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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines
By WJH/m, NARA, Date 11/30/00

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

SUBJECT: Chinese Representation Issue
in the Olympics



The Canadian government's decision to set conditions on the ROC's participation in the Montreal Olympics has again revived the China representation issue, this time pitting the IOC against a host government. The decision, although portrayed by the Canadian government as consistent with its recognition of the PRC as the government of China and not in violation of its obligations as host to the Olympics, was in part prompted by several strong approaches from the PRC over the past nine months. Both Prime Minister Trudeau and External Affairs Minister MacEachen have steadfastly maintained Canada's position and argued that they have not caved in to PRC pressure, but only yielded to their "own foreign policy."

Lord Killanin protested the decision as violating the obligations Canada undertook as host of the Olympics to admit all members who were in good standing. He also stated that Canada's decision set a dangerous precedent.

The IOC claims to be the supreme authority during the period of the games and holds that any action involving nomenclature of Olympic committees, flags or anthems is its prerogative. Canada, however, maintains it agreed to admit for participation in ^{the} games athletes representing all national Olympic committees recognized by the IOC only "in accordance with normal procedures."

Background

For the past twenty years at least, the ROC has been a member of the IOC and eligible to participate in the Olympics. With the exception of the 1952 and 1960 Rome games, its athletes have competed under the name of the Republic of China, most recently at Munich in 1972 and Innsbruck in 1976, even though Austria has diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

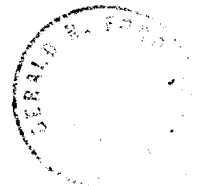
As far as we can determine from conflicting sources, both the ROC and the PRC for a number of years had national Olympic committees and were members of the IOC. The PRC withdrew from the 1956 Melbourne games without competing and then in 1958 left the IOC in protest over Taiwan's participation. At the Rome games in 1960, the IOC apparently ruled that the ROC Olympic Committee would be known officially as the "Olympic Committee, Republic of China" but that in competition the team would be designated the "Chinese Republic of Formosa." The ROC acquiesced by participating under protest. The ROC flag was flown and national anthem played when a ROC national won a silver medal.

The PRC All-China Sports Federation has recently pressed forward its campaign to gain recognition from the IOC as the Chinese National Olympic Committee and to have the ROC expelled. The PRC has won membership in 8 major Olympic sports federations at the expense of the ROC, but the ROC retains membership in 17. Both countries now meet the technical requirements for Olympic participation -- membership in at least 5 of these Olympic federations. The IOC to date has been reluctant to admit the PRC at the expense of the ROC. It decided in May 1975 not to rule on the PRC's April application for membership, pending a report by an IOC study team headed by Lord Killanin. The issue is still under consideration.

In the midst of the current controversy the PRC has intensified its lobbying efforts by sending a letter to the IOC and dispatching a delegation -- apparently of observers -- to Montreal, which has reportedly already arrived.

Current Situation

A decision will have to be taken soon if the issue is to be resolved before the scheduled opening of the Olympics on July 17. Killanin, working informally with the IOC Executive Council, may be able to reach a compromise with the Canadian Government, which would then be ratified by the full IOC. Or the IOC as a whole may have to decide the issue without such a compromise during its scheduled July 13-15 meeting. A complicating factor is an Executive Council agenda item, which lists China under applications for new membership. This could reopen the question of PRC participation in the Olympics in the Council's first meeting on July 10.



It is difficult to predict whether and how the issue will be resolved. The IOC might be able to work out a compromise with Canada patterned after the 1960 Olympics or the Executive Council and the IOC might vote on the PRC's application for membership. Although in theory members of the IOC are not meant to be advocates of their own governments' policies, both the Executive Council and the full IOC are weighted heavily in favor of those recognizing the PRC should the vote fall along national lines. In any case, United States influence over the decision is limited -- we are not members of the Executive Council and have only 2 votes in the IOC.

U.S. Position

In the fifties and early sixties, we lobbied extensively to uphold the ROC's position in the Olympics. However, in recent years as well as in the current dispute, the United States Government has taken a low key position. We have stated our regret over the increasing politicization of international sports events whenever questions concerning participation by politically sensitive countries (China, Israel, South Africa) arise and are sympathetic to efforts of American and other sports bodies that wish to minimize such politicization. But, ^{participation in} sports events is an issue to be decided by the various US private sports groups and international sports bodies. We have not undertaken any intergovernmental lobbying efforts in recent years.

