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全美台灣人權協會
FORMOSAN ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PRESIDENT
Ting-Yee(Tim) Wang

March 3, 1992

VICE-PRESIDENT
Stephen Lin

TREASURER
Strong Chuang

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20050

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Re: Taiwanese Human Rights and Taiwan Independence

LEGAL ADVISORS
David P. C. Chiang
Dean L. McAdams
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Wendel K. Hu
Michael Tsai
Raymond Wu

Dear Mr. President:

As you might already be aware, the KMT Authorities in Taiwan have arrested 17 dissentients within the last 12 months on sedition charges, in order to crack down on the uprising of the Taiwanese Independence Movement. Seven of the arrested are residents of the United States of America, professor George Tsan-Hong Chang, Professor Ying-Yuan Lee, Dr. Pei-Horng Kuo, and Dr. Kang-Lu Wang are still detained in jail. Dr. Chung-Kung Kuo and Mr. Ming J. Lin were deported. Mr. Rong-Fang Chen is released on bail.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Ken S. Huang

The actions of the KMT Authorities are in gross violation of basic Human Rights in the terms of freedom of expression, assembly, association, freedom to take part in the Government and freedom to return to ones home land as guaranteed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which the Republic of China is a signatory. The actions of the KMT Authorities are also challenging the will of the Taiwanese people for democratic reform and self determination. That in turn is disturbing the peaceful, yet progressive process of the relationship between the "Foreign" Chinese Government (namely the KMT Authorities) and the Native Taiwanese People. Only a new independence government elected by the people, with respect to Human Rights, can politically stabilize Taiwan and secure the relationship with the world communities including USA and the Peoples Republic of China (PRC).

A government, such as the KMT Authorities, trying to justify the myth that is the sole legitimate government of China, running away from reality in order to continue its totalitarian rule, is damaging the political stability in Taiwan and should be outlawed. Instead, the United States Government is remaining silent on the KMT activities of violating the Taiwan Relations Act, (TRA), which has called for "respect to the Human Rights of all the inhabitants of Taiwan."

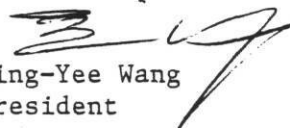
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The Taiwan Relation Act also states that "The preservation and enhancement of the human rights of all the people of Taiwan, are hereby reaffirmed as objectives of the United States". As an officer of the "Formosan Association For Human Rights", and a loyal Taiwanese-American Citizen, I would appreciate your kindness in clearing up some questions in my mind, as well as in many other Taiwanese-Americans' minds:

1. Hundreds of Taiwanese-Americans won't be able to return to their homeland, as well as many other Americans are denied visas to visit Taiwan, because they oppose the policies of the KMT. What is the position of this Administration? Have any actions been taken to improve the situation?
2. The "blacklists" of those who were denied visas to Taiwan were obviously the surveillance products of the KMT agents in the USA. Have any actions been taken or, are any to be taken by this Administration to stop this dilemma?
3. For those Four Taiwanese-Americans jailed by the KMT upon returning to Taiwan, just because they advocate Taiwan Independence from China, such as Professor George Tsan-Hong Chang, Professor Ying-Yuan Lee, Dr. Pei-Horng Kuo and Dr. Kang-Lu Wang, what steps have been taken by this Administration for their release?
4. To recapture Mainland China by the KMT is a policy which has failed. Advocation of Independence of Taiwan, which is opposed to the policies of the KMT, is for freedom of speech, yet many leaders who advocate independence for Taiwan have been put in jail. As a champion of freedom of speech, what is the White House's position?
5. The issue of Human Rights improvement is one of the conditions in the trade negotiations between the United States and China. Why should not Human Rights be the issue in the future negotiations of military hardware purchases between the USA and Taiwan?
6. The Human Rights of Taiwanese people were not concerned in the "Shanghai Communique" by stating that, "The United States acknowledges that all Chinese on either side of the Taiwan Strait maintain, there is but one China and that Taiwan is a part of China." It is in contrary to the Human Rights principle of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). What measures have been taken by the White House to correct it and to implement the TRA principle?
7. The future of Taiwan should be determined by the people of Taiwan. Why should not the briefing on the issues of Taiwan be only to Taiwanese-Americans who have bitter feelings of their homeland?

Thank-you very much for your prompt attention. Your reply, item by item, shall be deeply appreciated.

Very respectfully Yours,


Ting-Yee Wang
President

attachment: Background of Five Taiwanese-American Political Prisoners of Conscience.

CAMPAIGN TO FREE 5 TAIWANESE-AMERICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS

The Kuomintang government in Taiwan has blacklisted many supporters of human rights and democracy. This policy bars native Taiwanese from returning to their homeland. According to the State Department, in the first eight months of 1990 alone, over 5,000 overseas Taiwanese were denied entry to Taiwan.

As exiles in the United States, 5 leaders of the Taiwan Independence movement managed to return to Taiwan, but all were arrested by authorities there. They were charged with 'sedition' for advocating Taiwan's independence from China. The following are biographies of these 5 people.

