

GREAT DECISIONS Topic No. 5 How Should the U. S. Deal With Red China?

THE PROBLEM
The U. S. faces one of the most difficult foreign policy decisions in its history where China is concerned. A wartime ally and one of the five "great powers" in the allied world, China was granted a permanent seat on the powerful United Nations Security Council, along with the U. S., Britain, France and Russia. Today the Security Council is occupied by the Nationalist Republic of China, a government in exile headed by Chiang Kai-shek, which rules over Taiwan (Formosa), an island the size of Connecticut and Massachusetts combined.

Mainland China, the greatest population mass in the world, comprising 20 per cent of the earth's population, is ruled by a communist government, the People's Democratic Republic of China. UN troops from 16 different nations battled Chinese communist armies during the Korean war. U. S. casualties numbered 100,000. The UN branded communist China an aggressor and the U. S. has refused to extend diplomatic recognition to the Peiping government.

But by now, the communist regime is recognized by 25 nations as the legal government of China. Red China's growing importance economically and militarily, her close partnership with Russia and her friendly relations with important neutrals, may force a showdown this year.

It may come in the UN, over seating the communist delegation; or on the diplomatic and economic battlegrounds of the intensified 1956 cold war; or as World War III, touched off by U. S.-Chinese fighting in the Formosa Strait.

What are the specific conflicts between the U. S. and Red China? What ties and obligations does the U. S. have to the Nationalist government? How are these issues shaping up in 1956? Where do our allies stand? How much room is there for negotiation, compromise, a settlement or war-to-the-finish.

Story in Headlines
Here are the most important events of 1955-56 in headline stories:
Jan. 1, 1955—The Red China government announced agreement with North Korea on details of a \$338,000,000 aid and barrier program to help rebuild the war-shattered North Korean economy.

General Dag Hammarskjöld and Red China's premier and foreign minister, Chou En-lai, concluded a five-day conference. Hammarskjöld has been attempting to secure the release of UN military personnel held by China as spies since the Korean war.

Jan. 30, 1955—Russia requested an emergency meeting of the Security Council to consider "U. S. acts of aggression against the Chinese People's Republic in the Taiwan (Formosa) area and other islands of China."

The UN secretary general extended an invitation to communist China to send representatives to the Security Council debate on the Taiwan situation and particularly the question of a cease-fire.

Feb. 3, 1955—Red China's foreign minister refused a UN invitation to send observers to the Security Council debate on the Taiwan Strait cease-fire. China will send a delegate to the UN only if the Chinese Nationalist representatives are driven out of the Security Council and the Council agrees to discuss the Russian proposal for condemning U. S. "acts of aggression" in the Taiwan area.

Feb. 14, 1955—Communist party chairman Mao Tse-tung praised Russian economic assistance to Red China and economic importance economically and militarily, her close partnership with Russia and her friendly relations with important neutrals, may force a showdown this year.

April 23, 1955—A Red Chinese proposal for joint talks with the U. S. on a peaceful settlement of the Taiwan crisis was received in Washington. The offer, released in Bandung, Indonesia, before a conference of 29 Asian and African countries, was hailed at the conference as a major contribution to peace in the Far East.

April 24, 1955—The Nationalist Chinese government declared it will "never sit down at the same table" with representatives of communist China.

April 27, 1955—President Eisenhower endorsed Secretary of State Dulles' statement that the Chinese Nationalists would not necessarily have to be present at discussions with Red China on a ceasefire in the Taiwan area. He declared that the U. S. would be willing to negotiate directly with communist China.

May 25, 1955—The government radio of Communist China announced that China has taken over all facilities from Russia at the Port Arthur naval base. The Port was lost to Japan in the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05 and "restored" to Russia by the Yalta agreements in 1945.

May 31, 1945—Hong Kong police reported that four American airmen released by the Chinese communists crossed the border to liberty.

June 4, 1955—Sen. John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigation, urged the State department to "take some forceful action with allies," to halt the trend of increased trade with communist China. He singled out Great Britain and the Chinese-controlled companies operating out of Hong Kong.

June 10, 1955—The communist Chinese government repeated its offer to negotiate with the U. S. "in order to ease and eliminate tension over Taiwan."

June 18, 1955—Prime Minister Mohammed Ali of Pakistan urged the U. S. and Red China to meet "at the highest level" to relieve the threat of war in the Taiwan Straits.

He proposed that Communist China should be given a UN seat, that Chiang Kai-shek government evacuate the islands close to the communist shores, and that the U. S. 7th fleet withdraw from the Taiwan Strait.

June 19, 1955—India's roving ambassador, V. K. Krishna Menon, ended six days of conference with U. S. officials on the question of maintaining peace in the Far East. He suggested the Taiwan government should evacuate the islands of Quemoy and Matsu; the trade embargo against Red China be eased; and the U. S. extend recognition to the communist government.

