

January 18, 1986
Cable from AIT Taipei to the AIT Washington, DC,
'Full Transcription of CODEL Hatch's Press
Conference in Taipei'

Citation:

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Summary:

The American Institute in Taiwan reports on the visit of a 16-member Congressional delegation led by Senator Orrin Hatch.

Credits:

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English

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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: DREP, TW
SUBJ: FULL TRANSCRIPTION OF CODEL HATCH'S PRESS
- CONFERENCE IN TAIPEI

1. SUMMARY: A SIXTEEN-MEMBER CONGRESSSIONAL
DELEGATION, LED BY REPUBLICAN SENATOR ORRIN G. HATCH
OF UTAH, ARRIVED IN TAIPEI FOR A ONE-DAY VISIT JAN.
14-15. THE VISIT RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE WITH PHOTOS
BY LOCAL PRESS AND THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA, ESPECIALLY
ON THEIR ARRIVAL AND PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCES.
END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ARE FULL TRANSCRIPTIONS OF THE TWO NEWS
CONFERENCES:

3. ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE ON JAN. 14 (BEGIN TEXT):
SENATOR HATCH: WE'RE VERY HAPPY TO BE HERE IN YOUR
COUNTRY THIS DAY. WE HAVE FIVE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
AND OTHER DIGNITARIES WITH US ON THIS TRIP. THE
PURPOSE OF OUR TRIP, IS OF COURSE, TO COME HERE TO
RENEW OUR OLD FRIENDSHIPS, TO RENEW SOME OF OUR OLD
ACQUAINTANCES AND LEARN SOME MORE ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY,
AND OF COURSE, TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR SELF-DEFENSE
FORCES AND TO SEE ABOUT THE BALANCE OF POWER, TO SEE
WHAT WE CAN DO TO MAKE SURE THAT THE TAIWAN RELATIONS
ACT IS OBSERVED AND IF YQU ARE KEPT SECURE. SO WE'LL
BE QUESTIONING SOME OF YOUR LEADERS, AND CHATTING
WITH THEM AND HOPEFULLY LEARNING A LOT MORE ABOUT THE
CIRCUMSTANCES THAT DO EXIST HERE IN THIS WONDERFUL
NATION.

WE ARE VERY HAPPY TO BE BACK. I THINK THIS IS MY
FOURTH OR FIFTH TRIP HERE AND I HAVE A VERY GREAT
FONDNESS FOR THIS COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE IN IT. I
BRING REGARDS FROM A NUMBER OF OTHER PEOPLE, INCLUDING
AMBASSADOR BROWN IN THAILAND, WHO SENDS HIS BEST
WISHES TO ALL OF YOU HERE IN TAIWAN. AND SO WITH
THAT, WE ARE HAPPY TO BE HERE, GRATEFUL FOR THE
HOSPITALITY AS USUAL AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPENDING
AT LEAST A DAY, MAYBE A LITTLE BIT LONGER MEETING

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WITH YOUR LEADERS AND OF COURSE, WITH YOUR PEOPLE
HERE IN TAIWAN. THANK YOU SO MUCH. ANY QUESTIONS?
WELL, I'LL TAKE ONE OR TWO QUESTIONS.

ROBERT JIANG (CENTRAL DAILY NEWS): SENATOR, YOU'VE
JUST MENTIONED ABOUT THE TRA. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRA BY THE U. S. ADMINISTRA-
TION?

SENATOR: WELL, LET ME SAY THIS. I THINK NOBODY WHO
IS FULLY CONCERNED OR WHO IS FULLY AWARE OF THE TRA
IS TOTALLY HAPPY WITH IT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. WHAT
WE HOPED IS THAT TAIWAN WILL HAVE A BALANCE OF FORCE
AND THE STRENGTH TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT ITSELF AND TO
PROVIDE SELF-DEFENSE FOR TAIWAN ITSELF. WE BELIEVE
THAT WE WILL FIND THAT TO BE THE CASE.

CHINA TELEVISION SERVICE (CTS) REPORTER: SENATOR
GOLDWATER RECENTLY SAID THAT THE U.S. SHOULD SELL
MORE ADVANCED WEAPONS SUCH AS F-20 JET FIGHTERS TO
THE ROC. DO YOU FAVOR HIS OPINION?

SENATOR: WHO SAID THAT?

CTS REPORTER: SENATOR GOLDWATER.

SENATOR: GENERALLY, SENATOR GOLDWATER AND I AGREE
(LAUGHTER).

