

Who manufactured the crisis over the Taiwan Strait, and why

by Our Special Correspondent

A new front has been opened up in the campaign to destroy any potential for an American strategic partnership with China. Ever since President Clinton stated his policy goal of seeking full and mutually beneficial relations with Beijing, the same British-backed gaggle of Republicans on Capitol Hill, and their friends in the media who waged the assault against the Presidency in seeking the President's impeachment, have been working to create a crisis in U.S.-China relations, centering around the charges that Beijing was involved in nuclear espionage against the United States. These charges were put forward by the House Select Committee on U.S. National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China, chaired by Rep. Chris Cox (R-Calif.). But by the end of August, the charges contained in the 700-page report were no longer taken seriously, and by Aug. 23, Notra Trulock, the intelligence official at the Department of Energy who led the espionage crusade, was forced to resign.

As the Cox Committee assault began to flag, a new, more dangerous tack was taken: the creation of a crisis between mainland China and Taiwan. Now the drums are beating, with predictions that Beijing will militarily attack Taiwan, with one goal being Congressional passage of the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act (S. 693) introduced by Cold War crusader Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.), which calls for a Theater Missile Defense System (TMD) covering Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. As will be shown in the chronology (see below), the crisis has been fomented and used to carry out an "end run" against the Clinton administration's China policy.

Who benefits from the current crisis over the Taiwan Strait? Taiwan? Mainland China? Japan? The United States? Asia as a whole? In fact, none of the above. The crisis has been fomented as part of a British geopolitical game-plan to destroy China, along with India and Russia, and to destroy the potential of the United States to link up with these Eurasian powers, as has been proposed by American Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, for the purposes of creating a new monetary system, that would put the oligarchical game-masters of London and their allies out of business. This is the general context for the build-up of the "cross straits" crisis now building between Beijing and Taipei, eagerly being cheered on by Republicans on Capitol Hill.

Conjuring a crisis

The crisis surfaced on July 9, when Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui suddenly redefined the cross-Taiwan Strait relations from being "one country, two systems" to a "special state-to-state relationship." The venue was an interview on Germany's national radio, Deutsche Welle. The majority of nations in the world regard Taiwan as being part of China, albeit with a different system, and recognize mainland China as representing China as a whole under the formula, "one country, two systems." For years, this formulation has been the accepted basis for both Taiwan and mainland China in negotiations with each other, and as the basis for future, peaceful reunification. In redefining the relationship as being a "special state-to-state relationship," Lee Teng-hui was officially stating opposition to Taiwan's being a part of China, and was opening the door for its future independence.

Beijing's response—as could be calculated—was immediate and strong. China's largest-circulation weekly magazine *Global News Digest* warned the United States not to interfere, and placed the blame for tensions with Taiwan on U.S. "long-term interference into China's internal affairs," and on the support for Taiwan independence in both the U.S. Congress and among Republican candidates for the Presidency. "Lee Teng-hui is being pumped up, like a drug addict taking stimulants, carrying out bragging and wild provocations," said the *Digest*. *China Daily* and other Chinese media echoed similar warnings. (See *EIR*, Sept. 17.)

The imbroglio unleashed by Teng's announcement is a replay of the creation of the tensions between the Beijing and Taipei by the same individuals and institutions in 1995, when Lee Teng-hui visited Cornell University, and in 1996, with the crisis of the Diaoyudai islands. This time, however, the tensions are being built up in the context of a British-American-Commonwealth deployment to create nuclear hot spots at various points of the globe, a new NATO doctrine for out-of-area rapid response, the NATO bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, and a campaign of unjustified attacks on Beijing in the United States and allied media. In short, the current strategic crisis makes the diplomatic confrontation between mainland China and Taiwan far more dangerous.

The British objectives in this crisis are more dangerous still: destroy the strategic partnership between Beijing and

Washington, destroy collaboration between Tokyo and Beijing, destroy collaboration between Beijing and Taiwan, and create the environment for the establishment of a new Nuclear Missile Defense bloc under a U.S. umbrella consisting of Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and maybe the Philippines. The target is China.

