



the int'l c'tee
for the defense
of human rights
in taiwan

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URGENT ACTION

This is the first mailing from the new ICDHRT office in the United States. We will be relaying information and newsletters from our main office in Japan, initiate urgent action campaigns like this one, and participate in other work on behalf of human rights in Taiwan.

Early July the Pentagon/State Department sent Congress formal notification of a military arms sales package for Taiwan (\$ 240.7 million) involving 48 F-5E fighter aircraft, 500 Maverick air-to-ground missiles, 48 Maverick modification kits, laser target finder equipment, and about \$ 50 million worth of spare parts for F-5Es, Sidewinder missiles, and older aircraft - (**Far Eastern Economic Review**, July 20, 1979, p.23).

If the Congress doesn't act on it before **August 1st** it will be **automatically approved**. After this the letters of "offer and acceptance" will be signed by the AIT and CCNAA.

It is very urgent that action is taken immediately to delay this package. Urge senators/representatives in Washington DC (by telephone and telegram) to hold up this package until the government on Taiwan agrees to observe basic human rights.

Specifically ask for:

1. The release of political prisoners. (enclosed is a list of 10 well-documented cases, add more if you have the basic information on other political prisoners)
2. Cease harassment of members of the democratic opposition, in particular Shih Ming-teh, Hsieh Tsung-min, and Chang Chun-hung.
3. Reinstate Hsu Hsin-liang, county magistrate of Taoyuan, to his elected office.
4. Allow the democratic opposition to function as a party.
5. End martial law.

In your communication with senators/representatives mention Section 502b of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as amended in 1974 and 1976) which prohibits military assistance to countries which engage in a consistent pattern of human rights violations.

Good luck.

The following is a list of political prisoners in Taiwan. They have been adopted by Amnesty International as prisoners of conscience, i.e. they have **not** advocated or been involved in - violent activities.

Yu Teng-fa 余登發
Pai Ya-tsan 白雅燦
Huang Hua 黃華
Yen Ming-shen 顏明聖
Yang Chin-hai 楊金海
Tai Yin-wu
Lin Shu-yang
Chung Chien-hsun 鍾謙順
Chen Chung-tung
Tseng Cheng-chin

The release of these people would be a first step towards the observance of basic human rights in Taiwan.