



July 25, 2008

President Ma Ying-jeou  
Republic of China

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to extend my personal greetings to you and the people of Taiwan. Despite the distance between our two capitals, there is much that binds our peoples together. Our shared values of freedom, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights form the foundation of our bilateral relationship.

In my campaign I have articulated how important it will be for the next U.S. president to partner with friends in addressing many global challenges. As we confront threats from terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and dealing with global economic and social issues that affect us all, the world's democracies will have a vital role to play.

The past two decades have seen tremendous strides in Taiwan's evolution to democracy. Today, the U.S. and Taiwan enjoy strong economic links and security ties as enshrined in the Taiwan Relations Act, as well as robust cultural and people-to-people ties. As good as our relationship has been, much effort needs to be invested to maintain security and peace in the Taiwan Strait.

I am heartened by the steps your administration has taken to reach out to the Mainland and develop confidence-building measures such as cross-strait tourist flights. At the same time, as you have stated, the ROC must devote the political and financial resources necessary for modernizing and maintaining her armed forces. I look forward to working with you on this and on the many other important issues in our bilateral relationship.

The years ahead hold tremendous potential for the U.S. and Taiwan, and for the betterment of both our peoples. I wish you the best of luck, and I look forward to working with you to build peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,



Paid for by John McCain 2008

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