Dr. George Tsan-hong Chang Age: 55

Profession: Former Professor Chemical Engineering and
Department Chair at Cooper Union in New York

Residence: New Jersey



Dr. Chang came to the United States for graduate studies 30 years ago. He received a doctorate in chemical engineering from Rice University in Texas in 1966. He was president of WUFI (World United Formosans for Independence) from 1972 to 1987, and was elected again in 1991. He was blacklisted for promoting a free, democratic, and independent Taiwan. KMT indicted him and issued a warrant for his arrest on sedition charges. When he offered to go back to face trial, the Taiwan authorities denied him the right to return. He returned to Taiwan after 30 years in exile in the United States. He was arrested at Taipei International airport on December 7, 1991, after he flew in from Tokyo and intended to clear immigration with Japanese papers. He was charged with illegal entry into Taiwan and sedition under the infamous "Article 100" of the Criminal Code. He could receive life sentence.

Dr. Kang-lu Wang Age: 50

Profession: Plant Physiology

Residence: Glen Rock, New Jersey



Dr. Kang-lu Wang came to the United States in 1964 to pursue graduate studies at Kansas State University. He received a doctorate in Plant Physiology in 1971. Dr. Kang-lu Wang is the Secretary-general of WUFI. He has been blacklisted by the Kuomintang authorities and was denied entry to Taiwan on December 1990 when he attempted to return to see his 95 year-old mother on her sickbed before she passed away. On October 20, 1991, he was arrested and charged with "illegal entry into Taiwan" and "sedition" under the infamous "Article 100" of the Criminal Code.

Professor Ying-yuan Lee Age: 38

Profession: Assistant Professor of Health Services
Administration in the School of Business
University of South Dakota

Residence: Vermillion, South Dakota



Prof. Ying-yuan Lee came to the U.S. for graduate studies in 1980. He has been on the blacklist for advocating democracy and independence for Taiwan. In July 1990, Dr. Ying-Yuan Lee, vice-president of WUFI's U.S. chapter, went to Taiwan to present an academic paper that would compare international health care delivery systems. Taiwan's KMT government denied him a visa. Nevertheless, Dr. Ying-yuan Lee went to Taiwan and went into hiding. He was arrested on September 2, 1991, and was charged with "preparing for sedition."

Dr. George Pei-hong Kuo Age: 36

Profession: Engineer and Newspaper Publisher

Residence: Los Angeles

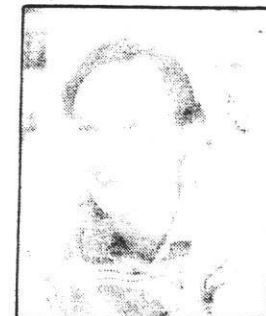


Dr. Kuo came to the U.S. in the early 1980s to pursue graduate studies in Civil Engineering at North Carolina State University. He is a permanent resident of the United States. He had been blacklisted by the KMT government because of his political beliefs, and has been denied his right to return home. Dr. Kuo, current president of the U.S. chapter of WUFI, was arrested on August 30, 1991, when he attempted to enter Taiwan using a passport under a different name. He has been indicted on charges of "illegal entry into Taiwan" and "sedition" under "Article 100."

Mr. Rong-fang Chen Age: 42

Profession: Merchant

Residence: New Jersey



Mr. Chen came to the U.S. in 1977 on assignment by Taiwan Garrison Command to gather information of WUFI. He defected and was granted political asylum. He began to run a liquor store in New Jersey. In December 1991, he returned to Taiwan and was arrested on January 23, 1992 under the charge of "illegal entry" and "sedition." He is a special assistant to WUFI President.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 26, 1992

Mr. Ting-Yee Wang
President
Formosan Association for Human Rights
P.O. Box 1469
Sunset Beach, CA 90742-1469

Dear Mr. Wang:

I am replying on behalf of President Bush to your letter of March 3 regarding the arrest of several dissidents in Taiwan over recent months. The American Institute in Taiwan is monitoring these cases and reports regularly on their status. These arrests were included in the State Department's most recent human rights report to the Congress on Taiwan.

In recent years, Taiwan has made significant progress in improving its human rights policies and practices. We remain concerned, however, about lingering human rights problems in Taiwan, particularly about Taiwan's "blacklist", which prevents certain Taiwan citizens from returning to their homeland. This practice does not meet internationally accepted norms such as the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. It is a fundamental tenet of US policy that persons should not be persecuted for their political beliefs or lawful associations. We view violations of these basic human rights very seriously and have strongly protested such violations when they occur. We must note, however, that in some of the cases you have cited, the individuals are United States citizens and the Declaration's obvious application to United States citizens is that they have the right to re-enter the United States--not necessarily Taiwan. Moreover, we certainly would take legal action against any person fraudulently trying to enter the United States under a false passport.

We do not know on what basis Taiwan authorities place individuals on the "blacklist" and cannot substantiate your allegation that inclusion on the list is always the result of surveillance by agents of the Taiwan authorities in the US. The political views and activities of many Taiwan dissidents abroad can be ascertained from open sources. Nevertheless, we take seriously any actions by agents for foreign governments on US territory which are counter to US law or policy. Such matters are dealt with by appropriate law enforcement agencies.

The US takes no position on Taiwan independence and reunification with the mainland other than an expressed interest in a peaceful resolution of the Taiwan question by the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait. We see no contradiction between that policy and our obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to support human rights on Taiwan. Moreover, we believe that the current process of political reform on Taiwan has significantly improved the human rights situation there.

We share your basic concern over the continuing practice by Taiwan authorities of bringing criminal charges against individuals exercising freedom of expression. We hope that the ongoing democratization process on Taiwan and current consideration by the authorities to revise the sedition law will improve the overall human rights situation on Taiwan.

Sincerely,



Barbara J. Schrage
Advisor, Taiwan Coordination Staff

Attachment: correspondence returned.