July 2, 1955—Ho Chi Minh's communist government of North Viet Nam will receive \$338,000,000 in outright aid from Red China. The money will be used to rebuild docks, railways, highways and bridges and to restore and construct textile mills and other factories.

July 25, 1955—The U. S. agreed to initiate talks with Communist China on the ambassadorial level to explore the release of civilians detained by both governments, involving 41 American civilians.

Aug. 9, 1955—Red China has increased its purchases of Egyptian cotton in the current season by \$9,800,000. Egyptian sources admitted they had found no Western markets.

Sept. 10, 1955—The U. S. and Chinese communist ambassadors released a joint statement on the progress of their talks. They said 1) that measures are being taken to permit all Chinese nationals who wish to do so to leave the U. S. for China; 2) make identical arrangements for U. S. Nationals in China.

Nov. 10, 1955—The U. S. rejected a Chinese communist offer to renounce force unless the offer specifically applies to Taiwan and other islands held by the Chinese nationalists.

Feb. 3, 1956—Prospects of a "broad future" in trade were held out by Communist China in a memorandum to a meeting of the UN Economic commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE).

The memorandum calls on the West "to eliminate the artificial barriers to peaceful trade" and contends the embargo has "primarily and mainly" hurt the west.

Feb. 21, 1956—The official Chinese communist press called for "complete abolition of colonialism," attacking the U. S. at the same time as the "biggest colonialist in the world."

The press called for closer relations between China and other Asian countries, an end to the Western embargo on trade, and a conference between the foreign ministers of China and the U. S. to follow up the currently stalled talks on the ambassadorial level in Geneva.

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES?
In an official statement on U. S. policy on Red China, President Eisenhower in July, 1954, said the government is "completely and unalterably opposed to the admission of communist China to the UN" and he believed that "95 per cent of the population of the United States" would take the same stand.

He declared the issue is a moral one and that Communist China has shown that she is not "morally entitled" to UN admission.

Secretary of State Dulles asked the question, "Will it help our country if, by recognition, we give increased prestige and influence to a regime that attacks our vital interests? ... The answer is: No." He declared Red China is "consistently and viciously hostile to the U. S."

The U. S. Senate overwhelmingly approved a resolution in January, 1955, stated that "... a friendly government (in vital interests of the United States) ... is essential to the vital interests of the United States." It authorized the president to order U. S. troops into action "as he deems necessary for the specific purpose of securing and protecting against armed attack," and to use armed force in repelling a communist invasion of the off-shore islands of Quemoy and Matsu if he believes such an attack threatens Taiwan.

The Mutual Defense Treaty between Nationalist China and the U. S. ratified early last year, provides for mutual aid in the event of communist invasion or subversion in Taiwan or in U. S. territories in that area.

Armed attack would be referred to the UN Security Council. U. S. aid will be given the nationalistic government for U. S. bases on Taiwan.

IS RED CHINA IMPORTANT IN THE COLD WAR?
What is Communist China's relationship to Russia? Is there any evidence that China is a "satellite" or "second class partner"? What is Red China's role in Asia? Why do some neutral and U. S. allies recognize Red China? What effect does the UN embargo have on economics of neutral countries in Asia?

Is trade with China a real prospect or simply propaganda? Recently the U. S. Senate Foreign Relations committee suggested in 1921 with Russian assistance, ocratic India are competing for leadership in Asia. The rest of Asia, the senators said, is watching to see whether communism or free enterprise will win.

WHAT IS THE TAIWAN ISSUE?
Both the Chinese communists and the Nationalists agree that Taiwan is part of China. The U. S., on historical grounds, does not consider Taiwan a part of China. But the U. S. recognizes the Chiang Kai-shek government as the legal government of China. Does this mean the U. S. hopes to see Chiang reconquer the mainland? Does it mean we hope the communist regime will collapse internally? Is either likely?

Under present U. S. policy, what kind of settlement is possible?
WHAT U. S. POLICY ON RED CHINA?
How can the U. S. policy against recognizing Red China be described (realistic, legalistic, moral, strategic)? How would U. S. recognition affect U. S. interests? Does our policy contribute to or detract from a peaceful settlement of Far East problems? Does the U. S. want a settlement? Want war with Red China?

THE TWO CHINAS—WHAT THEY STAND FOR
Modern Chinese history dates back to 1912 when Sun Yat-sen led a successful revolution against the Manchu dynasty. He was never able to unite the country, however, and there was constant civil war. The Chinese Communist party was organized in 1921 with Russian assistance.

Chiang Kai-shek took control of the nationalist party in 1925 after Dr. Sun's death, and occupied most of China and set up a national government. He then broke with the many communists he had used as advisers.