SUN YANG-MIN (CHINA TIMES): SENATOR GOLDWATER SAID
THAT AFTER HE GOES BACK, HE'S GOING TO HOLD A HEARING
JUST TO STUDY THE PERFORMANCE OF THE TRA. DO YOU
THINK THAT AFTER THE HEARING, IS THERE A POSSIBILITY
TO ENHANCE THE ACTION TO SELL SOME MORE WEAPONS OR ...
SENATOR: SENATOR GOLDWATER IS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE
ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE. I'M SURE THAT THE HEARING
WILL BE VERY REVELATORY AND VERY IMPORTANT AND I AM
LOOKING FORWARD TO LOOKING AT THE RESULTS MYSELF. WE
HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE HEARING IS HELD AND SEE WHAT
HAPPENS. I'LL TAKE ONE MORE AND THEN WE'LL QUIT.
ANYBODY ELSE?

CLARA CHOU (UNITED DAILY NEWS): SENATOR, YOU'VE BEEN
VISITING MOST OF THE COUNTRIES, DID YOU BRING ANY
MESSAGE TO THIS COUNTRY AS WELL AS TO OTHER ASIAN

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COUNTRIES, INCLUDING MAINLAND CHINA?

SENATOR: MY MESSAGE, OF COURSE IS THE MESSAGE OF
FRIENDSHIP BY ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO ARE WITH ME
HERE TODAY AND I THINK MANY OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. A MESSAGE OF FRIEND-
SHIP AND REGARD, AND OF COURSE, THE HOPE THAT WE MIGHT
CONTINUE TO HAVE THE FRIENDSHIP THAT HAS PROSPERED
BOTH NATIONS SO MUCH IN THE PAST. WE LOOK FORWARD TO
SPENDING THIS TIME HERE. IT'S A WONDERFUL COUNTRY,
WONDERFUL PEOPLE AND I REALLY LOOK FORWARD TO BEING
WITH YOU ONCE AGAIN. THANK YOU SO MUCH. (END TEXT)

4. PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE ON JAN. 15 (BEGIN
TEXT): SENATOR HATCH: WE ARE VERY HAPPY AT THE END
OF THIS GREAT TRIP TO THE WONDERFUL REPUBLIC OF CHINA
TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE FOR THE KIND CARE AND TREAT-

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MENT WE'VE HAD AND FRIENDSHIP WE'VE RECEIVED WHILE WE HAVE BEEN HERE IN TAIWAN. WE APPRECIATE OUR FRIENDSHIPS, WE INTEND TO KEEP THEM AND WE INTEND TO SHOW FRIENDSHIP WELL INTO THE FUTURE. WE HAVE SATISFIED OURSELVES IN TALKING WITH YOUR PRESIDENT, YOUR PREMIER, YOUR TOP MILITARY LEADERS AND OTHERS, THAT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS STRONG. IT HAS A BALANCE OF POWER. IT HAS GOOD EQUIPMENT THAT IT IS CONTINUALLY AND INTERNALLY UPGRADING AND DOING THE THINGS THAT HAVE TO BE DONE. WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH WHAT WE'VE FOUND HERE AND WE COMMEND THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS COUNTRY. WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH SO MANY GOOD FRIENDS AGAIN, AND WE INVITE THEM TO COME TO OUR COUNTRY AND VISIT WITH US IN THE CONGRESS WHEN THEY ARE THERE. SO WITH THAT THAT'S ALL WE HAVE TO SAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BEING WITH US.

WE'LL TAKE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS.

ROBERT JIANG (CDN): THE UNITED STATES HAS MILITARY RELATIONS WITH THE PRC, INCLUDING THE ARMS SALES AND NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER. EVEN THE U.S. IS NOW TRYING TO UPGRADE ITS SYSTEM OF F-8 JET FIGHTER WHICH WAS PRODUCED BY THE PRC. SO MANY PEOPLE HERE ARE WORRIED THAT THIS KIND OF MILITARY CONTACT MAY AFFECT THE BALANCE OF POWER ON THE TAIWAN STRAIT. SO SOME OF THE LEADERS IN ASIAN NATIONS WORRY THAT THIS MILITARY CONTACT IN THE END WILL BECOME THREATS TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE PACIFIC BASIN AND REGION. SENATOR, WOULD YOU LIKE TO COMMENT ON THIS?

SENATOR: WELL, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE ROC HAS AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO UPGRADE ITS DEFENSE AND HAVE AN ADEQUATE DEFENSE TO PROTECT ITSELF. WE ARE ALSO CONFIDENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MAINLAND CHINESE. WE HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM AT THIS TIME AND WE EXPECT TO HAVE THAT RELATIONSHIP CONTINUE. BUT WE ALSO EXPECT OUR SIDE TO LIVE UP TO THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT.

WANG YU-HWA (CTS): SENATOR, YOU'VE AN UNDERSTANDING ABOUT OUR THREAT AND SELF-DEFENSE CAPABILITY. IN YOUR OPINION, HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN THE MILITARY BALANCE OF POWER ON THE TWO SIDES OF THE TAIWAN STRAIT?

