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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 25, 1992

Dear Madame Chiang:

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Thank you for your kind letter and Christmas greetings.

The victory of the coalition in Desert Storm in liberating Kuwait and preventing further aggression would not have been possible without the dedication, courage, and professionalism of the troops who joined together from so many nations. They deserve the credit for that impressive victory.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

>20:2

Madame Chiang Kai-shek Apartment 9B 10 Gracie Square P. 5. Your letter word Farscinating I am reading Manchesters Both on Churchill which touches on some of the history you so eloquently cite GB New York, New York 10028

December 18, 1991

President George H. W. Bush The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C.

SFor the President.

I am keenly aware that as a foreigner one should not say something that could be interpreted as tainted with or tilted with partisanship.

As Desert Storm is an event which has receded into history, I do not think anyone would look askance and say that I as a private person should deprive myself of the right to speak out my thoughts after the historic event. I am reminded that Wilhelm II tried to cultivate Nicholas II together with the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph in what was known as the Drei Kaiser Bund. Kaiser Whilhelm II did not succeed, and fortunately Nicholas II did not side with Wilhelm II or else Western Europe might well have been overrun by Germany during World War I. It is unfortunate that Czar Nicholas II by joining the correct side came to lose his life because of incompetent generalship such as Samsonov and Rennenkampf, Russian generals and two commanders-in-chief of two different battle fronts who would not speak to one another. Nicholas II's weak leadership and internecine infighting gave the German General Staff an opportunity to bring Lenin and his cohorts in a sealed train from Switzerland to Russia to alleviate the pressure on German troops.

It was German shortsightedness in finding a quick-fix solution and crass callousness that made the Russian people suffer for some seventy five years of tyranny and fifty million deaths and brought on the curse of communism. Autocratic and feudalistic as Czar Nicholas II might have been, I do not believe that he would have been Lenin and Stalin rolled into one to mesmerize and poison the intellectuals of the world, who followed like meek sheep to be physically and/or spiritually led to slaughter.

As a student of history, I know of no instance of such a lonely decision you made and made alone without the support, let alone with consensus of your political and military advisors and experts, although their advice is premised on conviction. From what I am able to understand, United Nations under the leadership of the U.S. would otherwise be still nickeling-and-diming with Sadam Hussein. Considering what the U.N. scientific team has since found, not only Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman and all the Trucial States would have long gone under, and still the United States would have had her hands fully tied merely dealing with the vagaries of Iraqi megalomania and serious mischief making, playing with lives not only of other peoples but also of the Iraqi people.

I firmly believe that were it not for your irrefrangible decision, things might well have gone the other way and those who caution care, which is almost always so safe under the protection of safe haven, could flippantly retort, "We told you so" and heap every kind of onus on the decision. Unfortunately, from my years of experience, I know whereof I speak. The Free World would still be hamstrung by cautions and conventional wisdom for those who safely dwell under imperviousness.

[ am amused to find some who cavil and criticize about having prioritized foreign affairs before economy. Were it not for lancing the boil of Iraq, the U.S. would have had to contend with both, which would have taxed American concern to the extreme. Of course, any President knows that his priority is only the American people whom he serves. To say that the President is not aware of macro problems of the nation and not worrying about them is outlandish to the nadir degree.

Again, I must repeat that the above are my personal detached private views that are so evident and so important to the whole world. Only yesterday on Ted Koppel's Nightline there were picture footages of Neo-Naziism demonstrating, and its Fuehrer being in a noisomely defiant mien. Then also I heard the Kazakhstan President wanting to keep certain nuclear installations within his own country. If I am not mistaken, these sovereign States could make promises to get United States diplomatic recognition, and who can say that as sovereign States they do not have the right to change their minds, Treaty or no Treaty.

I am sending this letter By Hand so that it would not in any way embarrass you.

With best wishes to Mrs. Bush and Christmas greetings !

Yours sincerely,

Unarling long Chining.

Mayling Soong Chiang (Madame Chiang Kai-shek)