Inside the United States, the crisis is being used to build support for the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act proposed by Senators Jesse Helms and Robert Torricelli (D-N.J.). This bill lifts restrictions on the sale of defensive weapons to Taiwan, and authorizes sales of key weapons systems, including theater missile defenses. Further, the bill overrides the Aug. 17, 1982, Communiqué with China, the which states, that the United States will eventually end arms sales to Taiwan. The bill also opens up the possibility of a future military intervention from the United States on the side of Taiwan.

Following Lee Teng-hui's July 9 formulation of a "special state-to-state relationship," visits by Republican representatives to Taiwan were organized. The commentaries by the Republicans visiting Taiwan were covered in the Taiwan and U.S. press, and were recycled back and forth for maximum effect (see *Chronology*).

In direct contrast to the policy implied by Lee Teng-hui's July 9 announcement, last year, in Shanghai, President Clinton affirmed American support for Beijing's "three no's": no declaration of independence by Taiwan; no statements declaring "one China, one Taiwan;" and no membership for Taiwan in international organizations that require statehood status.

At a joint press conference on Sept. 11 in Auckland, New Zealand, after a one-hour discussion with China's President Jiang Zemin, President Clinton affirmed, with Jiang at his side, that "Our messages are that our policy has not, and will not change. We favor the one-China policy. We favor a peaceful approach to working out our differences. We favor cross-strait dialogue." When asked whether mainland China would use force against Taiwan, Jiang said, "Our policy on Taiwan is consistent—that is one of peaceful reunification and 'one-country, two systems.'" In the current context, Jiang pointedly added: "However, if there were to be a foreign intervention, or if they were to declare Taiwan independence, we will not undertake to renounce the use of force."

Why now?

Although the 1995 crisis sparked by President Lee's statements at Cornell University interrupted the official dialogue across the Taiwan Strait, the actual relations between mainland China and Taiwan have changed dramatically. Despite Lee Teng-hui's ban on direct cross-strait transportation, commercial and postal services links, and his "no haste, be patient" policy, which seriously restricts Taiwan business investment in mainland China, reality demonstrates an ever-increasing interdependence.

According to the 1999-2000 White Paper issued by the

American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei on Sept. 4, Taiwan is now mainland China's fifth-largest trading partner, its second-largest source of imports, and its ninth-largest export market. Taiwan is also the second-largest source of overseas capital, following only Hong Kong. In 1998, 43% of Taiwan's foreign investment went to mainland China, with the total amount of investment exceeding \$30 billion, involving close to 34,000 Taiwanese companies. At any given time, at least 400,000 Taiwan businessmen are in mainland China; at least 200,000 Taiwanese businessmen have taken residence there, resulting in thousands of personal friendships and marriages. Under current regulations, mainland Chinese who have been married to Taiwan nationals for two years and have children, can apply to settle in Taiwan. Taiwan has an annual quota of 3,600 Chinese spouses—a quota which fails to meet the rapidly rising demand.

Repeatedly, leading Taiwan businessmen, such as Kao Chin-yen, chairman of Chinese National Federation of Industries and president of Taiwan's largest food processing company, the President Group, have urged the government to lift restrictions on Taiwan investment in mainland China.

A parallel, rapid increase in scientific and cultural collaboration has taken place. Hundreds of Taiwanese scholars from all fields are visiting mainland China each year, giving guest lectures and participating in seminars and conferences, and the number of university students from Taiwan studying in mainland China is also on the rise. Exemplary of the cultural exchanges is the celebration of the 130th anniversary of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, which took place in 1996. Among the many joint activities, a sculptor from mainland China gave Taiwan a beautiful sculpture depicting Sun Yat-sen teaching two students. It was placed in front of Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Memorial Hall in Taipei, and the same Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall is issuing a CD with a symphonic poem, dedicated to all those who revere Dr. Sun. The symphonic poem, called "Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Father of Modern China," was composed by Lu Qiming from mainland China, and was performed by the Shanghai Dynasty Orchestra.

