

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

IT 012

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 16, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LARRY E. CRAIG

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S
APPLICATION TO BECOME A CONTRACTING PARTY TO
THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE
(GATT)

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	DISPOSITION C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
FREDERICK MCCLURE		ORG	91/07/16	Fm	A	91/07/17 LJ
99USIT	REFERRAL NOTE:	R	91/07/24			1 1
99DOC	REFERRAL NOTE:	I	91/07/24	LJ		1 1
NSSCOW	REFERRAL NOTE:	I	91/07/23			1 1
99DOS	REFERRAL NOTE:	I	91/07/24			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   *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *           OUTGOING  *
*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.

LARRY E. CRAIG

IDAHO

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 224-2752

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1203

254334
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION
AND FORESTRY
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

July 12, 1991

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

I am writing to urge your support of Taiwan's application to become a Contracting Party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

I realize the political sensitivity of this situation, but without the leadership of the United States it does not appear that the GATT will take action. The accession request submitted in January of 1990 continues to lie dormant.

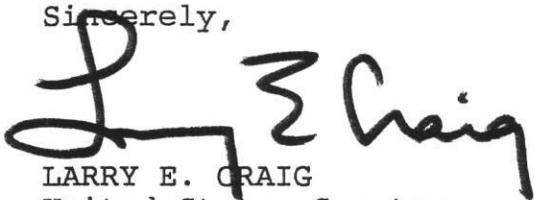
The merits of Taiwan's application are evident. Therefore, it is frustrating that their accession request has not had the benefit of the standard GATT Council practice of prompt placement on the agenda. The People's Republic of China's influence in this situation is very apparent, and I am compelled to express my frustration in a non-member's ability to interfere with the application of another territory.

As you know, Taiwan is the largest market economy to remain outside of the GATT. They are our sixth largest trading partner and rank thirteenth internationally. They also conduct a substantial amount of trade with my state, Idaho. Such an important participant in the world market should not continue to be excluded from the main regime covering international trade. Bringing Taiwan into the GATT would be of benefit to the United States and its economy.

Given the present debate on Most Favored Nation (MFN) trade status for China, it would be very beneficial to have an official commitment and actions taken toward supporting Taiwan's accession request at this time.

Although the application is perceived as being politically sensitive, it should be based on economics and trade, and not held back for politics. I appreciate your consideration of my thoughts on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry E. Craig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "L" and "C".

LARRY E. CRAIG
United States Senator

LEC/ec

July 17, 1991

Dear Larry:

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

We appreciate being advised of your interest in this regard. In an effort to be of assistance, I have shared your letter with the President's trade and foreign policy advisors for their prompt review.

Thank you again for your interest in writing.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick D. McClure
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

The Honorable Larry E. Craig
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

FDM:TBA:

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

THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C. 20506

October 29, 1991

The Honorable Larry E. Craig
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

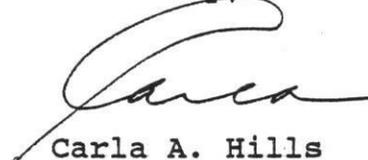
Dear Senator Craig:

This is in further response to your July 12 letter to the President urging U.S. support for Taiwan's request for accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). My Office shares your positive view of Taiwan's efforts to take up contracting party status with the General Agreement. The size and importance of its trading position, both with the United States and worldwide, confirms the importance to U.S. commercial and trade policy interests of Taiwan's application. This application offers a unique opportunity to bring under GATT discipline one of the last major market-price based trading entities outside the GATT system, and to foster its future development along GATT lines.

As you are doubtless aware, President Bush addressed this issue in a letter to several Members of Congress dated July 19, 1991, stating that the "United States will begin to work actively with other contracting parties to resolve in a favorable manner the issues relating to Taiwan's GATT accession."

We will continue to work to implement the President's commitment, in concert with other interested GATT contracting parties. Thank you for your communication, and for your support on this issue.

Sincerely,



Carla A. Hills