

Beijing, implacably opposed to the island-nation's existence, succeeded with this muscular diplomacy—missile tests, mock landings and war games. After all, the stock market dipped and successionist politicians had limited resonance during the election.

So why are the mandarins in Beijing worried? Perhaps it is because on the heels of Hong Kong's democratic election that saw the defeat of pro-Mainland candidates, Taiwan has emerged as the Asian democratic model; and the first successful, full-blown democracy in five millennia of Chinese history, underscores the difficulty of reunion with China. Or perhaps the mandarins in the Forbidden City realize that their options have narrowed; that the use of force against Taiwan would be a disaster for U.S.-China relations and U.S. credibility and, most of all, would tear the web of Asian security and economic relationships that have sustained China's and the region's growth. We shall see.●

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

● Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Southern University of Baton Rouge, LA, for winning this year's historically black college national football championship. With their victory in the Heritage Bowl on December 29, 1995, the Jaguars of Southern University won their sixth national football title and their first since 1960.

The Jaguars, who finished the season with an 11-0 record, captured the national title in a 30 to 25 victory over Florida A&M in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

I would like to especially congratulate Coach Pete Richardson, his staff, and an outstanding group of players for all the hard work and effort they put into making this a championship season. Your undefeated record and national title are bright examples of the rewards of teamwork and determination. Thank you for bringing another national championship to Baton Rouge and for making Louisiana proud.●

THE STATE OF PUERTO RICO

● Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, Senator Charles A. Rodriguez, the majority leader of the Puerto Rico Senate, recently had an op ed piece in the Washington Post that speaks with candor about our fellow Americans from Puerto Rico. We should be paying attention to his words, which I ask to be printed in the RECORD.

The reality is that commonwealth status—supported strongly by powerful American corporations who benefit from it financially—is simply another form of old-fashioned colonialism.

Puerto Ricans should have the rights that Americans have in our 50 States.

Eventually, Puerto Rico will either go independent or become a State. From the viewpoint of our 50 States and from the viewpoint of the people of Puerto Rico, statehood makes much more sense.

But that is a decision they have to make.

The special financial breaks that certain corporations get should not be a barrier to an improved life for the citizens of Puerto Rico, and that is the reality today.

The op-ed follows:

[From the Washington Post]

THE STATE OF PUERTO RICO

(By Charles A. Rodriguez)

Two years ago, when Puerto Rico voted to remain a U.S. commonwealth—again rejecting statehood—many thought the issue was settled for years to come. In fact, the plebiscite raised more questions than it resolved.

The vote exposed the undue influence of discredited economic arrangements on the island's political process and the myth of commonwealth autonomy, both cornerstones of our second-class U.S. citizenship. Today proponents of the status quo are on the defensive in both Puerto Rico and in Washington.

The plebiscite was held as the Clinton administration sought repeal of Section 936 of the federal tax code, which exempts U.S. companies' Puerto Rican operations from federal taxation—a subsidy that has cost the Treasury nearly \$70 billion since 1973.

Faced with immediate loss of their lucrative tax break or eventual termination if islanders voted for statehood, companies spent millions of dollars fending off Congress while cajoling workers to vote against statehood or else face job losses and plant relocations.

Meanwhile, status quo proponents campaigned for "enhanced commonwealth," replete with promises of expanded political autonomy and parity with the 50 states in the financing of federal programs—all this while preserving the immunity of Puerto Rico's 3.7 million U.S. citizens from federal taxation.

Despite the cacophony of economic demagoguery and "something for nothing" hyperbole, commonwealth failed for the first time in 40 years to get an outright majority. It won with a plurality of 48.6 percent, against 46.3 percent for statehood and 5.1 percent for independence. Compare this narrow margin of victory with that of 1952 (68 percent) and that of 1967 (21 percent), and the tide against the status quo becomes unmistakable. The false promise behind the alternative of "enhanced commonwealth" will do nothing to stem it. For given its current budget-cutting exercises, Congress is clearly in no mood to maintain even current levels of federal funding for Puerto Rico programs, much less ante up the additional \$3 billion to \$4 billion necessary to bring them up to par with the states.