Options

Our options in regard to the Montreal Games are:

Option 1 - Maintain our principled but low key position.

Option 2 - More active verbal support by the State Department or White House for the principle that the Olympics should be insulated from politics.

The USOC has sought more positive USG support for its position. We could continue to be flexible on the issue of ROC participation in the Olympics but state to the USOC, and let it be known publicly, that we believe any host government should live up to the terms of reference it accepted from the IOC to host the games.

More active USG public opposition to the politicization of the Olympics at this time would better position us to lend support to our athletes and those from other countries in the 1980 games when we expect political problems to arise with the USSR as the host country. Such public support, however, has the disadvantage of creating the appearance that we are unnecessarily tangling with the PRC, an appearance we wish to avoid. We would also have to take issue, at least implicitly, with Canada.

Option 3. Go beyond a public statement and lobby with Canada and other governments in support of the U. S. Olympic Committee and IOC positions.

This action would mark a significant shift from our policy of leaving these matters in private hands. The shift would prompt misleading and unhelpful speculation about changes in our China policy. Moreover, lobbying at this late date is not likely to be effective.

Recommendation

The State Department recommends that at least initially, we should continue to take the first option. This position holds out the greatest promise for insulating our policy toward China from public controversy at a sensitive time. It is also consistent with the position the United States has taken on numerous occasions that participation in international sports events is purely a private matter.

I believe we should adopt option 2. The current case is the first in which a host government has attempted to interfere with the decision of the IOC and it will set a precedent for the 1980 Moscow games. We should make it clear that the U. S. Government does not take a position as to whether the ROC should or should not be in the Olympics; this question is for the IOC to decide. We should, however, avoid lobbying the Canadian Government.

WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

The President is in full agreement with the Senate Resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of freedom of the press at the Olympic games. He is pleased that representatives of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty ^{rightly} ~~rightfully~~ are being accredited to cover the Olympics as ~~independent~~ legitimate news agencies.

~~The Americans~~ have always regarded the Olympics as an inspiring sports drama which belongs to the people of the world. The President believes that the freedom of everyone to hear this drama take place should not be curtailed. The President and the American people would be very disturbed by any attempt to introduce political issues ~~into~~ which would interfere with normal coverage of the games by these radio organizations or other duly accredited media in their coverage of the Olympic games.

We understand that the Exec. Committee had reported favorably the accreditation of the RFE. We're encouraged by that action which is consistent with keeping politics out of the coverage of the Olympics.

Q - What do if RFE banned?

A - Ex. Com has approved credential



Revised

I commend the members of the United States Olympic Committee who worked so hard with concerned members of Olympic Committees of other Nations and the International Olympic Committee to resolve the issue of the Republic of China's participation in the 1976 Olympic Games.

While I regret that a final compromise could not be achieved, I am gratified that the International Olympic Committee upheld the fundamental principle of the Olympics which prohibits discrimination against nations or individuals on grounds of race, religion or politics.

I am also gratified that the Montreal Games will go on and that the superb athletes from all over the world will have the opportunity to compete in these historic contests.

I call upon the sportsmen of all nations to eliminate all political interference with athletic events like the Olympics, which advance international cooperation and goodwill.

Use in
response to query

WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

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ABC-OLYMPICS; 490

FEES: SIMILAR STORY MOVED ON SPORTS WIRE

FBI BY GEOFFREY MILLER

FAP SPORTS WRITER

MONTREAL (AP) - THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE HINTED FRIDAY THAT THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES MIGHT BE CANCELLED IF A SETTLEMENT IS NOT REACHED IN THE CONTROVERSY INVOLVING THE TAIWANESE TEAM.

THE IOC ACTED AS THE BULK OF THE TAIWAN TEAM WAS BARRED FROM ENTERING CANADA. MUCH OF THE TEAM WAS IN BOSTON WITH THE REMAINING ATHLETES; COACHES AND OFFICIALS IN DETROIT OR EN ROUTE THERE.