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, China had already been at war with Japan for 10 years; at the same time Chiang and the Chinese communists were fighting each other. The latter signed an uneasy truce in 1937.

When Japan was defeated, the communists and nationalists renewed their war. Late in 1949 the remnants of Chiang's defeated armies fled the mainland and set up the government-in-exile on Taiwan. Since then, the communists have extended their government to every part of China.

WHERE IS RED CHINA GOING?
The communist government on the mainland originally promised three reforms: A united government on behalf of the masses; land reform and improvement of the peasants' lot; and expanded heavy industry.

We know accomplishments include: Mainland China is united under a single government for the first time in history; private wealth and property have nearly disappeared; communists have placed greater emphasis on agricultural reform; socialism of production and distribution is extensive; China appears economically stable; Red China is the world's fourth largest air power, and has an estimated 3,500,000-man army.

She has established diplomatic trade relations with most of the important countries outside the Western hemisphere.

WHERE IS NATIONALIST CHINA GOING?
The native inhabitants of Taiwan are a mixed race of aborigines and Chinese stock. The island was designated China's 35th province at the end of World War II.

Chiang's government, fighting a bitter war on the mainland, pursued an unpopular economic policy on the island. The government bought sugar, camphor, and other principal products at low prices and resold them abroad at market prices, diverting the profit to the national treasury.

A 1947 revolt by the Taiwanese cost 10,000 lives. Major reforms, initiated partly with U. S. economic aid, began in 1949. Taiwanese take part in the government, but mainland Chinese hold all key posts. Chiang has complete control.

Sound planning and over \$1,000,000,000 in U. S. economic aid (apart from military aid) has created considerable improvement in Taiwan economy in the last six years. Per capita income is well above the Asian average.

Last year the Nationalists began drafting Taiwanese into the armed forces. Most of the 600,000 army men are veterans of the civil war. The Chiang government, along with South Korea, Pakistan and Turkey, receives the lion's share of U. S. military aid in 1956.

WHAT CHOICES HAVE WE?
Should the U. S. recognize Red China? What are the arguments for recognizing the Peiping government and continuing recognition of the Taiwan government? Does diplomatic recognition necessarily imply "approval"? On what principles should we extend recognition to another government?

What should the U. S. do about China in the U. N. Presumably the U. S. will use the veto to keep the Peiping government from taking over China's seat in the Security Council. The U. S. has no veto in the General Assembly, however. What should we do if a majority in the assembly votes to seat the communist representatives? Should we continue to block the Security Council seat ... go along with the majority ... walk out of the UN? What possible compro-

Schmidt Opens Office For Counseling Here

An office for personal counseling service has been opened in the Leverette building by Ben. H. Schmidt.

Schmidt said he plans to cooperate with homes, schools, churches and the police department wherever possible. He majored in psychology at the University of Oregon and at Northwestern university. He also attended at Columbia graduate school.

Schmidt has lived in Medford for the last 12 years and has worked with the YMCA, churches and community organizations.

More than 8,000 patents have been granted for the manufacture of leather soles and shoes since the U. S. patent office was established in 1836.

Knight of Pythias To Attend Ceremony

About 20 or 25 Medford members of the Dramatic Order, Knights of the Khorassan, and the Nomads of Avrudaka, will attend a joint ceremonial of the two orders in Grants Pass Saturday, May 5, it was announced yesterday.

A number of state officers from Portland, including Harry Wood, grand chancellor, will attend, as will Medford officers including Harry Hoehne, royal viceroy of Fuhat Burkan temple. Session headquarters will be at the KP building in Grants Pass. Local KPs have been advised of the death last week of Earl Ward, Eugene, grand vice chancellor of the state Knights of Pythias.

Hi-Times Wins Award From Press Group

The Medford Hi-Times, student publication at Medford High school, won a first class rating for the first semester of the school year, it was reported Saturday.

The rating is made by the National Scholastic Press association. Miss Elizabeth Settle was advisor for the paper during the semester.

Staff members included June Pike and Barbara Maxon, co-editors; Lorita Jennings and Denise Bruning, feature editors; Kathryn Stewart, news editor; Ralph Bates, sports editor; Dennis Wyatt and Lois Kelley, advertising managers, and Harold O'Connors, business manager.

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The U. S. government's policy on the "two Chinas" should be a policy which the American people can believe in and support. Your decisions, after thoughtful discussion, have an important place in shaping official government policy.

The Great Decisions program is designed to form the basis of discussion groups on foreign affairs.

Letters or ballots included in the Great Decisions fact sheets should be mailed to Don Hansen, chairman of the Great Decisions committee, Franklin building, Medford. The results will be forwarded to the U. S. State Department and to our congressional representatives.

The material above is a condensation of the fact sheets.



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