SENATOR: WELL, THAT'S TOO DIFFICULT A QUESTION TO ANSWER HERE AT THIS TIME. WE'LL SAY THAT WE ARE SATISFIED THAT YOUR LEADERSHIP HAS DONE A VERY GOOD JOB, READINESS AND MAINTAINING ITS STRENGTH FROM THE SELF-DEFENSE STANDPOINT AND WE COMMEND THEM FOR IT. I'LL TAKE ONE MORE QUESTION.

CLARA CHOU (UDN): I WOULD LIKE TO ASK SENATOR HECHT. I KNOW YOU BECAME SENATOR AFTER THE YEAR THE U.S. SUSPENDED ITS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THIS COUNTRY, SO I'D LIKE TO KNOW YOUR STANDPOINT TO THE U.S.' CHINA POLICY AND YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE TRA.

SENATOR HECHT: WELL, I HAVE WONDERFUL FRIENDS HERE. MY WIFE AND I SPENT EIGHT ENJOYABLE DAYS HERE IN 1981 BEFORE I WAS A SENATOR. I'M VERY CLOSE TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON. YOU SHOULD BE VERY, VERY PROUD OF THEM. THEY DO A WONDERFUL JOB FOR YOUR COUNTRY AND MY ONLY REGRET ON THIS TRIP IS THAT I

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COULD NOT PLAY GOLF BECAUSE I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE THE MOST WONDERFUL GOLF COURSES IN THE WORLD. (LAUGHTER)

SENATOR HATCH: ONE MORE QUESTION.

REPORTER (ECONOMIC DAILY NEWS): THIS MORNING YOU HAD A MEETING WITH AIT. COULD YOU TELL US WHICH ARE THE MAIN TOPICS YOU TALKED ABOUT, ESPECIALLY ON THE TRADE OR ECONOMIC ISSUES?

SENATOR: WELL, AS YOU KNOW, THE AIT IS DOING A VERY GOOD JOB HERE IN TAIWAN. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF THEM AND WE INTEND TO KEEP IT ACTIVE. OUR DISCUSSIONS WERE WIDE-RANGING, COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF -- THERE WERE MANY ASPECTS THAT WE'RE INTERESTED IN WITH REGARD TO TAIWAN, RANGING FROM, BASICALLY CENTERING AROUND THE ECONOMY. AND WE HAVE TO SAY THAT THIS IS A WORLD-CLASS ECONOMY HERE. WE ARE VERY IMPRESSED. I THINK THE REASON IT IS, IS BECAUSE IT IS BASED ON THE FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM. NOW, WE WOULD LIKE TO REDUCE THE BALANCE OF TRADE DEFICIT BECAUSE IT IS INEQUITABLE AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME AND IT IS VERY DIFFICULT FOR OUR COUNTRY AND THERE IS A LOT OF PRESSURE IN OUR COUNTRY TO BRING PRESSURE ON THE OTHER NATIONS TO TRY TO EVEN UP THE BALANCE OF TRADE PROBLEMS. BUT AS A GENERAL RULE, THE PEOPLE IN AMERICA THINK A GREAT DEAL OF THE PEOPLE HERE IN TAIWAN AND WE IN THIS DELEGATION ARE ALL VERY STRONG BELIEVERS THAT YOU ARE ONE OF THE GREAT FREE ENTERPRISE NATIONS OF THIS WORLD. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU AND WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO TRY AND EMULATE YOU IN SOME WAYS. SO, I THINK WE'VE GOT TO LEARN FROM YOU IN SOME OF THE WAYS WE SHOULD. WE'LL MAKE YOU THE LAST ONE.

SUN YANG-MIN (CT): YOU'VE JUST MENTIONED THAT YOU'RE GOING TO UPGRADE OUR DEFENSE SYSTEMS HERE. HOW?

SENATOR: WELL, YOU'RE GOING TO UP-GRADE THEM. AND FRANKLY, YOUR PEOPLE ARE DOING A VERY EXCELLENT JOB OF MAINTAINING SELF-DEFENSE FORCES AND WE THINK YOU HAVE SOME OF THE MOST CONFIDENT LEADERS IN THE WORLD TODAY. AND YOU ALSO HAVE GREAT POLITICAL LEADERSHIP FROM WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE, MANY OF THEM ARE FRIENDS. WE ARE VERY PROUD TO SEE THE ENERGIES THAT ARE PUT FORTH WITHIN YOUR COUNTRY TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY FOR YOUR OWN SELF-DEFENSE FORCES. IN THE MEANTIME, WE BELIEVE THAT OUR COUNTRY WILL LIVE UP TO THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT AND THAT WILL BENEFIT TAIWAN AS WELL. THANK YOU SO MUCH AND GREAT TO BE WITH YOU! (END TEXT) THAYER

END OF MESSAGE

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