THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

00.034-0

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 17, 1989

MANAGEMENT.

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE FRANK F. FASI

SUBJECT: REQUEST ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE REMARKABLE POLITICAL PROGRESS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT ON

TAIWAN, ESPECIALLY IN THE FACE OF THE

CONTRASTING REPRESSION COMING OUT OF PEKING

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT-2590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 . AREA CODE 808 . 523-4141

FRANK F. FASI



July 7, 1989

The Honorable George H. W. Bush President of the United States Office of the President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write you in the aftermath of June 4, 1989, and the Peking Massacre of thousands of innocent Chinese people. I am Mayor of the eleventh largest U.S. city. Honolulu is also the largest city with a Republican mayor. Furthermore, Honolulu is the largest city with a majority population whose ancestors came from Asia, not Europe, and the major city closest to East Asia.

You have served in Peking, and know the present Chinese leadership. I believe your personal acquaintance with Teng Hsiao-ping may make you sympathetic with his long range goals. On the other hand, I know you condemn China's leaders for having ordered the slaughter of unarmed students.

I know you recall as well your service as U.N. Ambassador. In 1971, you led the fight for the rights of another voice of China, the Republic of China on Taiwan.

In the period since 1971, while the mainland has moved from brutal repression to reform and back to brutal repression, the Republic of China on Taiwan has made remarkable political and economic progress.

Today, Taiwan is preparing to hold its first multiparty elections. It already has ended marshal law, moved to a free press, and opened up direct contacts with the mainland--all developments that would have seemed wildly improbable when you were defending the ROC in 1971.

The Honorable George H. W. Bush July 7, 1989 Page 2

Mr. President, I know you are not going to invite the President of the Republic of China to come to the U.S. on an official state visit. I ask you, however, to acknowledge the remarkable political progress made by the Chinese government on Taiwan, especially in the face of the contrasting repression coming out of Peking. You should be able to note publicly, including to people of Chinese extraction in the U.S. and elsewhere, that an alternative to Communism exists—it is alive and working in Taiwan.

I specifically recommend that you let Republic of China President Lee know he is welcome to visit the United States, and that you will meet with him unofficially while he is in Washington.

Please let me have your personal reaction to this suggestion.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerery,

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 10, 1989

Dear Mayor Fasi:

I have been asked to reply to your letter of July 7 to the President regarding Taiwan. Like you, all Americans admire the economic and political strides made by the Chinese people on Taiwan. By now Taiwan's economic miracle is well known. It is one of the world's leading trading economies and enjoys one of the highest living standards in Asia. We are also pleased that Taiwan has taken steps to reduce its huge trade surplus with the US. Politically Taiwan is making the transition from an essentially one-party authoritarian system to a more pluralistic system. The upcoming 1989 election, Taiwan's first genuine multi-party election, testifies to the gradual democratization of the island's political system. We have every expectation that this process will continue.

We have studied carefully your recommendation that Mr. Lee Teng-hui visit the United States and meet with the President "unofficially" in Washington. As you know, in 1979 the United States recognized the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China, and within that context the American people maintain trade and other unofficial relations with the people on Taiwan. In the past ten years we have developed an excellent framework to conduct our substantive relations with Taiwan. We believe this unofficial framework should be maintained. Thus a meeting with President Bush, regardless of form, would not be appropriate.

Thank you for taking time out to write to the President.

Sincerely,

Satel Longson Milano

Carol Lancaster Milano Coordinator of Intergovernmental Affairs

Bureau of Public Affairs

The Honorable Frank F. Fasi
Mayor, City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813