

April 27, 1950
**Telegram No. 655 from Taipei (Strong) to the
Secretary of State**

Citation:

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Summary:

Discusses concerns regarding the Zhoushan Islands (Chusan Islands) and their strategic importance. It details General Sun Li-jen's observations about an expected Communist attack, emphasizing the potential psychological and military impact on Taiwan's morale and defense readiness. This document summary was generated by an artificial intelligence language model and was reviewed by a Wilson Center staff member.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXT. DATE REASON(S)
INCOMING TELEGRAM EXISTING MARKINGS
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Action FE

Info SS G DCR

FROM: Taipei
TO : Secretary of State
NO : 655, April 27, Noon
SENT DEPARTMENT 655, REPEATED HONG KONG 197.
Rec'd April 27, 1950 11:33 a.m.
Control 10881

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OFFICE OF CHINESE AFFAIRS
APR 28 1950
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

At private luncheon yesterday Sun Li-jen was unusually reserved, even spiritless. He stated Hainan could have been held, more easily than can Chousans could but no effort made to do so. He would not give estimate of situation relative to Chousans but merely expressed opinion possibility Chousans would be by-passed since forces there have no mobility and cannot be threat to Communists, and since Taiwan is major Communist objective after which Chousans and Chinmen would have to capitulate. (Comment: Although possible, choice of such course of action seems highly improbable. Several important considerations, including normal Communist strategy, indicate attack on Chousans first).

Sun obviously not impressed with internal situation here. Feels government has no support from people. In discussing secret police activities he stated in Kao Hsiung alone there were 14 or 15 separate agencies engaged thus, working against each other, with no public responsibilities, with no rule of law. People in general lived in insecurity, and were thus open to anti-government influences.

I believe Sun will keep relative silence, engage in no plots, continued on duty as best he can. Asked about activities of Mao Sen, Sun stated Mao absolutely worthless, empty character, protected by Tang En-po, creator of trouble (MYTEL 639, April 25).

STRONG

MJF:RT

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 11/23/77
PER R. Oakley OFFICE EA
FADRC EO1 CASE NO. 730805 Probst
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Action Assigned to CA
Action Taken Noted
Date of Action 4-28-50
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Name of Officer RT
Direction to DC/R RT

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