

The following news item appeared on the Febuary 18, 1978 KGO (San Francisco, channel 7) 7:30 and 11:00 p.m. news telecast. (The report here is given verbatim.)

T.V. ANCHORMAN: There are possibly some political changes coming up in the Far East.

The son of Generalis imo Chaing Kai-sek in Taiwan may soon become the new president of that island nation. Chiang Chin-kuo just received the nomination from that country's ruling party [the Kuomingtang party]. Officials said he is already a very powerful force in Taiwan and he does have a very good chance of being elected next month. Right now, Chin-kuo is head of the Taiwan police force.

But at the same time, there are a lot of people here in the city of San Francisco who are saying they are very upset with what is going on in the Taiwan government. They held a demostration today. About one hundred of them masked their faces and staged a protest outside of the Taiwan embassy (R.O.C. Consulate) today. Suzanne Saunders [KCO reporter] asked them why [they were protesting].

SUZANNE SAUNDERS: [Why are you protesting?]

DEMOSTRATOR: We are demanding freedom for Taiwanese.

SAUNDERS: What do you mean by freedom?

DEMOSTRATOR: We are being persecuted. We do not enjoy the so-called "Constitutional rights" guaranteed by the KMT [Kuomingtang] regime.

SAUNDERS: So you're saying you are living under the martial law?

DEMOSTRATOR: Yes! We have been living under martial law for the past thirty years.

SAUNDERS: Why is that you're wearing a mask? You said earlier that a lot of people were afraid to show up for this demostration.

DEMOSTRATOR: It's because we all have family members in Taiwan and they would be retailiated against.

T.V. ANCHORMAN: Although the demostrators were very upset about the issue, there were no incidents so far in that demostration.