Meanwhile, a groundswell of public opinion has arisen in Washington against preserving "corporate welfare." That's why Section 936 is again under review, as it should be: It has made the island dependent on the whims of Congress and has stifled alternative economic development schemes.

Worse, as now constituted, 936 has failed to generate the jobs and capital investment that were its reasons for being. Witness our chronic unemployment rate, which is twice the mainland's, and our per capita income, half of Mississippi's.

Revision of 936 could present Puerto Rico with opportunities to attain significant new economic and political objectives; full participation and parity in all federal programs, sustained economic growth and, eventually, statehood.

Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska), chairman of the House Resources Committee, has floated one promising proposal toward these ends. In exchange for ending 936 he would phase in full state-like programs for Puerto Rico and encourage private-sector growth through capital grants for infrastructure develop-

ment and through private and nonprofit enterprise financing to spur new industries.

Young's proposal would also, for the first time, subject island residents to federal taxation. Combined with the \$3 billion savings from ending the 936 tax credit, this would mean that the U.S. Treasury would see no diminution in revenues.

Many statehood advocates balk at this "halfway" solution to securing first-class citizenship for Puerto Ricans. They maintain that economic equality would weaken efforts to achieve political equality through a 51st star. In other words, total economic and political equality or nothing.

Other point to the absurdity of Puerto Ricans agreeing to pay more taxes while everyone else is looking to reduce theirs. But the fact is that we already have high tax rates in Puerto Rico. They're necessary to finance activities typically provided elsewhere by the federal government. It's safe to assume that as program costs are shifted to Washington, Puerto Ricans will see little change in their tax burden.

Nonetheless, revision of 936 might accelerate the movement to statehood: No longer would 936 companies have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo.

Given today's economic and political climate, Puerto Rico may face the same hard choice under option: cut programs or raise taxes. But as a colony deprived of Washington representation we will have no say in the discussions leading up to that fateful decision.

It's no wonder that 2.5 million Puerto Ricans have left the island for the mainland knowing that the political and economic benefits of statehood far outweigh the burdens of federal taxation. We share their ambition to be full-fledged Americans here at home, just as we always have shared with all U.S. citizens the duty to defend democracy abroad.●

PROVIDING FOR PROVISIONAL APPROVAL OF OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE REGULATIONS

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Rules Committee be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 123 and, further, that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 123) to provide for the provisional approval of regulations applicable to certain covered employing offices and covered employees and to be issued by the Office of Compliance before January 23rd, 1996.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. DOLE. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements related to the concurrent resolution be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 123) was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF INTERIM REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF THE OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 209 submitted earlier today by the Senator from Kansas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 209) to provide for the approval of interim resolutions applicable to the Senate and the employees of the Senate and adopted by the Board of the Office of Compliance before January 23, 1996, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DOLE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 209) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 209

Resolved,

SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF INTERIM REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The interim regulations applicable to the Senate and the employees of the Senate that were adopted by the Board of the Office of Compliance before January 23, 1996, are hereby approved until such time as final regulations applicable to the Senate and the employees of the Senate are approved in accordance with section 304(c) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1384(c)).

(b) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to affect the authority of the Senate under such section 304(c).

JOINT SESSION OF THE TWO HOUSES TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the President of the Senate be authorized to appoint a committee on the part of the Senate and join with a like committee on the part of the House of Representatives to escort the President of the United States into the House Chamber for the joint session to be held at 9 p.m. Tuesday, January 23, 1996.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1996

Mr. DOLE. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 1996; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, the time for the two

leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period for morning business until the hour of 3:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DOLE. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business tomorrow it stand in recess until the hour of 8:40 p.m. on Tuesday, at which time the Senate will proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives to hear an address by the President regarding the state of the Union.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. During tomorrow's session, the Senate may turn to any legislative items that can be cleared by unanimous consent. Rollcall votes are not expected during Tuesday's session. However, if a vote is necessary, all Members will be given ample notification. As a reminder, all Senators should gather in the Senate Chamber at 8:35 p.m. Tuesday evening, in order for the Senate to proceed as a body to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the State of the Union Address.

