

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

03-Sep-1992 07:52 EDT

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PAAL@OEEOB@MRGATE

FROM:

VMSMail User RAGLE  
(RAGLE@OEEOB@MRGATE)

*Taiwan - US*

SUBJECT:

<CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED<DTG> 030153Z SEP 92  
<ORIG>FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
<SUBJ>SEPTEMBER 2 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION  
ALL POSTS -- ALSO FOR USIS  
USCINCPAC FOR FPA WILKINSON  
USVIENNA FOR UNVIE

<TEXT>

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 STATE 286547  
JSIA FOR EA AND P/G; TOKYO FOR KANEDA; MOSCOW FOR DAVNIE  
E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC XE US

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 2 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION  
ALL POSTS -- ALSO FOR USIS  
JSCINCPAC FOR FPA WILKINSON  
JSVIENNA FOR UNVIE

BEIJING -- PLEASE PASS TO CHENGDU

.. THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOLLOWING THE  
PRESIDENT'S 9/2/92 ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SALE OF F-16'S TO  
TAIWAN. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM IT ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

1. TAIWAN -- SALE OF F-16S

) : WHAT RATIONALE CAN YOU GIVE US FOR THE PRESIDENT'S  
DECISION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF F-16S TO TAIWAN?

2. THE DECISION TO APPROVE THE SALE TO TAIWAN OF F-16  
AIRCRAFT, CONFIGURED FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES, FOLLOWED A  
CAREFUL REVIEW.

THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION SATISFIES OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE  
TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT TO PROVIDE DEFENSE ARTICLES AND  
SERVICES TO TAIWAN. IT ALSO ADVANCES THE CENTRAL GOAL OF  
THE 1982 U.S.-CHINA COMMUNIQUE ON ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN --  
PROMOTING CROSS-STRAIT PEACE AND STABILITY.

THE AGING OF TAIWAN'S AIR FORCE AND CHINA'S PURCHASE OF  
RUSSIAN SU-27 AIRCRAFT WERE AMONG THE FACTORS CONSIDERED  
IN THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION.

3. DOES THIS SALE SIGNAL A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN OUR  
POLICY UNDER THE 1982 COMMUNIQUE?

4. NO, IT DOES NOT.

5. AS THE PRESIDENT SAID, AND I QUOTE, "MY DECISION TODAY

DOES NOT CHANGE THE COMMITMENT OF THIS ADMINISTRATION AND ITS PREDECESSORS TO THE THREE COMMUNIQUES WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- WE KEEP OUR WORD -- OUR ONE-CHINA POLICY, OUR RECOGNITION OF THE PRC AS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA.

"I'VE ALWAYS STRESSED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 1982 COMMUNIQUE ON ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN LIES IN ITS PROMOTION OF COMMON POLITICAL GOALS: PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE AREA THROUGH MUTUAL RESTRAINT." END QUOTE.

THE SALE TO TAIWAN OF F-16 AIRCRAFT, CONFIGURED FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES, IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS.

Q: HAS THE USG INFORMED THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT? WHAT WAS THE PRC REACTION?

A: YES, WE HAVE INFORMED THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE SALE, BUT I CANNOT GET INTO THE SPECIFICS OF OUR DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES. AS FOR THE CHINESE REACTION, I WOULD REFER YOU TO THEM.

HOWEVER, WE WOULD HOPE CHINA WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE DEFENSIVE NATURE OF THESE AIRCRAFT, CHINA'S OWN RECENT ACQUISITION OF ADVANCED FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, THE DECLINE OF TAIWAN'S AIR FORCE, AS F-5S AND F-104S HAVE GONE OUT OF SERVICE, AND THE PRESIDENT'S STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP.

Q: HOW MUCH IS THIS SALE WORTH, AND HOW DOES IT COMPARE WITH PAST SALES?

A: THE ESTIMATED VALUE OF THIS SALE WILL BE 5 BILLION DOLLARS. DETAILS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AFTER WE HAVE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 STATE 286547

J5IA FOR EA AND P/G; TOKYO FOR KANEDA; MOSCOW FOR DAVNIE E.O. 12356: N/A

PAGS: OPRC XE US

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 2 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION FORMALLY NOTIFIED THE CONGRESS WHEN IT RETURNS FROM RECESS NEXT WEEK.