UNDER PRESSURE FROM MAINLAND CHINA (THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA) THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS SAID IT WILL NOT ALLOW THE TAIWANESE TO ENTER THE GAMES USING THE NAME "REPUBLIC OF CHINA."

LORD KILLANIN, PRESIDENT OF THE IOC, CALLED A HURRIED MEETING OF THE TRIPARTITE COMMISSION, WHICH CONSISTS OF THE THREE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE IOC AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS AND NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES.

A STATEMENT ISSUED AFTERWARD SAID A MEETING WOULD BE SOUGHT WITH THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

"IN AN ENDEAVOR THAT THIS SHOULD NOT RESULT IN THE IOC HAVING NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO CANCEL THE GAMES OF THE XXI OLYMPIAD, THE TRIPARTITE COMMISSION IS SUPPORTING IMMEDIATE FURTHER TALKS WITH CANADIAN AUTHORITIES AND ALSO WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE," IT SAID.

"THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNED THE ATTITUDE OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS OPPOSED THE ENTRY OF A TEAM OF A NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE UNDER THE NAME DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE IOC, THUS BREACHING THE AGREEMENT GIVEN FORMALLY TO THE IOC WHEN THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED MONTREAL'S APPLICATION TO HOLD THE OLYMPIC GAMES."

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IOC SAID REPORTS OF AN IMPENDING SETTLEMENT WERE COMPLETELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION. HE SAID NO FORMULA HAD BEEN DRAWN UP TO SUGGEST THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) TEAM CHANGE ITS NAME AT THE OLYMPICS OR MARCH IN THE OPENING CEREMONY WITHOUT ITS NATIONAL FLAG.

MEANWHILE, 25 MEMBERS OF THE TAIWAN TEAM, BARRED FROM ENTERING CANADA BUT SEEKING TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE EVENT THEY ARE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE GAMES, ARRIVED IN BOSTON AFTER A FLIGHT FROM DETROIT.

HANG HSU OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE FOR TAIWAN, TOLD A NEWS AIRPORT CONFERENCE THAT THE TEAM WENT TO BOSTON "BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE THE FACILITIES IN DETROIT. THIS IS THE BIG CITY. BOSTON HAS BETTER FACILITIES FOR US. THIS IS AN EMERGENCY CASE."

THROUGH AN INTERPRETER, HSU SAID: "THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THAT WE CANNOT GET A VISA INTO CANADA."

HSU SAID TEAM MORALE WAS SUFFERING FROM THE DISPUTE. "WE THINK THAT ALL THIS DISTURBANCE BEFORE THE GAMES IS SERIOUSLY INFLUENCING OUR EFFORT; MENTAL CONDITION AND ALSO THE PHYSICAL CONDITION," HE SAID.

THE TEAM, ESCORTED BY SEVERAL STATE TROOPERS, BOARDED A BUS AND WAS TAKEN TO AN AIRPORT HOTEL.

OLYMPIC ATHLETES AND OFFICIALS FROM ALL OTHER NATIONS ARE BEING ADMITTED TO CANADA WITH IDENTITY CARDS. BUT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS DEMANDING VISAS FROM THE TAIWANESE. A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN IN OTTAWA SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SEVERAL OF THE TAIWAN ATHLETES WHO HAD TRAINED IN LOS ANGELES HAD APPLIED THERE FOR VISAS WHICH HAD NOT BEEN ACTED UPON, PENDING RESOLUTION OF THE DISPUTE.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

RON NESSEN

FROM:

DAVE GERGEN *DG*

SUBJECT:

OLYMPIC STATEMENT

Pursuant to our discussion this date, here is a possible statement for the President for this afternoon to follow up on the apparent withdrawal of the Taiwanese team.

cc: Jim Cannon
Dick Cheney
Brent Scowcroft



Draft Statement by the President

It is extremely regrettable that a political cloud has cast such a dark shadow over this year's Olympics. This has been unfair not only to the athletes from the Republic of China but to those from all other nations represented in Montreal.

