

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FO 003-02

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: AUGUST 17, 1992

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOE BARTON

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO REVIEW AND CHANGE THE  
EXISTING POLICY PREVENTING SALES OF AMERICAN  
MADE F-16 FIGHTER AIRCRAFT TO TAIWAN

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY | (STAFF NAME)   | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                            |                | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| NICK CALIO                 |                | ORG         | 92/08/17         | NC           | A 92/08/24                |
| NSC                        | REFERRAL NOTE: |             |                  |              |                           |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: | A           | 92/08/31         |              | / /                       |
| 99 Dns                     | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | 92/09/01         | C            | / /                       |
| 99 DoD                     | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | 92/09/01         | C            | / /                       |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: |             |                  |              |                           |

RL  
RI  
RL

COMMENTS: TWO SIGNATURES ARE ILLEGIBLE AND ONE  
CONGRESSMAN SIGNED TWICE

RL letters sent to all 99 signees

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 97 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 1230  
MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *      OF SIGNER    *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *      CODE = A     *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED         *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                       *      OUTGOING    *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *                       *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                       *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *                       *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

345 360

N. Callio

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 1992

The Honorable George Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to request that you review and change the existing policy preventing sales of American made F-16 fighter aircraft to Taiwan. The existing policy may have made sense when formulated over a decade ago, but it does not make sense today, given the changed world geopolitical and economic situation. Please consider the following new facts.

The Soviet Union has disintegrated. Consequently, the old animosity between mainland China and the Soviet Union is no more, and the Chinese government recently announced the purchase of 48 Su-27 modern Russian fighters. This announcement comes on the heels of a previous announcement to purchase 24 Su-27 fighters and 24 MiG-31 fighter interceptors. There is also being built in China a factory to manufacture up to 200 MiG-31s in the future. It is obvious from these announcements that mainland China has embarked on a major qualitative and quantitative upgrade of their air force.

The Taiwanese government has observed this upgrade with obvious concern. To offset it, they have requested to purchase American made F-16s. To date, our government has not responded favorably to their request. Consequently, the Taiwanese have entered into serious negotiations with the French to purchase Mirage 2000-5 fighters. These negotiations are nearing conclusion, and an announcement of a final agreement could be made in mid-August.

The pending French-Taiwanese agreement includes not only Mirage fighters, but also the sale of French nuclear power plants and high speed railroad equipment. The combined package could easily be worth at least twenty-five billion dollars over the life of the agreement.

We have been informed that the Taiwanese would prefer to purchase American made F-16s. The applicable U.S. law, the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, permits such a sale. The economic benefits of such a sale to the United States are obvious. The sale of 60 aircraft this year would generate three billion dollars. The sale of another 120 aircraft in the next several years would generate an additional 6 billion dollars. In terms of direct U.S. jobs, the number is over eleven thousand. Selling F-16s to Taiwan would also be a great help in maintaining our capability to build the next generation American fighter, the F-22, which is not scheduled to go into production until the mid to late 1990's.

To summarize, the world situation is different today than it was when the

United States first recognized mainland China. The mainland Chinese are upgrading their air force, and American law specifically allows us to help Taiwan maintain their defense capability. If we do not allow F-16 sales to Taiwan, they will buy French aircraft and will also make a commitment to purchase French nuclear power plants and railroad technology. Selling F-16s to Taiwan would help our balance of payments, maintain American jobs, and sustain our domestic defense industry in the transition period to the 21st Century generation fighter aircraft. Please seriously consider approving negotiations to sell F-16 fighters to Taiwan.

Sincerely,

Joe Barton

Chris Weller

Don Ritter

Al L. Miller

Dick Roush

Dan Burton

Larry LaRocco

Robert Lenz

Stacy

Randy White Cunningham

Pete Sen

Neut Gingrich

Jay Solms

Jim Arme

Charlie Stenholm

Sam Johnson

Bill Armbrister

Helen Delich Bentley

Paul M. Hall

George (Bud) Darden

Bess K Brewster

Henry Gueyler

Ralph M. Hall

Joe Aydos

Bess Zeliff

Laura Smith

John Sparr

Theresa L

Cass Ballenger

Cheryl Bohler

Conner

Tom Bunning

Jan Chap

Wally Harger

John Rhodes

Mary Fane

Bob Lammert

Jim Hamstad

Stuart Schapp

John Wood

George Allen

John Miller

Pat Green

Howard Cole

Ermy Kelleher

Jack Field

James M. Baskin

Pil Crane

Walter Gallo

Max S. Pinallo

Frank Horton

Arthur J. Huff

William Anderson

Chas. Edwards

Gene Eschrich

John J. Duncanson

Nancy A. Johnson

Jimmy Hays

John Myers

Don Rubenbach

Bill Lowery

Frank Trainor

Walter Boyd

Sammy Frank

Geary Laughlin

Michael A. Anderson

~~Handwritten signature~~ signed twice

Alfred G. Bunt

Vol. Clement

BR Livingston

Rick Stanton

Bob Helmer

Mike Emery

Carroll Hubbard

Tom Mackittay

G.V. Montgomery

Eliz Galleys

~~C. J. ...~~

Joe E. ...

R.F. Payne

Edward ...

Dave Mulung

Bob ...

John ...

Eliot L. Engel

Tom ...

Downs

...

Robin ...

Carl ...

~~James~~  
James  
Tom Long  
Bob Long  
M. Hancock

H. Johnson  
John  
Sam Johnson  
R. Johnson  
P. Johnson