

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: SEPTEMBER 29, 1992

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ALFONSE M. D'AMATO

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO AMEND HIS PROPOSAL AND
PROVIDE THE F-16 C/D VERSION OF AIRCRAFT IN
THE SALE TO TAIWAN INSTEAD OF THE F-16 A/B
AIRCRAFT

F0003

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
NICK CALIO		ORG	92/09/29	NC	A	92/10/13
NSITT	REFERRAL NOTE:	R	92/10/19			1/1
99 DOD	REFERRAL NOTE:	I	92/10/20			1/1
99 DOS	REFERRAL NOTE:	I	92/10/20			1/1
	REFERRAL NOTE:					1/1
	REFERRAL NOTE:					1/1

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1220
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.

ALFONSE M. D'AMATO
NEW YORK

353131

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3202

September 25, 1992

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my strongest support for the proposed sale of F-16's to Taiwan, and to urge that Taiwan be provided the more advanced F-16 C/D models. According to published information, we are selling to Taiwan 150 F-16 A/B fighter aircraft. While it is not clear what equipment these earlier models will have, it is clear that even with the "mid-life upgrade," the A/B models are not as capable as the People's Republic of China's newly-purchased Russian SU-27's.

The F-16 C/D version will provide the Taiwanese with planes that have 3,000 pounds more than the A/B models, advanced radar and avionic improvements. This version is a significant upgrade over the A/B model. The traditional animosity between China and Taiwan, compounded by the rush by China to acquire new weapons like the SU-270 from Russia, and the renewed flare-up of the Spratley Islands dispute, only deepens the necessity to provide the C/D version to Taiwan.

Your September 2, 1992 decision to sell the fighters to Taiwan was admirable, yet this sale must go farther to meet Taiwan's needs. I urge you to amend your proposal and provide Taiwan with the F-16 C/D version instead of the F-16 A/B.

Sincerely,



Alfonse M. D'Amato
United States Senator

AMD:gjr

October 13, 1992

Dear Senator D'Amato:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President, expressing your support for the sale of the F-16 C/D model to Taiwan instead of the F-16 A/B version.

We appreciate being advised of your interest in this matter. Please know that I have shared your letter with several of the President's other advisors so that they, too, are aware of your thoughts.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Nicholas E. Calio
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Alfonse D'Amato
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

NEC:DMT:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC- for Direct Response

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Department of Defense - FYI

bcc: w/ copy of inc to Department of State - FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 18, 1992

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Dear Senator ~~D'~~Amato:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the sale of F-16s to Taiwan.

The decision to approve the sale of the F-16 A/B with the "mid-life upgrade" was based on a careful review of Taiwan's air defense needs. The increasing obsolescence of Taiwan's F-104 and F-5 aircraft and the Chinese purchase of Russian SU-27 were factors taken into account during that review. Although other aircraft were considered, the F-16 A/B was chosen because the aircraft's outstanding qualifications as an air defense fighter are most closely suited to Taiwan's defensive needs.

U.S. policy toward Taiwan is designed to help maintain peace and stability in the area. It has certainly helped to reduce tension in the last few years between Taiwan and Beijing. I believe the decision to sell F-16 A/B aircraft to Taiwan will continue this positive trend.

Sincerely,



Brent Scowcroft

The Honorable Alfonse D'Amato
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510