee invading India via Tibet is correct. He also

reveals his past relationship with Coleman, the reasons that Coleman now wants to kill him, and how he set-up the fake Navigator to draw fire. Jim finally realizes that he was just a pawn in a much larger game. Now they must flee from both the MSS and CIA while trying to thwart the new Standing Committee's plan to take over the world via their hidden armies in Tibet.

Jim, Kimberly, and Navigator try all the obvious courses of action such as trying to contact the American Embassy and ex-president Morrison; however the MSS is always one step ahead of them. Their only hope lies in contacting the Chinese dissident Underground and their only link to the Underground is Kimberly. Kimberly leads them through a secret maze to the Underground where they are immediately attacked because the Underground believes that the whole thing is a set-up. Kimberly manages to convince them that they are all on the same side and that the Underground has to help them get to Tibet to stop the Standing Committee's plans. After eluding the Chinese army, Jim, Navigator, and Kimberly fly to Tibet in the Underground's small plane. They disguise themselves as Monks and make their way into the tunnel. However, before they can conclude their mission they are discovered and are chased throughout the underground city. They find the new Standing Committee's headquarters and after a struggle terminate the leaders of the coup. Finally they are able to blow up the crucial ventilation section of the tunnel and narrowly escape into the Himalayas. The hidden rebel army is now forced out into the open and revealed for all the world to see. Drake confronts Coleman for hiding his past relationship with Navigator and Jim, Kimberly, and Navigator fly back to the United States as the modest heroes who helped avert World War III.