I am pleased that most of the young men and women who have trained so long for these events will still be able to compete, but I hope that the nations of the world will now take a common vow: never again should politics be allowed to undermine the great traditions of the Olympic games.



file

The 77 members of the International Olympic Committee meet at 2 p.m. today to ratify or reject the decision by its Executive Committee to accept Canada's ban of Taiwan.

Possible Presidential actions before the IOC meeting:

1. Make a public appeal to the officers and members of the International Olympic Committee to reaffirm its own stated principle of permitting all Olympic athletes to compete regardless of race, religion or politics. (Draft statement attached).

Possible Presidential actions after the IOC meeting, if Taiwan is barred from the games:

1. Request that the United States Olympic Committee participate in the games under a formal protest against the host country's exclusion of Taiwan.
2. Request that Secretary Simon cancel his trip to the games. Simon is not an official representative, but he is a former member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, and he is the most prominent Administration official who will attend.
3. Formally direct the U.S. Ambassador to Canada not to attend.
4. Request the U.S. Olympic Committee to withdraw from the games because of the Canadian Government's actions in violating its contract as host country to the Olympics, and beware of the precedent it would set that any future host country could bar athletes for political reasons.

DRAFT

A fundamental principle of the Olympic games, written into its bylaws, is that "no discrimination (in the Olympic games) is allowed against any country or person on the grounds of race, religion or politics."

I call upon the officers and members of the International Olympic Committee to uphold this fundamental principle that the games be open to all qualified athletes.

I believe that all nations should now stand together to reaffirm the right of any qualified athlete or group of athletes to compete freely in international Olympics competition.

Completed

11:30

Telephone call from the President to Philip Krumm, President of the US Olympic Committee (not a member of the Executive Committee) (7-8 min.)

The President told Krumm that he deplores the injection of international politics into Olympic athletic competition. The President also said that this has become a competition among nations rather than a competition among Olympic athletes. He has requested Mr. Krumm to let him know the results of ~~fruther~~ ~~actions. The full committee will vote on all~~ developments relating to the controversy.

all
further



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 10, 1976

ADDITIONAL OLYMPIC TEAM WINNERS WHOM THE
PRESIDENT SENT TELEGRAMS TO:

Bronze Medal winner in the men's 500 meter
speed skating - Daniel Immerfall

Bronze Medal winners in the ice dancing
competition - James Millns and Coleen O'Connor

CM

The White House
Washington

046 INTL TDWX GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC FEB 9 1976 FEB 9 PM 6 36
INT MISS SHEILA YOUNG, DLR DONT DWR
C/O UNITED STATES OLYMPIC DELEGATION
OLYMPIC VILLAGE, BUILDING NUMBER 2
INNSBRUCK, (AUSTRIA)

YOUR OUTSTANDING SUCCESS IN THREE EVENTS OF THE WOMENS SPEED
SKATING COMPETITION HAS THRILLED MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND MUST
BE A SOURCE OF GREAT PERSONAL PRIDE FOR YOU. I KNOW I CAN SPEAK
FOR ALL YOUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN EXTENDING WARMEST
CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR MEDAL WINNING PERFORMANCES AND FOR THE
SPORTSMANSHIP WITH WHICH YOU ARE REPRESENTING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF
THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT.

GERALD R. FORD

The White House
Washington

1976 FEB 9 PM 6 37

047 INTL TDWX GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC FEB 9
INT MISS LEAH POULOS, DLR DONT DWR
C/O UNITED STATES OLYMPIC DELEGATION
OLYMPIC VILLAGE, BUILDING NUMBER 2
INNSBRUCK, (AUSTRIA)

YOUR SUCCESS IN THE WOMENS 1000 METER SPEED SKATING COMPETITION
HAS THRILLED MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND MUST BE A SOURCE OF
GREAT PERSONAL PRIDE FOR YOU. I KNOW THAT I CAN SPEAK FOR ALL
YOUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN EXTENDING WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS
FOR YOUR MEDAL WINNING PERFORMANCE AND FOR THE SPORTSMANSHIP
WITH WHICH YOU ARE REPRESENTING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE
OLYMPIC MOVEMENT.