The financial speculators' assault against Asia in 1997 was a wake-up call to both Taipei and Beijing, indicating that they must join together to stem the assault of "hot money" on their national economies. When the vice governor of Fujian province, Zhang Jiakun, last year visited Taiwan for 12 days, he made a public appeal for the two sides to closely work together to tackle the "Asian" financial crisis.

Soon after Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed had attacked mega-speculator George Soros in Hong Kong in September 1997, Taiwan, in close collaboration with Hong Kong, banned all of Soros's Quota and Quantum family of funds, and the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) launched an official investigation to see if any local firms were helping Soros to gain access to the local stock market. When Soros said at a conference in Washington last autumn, that "Taiwan has not yet escaped the crisis," and that "the

Asian nations have adopted incorrect policies to tackle the crisis," the Taiwanese media carried front-page attacks on Soros, and recounted Mahathir's attacks. The mood is best expressed by remarks made by the chairman of China Development Corporation and financial manager of the ruling Kuomintang party (KMT), Liu Tai-ying. This elder, conservative gentleman called Soros a "cold-blooded speculator" and a "pig"—the Mandarin equivalent of "idiot."

Repeatedly, both in the press as well as at private meetings, Mahathir's actions of currency and capital controls have been praised as both bold and necessary. Last October, Paul Tso, Taiwan's representative to Malaysia, praised Mahathir's actions, asserting that the currency controls imposed by Kuala Lumpur were a great help to export-oriented Taiwan businesses and their operations: In the first seven months of 1998, Taiwan investment in Malaysia increased by 89% compared to 1997, a continuing trend.

There have been efforts to reopen the formal discussions between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, which broke down with Lee's trip to Cornell in 1995. Exemplary is the work of "Taiwan Strait Peaceful Reunification Association" (TSPRA), whose president is the former Speaker of Parliament, Liang Su-rung. Thanks to this group's efforts, formal discussions were resumed last autumn, when an official delegation from Taiwan visited Beijing. The TSPRA held a conference in Hong Kong on July 9-11, 1999, entitled "Symposium on the Peaceful Reunification of China," with leaders from Beijing, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Europe, and the United States. As one conference participant told *EIR*, "Everyone who was there was surprised at how peaceful, constructive, and positive the discussions went, even though the participants belonged to quite different factions."

It is hoped that a Chinese mainland delegation will return the visit this fall. Chinese President Jiang Zemin has put two conditions on the meeting: Lee Teng-hui must retract his "state-to-state" formulation, and Lee must meet with the Beijing delegation in his capacity as chairman of the KMT, and not as President of Taiwan. It is therefore unlikely that this meeting will take place.

Presidential elections in March 2000

The political scene in Taiwan has dramatically changed as well: President Lee Teng-hui no longer enjoys the power he had previously. He has tried in vain to squelch the voices of his critics, by monopolizing the electronic media and the three main television networks, throwing opponents out of the KMT, and firing leaders of think tanks and other institutions that would not kowtow to him. In six months, Presidential elections will take place in Taiwan, and with no interference from outside, it is clear that Lee Teng-hui and the small circle around him will lose their influence for good.

Quite a number of individuals have declared their candidacy for this election, but the three major contenders are:

Lian Chan. Lee Teng-hui's choice for KMT's Presiden-

tial candidate, Lian Chan is currently Vice President, and one of the richest men in Taiwan. He is out of touch with the population, and is frequently compared to the uncharismatic Al Gore in the United States. Lian was involved in a major scandal last year, when it was revealed that he had given a major sum of his private money to a KMT candidate without reporting it. Lian now polls at between 11-17% of the vote. Although he does not say so publicly, it is believed that Lian favors Taiwan independence. He has repeatedly endorsed Lee's "special state-to-state relationship" formulation. Without vote fraud and other foul play, Lian's chances for winning the Presidential election are miniscule.

