

To Hoang Thien An (Andrew)
Mr. Andrew W. Seymour
Introduction to World History
June 3rd, 2014

POSITION PAPER

Introduction

May 1st, 2014, the People's Republic of China placed an oil rig, named Haiyang Shiyou-981, abbreviated as HD-981. Tensions between Chinese vessels and Vietnamese Coast Guard ships began, and haven't stopped (Wong). Secretary of State, John Kerry, claimed that the situations at South China Sea is currently very intense and that he is deeply concerned of the situation (VOA News); however, I, United States of America, hope to restrain from all parties, even though I am still monitoring the situation closely (Brunnstrom and Holland).

Relationship with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

The Genève Accord of 1954 separated Vietnam into two different governments: North Vietnam and South Vietnam. At the present time, I did not consider Northern Vietnam as a legal government; instead, I recognized South Vietnam and built diplomatic relationships with the government there. 1975, the North Vietnam's government reunified Vietnam, caused the demolition of my embassy at South Vietnam as well as other governmental offices, and this led to our unfriendly episodes. Furthermore, in 1978, Vietnam fought Cambodia over territorial issues; of course, I did not support this. As a result, I declared embargo on Vietnam since then, however, in 1994, Bill Clinton removed it and reconstructed a normal diplomatic relationship with Vietnam. Since then, our diplomatic relationship became positive, and resulted in close partnership as it is nowadays (U.S. Department of State, "U.S. – Vietnam Relations").

The current diplomatic relationship between Vietnam and I also benefits our economy. Vietnam is my 27th largest trading partner (Office of the United States Trade Representative, “Vietnam”). From 1994 to 2013, my annual imports from Vietnam grew by 488%.; meanwhile, from 1992 to 2013, my annual exports to Vietnam showed a 1,090% growth (United States Census Bureau, “Trade in Goods with Vietnam”). As a result, March 2010, Vietnam and six other ASEAN members along with me together discussed the Trans-Pacific Partnership Regional Free Trade Agreement, to strengthen our trade bond (Hormats).

[Relationship with the People’s Republic of China](#)

On October 1949, the Communist Party led by Mao Zedong gained control of Mainland China, and established the People’s Republic of China. Due to the fact that Mao Zedong’s government is communist, furthermore, due to the ongoing Cold War, I did not establish any relationships with Mao’s government. Not stop at that, PRC frequently caused such irritated actions to me, such as: Korean War (1950); First Taiwan Strait Crisis (1954); Second Taiwan Strait Crisis (1956); however, March 1959 is the highest peak of our unfriendliness, the Tibetan Uprising. Tibetan residents and the Dalai Lama ran away from Tibet to seek for peace. The U.N. and I condemn PRC for their abusive actions, meanwhile, CIA secretly armed Tibetans with weapons. Luckily, Richard Nixon reconstructed a brighter atmosphere at PRC. February 1972, he visited Mainland China and construct the Shanghai Communique: I will recognize PRC at the United Nations, as well as help PRC to fight Soviet Union; meanwhile, China must not suspended all aids towards North Vietnam. However, the happiness didn’t last long. June 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre ended that friendliness between PRC and me. At that moment, the E.U. and I announced embargo of weapons trading on PRC, and this haven’t lifted yet. On October 2000, Bill Clinton signed a Normalized Free Trade Relations with PRC and brightened

up the relationship between PRC and I after several conflicts, which severely damaged our relationships; however, since 2000 until now, I have always confused with PRC's actions, such as the increasing military budget since 2007; though I did not respond much (Zissis and Alessi).

Despite the confused diplomatic relationship between PRC and me, PRC is my 2nd largest trading partners: first in import market and third in export market (Office of the United States Trade Representative, "The People's Republic of China"). My annual imports from PRC grew 1,141% since 1985; meanwhile, my annual exports to PRC grew 291% (United States Census Bureau "Trade in Goods with China"). However, despite the sparkling statistic between PRC and me, I claim of a reverse reality. There are frequent reports of PRC's low-quality products imported to me, and thus has always caused stressful problems for me since then. However, due to strong influences and exceptionally cheap price that PRC's product has left, I cannot denied. On December 3rd, 2010, a two-day-old Motorola Droid 2, which was manufactured in PRC, exploded in an ear of a Texas man (Matyszczyk "Man Claims Motorola (...)"). Two years later, a test conducted from a variety of universities and published on FOX News showed that majority of Chinese-imported foods are poisonous: canned tomatoes, corn-fed beef, microwave popcorn, etc. (Underwood). Not long after, on February 2013, five New York toys company were charged with importing intoxicated toys from PRC; this importation value is approximately \$10 to \$15 million United States dollars, and thus harmed both the company and I (Katersky). February 1st 2014, an iPhone, which was assembled in PRC, exploded in the back pocket of a teenage girl from Maine, and resulted in hospitalized (Matyszczyk, "'iPhone Catches Fire (...)"). Therefore, through evidences, it is a common sense that even though PRC released several financial burdens for me, however, at the same time, it also created a new burdens, and this cycle will hardly stop.