GERALD R. FORD

ACCEPTED
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The White House
Washington

1976 FEB 9 PM 6 36

044 INTL TDWX GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC FEB 9

INT MR. WILLIAM KOCH, DLR DONT DWR
C/O UNITED STATES OLYMPIC DELEGATION
OLYMPIC VILLAGE, BUILDING NUMBER 2
INNSBRUCK, (AUSTRIA)

YOUR SUCCESS IN THE 30 KILOMETER CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION HAS THRILLED MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND MUST BE A SOURCE OF GREAT PERSONAL PRIDE FOR YOU. I KNOW THAT I CAN SPEAK FOR ALL YOUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN EXTENDING WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR MEDAL WINNING PERFORMANCE AND FOR THE SPORTSMANSHIP WITH WHICH YOU ARE REPRESENTING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT.

GERALD R. FORD

The White House
Washington

1976 FEB 9 PM 6 36

045 INTL TDWX GOVT WHITE HOUSE DC FEB 9
INT MISS CINDY NELSON, DLR DONT DWR
C/O UNITED STATES OLYMPIC DELEGATION
OLYMPIC VILLAGE, BUILDING NUMBER 2
INNSBRUCK, (AUSTRIA)

YOUR SUCCESS IN THE WOMENS DOWNHILL HAS THRILLED MILLIONS OF AMERICANS AND MUST BE A SOURCE OF GREAT PERSONAL PRIDE FOR YOU. I KNOW THAT I CAN SPEAK FOR ALL YOUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN EXTENDING WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR MEDAL WINNING PERFORMANCE AND FOR THE SPORTSMANSHIP WITH WHICH YOU ARE REPRESENTING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT.

BEST WISHES IN THE UPCOMING EVENTS.

GERALD R. FORD

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Plattsburgh, New York)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
UNITED STATES OLYMPIC TEAM

NEW YORK STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

3:48 P.M. EDT

Phil Krumm, my former colleague in the House of Representatives Bob McKuen, Colonel Miller, Reverend St. Pierre, Willie Davenport, members, coaches, trainers, doctors, administrators of the United States Olympic Team; ladies and gentlemen of the Plattsburgh area:

It is really a great privilege and a very high honor to have the opportunity to be here in Plattsburgh and to participate in the ceremony where all of you are taking off for Montreal.

I do wish to thank the coaches and participants who I had the chance and pleasure of meeting this afternoon. But, let me congratulate all 400 or 500 of you for the accomplishment and the achievement of making the American Olympic Team in 1976.

On behalf of all Americans -- 215 million of us -- good luck and God bless you.

You have worked hard, you have competed against the very best, and you have earned the right to represent the United States in Montreal in a very few days.

Let me say that from every indication I get, we are going to do darn well in Montreal.

As long as I can remember, I have been one that read newspapers, books, magazines, about the American Olympic Team; never was a good enough athlete to compete or make the Olympic Team, but it has meant a lot to me to see the achievements and accomplishments of the American Olympians over the years.

MORE

A few days ago a good friend of mine sent me a book that is the history of the Olympic Games, from the very beginning up through 1972. It is written, or was originally by a great sports writer out in California named Bill Henry, who was a very close and dear friend of mine, and his daughter brought it up to date just a few months ago. But this book is filled with famous names. It is filled with individual achievements and team records. Willie Davenport's name is in it for 1968, when he was number one in the 110-meter high hurdle.

It is a book that shows that the United States over the years has done extremely well in the Olympics. As this book also shows, every four years the competition gets tougher and tougher, and the problems more rugged, the individuals tougher to compete against.

But let me say, in 1976 in Montreal, even though the competition is going to be tough and rugged, from competitors of 120-some nations, as I understand it, I am confident that all these fine young men and women are going to come back with their full share of gold, silver and bronze metals, and we will be very proud of them.

If I could give a little friendly advice: Save enough room in your luggage to bring back that loot. You go, every one of you, to Montreal, with the very best wishes of all of the American people.

But I think it is significant that as we entered this Bicentennial there was an inspirational day just a few days ago, on the Fourth of July, when we celebrated our 200th anniversary. You could feel it where I went, in Valley Forge or Philadelphia, or New York, and as it was reported by the press nationwide, the American people seemed to have a new spirit.

