

Communist China Marks 13th Anniversary With Lap Full of Troubles

By CHARLES R. SMITH
Tokyo — The Communist China celebrates its 13th anniversary today at odds with the Soviet Union, on the brink of war with India, and probably only months away from becoming the world's fifth nuclear power.

As its 13th anniversary rolls around, the Peiping regime still is threatening to "liberate" Taiwan by force, whipping up anti-American campaigns across the China mainland, trying to get into the United Nations by having Nationalist China thrown out, and creeping into Southeast Asia.

The Red Chinese have come a long way since Mao Tse-tung mounted a rostrum in Peiping on Oct. 1, 1949, and proclaimed the founding of the Communist Republic before 350,000 cheering Chinese.

But the Chinese Communists are the first to admit that they have a long way to go before attaining the position to which they aspire.

One Step Backward

The Peiping regime now is in the process of what the Communist leaders choose to call "taking one step backward to take two steps forward."

It has undergone — and still is undergoing — some serious internal strains.

The regime is struggling to recover from crippling agricultural failures brought on by bad weather, bungling bureaucracy, peasant discontent and over-emphasis on industry.

The National People's Con-



MARKS ANNIVERSARY — Communist China's leader Mao Tse-tung joins other Communist Party bosses to review a parade of workers and soldiers today marking the 13th anniversary of Red rule in the ancient land. China stands today as the most populous nation on earth with more than 700 million people.

gress last spring put its stamp of approval on a capital retrenchment program and a back-to-the-farm movement.

According to the Peiping People's Daily, authoritative publication of the Chinese Communist party, the "aid-to-agriculture" policy is beginning to pay off. In early September, the paper predicted an increase in agricultural production this year, barring a disastrous autumn harvest.

Ideological Dispute

Part of China's troubles — at home and abroad — can be traced to its ideological dispute with the Soviet Union. The feud has been going on for the past few years. It reached its peak, publicly at least, late last year.

For the past several months it has been under wraps, but the best informed observers of the Communist scene say it is far from over.

The best recent evidence to support this observation is a recent article in the People's Daily, which attacked Yugoslav President Marshal Tito and "revisionism" in the Communist movement.

The paper's attack almost coincided with the visit to Yugoslavia of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

More important, perhaps, was its strong defense of the "hard line" communism advocated by Peiping and Mao's theories — as opposed to those of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev — on the inevitability of war.

The dispute with the Soviet Union has cost China considerably — in terms of influence within and without the Communist camp, and in terms of cold cash.

The Soviet Union still gives the Peiping regime some technical and economic assistance,

but the overall amount has been drastically reduced.

There also has been a sharp reduction in the amount of trade between the two Communist giants. The trade gap has been closed by trade with Western nations, the most prominent example being huge grain purchases from Australia and Canada.

No firm figures are available on China's balance of payments position, but the best available estimates indicate the Peiping regime is facing a serious balance of payments problem.

The ideological dispute with the Soviet Union may well be the most serious long-range problem facing the Peiping regime, but the problem of the most immediate import perhaps is the border dispute with India.

Rooted in History

The border problem is rooted in British colonial history, but the Chinese and Indians have been wrestling unsuccessfully with it for only about a half dozen years.

Attempts at peaceful negotiation have been fruitless. In recent weeks bloodshed has increased along the disputed border of the world's two most populous nations.

Both countries have warned that war could break out at any moment.

Basically, the dispute involves more than 40,000 square miles of territory along the border.

China has issued almost weekly warnings and protests during the past several months in extremely strong language.

On the other side of the vast China mainland, the Chinese Communists have another war scare whipped up.

Based on Genuine Fear

They have staged a tremendous military buildup along the coastal area fronting the Formosa Strait. In the southern area, particularly in Kwangtung Province, they have clamped on some of the most stringent internal security measures since the end of their bloody purges in the 1950's.

According to Far East intelligence sources, the military buildup and tightened security are based on a genu-

Dennis the Menace



"MY KIDNAPER TEACHER HAS TO TAKE LITTLE WHITE PILLS JUST BECAUSE OF ME!"

ine fear of a Nationalist invasion.

But some sources also believe the moves might be partially designed to distract a disgruntled population.

When the Red Chinese air force shot down an American-made, Nationalist-owned U2 plane over East China early in September, the Communist authorities appeared to be trying to use the incident to whip up a new large-scale anti-American campaign.

If they were, they failed, according to their own accounts of the rallies broadcast over Peiping Radio and monitored in Tokyo.

The Communist authorities used the U2 incident to reaffirm their intention to "liberate" Taiwan, by force, is necessary.

Few people expect the Communists to try to make good on their threats as long as the United States Seventh Fleet is protecting the Nationalist-held island.

The attitude may change

when the Red Chinese acquire nuclear weapons.

The best available sources here believe that the nuclear breakthrough for the Chinese

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will come within the next year.

Remarks by Foreign Minister Chen Yi to Japanese journalists in mid-September have caused some to predict that the Chinese might explode a crude nuclear bomb soon.

Until she becomes a nuclear power, Red China appears in-

tent on pushing her aims through Mao's favorite tactic — guerrilla warfare.

The chances of the Peiping regime being admitted to the United Nations this year are slim.

When he disclosed China's large-scale nuclear weapons research in mid-September,

Chen Yi repeated some old remarks in this.

Communist China, he said, will never consent to becoming a member of the United Nations until the Nationalist Chinese are kicked out.

China is prepared to wait, he said, as have others before him.

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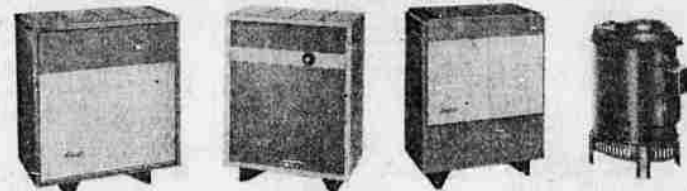
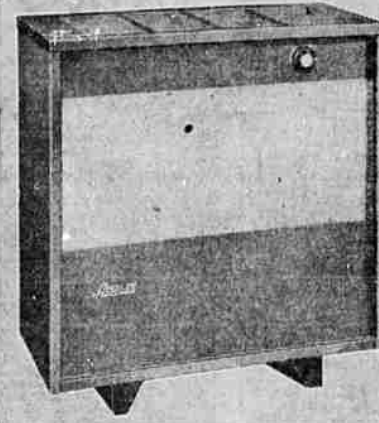
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