

Appendix 11 -- President Truman's Statement on the Mission of the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the Formosa Area (1950)

Source: From: *American Foreign Policy, 1950-1955, Basic Documents*, Vol. 2 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1957), p. 2468.

June 27, 1950

The attack upon Korea makes it plain beyond all doubt that communism has passed beyond the use of subversion to conquer independent nations and will now use armed invasion and war. It has defied the orders of the Security Council of the United Nations issued to preserve international peace and security. In these circumstances, the occupation of Formosa by Communist forces would be a direct threat to the security of the Pacific area and to United States forces performing their lawful and necessary functions in that area.

Accordingly, I have ordered the Seventh Fleet to prevent any attack on Formosa. As a corollary of this action, I am calling upon the Chinese Government on Formosa to cease all air and sea operations against the mainland. The Seventh Fleet will see that this is done. The determination of the future status of Formosa must await the restoration of security in the Pacific, a peace settlement with Japan, or consideration by the United Nations.