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THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

## INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 15, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE GLENN M. ANDERSON

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT TAIWAN'S APPLICATION FOR FORMAL MEMBERSHIP AS A CUSTOMS TERRITORY IN THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT)

	ACTION	DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACT DATE CODE YY/MM/DD	TYPE C COMPLET RESP D YY/MM/I	
FREDERICK MCCLURE 990578 PPDOC REFERRAL NOTE: 99005 REFERRAL NOTE: 015514 REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE:	ORG 90/06/15	<u>Fm A 90 1961 /</u> 	
COMMENTS:		-	-
ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDI	A:L INDIVIDUAL C	ODES: 1230	
MAIL USER CODES: (A)	(B)(C	}	
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING U (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT-2590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED		×	

LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

GLENM M. ANDERSON 32D DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0532

May 29, 1990

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO MY: T WASHINGTON OFFICE LONG BEACH OFFICE June

FARCE

The President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I urge you to throw your full support behind Taiwan's application for formal membership as a customs territory in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

From time immemorial, U.S. foreign policy has been based on liberalizing global trade. It was the United States which predicated its nineteenth century diplomatic agenda on an "open door" to China. This was long before communism was a power in the world. Our policy then was based on the principle that the number one priority of this nation was and is commerce. There is no reason to abandon this precedent today. Excluding a country of Taiwan's status from an international commercial agreement would be hard to justify in any political context, let alone the present one.

I represent the Thirty Second Congressional District of California, one whose prosperity is dependent upon the tides of international commerce which flow through the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the largest two ports in the nation. For this reason, I presently support the Administration's decision to renew Most Favored Nation status for the People's Republic of China. For the same reason, I support extending GATT membership to Taiwan.

Taiwan is the thirteenth largest trading nation in the world and our own fifth largest trading partner. Bilateral trade between our two countries was valued at 35 billion dollars last year. In comparison, trade between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China was valued at 17 billion dollars, less than half that. On purely commercial grounds, the numbers themselves ought to be reason enough to include Taiwan in GATT. Excluding this loyal ally from such a vital organization to appease the sensibilities of the government which perpetrated the Tiananman Square massacre undermines both our moral stature and our historical role as the world's leading advocate of free trade.

CHAIRMAN. PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRMAN, INVESTIGATION AND OVERSIGHT

MEMBER

- MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL MARITIME CAUCUS MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

- MEMBER, HUMAN RIGHTS CAUCUS MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM CAUCUS
- MEMBER, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY STUDY CONFERENCE

It is my belief that America should work to decouple her trade relationships from the contentious and controversial political issues which will always exist between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China. For the sake of our own pressing national self interest, I urge you to reconsider supporting Taiwan's application for membership as a customs territory under GATT.

Sincerely,

GLENN M. DERSON Member of natess Cd

GMA/ww

## June 19, 1990

Dear Congressman Anderson:

Thank you for your recent letter to the President regarding Taiwan's application for formal membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

We appreciate your endorsement of Taiwan's application as a customs territory and being apprised of your constituents' interests. I have taken the liberty of sharing your comments with the President's trade policy advisors so that they, too, are aware of your views.

Thank you again for writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Glenn M. Anderson House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

FDM:SLM:

bcc: w/ copy of inc to USTR - for appropriate action bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of Commerce - FYI bcc: w/ copy of inc to Dept. of State - FYI bcc: w/ copy of inc to NSC - FYI