



October 25, 1958

**Another Letter from the PRC Minister of Defense
[Peng Dehuai] to Taiwanese Compatriots**

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Summary:

The PRC Minister of Defense urges the Nationalists in Taiwan to be careful and guard their authority from the Americans. He argues that the United States is trying to forcibly create "Two Chinas."

Credits:

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Chinese

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中华人民共和国国防部长再告台湾同胞書

(一九五八年十月二十五日)

台湾、澎湖、金門、馬祖军民同胞们：

我们完全明白，你们绝大多数都是爱国的，甘心做美国人奴隶的只有极少数。同胞们，中国人的事只能由我们中国人自己解决。一时难于解决，可以从长商议。美国的政治捐客杜勒斯，爱管闲事，想从国共两党的历史糾紛这件事情中间插进一只手来，命令中国人做这样做那样，损害中国人的利益，适合美国人的利益。就是说，第一步，孤立台湾；第二步，托管台湾。如不遂意，最毒辣的手段，都可以拿出来，你们知道张作霖的命是怎样死去的吗？东北有一个皇姑屯，他就是在那里被人治死的。世界上的帝国主义分子都没有良心。美帝国主义者尤为凶恶，至少不下于治死张作霖的日本人。同胞们，我劝你们当心一点儿。我劝你们不要依人篱下，让人家把一切权柄都拿了去。我们两党间的事情很好办。我已命令福建前线，逢双日不打金門的飞机場、料罗湾的码头、海滩和船只，使大金門、小金門、大担，二担大小岛屿上的军民同胞都得到充分的供应，包括粮食、蔬菜、食油、燃料和军事装备在内，以利你们长期固守。如有不足，只要你们开口，我们可以供应。化敌为友，此其时矣。

逢单日，你们的船只、飞机不要来。逢单日我们也不一定打炮，但是你们不要来，以免受到可能的损失。这样，一个月中有半个月可以运输，供应可以无缺。你们有些人怀疑，我们要瓦解你们军民之间官兵之间的团结。同胞们，不，我们希望你们加强团结，以便一致对外。打打停停，半打半停，不是诡计，而是当前具体情况下的正常产物。不打飞机场、码头、海滩、船只，仍以不引进美国人护航为条件。如有护航，不在此例。蒋社会谈，你们吃了一点亏，你们只有代表“自由中国”发言的权利了，再加上少部分华侨，还许你们代表他们。美国人把你们封为一个小中国。十月二十三日，美国国务院发表十月十六日杜勒斯预制的同英国一家广播公司所派记者的谈话，杜勒斯从台湾一起飞，谈话就发出来。他说，他看见了一个共产党人的中国，并且说，这个国家确实存在，愿意同他打交道，云云。谢天谢地，我们这个国家，算是被一位美国老爷看见了。这是一个大中国。美国人迫于形势，改变了政策，把你们当作一个“事实上存在的政治单位”，在目前开始的第一个阶段，美国人还是需要的。这就是孤立台湾。第二个阶段，就要托管台湾了。国民党朋友们，难道你们还不感觉这种危险吗？出路何去？请你们想一想吧。此次蒋社会谈文告不过是个公报，设有法律效力，要摆脱是容易的，就看你们有无决心。世界上只有一个中国，没有两个中国。这一点我们是一致的。美国人强迫制造两个中国的伎俩，全中国人民，包括你们和海外侨胞在内，是绝对不容许其实现的。现在这个时代，是一个充满希望的时代，一切爱国者都有出路，不要怕什么帝国主义者。当然，我们并不劝你们马上同美国人决裂，这样想，是不现实的。我们只是希望你们不要屈服于美国人的压力，随人俯仰，丧失主权，最后走到存身无地，被人丢到大海里去。我们这些话是好心，非恶意，将来你们会慢慢理解的。

The Minister of Defense of the People's Republic of China's [Peng Dehuai] Repeat Proclamation to the Taiwan Compatriots