I think we recognize that over the last 10 years we have had our moments of division. We have had some disharmony. We have been pessimistic. But, as we went from the second century into the third, all throughout this country every one of the 50 States, there was a new spirit of harmony, of optimism, a spirit that I think we can all, in all honesty, can indicate was a rebirth of American patriotism.

And as every one of you go to compete in your respective area of excellence, I am absolutely certain that you will do better, because I happen to think that this spirit began to emerge just last winter when our Winter Olympic Team was in Innsbruck.

MORE

There were some people who surprised some of our opposition. They did better than they expected. I can tell you the reports are that more Americans watched the winter Olympics than anytime ever in the history of the United States. Why? Because we believe in you. We believe in our country, and we want you to win, and you are going to win.

We will be back in the States and you will be up in Canada, but you will have a hometown support by proxy. You are going to run, jump, shoot, ride, swim, box, wrestle, and you are going to have an opportunity to get out there and show not only us on television, but the other competitors, that this new American spirit really means something.

It is the way to kick off our third century in the United States, but let me add another dimension, a thought that I hope you will carry with you. You will be competing against the best from many, many lands. It will be a personal thrill, and I think that is something that will stimulate you to an even greater effort.

I have had the experience of talking to two very good friends of mine when I was in the Congress -- Ralph Metcalf, who finished second in the 1932 100 (meter), finished third in 1932 in the 200 meter, and Bob Mathias, who won the decathlon in 1948 and 1952.

They, on many occasions on the floor of the House, talked about what a thrill it was personally to be a winner. But, each and every one of them in their expressions to me said they felt they had a special mission, and I think this is a broader opportunity.

As you represent the United States, you have a unique responsibility to create a better understanding between the people of America and our neighbors around the world. You have a wonderful opportunity, as you compete, to get better acquainted with your opposition, and I can say to you, you have a tremendous responsibility to serve the cause of peace and hold high the lamp of liberty which is represented by the United States of America.

All the wonderful people of Plattsburgh and your fellow Americans know that you will bring to the Olympics the same dignity, the same dedication, the same magic blend of hope and talent, humility and pride, which has characterized American Olympians and made them so successful and so respected over the years.

Good luck, God bless you, and as the Olympic motto suggests, may all of you be swifter, higher, and stronger. The very best from all of us.

END (AT 4:00 P.M. EDT)

[ca. 7/16/76]

The President is sure that sports fans the world over are pleased that the Olympic Games are going forward as scheduled.

He regrets the controversy which has surrounded attendance at these games and reiterates his conviction that politics have no

place in the Olympic Games. Terms of participation in the

Games should be determined solely by the International Olympic

Committee and the role of the host country should be restricted

to the provision of facilities for the conduct of the games.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 16, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RON NESSEN

FROM: DAVE GERGEN

SUBJECT: OLYMPIC STATEMENT

Pursuant to our discussion this date, here is a possible statement for the President for this afternoon to follow up on the apparent withdrawal of the Taiwanese team.

cc: Jim Cannon
Dick Cheney
Brent Scowcroft

(Gugen)

7/14/76

Draft Statement by the President

It is extremely regrettable that a political cloud has cast such a dark shadow over this year's Olympics. This has been unfair not only to the athletes from the Republic of China but to those from all other nations represented in Montreal.

I am pleased that most of the young men and women who have trained so long for these events will still be able to compete, but I hope that the nations of the world will now take a common vow: never again should politics be allowed to undermine the great traditions of the Olympic games.

I am pleased that the Montreal Games will begin tomorrow and that the athletes from all over the world will have the opportunity to compete in these historic contests.

But I am concerned, however, that a fundamental principle of the Olympics, which prohibits discrimination against nations or individuals on grounds of race, religion or politics, has been severely threatened by the recent developments in Montreal. I strongly urge the International Olympic Committee to ensure that this does not happen again and I guarantee that all qualified Olympic teams will be welcome to compete at Lake Placid in 1980.

I call upon the sportsmen of all nations to eliminate all political interference with athletic events like the Olympics, which advance international cooperation and goodwill.

7/21/76

R I

PN-OLYMPICS SKED 7-14

PICTURE

BY BRUCE B. BAKKE

MONTREAL (UPI) -- ATHLETES FROM TAIWAN MAY COMPETE IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES WHICH OPEN SATURDAY BUT WITHOUT USING THEIR NATIONAL NAME, THEIR NATION'S FLAG OR THEIR NATIONAL ANTHEM, AS PART OF A COMPROMISE WORKED OUT BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.