I indicate, as I did this morning, it is still our hope to make a continuing resolution before the close of business on Friday, maybe Thursday, maybe even Wednesday depending on when it is passed by the House. It is also our hope we can pass the continuing resolution by consent, and that in the event the Defense Department authorization bill comes to us from the House, we may proceed to that, which if it requires a rollcall vote, then we will not vote on it until we have given all our colleagues ample notice.

There is also some indication that the administration may want us to proceed on the extension of the debt limit, debt ceiling, and that may or may not come before the Senate this week.

RECESS UNTIL 2:30 P.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DOLE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:55 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, January 23, 1996, at 2:30 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate January 22, 1996:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RICHARD L. MORNINGSTAR, OF MASSACHUSETTS, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT AND TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON ASSISTANCE TO THE NEW INDEPENDENT STATES (NIS) OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND COORDINATOR OF NIS ASSISTANCE.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

MARY BURRUS BABSON, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR A TERM OF 1 YEAR. (NEW POSITION)

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

LUIS VALDEZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2000, VICE PETER DECOURCH HERO, TERM EXPIRED.

IN THE COAST GUARD

VICE ADMIRAL JAMES M. LOY, U.S. COAST GUARD, TO BE CHIEF OF STAFF, U.S. COAST GUARD, WITH THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL WHILE SO SERVING.

VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD D. HERR, U.S. COAST GUARD, TO BE VICE COMMANDANT, U.S. COAST GUARD, WITH THE GRADE OF ADMIRAL WHILE SO SERVING.

VICE ADMIRAL KENT H. WILLIAMS, U.S. COAST GUARD, TO BE COMMANDER, ATLANTIC AREA, U.S. COAST GUARD, WITH THE GRADE OF ADMIRAL WHILE SO SERVING.

REAR ADMIRAL ROGER T. RUFE, JR., U.S. COAST GUARD, TO BE COMMANDER, PACIFIC AREA, U.S. COAST GUARD, WITH THE GRADE OF VICE ADMIRAL WHILE SO SERVING.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE FOR PROMOTION TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL:

RICHARD W. SCHNEIDER

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE FOR PROMOTION TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF):

JAN T. RIKER

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVE FOR PROMOTION TO THE GRADE INDICATED:

To be captain

GEORGE J. SANTA CRUZ GREGORY E. SHAPLEY

To be commander

JAMES E. LITSINGER MAURY A. WEEKS
DALE M. RAUSCH DONALD E. BUNN

To be lieutenant commander

PINKEY J. CLARK KEVIN M. PRATT

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED COLONELS OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS FOR PROMOTION TO THE GRADE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 624 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE:

To be brigadier general

COL. ROBERT R. BLACKMAN, JR., 000-00-0000, USMC.
COL. WILLIAM G. BOWDON III, 000-00-0000, USMC.
COL. JAMES T. CONWAY, 000-00-0000, USMC.
COL. KEITH T. HOLCOMB, 000-00-0000, USMC.
COL. HAROLD MASHBURN, JR., 000-00-0000, USMC.
COL. GREGORY S. NEWBOLD, 000-00-0000, USMC.

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED COLONEL OF THE U.S. MARINE CORP RESERVE FOR PROMOTION TO THE GRADE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 5912 OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE:

To be brigadier general

COL. LEO V. WILLIAMS III, 000-00-0000, USMCR.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED OFFICER TO BE PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST OF THE U.S. NAVY IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER SECTION 1370 OF TITLE 10, U.S.C.

To be vice admiral

VICE ADM. DAVID B. ROBINSON, 000-00-0000.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED AIR NATIONAL GUARD OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT AS RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212, TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, TO PERFORM DUTIES AS INDICATED.

To be lieutenant colonel

LINE

JONATHAN S. FLAUGHER, 000-00-0000

MEDICAL CORPS

To be lieutenant colonel

WALTER L. BOGART III, 000-00-0000

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE APPOINTMENT, IN THE GRADE INDICATED, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 12203 WITH A VIEW TO DESIGNATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 8067 TO PERFORM THE DUTIES INDICATED.

MEDICAL CORPS

To be colonel

DONALD R. SMITH, 000-00-0000

To be lieutenant colonel

CARLOS W.M. BEDROSSIAN, 000-00-0000