

## Taiwan removes military barrier as China ties warm

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TAIPEI (Reuters) - Taiwan has begun removing anti-ship barricades on its offshore island of Kinmen, the latest sign of its warming relationship with China, the semi-official Central News Agency said on Sunday.

The local government of Kinmen, also known as Quemoy, has started extracting the barricades, the Taiwan agency said, in a sign of easing political tensions between Taiwan and China.

Beijing has claimed self-ruled Taiwan since 1949, when Mao Zedong's Communists won the Chinese civil war and Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists fled to Taiwan. China has vowed to bring Taiwan under its rule, by force if necessary.

The barricades are rows of spikes rooted on cement bases, slanted at an angle to stop warships from landing troops ashore.

In June, Taiwan military officials agreed to remove them ahead of a mass swim across the Taiwan Strait in mid-August between the southeast Chinese city of Xiamen and Kinmen.

Source: [Reuters](#)