IF PRESSED

FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PAST SALES, I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION DOCUMENTS.

3. THE FIRST AND THIRD RESPONSES FROM THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WERE USED AT THE 9/2/92 PRESS BRIEFING BY SPOKESMAN RICHARD BOUCHER. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM THE REMAINDER ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

1. CHINA -- ROSS TERRILL AND SHEN TONG EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE MET WITH OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON TWO SEPARATE OCCASIONS TO PROTEST CHINESE TREATMENT OF SHEN TONG AND ROSS TERRILL. THE CHINESE PROVIDED NO INFORMATION ON SHEN'S CASE EXCEPT TO SAY THE U.S. HAD NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE. THE CHINESE ALSO REJECTED OUR PROTEST CONCERNING TERRILL'S TREATMENT.

WE HAVE MADE OUR CONCERNS ABOUT THE TREATMENT OF SHEN AND TERRILL CLEAR TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. WE BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT PEOPLE SHOULD NOT BE DETAINED BECAUSE OF THEIR POLITICAL VIEWS AND THAT JOURNALISTS SHOULD BE FREE TO DO THEIR JOBS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO RAISE THESE POINTS

WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

Q: WHAT IS SHEN'S STATUS? WHERE IS HE?

A: WE HAVE NO NEW INFORMATION ON SHEN'S STATUS. WE ASSUME HE IS STILL UNDER DETENTION.

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT TERRILL HAS BEEN EXPELLED? WHERE IS HE?

A: TERRILL LEFT BEIJING EARLY THIS MORNING (BEIJING TIME) AFTER BEING ESCORTED TO THE AIRPORT BY CHINESE POLICE. HE IS NOW IN HONG KONG.

Q: IS THE DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY FOLLOWING UP ON SHEN'S CASE?

A: WE HAVE MADE OUR POSITION VERY CLEAR. WE HAVE STRONGLY URGED THE CHINESE TO RELEASE SHEN, AND WILL CONTINUE TO RAISE HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

5. THE SUBSTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS USED BY SPOKESMAN BOUCHER AT THE 9/2/92 PRESS BRIEFING.

6. TAIWAN: SALE OF F-16S

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT REPORTS THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED TO APPROVE THE SALE OF F-16S TO TAIWAN?

A: I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE REPORTS CONCERNING THIS TOPIC, BUT UNTIL THE PRESIDENT OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES HIS DECISION, I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING FOR YOU.

7. THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO A QUESTION TAKEN AT THE 9/2/92 PRESS BRIEFING WAS POSTED IN THE PRESS OFFICE LATER THAT DAY.

8. CHINA -- ASSESSMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

Q: COULD YOU GIVE US AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHINA?

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JSIA FOR EA AND P/G; TOKYO FOR KANEDA; MOSCOW FOR DAVNIE  
E.O. 12356: N/A

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A: AS WE NOTED IN OUR HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT TO CONGRESS IN JANUARY, CHINA'S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES REMAIN REPRESSIVE, FALLING FAR SHORT OF INTERNATIONALLY-ACCEPTED NORMS.

SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES PERSIST. HOWEVER, CHINA HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS IS A LEGITIMATE TOPIC FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION AND HAS BEGUN A LIMITED DIALOGUE WITH ITS FOREIGN CRITICS.

FOR INSTANCE, FORMER SECRETARY BAKER DURING HIS NOVEMBER 1991 VISIT TO BEIJING EXTENSIVELY DISCUSSED HUMAN RIGHTS WITH THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP. WE CONTINUE TO USE EVERY SENIOR BILATERAL MEETING TO REMIND THE CHINESE THAT HUMAN RIGHTS IS A CORNERSTONE OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY AND THAT CHINA SHOULD RELEASE THOSE IMPRISONED SOLELY FOR PEACEFUL EXPRESSION OF THEIR POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS.

AS A RESULT OF THESE EFFORTS, SOME PROMINENT POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS FIGURES HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM PRISON. OTHERS, SUCH AS LABOR ORGANIZER HAN DONGFANG, JOURNALIST DAI QING, LONG-TIME HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST LIU QING, AND WRITER WANG UOWANG HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO LEAVE CHINA.

WE CONTINUE TO PRESS THE CHINESE ON THE FULL RANGE OF OUR

HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS.  
EAGLEBURGER

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