Chen Shui-bian. Presidential candidate for the largest opposition party, the Democratic Progressive Party (DDP), and former mayor of Taipei, Chen is an outspoken proponent of Taiwan independence. Endorsing Lee's "special state-to-state relationship" diplomacy, Chen has said that he sees no major policy differences between his party and the ruling KMT toward mainland China. In July, the caucuses of the KMT and the DDP at the national assembly agreed upon principles of constitutional reform, principles that would pave the way for Taiwan's independence: the introduction of referendums on matters of major public policy, opening the door for a future referendum on independence, and redefining Taipei-Beijing ties as a "state-to-state relationship." In mid-September, a group of DDP legislators will visit the United States to express their support for the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act. They will meet a number of U.S. congressmen and senators, as well as U.S. think tanks such as the American Enterprise Institute and the U.S. news media. According to reliable sources in Taipei, Chen enjoys support from leading politicians in Japan. In the polls, Chen is receiving 20-25% of the vote.

James Soong. Former elected governor of Taiwan, Soong is by far the most popular candidate, and is the consistent front-runner, according to every published poll. He is a leading member of the KMT, but since he is not endorsed by the party, he is running as an independent, and is likely to be ousted from the KMT soon, because of his "disobedience" to the party. Lee Teng-hui tried in vain to block Soong's candidacy, offering him various posts. Soong opposes Theater Missile Defense, and said in a July interview that if he becomes President, Taiwan will open three links with China—direct travel, direct trade, and direct communication. As a governor, Soong won the love and respect of all ethnic groups in Taiwan. Soong is known for his incorruptibility—an important trait in Taiwan, where money and the mafia have corrupted politics. He was one of the late President Chiang Ching-kuo's personal secretaries, and is said to use Chiang as a model for personal conduct. To this day, Chiang Ching-kuo is respected and loved by most Taiwanese.

There are some indications that the crisis fostered by Lee with Beijing could endanger the Presidential elections. On July 17, however, over 100 scholars in Taiwan signed a state-



James Soong, the former governor of Taiwan, is the front-running candidate in the next Presidential election. If elected, he has pledged to improve ties with the mainland.

ment urging Lee to drop the “two states theory” for the sake of national security and stable relations between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, warning: “If the tension sparked by Lee Teng-hui’s remarks regarding cross-relations strengthens, it could result in the reinstatement of martial law in Taiwan, the suspension of next year’s Presidential election, and the extension of Lee’s tenure as President.” On Aug. 30, the KMT included the “special state-to-state relationship” theory in the resolution passed by its National Congress.

Throwing out the Sun Yat-sen legacy

In a passionate “wake-up” document issued in 1995 called “The Orthodox Kuomintang: Where Do We Go From Here?” Chiang Kai-shek’s son, the late Gen. Chiang Wei-kuo, accused Lee Teng-hui of abandoning the Kuomintang heritage, by abandoning Dr. Sun’s principle “To pursue freedom and equality for all of China,” and Dr. Sun’s Three Principles of the People: national sovereignty, individual sovereignty, and prosperity.

Chiang cited Lee’s book *Managing Greater Taiwan*, in which Lee expressed his desire to convert the Kuomintang into a *Taiwanese* Kuomintang. Lee called the Kuomintang a “two-year-old party,” and further compared himself to Moses: “Moses has already begun leading the people on their journey”—away from Beijing.

In “The Orthodox Kuomintang,” Chiang writes: “It is clear that the two-year-old party idea agrees with the DDP’s Taiwan independence platform, so that both are working—one overtly and the other covertly—to foster Taiwan independence. . . . And the two-year-old party and the DDP are but two sides of the same coin. These pitiful Taiwan independence advocates are being used by outsiders, and they don’t even know it!”

Chiang challenged further: “We are just now at a time

when cooperation between Taiwan and mainland China is building a new China, with a revival of the great Chinese tradition. So, how can some people be creating opportunities for foreign hegemonists, and leaving to their descendants an untenable strategic position that is bound to bring disaster?”