IOC PRESIDENT LORD KILLANIN ANNOUNCED TUESDAY THE GROUP FROM TAIWAN WAS DISCUSSING THE COMPROMISE. KILLANIN INDICATED HE EXPECTED THE PLAN WOULD BE ACCEPTED, ALLOWING TAIWANESE ATHLETES THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE IN THE GAMES FOR WHICH THEY HAVE TRAINED FOR YEARS.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE PEKING REGIME AS THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA, REFUSED TO ALLOW THE TAIWAN ATHLETES TO ENTER USING THE NAME REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

KILLANIN SAID THERE WAS "UNANIMOUS CONDEMNATION" OF CANADA AT TUESDAY'S IOC MEETING.

PHILIP KRUMM, U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PRESIDENT, WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING THE TAIWAN GROUP TO ACCEPT THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL. "HOPEFULLY, WE CAN NOW RESOLVE THIS DISPUTE SO THE ATHLETES, ALL OF WHOM HAVE TRAINED SO HARD, CAN COMPETE IN THE GAMES."

BUT AS ATHLETES FROM AROUND THE WORLD ARRIVED AT THE MODERNISTIC "OLYMPIC VILLAGE" -- ACTUALLY A GROUP OF FOUR PYRAMID-SHAPED HIGH RISE BUILDINGS -- ANOTHER POLITICAL SORE SPOT FESTERED.

IT WAS REPORTED AFRICAN NATIONS WERE CONSIDERING A WALKOUT FROM THE GAMES IF NEW ZEALAND WAS ALLOWED TO COMPETE. AFRICAN BLOC NATIONS, WHICH FOUR YEARS AGO SUCCEEDED IN OUSTING RHODESIA FROM THE GAMES AT MUNICH, WERE UPSET BECAUSE NEW ZEALAND ALLOWED ITS RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL TEAM TO TOUR SOUTH AFRICA.

ANOTHER REPORT CIRCULATED THAT BLACKS ON THE U.S. TEAM HAD BEEN ASKED TO SUPPORT AN AFRICAN BOYCOTT. BUT BLACK MEMBERS OF THE U.S. BOXING TEAM, WHICH ARRIVED TUESDAY, SAID THEY HAD NOT BEEN CONTACTED.

HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER JOHN TATE OF KNOXVILLE, TENN., SAID, "I CAME HERE TO WIN A GOLD MEDAL. I DID NOT COME HERE TO BOYCOTT. I'VE BEEN TRAINING 19 MONTHS TO FIGHT IN THE GAMES. NOW THAT I HAVE A CHANCE, I'M NOT GOING TO BOYCOTT."

KILLANIN SAID THE AFRICA-NEW ZEALAND SITUATION HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED AT TUESDAY'S IOC MEETING.

TANZANIA ALREADY HAS PULLED OUT OF THE GAMES TO PROTEST THE TOUR BY THE NEW ZEALAND RUGBY TEAM, WHICH MEANT FILBERT BAYI -- ONE OF THE WORLD'S TOP MILERS -- WILL BE UNABLE TO COMPETE AGAINST NEW ZEALAND'S JOHN WALKER.

WALKER SAID, "I'M VERY DISAPPOINTED. I THINK MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD WOULD HAVE LIKED TO SEE OUR CLASH."

DUPLICATE TO B-WIRE POINTS

UPI 07-14 03:47 AED

AD45

R I

PM-OLYMPICS-TAIWAN 7-14

BY DIANE YING

TAIPEI, TAIWAN (UPI) -- A NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OFFICIAL SAID TODAY NATIONALIST CHINESE ATHLETES WOULD PULL OUT OF THE MONTREAL GAMES RATHER THAN ACCEPT AN "INSULTING" INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PROPOSAL TO COMPETE WITHOUT A NAME.

NIU PING-YIH, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COMMITTEE, SAID THE PROPOSAL WAS "A DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ROC (REPUBLIC OF CHINA) WHICH CLEARLY VIOLATES THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT."

