

moment I was not so much concerned with the wisdom or unwisdom of such intervention as about the way in which it might be brought about. Surely if the United States wished to intervene in this way, it should be done after the matter had been discussed at the Security Council and appropriate action had been taken there through a resolution, which would bring such intervention within the terms of the Charter. As the Security Council was meeting this very afternoon, no delay would be involved in the United States bringing the matter before it. What the President was proposing was action which might mean U.S. intervention, but which would not be collective action as a result of any collective decision. This would mean that the U.S. would take the action and would expect other countries later to support and sanction it. I felt that this was the wrong way to proceed, even though I realized that the time element was so important. I wondered also whether the President in the use of the above words regarding air support realized the full implications of what he was saying.

I also questioned with Mr. Wrong the wording of the paragraph which dealt with Formosa. What, in fact, was proposed was that Formosa should become a U.S. protectorate, even though the U.S. would continue to recognize the Chiang Kai-shek occupation regime as the Government of China. This seemed all the more anomalous, in view of the fact that the text of the President's statement ordered the Chinese Government in Formosa to cease all sea and air operations against the Chinese mainland, adding that the Seventh Fleet would see that this order was carried out.

I emphasized to Mr. Wrong that while I personally was unhappy about this statement of the President, nevertheless, it was the responsibility of the U.S. Government. However, if other countries were being invited to associate themselves with it, even through such a meeting as the one which he was about to attend, then we certainly had the right to bring our doubts to the notice of the U.S. Government.

Later, Mr. Wrong phoned to say that he had passed on the substance of my observations, which were in accordance with his own views, to George Kennan, who was impressed by them and thought that the text should be modified accordingly, and possibly not issued until later in the day.