Interference from Japan

It is noteworthy that Lee’s latest book, *With the People Always in My Heart*, is based on a series of interviews with Lee by Katsuhiko Eguchi, a deputy director of a Japanese think tank. As was the case in the 1995 crisis, certain circles in Japan, centered around former President George Bush’s brother, Prescott Bush, in Tokyo, are actively boosting Lee.

In his book, Lee called for dividing China up into seven parts—the scheme put forward in the mid-1990s by Gerald Segal of the Royal Institute of International Affairs of Britain. Lee further argues that the U.S.-Japan mutual defense treaty is indispensable, and that it contributes to the security of East Asia, and again voices his opposition to “one country, two systems.”

Lee’s most notorious backer in Japan is Mineo Nakashima, president of the National Foreign Languages University of Tokyo, who has repeatedly called for the break-up of China. According to reliable sources in Taipei, Nakashima is Lee’s close friend and one of his top policy advisers. On invitation from Lee, on several occasions Nakashima has toured Taiwan universities, giving speeches on his views on China. Lee’s contention that Taiwan is an independent sovereign country is substantiated by the fact that Beijing’s “state function” does not extend to Taiwan, wrote Nakashima in the July 23 *Sankei Shimbun*. Nakashima praised Lee’s book *With the People Always in My Heart* as being beneficial for Japan’s readers.

A reception of more than 1,000 people was held in Tokyo for the launching of the Japanese edition of Lee’s book, and it was decided to form an association to pave the way for Lee Teng-hui to visit Japan.

There are other Japanese endorsers of Lee’s high-wire diplomacy. A member of Japan’s Diet (parliament), Eisei Ito, while in Taipei on Aug. 9, stated his agreement with Lee’s “special state-to-state” theory, and averred that Beijing’s hegemony has caused anxiety and instability in the Asia-Pacific region. In Taipei on Sept. 5, Prof. Akihito Tanaka of the Oriental Culture Institute supported Lee’s “special state-to-state relationship,” because it completely reflected the existing reality of Taipei-Beijing relations. He added that Beijing may resort to military action to intimidate Taiwan.

How are Taiwan’s people responding to this crisis? A poll conducted on Aug. 12-14 showed the following: Asked whether they worry about an eruption of military conflict between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait due to President Lee’s “special state-to-state” definition, 60% of the female, and 70% of the male respondents, said they did not worry.

Asked about how to resolve the cross-strait dispute over the “special state-to-state” theory, the majority of respondents, regardless of gender, supported a peaceful resolution through consultations and exchanges. Only 2.4% opted for the use of force.

Polls or not, the ongoing relationship between Taiwan and mainland China has been dramatically improving, and without external interference, peaceful and fruitful development between the two sides would be the natural outcome.

Chronology

How the crisis was created for Clinton

Last week of July: The *Weekly Standard* editorial titled “Pressuring Taiwan, Appeasing Beijing” calls for the Clinton administration to dispatch an aircraft carrier or two to the Eastern Pacific as a sign of its commitment to a “peaceful” resolution of the diplomatic crisis between mainland China and Taiwan. The editorial refers to the “Taiwan Security Enhancement Act” introduced by Sen. Jesse Helms, which calls for the United States to strengthen security ties with Taiwan and provide a “much-needed” defensive weapons systems to the Taiwanese.

Aug. 3: *National Review* article by Mark P. Lagon, Council on Foreign Relations fellow at the Project for the New American Century, titled “Taiwan Gets Bold.” Lagon writes that to bolster regional stability, the U.S. should stop criticizing Taiwan for being provocative, and instead, upgrade cooperation with Japan, South Korea, and perhaps India. Further, he writes, “[P]utting ceilings on levels of consultation with a democracy is simply wrong. Higher-level contacts, arms sales, and theater-missile-defense cooperation will likely deter a P.R.C. attempt at reunification by force.” The article endorses the Helms-Torricelli “Taiwan Security Enhancement Act.” Lagon calls for Taiwan to be treated as a state.

