CENEX Move I

(move will be announced as if it’s Dec 12th, 2012)

(CHANGE SLIDE)

On Dec 5th, 2012, at 3:45 AM elements of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army launched a multipronged invasion of the outlying Taiwanese islands of Jinmen, Matsu and Taiping Island. The initial attack on Jinmen and Matsu included an air assault combined with a surface-to-surface missile attack on Taiwanese positions on the island. This was followed by a Chinese amphibious assault which met heavy resistance on Quemoy and Matsu but not on Taiping Island – where the small Taiwanese garrison surrendered immediately. China sustained 1300 casualties in its campaign to “teach splittists a lesson” and on Dec 6th at 7:30 PM raised the flag over Quemoy and Matsu. The PLA then issued a statement stating that Taiwanese statements threatening to build a nuclear deterrent had motivated its actions, that Taiwan had been repeatedly warned not to cross China’s “red lines” and yet it had done so. The statement read, in part: “The People’s Liberation Army is the guarantor of the territorial integrity and independence of the motherland. The PLA will not hesitate to continue to act to suppress the usurpers and splittists in Taiwan. All states are cautioned that this is an internal matter, for the Chinese people to resolve, and warned not to attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of the People’s Republic of China.”

The intelligence services of Japan, South Korea and the United States have not picked up any Chinese moves towards invasion of the main island of Taiwan – although China continues to build up forces in the Fujian province as well as reinforce its occupation forces on Jinmen, Matsu and Taiping islands. Vietnam and the Philippines have issued strong denunciations of the PLA’s attack on Taiping, which both states claim as their own.

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The United States has issued angry denunciations of China’s moves and planning has begun to resupply Taiwanese forces. As of yet no US supplies have reached Taiwan, but the US has dispatched 3 aircraft carrier strike groups towards the Taiwan Strait, one from Yokosuka, Japan (the USS George Washington, estimated arrival Dec 14th), one from Everett, WA (USS Abraham Lincoln, estimated arrival Dec 20th) and one from San Diego, CA (USS Carl Vinson, estimated arrival Dec 22nd).

(CHANGE SLIDE)
In the US violence has broken out in Chinese-American communities between pro-Taiwanese and pro-PRC demonstrators in the cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York. The governor of California has called out the National Guard after the Chinese consulate in San Francisco was attacked and set on fire by pro-Taiwanese protestors, killing 5 Chinese consulate employees. As a result large anti-American demonstrations have taken place in China outside the US embassy in Beijing and the consulates in both Guangzhaoo and Shanghai. China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) has refused US requests to bring in additional US Marines to guard its diplomatic facilities in China and has demanded an official US apology and compensation for the burning of its consulate in San Francisco.

(CHANGE SLIDE)

On Dec 8th 2012 at 11:45 AM Korean Air Flight 706 (KE706), which took off from Tokyo, was on its initial approach to Incheon airport, which is 45 miles west of Seoul, South Korea. The plane’s scheduled flight path took it very close to the DMZ between the DPRK and the ROK, which is normal for certain flights landing at Incheon. Approximately 80 miles from Incheon, in a position placing it roughly 4 miles south of the DMZ, the plane disappeared from South Korea radar. At the same time United Nations forces stationed at the DMZ reported seeing several surface-to-air missiles launched from the North Korean side of the DMZ. South Korea reported detecting SA-5 radar signature at close to the same time. At 12:50 PM the first reports started coming in to media about a plane crash near the DMZ, with flaming wreckage strewn from North Korea into the DMZ with a small amount of the plane, carried by the forward momentum of the flight, landing in South Korea. There were 168 casualties including 104 Koreans, 55 Japanese, 2 Russians, 2 Chinese and 5 Americans. Most of the debris, including bodies of the victims, landed in North Korea and as of today the North Korean government has refused to return any of them to South Korea or to the governments of which they were nationals. North Korea has strongly denied downing the plane and is claiming the plane crashed in its territory and caused a large number of casualties, as well as damage, in the town of Kaesong. North Korea is demanding $80,000,000 from the South Korean government for the loss of life and destruction it claims was caused by the crash of KE706.

(CHANGE SLIDE)

The South Korean government immediately placed its forced on high alert and has conducted an initial forensic analysis of the portion of the wreckage found in its territory. South Korea has indicated that the presence of rocket propellant associated with SA-5 surface-to-air missiles was found on the wreckage. The South Korean response has been harsh and further inflamed by continual television coverage of the funerals of the victims of KE706. South Korea has ended all aid to the DPRK, including food aid, invited an international investigation of the incident and has promised “unending retaliation” against North Korea if it’s determined the plane was downed by the DPRK. South Korea has begun deploying large numbers of
ground, air and sea forces to the areas bordering the DMZ including the full mobilization of the 1st and 3rd armies, conducting daily civil defense drills in all of its cities, regular live-fire exercises with the United States and enhanced air patrols along the DMZ as well as the disputed Yellow Sea area. All flights in and out of Incheon have been rerouted to the south of the airport, changing all flights paths which come within 50 miles of the DMZ.

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Large anti-DPRK protests have broken out in Japan over the downing of KE706 – with Japan’s beleaguered ethnic Korean community bearing the brunt of Japan’s anger over the deaths of 55 of its citizens. Japan’s nationalist government has vowed that “North Korean aggression will not go unpunished” and the Diet has taken up a bill imposing mandatory internment upon all “special registered guests” of Korean descent currently in Japan. The governments of the ROK and DPRK have vociferously protested this measure and South Korea has recalled its ambassador to Japan over detentions of those it considers to be its nationals. North Korea has threatened “holy retaliation” if any Koreans in Japan are interned.

Japan has also “strongly condemned” China’s invasion of Taiwan’s outlying islands and has deployed additional air, ground and sea reinforcements to its southern provinces.

It is Dec 12th, 2012. Please return to your rooms and be ready to play in 15 minutes.