

↑ S&P 500
349.71 1.01%

↑ Nikkei
17,725.13 0.02%

↓ U.S. 10 Yr
-5/32 Yield 2.055%

↑ Crude Oil
45.26 1.16%

↓ Euro
1.1166 -0.27%

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LETTERS

China's Passport Map Ignores Reality

Dec. 10, 2012 4:52 p.m. ET

In response to the map that appears in the most recent version of mainland China's passport ("[China Attempts to Assuage Anger Over a Passport Map](#)," World News, Nov. 29), the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) would like to reiterate that the ROC is a free and sovereign state and isn't part of the People's Republic of China. While we welcome travelers from the mainland to visit our tourist destinations, including the popular Sun Moon Lake and Green Island, our openness by no means indicates that we have ceded our claims to sovereignty. These locations are and will remain under the jurisdiction of the ROC and haven't somehow become a part of mainland China.

While the PRC is allowed to design its passport however it deems fit, this map is a provocative way to stir the hornet's nest and place nationalism above geopolitics and is a confrontational move that has the potential to damage mainland China's relations with its neighbors. It stands in direct contradiction to the progress that has been made to improve cross-strait relations over the past few years, which is very disappointing for the ROC government. If mainland China really wants to have a "harmonious society and a peaceful rising" like it claims, it should avoid such actions in the future.

Brian Su

Taipei Economic and

Cultural Office

New York

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