Americans Must Always Stand with Freedom-Loving Chinese People

An Evening Chat with Mike Pompeo: A Message to the Chinese People

TRANSCRIPT

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The video is available: https://youtu.be/j-xqBDTKV0Q

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Michael R. Pompeo:

Hello, Mike Pompeo here, sending greeting from Hudson's China Center to everyone behind the Great Fire Wall. As secretary of state, I promised that I would meet with Chinese dissidents as much as possible. Those were some of the best meetings I had during my time as Secretary of State.

During the first Cold War, dissidents like Natan Sharansky told us what we were up against. And today, Chinese dissidents know better than anyone how brutal the CCP can be.

Some of the people I met escaped the regime's hostile takeover of once-free Hong Kong. Some even made it out of Tibet or Xinjiang. They told me about the concentration camps in which the CCP had wrongfully imprisoned them and their families. They shared stories of Beijing's war on peoples of all faiths—Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, and everyone who believes in a higher power than the state.

The CCP's repression isn't new, of course. I'll never forget sitting down with freedom fighters who survived the Tiananmen Square Massacre more than 30 years ago. More Americans need to hear from Chinese dissidents.

For me, those conversations were reminders that Americans must always stand with freedom-loving people around the world. They need us to.

During the pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong, many brave Hong Kong men and women waved the American flag in the streets. They sang our national anthem.

They saw something special in America.

And they reminded us of some old truths: freedom and democracy are universal values.

And they're worth fighting for.