

EAP PRESS GUIDANCE - REVISED
September 2, 1992

TAIWAN: SALE OF F-16s

Q: What rationale can you give us for the President's decision to approve the sale of F-16s to Taiwan?

A: -- 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.**

- 2 -

Q: Does this sale signal a fundamental change in our policy under the 1982 communique?

A: -- NO, IT DOES NOT.

- 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.

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
01a. Redaction	RE: EAP Press Guidance, September 3, 1992 re: Taiwan: Sale of F-16's Redaction of revisions on page 4 [Redacted page follows] (1 pp.)	09/03/92	P-1, F-1, P-5	
COLLECTION				
Bush Presidential Records National Security Council Walter Kansteiner Files				
FILE LOCATION				
Taiwan 1992		OA/ID Number	CF01770	
		Date Closed	06/16/1999	

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Closed as a personal record misfile.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- F-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

- 3 -

- 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: -



DETAILS

WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AFTER WE HAVE 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.

Drafted:EAP:KBailes/ELYamauchi/CHart/HTroutman

Cleared:EAP:BLPascoe

EAP/RA/TC:DKeegan;JBorich

EAP/CM:RPerito

PM:RMantel/TLyng

P:EJRRevere

P:AKanter

NSC:DPaal

DOD/ISA:EWoon

H: (Info)

White House Press Office:PClark (Info)

PA:JSnyder

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
01b. Redaction	RE: EAP Press Guidance, September 3, 1992 re: China/Taiwan F-16 Sale Redaction of revisions on page 5 [Redacted page follows] (1 pp.)	09/03/92	P-1, F-1, P-5	
COLLECTION Bush Presidential Records National Security Council Walter Kansteiner Files				
FILE LOCATION Taiwan 1992				
		OA/ID Number	CF01770	
		Date Closed	06/16/1999	

RESTRICTION CODES

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EAP PRESS GUIDANCE
September 3, 1992

CHINA/TAIWAN - F-16 SALE

Q: Has the PRC protested? When? Where? What did they say or threaten?

A: -- PRC VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LIU HUAQIU

MET WITH

~~CALL~~ED AMBASSADOR ROY ~~IN~~ ^{AT} THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ~~TO~~ DELIVER ~~ED~~ ^{PT. 2}

~~THE~~ EXPECTED ~~AND~~

A PROTEST REGARDING A PROSPECTIVE U.S. DECISION TO SELL F-16S

TO TAIWAN

- THE PROTEST PARALLELED THE PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH THE PRC GOVERNMENT RELEASED IN BEIJING YESTERDAY.

Q: Has there been any additional reaction since the President's announcement?

A: -- I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CHINESE EMBASSY ISSUED A STATEMENT YESTERDAY EVENING.

- YOU SHOULD CHECK WITH CHINESE AUTHORITIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Drafted: EAP/CM - CA Hart *EB*
SECMPOL6539 9/3/92 7-6813

Cleared: EAP: WClark, Jr.)
EAP: BLPascoe) *EB*
EAP/CM: RMPerito)
EAP/CM: JJNorris)
P: ERevere)
PM/DRSA: TJLyng) *EB*
EAP/P: EYamauchi)

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
01c. Redaction	RE: EAP Press Guidance, September 3, 1992 re: Ambassador Clark's Travel: APEC, China, Japan Redaction of revisions on page 7 [Redacted page follows] (1 pp.)	09/03/92	P-1, F-1, P-5	
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EAP PRESS GUIDANCE
September 3, 1992

AMBASSADOR CLARK'S TRAVEL: APEC, CHINA, JAPAN

Q: Can you confirm that Assistant Secretary Clark will travel to China in connection with the F-16 sale to Taiwan?

A: -- ASSISTANT SECRETARY CLARK ^SPLANNED TO BE IN THE EAST ASIA-PACIFIC REGION TO ATTEND THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) MEETING IN BANGKOK. THOSE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE DURING SEPTEMBER 10-11.