Aug. 3: *Australian Financial Review* article, “Taiwan, Like Australia, Has a Claim to Independence,” by Brian Toohey, states that the Australian republican movement should recognize a soulmate in Taiwan’s Lee Teng-hui.

Aug. 4: The *Weekly Standard* prints an article by John R. Bolton, senior vice-president of the American Enterprise Institute and former Assistant Secretary of State in the Bush administration; Bolton calls for full diplomatic recognition of Taiwan and says it is time for the United States to adopt

a two-China policy. Full diplomatic recognition of Taiwan “would advance key American interests by ratifying the self-evident reality of the island, and by shattering the Clinton policy of deference toward Beijing.”

Aug. 5: At a press conference in Taipei, Chen Shui-bien, former mayor of Taipei and Presidential candidate for the Democratic Progressive Party (DDP), states that it is “unquestionable” that Taiwan is an independent sovereign country, and that it is imperative that Taiwan not give in first. In answer to the U.S. State Department’s opposition to the “Taiwan Security Enhancement Act,” Chen says that Senator Helms represents the “voice of the U.S. private sector.”

Aug. 6: Twenty-six U.S. Senators send a letter to President William Clinton expressing their support for Taiwan’s cause. It is announced by Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), that three or four U.S. Congressional groups will visit Taiwan over the next two weeks to show their concern over Taiwan Strait security. Kao Shou-tai, deputy director of MOFA’s North American Affairs Department, states that the upcoming visits are also aimed at expressing U.S. Congressional support for Lee Teng-hui’s “special state-to-state relationship” theory.

Aug. 8: Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House International Relations Committee, arrives with a delegation in Taiwan to meet with President Lee Teng-hui and other government officials.

Aug. 9: The *Weekly Standard* editorial “Peace Through Strength” states: “The current Chinese military activities may not be mere gestures designed to intimidate Taiwan (and us). They may be the opening phase of a serious military confrontation, one that could culminate in the coming weeks or months in some form of attack—probably not on Taiwan itself but against the tiny islands of Matsu or Kinmen.” The editorial says that a blockade of Matsu or Kinmen would present the Clinton administration with this choice: Either send the Seventh Fleet to break the blockade, or acquiesce to Chinese aggression against Taiwan and accept the consequences of allowing Beijing to set such a precedent. Editorial calls for a “firm policy of deterrent” in order “to avoid the Hobson’s choice a Chinese blockade or attack on Matsu or Kinmen might present.”

Aug. 10: Six Republican Congressmen (Sam Johnson, Tex.; Charles Canady, Fla.; Ernest Istook, Okla.; Van Hilleary, Tenn.; Joseph Pitts, Pa.; and Bill Barnett, Neb.) arrive at Taipei’s international airport, where they are greeted at the airport by officials from MOFA and by Edwin J. Feulner, Jr., president of the Heritage Foundation, who arranged the visit.

Aug. 10: *Kanwa News* article by a “Toronto-based military expert” named Pinkov states that mainland China may have changed its theory of nuclear deterrence so significantly that a nuclear war between Taiwan and China can no longer be thought of as pure fiction, and that Western military observers

generally believe that mainland China's announcement of possessing the technology to make neutron bombs and small tactical nuclear weapons at an appropriate time implies a deterrent to Taiwan.

Aug. 11: *Washington Times* runs an article by Amos Perlmutter, editor of the *American Journal of Strategic Studies* and professor of Political Science at American University, entitled "Taiwan Cliffhanger Closer to the Edge?" Perlmutter writes that the Clinton administration's unwillingness, and thus its failure, to abandon its predecessors' policy of partnership with China will never succeed in deterring expansionist dictatorships, as the West failed to deter Adolf Hitler's Germany. Perlmutter accuses the Clinton administration of kowtowing to the world's chief violator of human rights, the P.R.C., while the United States conducted a "humanitarian war" in Kosovo.