(October 25, 1958)

Military and Civilian Compatriots on Taiwan, Penghu [Islands], Jinmen and Mazu:

□ We fully understand that the overwhelming majority of you are patriots, and it's only a small handful who are happy to be slaves to the Americans. Compatriots, matters concerning the Chinese people can only be resolved by Chinese people themselves. What cannot be resolved right away can be dealt with through further discussions. American political brokers like Dulles are busybodies and imagine they can stick their hands into the tangled history of the KMT and CCP, ordering the Chinese people to do this and that, harming the interests of the Chinese people for the interests of the American people. That is to say, the first step is to isolate Taiwan, the second step is to take on trusteeship over Taiwan. If things don't go as they wish, they are capable to using the most vicious means; do you know how Zhang Zuolin was fated to die? There is a Huanggutun [railway station] in the Northeast, where he was driven to death. Imperialist elements throughout the world are entirely without conscience. The American imperialists are particularly vicious, at least no less than the Japanese who drove Zhang Zuolin to death. Compatriots, I urge you to be a bit more careful. I urge you not to rely on others for shelter and not let others take away your rights. It should be easy to handle the matters between our two parties. I have already ordered the front lines in Fujian not to shell the Jinmen airfield, Liaoluo Bay harbor, beach or boats on even[-numbered] days, to let the civilian and military compatriots on Jinmen, Little Jinmen, Dadan and Erdan islands receive sufficient supplies, including grain, vegetables, cooking oil, fuel and military equipment, for the benefit of your long-term defensive position. If there is anything more you need, just say so, and we'll be able to provide. Now is the time to turn enemies into friends. Your ships and aircraft shouldn't come on odd[-numbered] days. We may not shell you on odd[-numbered] days, but you still shouldn't come, in order to avoid possible losses. This way each month you will have half a month in which you can transport goods and not suffer shortages. Some of you suspect that we want to destroy the unity between your civilians and military, and your troops and their officers. Compatriots, no, we hope that you strengthen your unity, only you act as one against external [enemies]. Attack and cease-fire, half attack and half cease-fire, this is not some stratagem, but the natural result of the current existing circumstances. Our not bombarding your airports, wharf, beaches and ships, depends on the condition that you don't bring in American convoys. If there is a convoy, it doesn't apply. When Jiang [Jieshi] met with Dulles, you suffered a little loss, since you only have the right to speak on behalf of "Free China," plus a small number of Overseas Chinese who allow you to represent them. The Americans have set you as a little China. On October 23, the U.S. State Department issued a pre-recorded interview with Dulles by a BBC journalist; they released the interview the moment Dulles took off from Taiwan. He said, he had seen a Communist China, and also said that this country really did exist, and it wanted to open communication with him, etc. Thank God, this country of ours has finally been seen by an American master. This is the big China. The Americans are pressured by the situation to change their policy and demoted you to an "actually existing political unit". This is the beginning of the first stage, which the Americans still need, which is to isolate Taiwan. The second stage, will be for them to take charge of Taiwan. Nationalist Party friends, don't you feel this danger yet? Where is your escape? I hope you will give it some thought. Although the announcement of these talks between Jiang and Dulles was just a communique, with no legal force, it would still be easy to get out of it, it's just a question of whether you have the determination [to do so]. There is only one China in the world, there are not two Chinas. We agree on this point. All of the people of China, including you and the overseas Chinese, will absolutely forbid the realization of the American trick of forcing the creation of two Chinas. The present era is an era full of hope, and all patriots have a future, they don't need to fear any sort of imperialism. Of course, we are not encouraging you to immediately break off with the Americans, to do so would be

unrealistic. We only hope you do not give in to the Americans' pressure, follow them as underlings and lose your sovereignty, and in the end have nowhere to go and get thrown into the sea. These words of ours are well intended, we mean you no harm, and someday you will gradually come to understand.