IOC PRESIDENT LORD KILLANIN SUGGESTED A NEW COMPROMISE TUESDAY, ASKING THE TAIWAN TEAM TO COMPETE WITHOUT A NAME AND MARCH BEHIND THE OLYMPIC FLAG RATHER THAN TAIWAN'S NATIONAL STANDARD.

"THERE IS NO WAY WE WOULD ACCEPT IT," NIU SAID. "IT IS AN INSULT, NOT A COMPROMISE."

HE SAID THE TAIWAN WOULD NOT COMPETE UNLESS THE TEAM COULD MARCH BEHIND ITS NATIONAL STANDARD.

NIU SAID A FORMAL STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL WILL BE ISSUED ONLY AFTER CONFIRMATION FROM THE TAIWAN DELEGATION IN MONTREAL.

HE SAID THE IOC HAS COMPLETELY GIVEN IN TO CANADA'S THREE DEMANDS -- THAT TAIWAN'S TEAM NOT COMPETE UNDER ITS FORMAL TITLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND NOT USE ITS NATIONAL FLAG OR ANTHEM DURING THE 1976 SUMMER GAMES.

"HOW COULD YOU CALL THIS ONE-SIDED CAPITULATION A COMPROMISE?" HE SAID.

NIU SAID, HOWEVER, TAIWAN'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OLYMPIC GAMES WOULD NOT AFFECT ITS MEMBERSHIP IN THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS.

THE WITHDRAWAL, HE SAID, IS A PROTEST AGAINST THE "UNFAIR POLITICAL PRESSURE" FROM CANADA.

"ROC IS AND WILL REMAIN A GOOD MEMBER OF THE IOC," HE SAID. "WE WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR THE OLYMPIC PRINCIPLE, WHATEVER LITTLE IT HAS LEFT."

UPI 07-14 04:29 AED

July 14, 1976 (11:00 am)

Analysis of telephone calls, telegrams and letters regarding the President's statement regarding the IOC's decision to accept Canada's conditions regarding Olympic competition by the Republic of China.

543

~~170~~ 10

~~482~~

~~193~~

~~199~~

742

Urged the President to withdraw U.S. participation from the Games, if the Republic of China can not compete under its own name and banner (most seemed to believe the President had the authority to do so).

①

②

~~2~~ ~~1~~

~~2~~ - 35 Commend the President for his stand in the issue.

(Recommend flying the Olympic flag)

③

8 - 13 Recommended that the U.S. compete if the Republic of China could not compete under its own name, but issue strong protest to the IOC.

④

2 - 4 Urged the U.S. not to withdraw from the Games.

⑤

4 - Criticized the President for further politicizing the Olympics.

⑥

7 *Fell he is not taking a firm stand on this issue*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

LOX TO :

ROD NESSEN
BILL ROBERTS
(LINCOLN, ILL.)

FROM: M. EARL

THIS IS THE LETTER
(1ST PAGE) THAT INITIATED
GRF'S LETTER TO
LORD KILLANIN. BECAUSE
PAGE 2 IS MISSING
YOU MAY JUST WANT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO QUOTE THE
CIRCLED PARAGRAPH.
CAN YOU RELEASE

~~THE PRESIDENT'S~~

THE PRESIDENT'S
LETTER ASAP?



Mr. Ronald MacKenzie,
 President,
 Organising Committee for the
 XIIIth Winter Games,
 Olympic Arena,
 Lake Placid,
 New York 12946
 U.S.A.

Dublin, 23rd August 1976
 K/1234/10 /76

0752

Dear President,

I was sorry that I could not visit Lake Placid when I was in Montreal but as you will appreciate I was somewhat busy !

I am anxious to make a visit, which I hope to be able to do during Winter, when I would be able to judge the conditions, as one of the major concerns is access.

We shall be receiving a full report from Montreal and there will doubtless be some useful information which may well affect and assist the 1980 Winter Games. However, there are one or two important points :-

1. The Montreal Games were marred by the Canadian Government's refusal to admit a recognised National Olympic Committee, which cannot be allowed to happen again. A reconfirmation in writing from the U.S. Government, when you make your next report, would, I think, allay any fears or doubts.

.../...