THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

00 034-01

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 17, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BILL ARCHER

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO SUPPORT THE

APPLICATION OF TAIWAN TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND

TRADE (GATT)

MANAGEMENT.

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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS

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Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

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June 13, 1991

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to urge you to support the application of Taiwan to become a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

On January 1, 1990, Taiwan formally applied for GATT membership under the name "The Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu." By applying as a separate customs territory possessing full autonomy in the conduct of its external commercial relations, Taiwan is seeking to avoid controversy over the question of its political sovereignty. Moreover, Taiwan proposes to accede to the GATT as a developed country, an action which would set a highly visible and desirable precedent for other newly industrializing countries. To date, no action has been taken on Taiwan's application.

We believe Taiwan merits support for its GATT application for a number of reasons. Among the most important are the following: Taiwan is a rapidly industrializing country that is a major player in international trade. Taiwan has liberalized its trade regime unilaterally in recent years and has been a willing participant in the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, which is one of your Administration's top trade policy priorities. Although political factors do not enter in explicitly to GATT membership questions, it is nonetheless significant that Taiwan has moved in recent years toward an increasingly democratic political system.

We are aware that the People's Republic of China objects to Taiwan's accession to the GATT. However, we do not believe that a non-GATT member, whose own policies are the subject of such great controversy, should be in a position to influence a matter such as this. We believe that the accession of a major trading nation to the GATT and its adoption of GATT disciplines would be in the best interests of both the United States and the world trading system.

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We strongly urge you to support Taiwan's membership in the GATT. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

	Sincerely yours,
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Sam M. Abbons	Bill Archer
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J Pickle Member of Congress	Guy Vander Jagt Member of Congress
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Frank J. Guarini Member of Congres Marty Russo Member of Congress Don J. Pease Member of Congress Next 2 Matsui Robert T. Matsui Member of Congress Beryl Anthony, Jr. Member Congress Byron . Dorgan Member of Congress Barbara B. Kennelly Member of Congress Sander M. Levin Member of Congress

Member of Congress

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Don Sundquist
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Nancy I. Johnson
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Jim Bunning
Member of Congress

Fred Grandy
Member of Congress