Aug. 13: Rep. Bob Barr (R-Ga.) issues a statement comparing Clinton's China policy to the appeasement of Hitler. Barr claims that China is threatening Japan, Taiwan, and the Philippines, and accuses Beijing of directly interfering in the U.S. electoral process, and of espionage to acquire U.S. nuclear secrets.

Aug. 14: Three Republican members of the House Armed Forces Committee arrive in Taiwan for a two-day visit. "We are here to learn about the military situation in Taiwan and find out if the United States can do anything to meet Taiwan's military needs," stated Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.). Solomon Ortiz (R-Tex.) and Jerry Weller (R-Ill.) are part of the delegation. The group was to meet with President Lee Teng-hui and top military officials, and was accompanied by Jim Walker, a military officer.

Aug. 17: The *Weekly Standard* editorial, "The Present Danger," expresses disagreement with those China experts who say that mainland China will not escalate the conflict across the Taiwan Strait until after Beijing celebrates its 50th anniversary on Oct. 1. "We are not so sure. If the Chinese are going to carry out some form of aggression against Taiwan, it makes a lot of sense to do it in the next few weeks. First of all, the United States is now unprepared to respond quickly. From what we gather, the Clinton administration has gone out of its way to avoid 'provoking' the Chinese by stepping up our military presence in the region." The editorial compares its prediction of an attack by China on Taiwan to Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

Aug. 18: *Foreign Affairs*, magazine of the New York Council on Foreign Relations, runs an article by Gerald Segal, director of Asian Studies at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, titled "Does China Matter?" Segal, who advocated the break-up of China in the early 1990s, writes that "China is less like the Soviet Union in the 1950s than like Iran in the 1990s: a regional threat to Western interests, not a global ideological rival. Such regional threats can be constrained." Segal writes that a strategy of "containment"

would lead to a new and very different Western approach to mainland China, and concludes that until communist China is treated more like a Brazil or an India, the West stands little chance of sustaining a coherent and long-term policy toward it. Segal retails the now-discredited "Cox Report" on alleged Chinese nuclear espionage.

Aug. 20: The *Weekly Standard* article by Ross Terrill, research associate at Harvard's Fairbank Center, calls for President Clinton to repeat to President Jiang Zemin President Ronald Reagan's earlier warning to China that any attack on Taiwan would damage U.S.-mainland Chinese relations "beyond repair," and that, in a world without the Soviet Union, we do not lack the power to hold China in balance—and keep the peace in the Taiwan Strait.

Aug. 21: Harvey J. Feldman, senior fellow at the Asian Studies Center at the Heritage Foundation, calls upon the Clinton administration to warn Beijing that any military action against Taiwan will be resisted by U.S. armed forces in the region. Feldman asserts, that because of Clinton's support of the "three no's" statement in Shanghai last year (see article above), President Lee Teng-hui was compelled to clarify Taiwan's position with his "state-to-state relationship" policy.

Aug. 24: Heritage Foundation and Project for the New American Century call for defense of Taiwan against threatened military action by Beijing aimed at the democratically elected government of Taiwan over the "special state-to-state" stance. "It has therefore become essential that the United States make every effort to deter any form of [mainland] Chinese intimidation of the Republic of China on Taiwan and declare unambiguously that it will come to Taiwan's defense in the event of an attack or a blockade against Taiwan, including against the offshore islands of Matsu and Kinmen." The statement is signed by 23 co-thinkers, including William Kristol, president of the Project for the New American Century; former U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger; former Assistant Secretary of State Paul Wolfowitz; former Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard L. Armitage; former Ambassador to the UN Jeane J. Kirkpatrick; and former CIA director James Woolsey.

Aug. 25: *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* editorial, "Chinese Puzzle: What Would Ronald Reagan Do?" argues that not since Dean Acheson put South Korea outside the American "defensive perimeter" has the State Department given a potential aggressor so clear an invitation, as the Clinton administration has given to China. The editorial demands that Clinton warn Beijing strongly against any military action.

