

October 13, 1958
Orders from [PRC] Minister of Defense [Peng Dehuai] to Halt the Bombardment of Kinmen for Another Two Weeks

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Summary:

The PRC Minister of Defense writes to members of the People's Liberation Army in Fujian province during the Second Taiwan Strait Crisis, calling for them to stop shelling Kinmen and observe the situation. He argues that the United States should not interfere in China's Civil War.

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Chinese

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国防部长命令福建前线我軍 对金門炮击再停两星期

(一九五八年十月十三日)

福建前线人民解放军同志们：

金門击炮，从本日起，再停止两星期。借以观察敌方动态，并使金門军民同胞得到充分补给，包括粮食和军事装备在内，以利他们固守。兵不厌詐，这就是詐。这是为了对付美国

人的。这是民族大义，必须把中美界限划得清清楚楚。我们这样做，就全局说来，无损于己，已益于人。有益于什么人呢？有益于台、澎、金、馬一千万中国人，有利于全民族六亿五千万人，就是不利于美国人。有些共产党人可能暂时还不理解这个道理。怎样打出这样一个主意呢？不懂！不懂！同志们，过一会儿，你们会懂的。呆在台湾和台湾海峡的美国人，必须滚出去。他们赖在这里是没有理由的，不走是不行的。台、澎、金、馬的中国人中爱国的多，卖国的少，因此要做政治工作，使那里大多数中国人逐步觉悟起来，孤立少数卖国贼。积以时日，成效自见。在台湾国民党没有同我们举行和平谈判并且获得合理解决以前，内战依然存在。台湾的发言说：停停打打，打打停停，不过是共产党的一条诡计。停停打打，确是如此，但非诡计。你们不要和谈，打是免不了的。在你们采取现在这种顽固态度期间，我们是有自由权的，要打就打，要停就停。美国人想在我国的内战问题上插进一只手来，他们叫做停火，令人忍俊不禁。美国人有什么资格谈这个问题呢？请问他们代表什么人？什么也不代表。他们代表美国人吗？中美两国又没有开战，无火可停。他们代表台湾人民吗？台湾当局没有发给他们委任状，国民党领袖根本反对中美会议。美国民族是一个伟大的民族，其人民是善良的。他们不要战争，欢迎和平，但是美国政府的工作人员，有一部分，例如杜勒斯之流，实在太不高明。例如所谓停火一说，岂非缺乏常识？台、澎、金、馬整个地收复回来，完成祖国的统一，这是我们六亿五千万人民的神圣任务。这是中国内政，外人无权过问，联合国也无权过问。世界上一切侵略者及其走狗，统统都要被埋葬掉。为期不会很远。他们一定逃不掉的，他们想躲到月球里去也不行。寇能往，我亦能往，总是可以抓回来的。一句话，胜利是全世界人民的。金門海域，美国人不能护航。如果护航，立即开炮。切切此令！

The Minister of Defense's [Peng Dehuai] Order to Our Army's Fujian Front-Line for a Two Week Pause in Bombardment of Kinmen

(October 13, 1958)

People's Liberation Army Fujian Front-line Comrades:

Bombardment of Kinmen [Quemoy; also spelled Jinmen], from this day on, shall be paused once again for two weeks. This is so that we can observe the enemy's movements, and also to allow the compatriot troops and civilians on Kinmen to fully resupply, including food and military equipment, to help them hold their ground. Soldiers never tire of using tricks, and this is a trick. This is in order to counter the Americans, this shows nationalist honor; we must draw a clear line between China and the U.S. Our doing so, from the perspective of the overall situation, does no harm to us, and has benefits for others. What others does it benefit? It benefits the ten million Chinese on Taiwan, the Penghu Island [also known as the Pescadores], Kinmen and Matsu [also spelled Mazu]. It is in the interests of the entire race of 650 million people, except for the Americans. Some Communist Party members may be unable for the time being to understand this reasoning. "How did you come up with this idea? I don't understand! I don't understand!" Comrades, there will come a time when you will be able to understand. The Americans hanging out on Taiwan and the Taiwan Straits must be driven out. There is no reason for them to be hanging around here, they will have to go. There are more patriots among the Chinese people on Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, and very few traitors, and therefore we need to carry out political work, to bring about a gradual raised consciousness among the majority there, and isolate the small minority of traitors. Give it time and the results will be self-evident. As long as the Nationalists on Taiwan haven't engaged in peace talks with us and we haven't achieved a reasonable resolution through peaceful negotiations, the [state of] civil war will continue to exist. According to the proclamation by Taiwan is, pause and attack, pause and attack, is nothing more than a Communist scheme. It's true we alternate between pause and attack, but it's no trick. If you don't want peace talks, then fighting can't be avoided. As long as you engage in your current stubborn attitude, we are free to do whatever we want, attack or pause whenever we want. The Americans want to stick their hands into the problem of our civil war, it's utterly ludicrous when they call for a cease-fire. What qualifies the Americans to talk about this issue, anyway? I'd like to know who do they represent. They don't represent anyone! Do they represent the American people? The U.S. and China have not declared war, so there is no fire to cease. Do they represent the people of Taiwan? The Taiwan authorities haven't given them a power of attorney, and the Nationalist Party leaders absolutely opposes a Sino-American meeting. The American nationality is a great nationality, its people are kind-hearted. They don't want war, they welcome peace, but among the staff in the American government there is a group, such as Dulles and his ilk, who are too clever for their own good. For example, this talk of a so-called ceasefire, doesn't it go against common sense? For Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu, to be recovered and returned as a whole, to complete the unification of the motherland, is the sacred task of our 650 million people. This is China's internal affair, outsiders have no right to interfere, the United Nations has no right to interfere. All aggressors and their running dogs everywhere in the world will all be destroyed and buried, and the time for that is not far off. They definitely will not be able to escape, even if they try to go hide in the moon they will be captured. Wherever the bandits can go, I can go too, and in the end I will get drag them back. In a word, victory belongs to the people of the entire world. The Americans cannot convoy shipping in the Kinmen Straits. If they do, we'll immediately open fire. This is an order!

[Peng Dehuai]