Conclusion

Within the issue of South China Sea dispute, I would like to declare my neutral stand (Brunnstrom and Holland). Even though, the Secretary of State, John Kerry, mentioned that he is deeply concerned about this issue (VOA News), however, I cannot spend a majority of my time being concerned about this issue. I would also like to seek other countries to become neutral as well, in order to be less influenced with the situation (Brunnstrom and Holland). Vietnam is a rapidly growing market with bright futures; alternatively, PRC is already a powerful market, with its trading transaction ranked tops of the world. Both nations benefited and benefits me in a different way, and I just cannot decide which side is more beneficial (Office of the United States Trade Representative). Therefore, I, the United States of America, can hardly leaning over to a specific side and left the other side (Brunnstrom and Holland).

Bibliography

Brunnstrom, David, and Steve Holland. "White House Urges Dialogue, Not Intimidation in China Rig Dispute." Reuters. Thomson Reuters, 14 May 2014. Web. 01 June 2014.
<<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/05/14/us-usa-china-sea-idUSBREA4D0K020140514>>.

Katersky, Aaron. "Five NY Firms Charged With Importing Toxic Toys From China." ABC News. ABC News Network, 06 Feb. 2013. Web. 31 May 2014.
<<http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/business/2013/02/ny-firm-charged-with-importing-toxic-toys-from-china/>>.

Matyszczyk, Chris. "iPhone Catches Fire, Teen Girl Burned - CNET." iPhone Catches Fire, Teen Girl Burned - CNET. CNET, 1 Feb. 2014. Web. 31 May 2014.
<<http://www.cnet.com/news/iphone-catches-fire-teen-girl-burned/>>.

Matyszczyk, Chris. "Man Claims Motorola Droid 2 Exploded in His Ear - CNET." Man Claims Motorola Droid 2 Exploded in His Ear - CNET. CNET, 3 Dec. 2010. Web. 31 May 2014.
<<http://www.cnet.com/news/man-claims-motorola-droid-2-exploded-in-his-ear/>>.

Office of the United States Trade Representative. "The People's Republic of China." Office of the United States Trade Representative. Office of the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, 4 Apr. 2014. Web. 30 May 2014.
<<http://www.ustr.gov/countries-regions/china-mongolia-taiwan/peoples-republic-china>>.

Office of the United States Trade Representative. "Vietnam." Vietnam | Office of the United States Trade Representative. Office of the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office

of the President, 8 May 2014. Web. 30 May 2014. <<http://www.ustr.gov/countries-regions/southeast-asia-pacific/vietnam>>.

U.S. Department of State. "U.S. - Vietnam Relations." U.S. - Vietnam Relations | Embassy of the United States. Embassy of the United States (Hanoi, Vietnam), 14 Feb. 2014. Web. 30 May 2014. <<http://vietnam.usembassy.gov/usvnrelations.html>>.

Underwood, Anne. "7 Foods You Should Never Eat." Fox News. FOX News Network, 08 Dec. 2012. Web. 29 May 2014. <<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2011/12/01/7-foods-should-never-eat/>>.

United States Census Bureau. "Trade in Goods with China." Foreign Trade. United States Census Bureau, Mar. 2014. Web. 31 May 2014. <<http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/balance/c5700.html#1985>>.

United States Census Bureau. "Trade in Goods with Vietnam." Foreign Trade. United States Census Bureau, Mar. 2014. Web. 31 May 2014. <<http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/balance/c5520.html>>.

VOA News. "Kerry: China's Oil Rig in South China Sea 'Provocative'" VOA. Voice of America, 13 May 2014. Web. 01 June 2014. <<http://www.voanews.com/content/kerry-chinas-oil-rig-in-south-china-sea-provocative/1913329.html>>.

Wong, Edward. "Q & A: M. Taylor Fravel on China's Dispute With Vietnam." Sinosphere. The New York Times, 8 May 2014. Web. 01 June 2014. <<http://sinosphere.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/05/08/q-and-a-m-taylor-fravel-on-chinas-dispute-with-vietnam/>>.

Zissis, Carin, and Christopher Alessi. "U.S. Relations with China (1949 - Present)." U.S. Relations with China (1949 - Present) - Council on Foreign Relations. Council on Foreign Relations, 21 May 2012. Web. 29 May 2014. <<http://www.cfr.org/china/us-relations-china-1949--present/p17698>>.