Aug. 26: Rep. Vito Fossella (R-N.Y.) calls for U.S. support for Taiwan, warning that it was the sending of unclear signals to invaders which caused the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War.

Aug. 27: *Forbes* article by the magazine's chairman Caspar Weinberger, former U.S. Defense Secretary, "Taiwan

Is the Victim—Not the Villain”: “After Britain and France sold out Czechoslovakia to secure the infamous Munich Pact with Hitler and Mussolini in 1938, some Czech leaders were incautious enough to protest their loss of freedom and the dismemberment of their country. . . . The U.S. response has been to blame Taiwan—as Czechoslovakia was blamed in 1938—and demand that President Lee Teng-hui retract his statements. . . . Some of our top military seem intent on currying favor with Mr. Clinton. There is no other explanation for the recent, inexcusable remarks of Adm. Dennis Blair, Commander of the Pacific Fleet. After crude references to Taiwan, he said the U.S. should not defend Taiwan, if it declared independence from China. In an earlier administration, Admiral Blair would have been cashiered promptly, or offered a naval attaché post in Ulan Bator.” Weinberger endorses the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act and concludes with: “One thing should be made absolutely clear to China: We are absolutely committed to the defense of Taiwan and will not permit it to be overrun.”

Aug. 31: *Australian Financial Review* interview with Richard Armitage, adviser to U.S. Presidential candidate George Bush. Former Assistant Secretary of Defense Armitage claims there is a danger that the ongoing crisis in the Taiwan Strait could lead to war between the United States

and China, and that Washington would expect Australia to contribute to “the dirty, hard and dangerous work.” And further, “If Australia does not rally round the defense of Taiwan, it would be the greatest breach of the relationship since World War II.”

Aug. 31: Voice of America talk show on “The Taiwan Dilemma.” Heritage Foundation’s Stephen Yates says the United States must state that if force is used against Taiwan it will be met by force, and contends that “special state-to-state relations” is the only path toward reunification.

Sept. 6: In remarks during a seminar sponsored by a U.S.-based mainland Chinese Scholars Association, Susan Shirk, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, opposes President Clinton’s foreign policy and attacks the “three no’s” policy. Shirk describes Beijing as attempting to squeeze Taiwan’s “international space.” China has blundered by castigating Lee Teng-hui for his declaration that cross-strait ties should be on a “special state-to-state basis.” She “advises Beijing to discontinue advocating the so-called ‘one country, two systems’ as a formula for unification with Taiwan,” and warns that any military action taken by mainland China against Taiwan will draw immediate U.S. response, including strengthened support for the Taiwan Security Enhancement Act.

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EIR's Jeffrey Steinberg (left) and Gail Billington interview Cambodian Ambassador Var Houth.

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Anchorage 1300	Buenos Aires 1900	Houston 1600	Manila 0600*	Prague 2300	Teheran 0130*
Athens 2400	Cairo 2400	Istanbul 2400	Melbourne 0800*	Rio de Janeiro 1900	Tel Aviv 2400
Auckland 1000*	Caracas 1800	Jakarta 0500*	Mexico City 1600	Rome 2300	Tokyo 0700*
Baghdad 0100*	Chicago 1600	Jerusalem 2400	Milan 2300	St. Petersburg 0100*	Toronto 1700
Baltimore 1700	Copenhagen 2300	Johannesburg 2400	Minneapolis 1600	San Francisco 1400	Vancouver 1400
Bangkok 0500*	Denver 1500	Karachi 0300*	Montreal 1700	Sarajevo 2300	Warsaw 2300
Beijing 0600*	Detroit 1700	Kiev 2400	Moscow 0100*	Seattle 1400	Washington 1700
Berlin 2300	Dublin 2200	Khartoum 2400	New Delhi 0330*	Seoul 0700*	Wiesbaden 2300
Bogota 1700	Gdansk 2300	London 2200	New York 1700	Shanghai 0600*	

* Mondays