-- WE HAVE INFORMED THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY CLARK, [REDACTED] PREPARED TO DISCUSS OUR OVERALL RELATIONS AS WELL AS THE PRESIDENT'S [REDACTED] DECISION TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF F-16 AIRCRAFT TO TAIWAN. ARRANGEMENTS FOR A STOP IN CHINA ARE NOT YET FINAL. HE WILL ALSO STOP BRIEFLY IN JAPAN TO DISCUSS TOPICS OF BILATERAL, REGIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL CONCERN.

Q: Who will head the U.S. delegation to the APEC meeting?

A: -- I DON'T HAVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENT ON THAT AT THIS TIME.

Set
OK

Draft:EAP/P-ELYamauchi;KBailes *KBailes*

9/2/92 ext. 72538

EAP/CM:RPerito *RPerito*

~~EAP/EP:PLincoln~~

EAP:BLPascoe
EAP:WClark *KBailes*

PLPascoe KBailes

**PM Press Guidance
September 3, 1992**

CHINA AND ACME

Q: Why should the Chinese continue to participate in the President's ACME Initiative to restrain arms transfers after our decision to sell F-16s to Taiwan?

- A -- CHINA'S OPPOSITION TO THE F-16 SALE IS A BILATERAL MATTER WHICH SHOULD IN NO WAY INFLUENCE PRC POSITIONS ON MULTILATERAL INITIATIVES OR BEIJING'S INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.**
- THE U.S. HAS ALWAYS STRESSED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 1982 U.S.-PRC COMMUNIQUE ON ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN LIES IN ITS PROMOTION OF COMMON POLITICAL GOALS, AND PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE AREA THROUGH MUTUAL RESTRAINT.**
- THE F-16 SALE DOES NOT CHANGE THE COMMITMENT OF THIS ADMINISTRATION AND ITS PREDECESSORS TO THE THREE COMMUNIQES WITH THE PRC.**

- 2 -

- IN REGARDS TO THE PRESIDENT'S ARMS TRANSFER RESTRAINT INITIATIVE -- ACME -- WE EXPECT THAT CHINA WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE AS BEFITS ITS POSITION AS A LEADING ARMS EXPORTER AND PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL.

- THE PLANNED F-16 SALE CANNOT BE COMPARED TO THE SORT OF MASSIVE, DESTABILIZING TRANSFERS WHICH THE PRESIDENT'S ACME INITIATIVE SEEKS TO END.

76977 SEJAL 221

Drafted: PM: JALewis

Cleared: PM: RLGallucci

PM: RMantel

T: FWisner

T: TBuckley

**PM Press Guidance
September 3, 1992**

ARMS SALES

Q: Doesn't the decision to sell F-16s to Taiwan (or the likely decision to sell F-15s to Saudi Arabia) undercut the President's big push to control arms proliferation?

A -- THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN A DRIVING FORCE IN ADVANCING NON-PROLIFERATION. WE HAVE MADE MAJOR STRIDES IN THE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME, THE AUSTRALIA GROUP AND THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP TO HALT THE SPREAD OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

-- MOREOVER, WE ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED, AT PRESIDENT BUSH'S INITIATIVE, IN DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINA, FRANCE, RUSSIA, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM TO RESTRAIN CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS. OUR DISCUSSIONS HAVE RESULTED IN AGREEMENT TO OBSERVE COMMON ARMS TRANSFERS GUIDELINES.

-- WE SEEK TO END DESTABILIZING SALES AND BRING TRANSPARENCY TO THE ARMS TRANSFER PROCESS, NOT TO RULE OUT ALL ARMS SALES.

-- THE SALE OF F-16S TO TAIWAN IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THESE OBJECTIVES AND THE AGREED GUIDELINES.

- 2 -

- WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE ARMS SALES WHEN THEY ARE CONSISTENT WITH U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY OBJECTIVES, MEET LEGITIMATE DEFENSE NEEDS, AND PROMOTE REGIONAL STABILITY.

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Drafted: PM: JALewis

Cleared: PM: RLGallucci

PM: RMantel

T: FWisner

T: TBuckley

EAP/CM: CHart