

# Chinese Retain Connection With Motherland Always

By ARTHUR J. DOMMEN  
United Press International  
Hong Kong—An ancient Chinese proverb says "It is easy to govern a kingdom, but difficult to rule one's family."

The people of China resemble the children of one immense family. They remain intimately connected with their motherland all their lives, no matter in what far-off land they may be residing.

Chinese are travelers and traders. They have spread over the entire globe. Many are wealthy and important leaders in the business and governmental circles of other nations.

**All Look Back**  
But they all look back wistfully toward the sprawling China they call home—the most populous nation in the history of the world which lies across the heartland of Asia.

From the noisy seaports and the flat deltas of its silt-laden rivers, to the narrow gorges of Shensi and the lofty plateaus of Tibet, China stretches across Asia as the United States stretches across North America.

China's four million square miles correspond roughly to the size of the continental United States, and both nations are situated in the same general latitudes and have the same types of weather.

**Many Similarities**  
Both contain within their borders tropical areas of heavy rainfall and swamps, as well as snow-capped peaks. The Chinese cities of Peking, Tsingtao and Canton correspond roughly to the American cities of Washington, Richmond and Miami by their location on the east coast.

North China is a land of semi-arid plains where agriculture is precarious. It has mud-walled houses with heated brick beds called "kangs."

It has dust-blown winter landscapes and cities with broad tree-lined avenues.

**Agencies Agree to Fish Net Removal**

Portland—(UPI)—Representatives of federal and state fish and game agencies Wednesday agreed to the immediate removal of Idaho Power company's fish net at Brownlee dam on the Snake river.

The agreement, subject to approval by the Federal Power commission, hinges on the company's finding "satisfactory alternate means" for maintaining and restoring the fishery resource on the Snake.

The net had been installed to prevent small fish moving downstream from being killed in the Brownlee dam turbines. However, it had not operated satisfactorily.

Currently fish collection barges at the net are providing temporary passage of downstream migrants. The agreement stipulates the power company will continue to operate the barges until satisfactory permanent facilities can be provided.

South China, on the other hand, is a land of intensive cultivation, abundant rice terraces, canals and flooded rice fields. In the South there are thatched-roof houses with woven bamboo walls, perennially green landscapes, and crowded cities with narrow streets and large "floating" populations of campan dwellers.

**People Dominate**  
It is not crops and dikes and mud walls which are the principal features of China—but its people.

China has through the centuries had more people than it knew how to feed, clothe and house. The history of the Chinese people is one of recurrent famines and misery.

The present leader of Communist-dominated China, Mao Tse-tung, has admitted that there is in China less than one-sixth of an acre of cultivated land for every person.

The total population of China is now estimated to be more than 700 million. It adds an extra 15 million every year.

**Send Money Home**  
Overseas Chinese have traditionally regarded it a point of honor to remit back to their native village a portion of their earnings abroad. This solicitude for the well-being of one's family is like the sanctity of ancestral places, which are preserved even under the Red regime of the people's communes in the valley farmlands of the Yellow River.

It cuts across lines of political demarcation. After all, the Chinese have a civilized history going back more than 30 centuries, and the present regime has been in power only 13 years.

Through the years of the Middle Ages in Europe, and then through the Renaissance and Reformation periods, in far-off China one imperial dynasty always began its rule with strength and hope, and ended it perhaps a century later in apathy and the rigor mortis induced by the rigidity of a noble but inefficient system of government.

**Opium War**  
The low point in China's fortunes in the 19th century came with the humiliation of utter defeat by the British in the so-called "Opium War" and the terms imposed by the treaty of Nanking in 1842, which included the cession of Hong Kong Island.

From that point on, there followed a succession of "unequal treaties" which saw the European powers—and very nearly the United States—involved in attempts to carve out enclaves of territory at the emperor's expense.

**Many Dialects**  
Within the Chinese-speaking population, there is an almost infinite variety of dialects. A Mandarin-speaker from Peking has difficulty in understanding the talk of a Cantonese-speaker from Kwangtung.

For the Chinese, writing is the great unifier so far as language goes. Whereas pronunciations vary all over the country, the written language, consisting of complicated

characters painted with a brush that evolved gradually from rough sketches, is the same in all sections.

Learning these characters by heart is a monumental feat of memory work. To read even a newspaper, the Chinese must know at least 6,000 characters.

**Industrious People**  
Perhaps because they have to fight for a living almost from the day they are born, the Chinese are among the most industrious people in Asia. Whether they are selling their privately owned eggs and chickens on the Communist-tolerated so-called "free

market" in Shanghai, or whether they are turning out plastic flowers for export to the U.S. in little workshops in Hong Kong, the Chinese are ingenious, industrious and indefatigable.

When they are not working their favorite game is one which keeps them absorbed for long hours, sitting around garishly lighted tables shuffling plastic domino-like

blocks. The game is Mahjong, and it is almost a national pastime with the Cantonese. Even the Communists have not been able to suppress it. The noise of counters being slapped down on the hard surface of tables rings out through open windows into city streets.

**Like To Eat**  
But what the Chinese like to do best is to eat. Chinese

cuisine with its soups, its delicacies of duck and pork, its fragrant herbs, and its noodles and rice, is certainly the most varied, if not in everyone's book the tastiest, in the world.

The Communist regime in Peking, installed after a bloody civil war which had begun 22 years earlier, is trying to build a new China.

In its propaganda, the regime claims to be cleaning up city streets, and eliminating flies, rats and sparrows. It says it is taking city dwellers out of age-old slums and putting them in modern apartment houses, ridding the vil-

lages of superstition, providing health and education facilities where none have ever existed before, and providing factory jobs for the unemployed.

**Herculean Task**  
But in China, with its 550 million peasants and 100 million city dwellers, each new factory and each new hospital is a tiny drop in the bucket.

For any government to change China into abundance where hunger is no longer the central problem is a Herculean task.

Also, the Chinese civil war is not yet over. For both the regime in Peking and Chiang

Kai-shek's government-in-exile across the Taiwan Strait, the war continues. For both, there is only one China, and each believes that one day the civil war will be concluded with its own proper victory.

But like the Yellow River which courses slowly toward the sea and has seen regimes come and go with tragedy and

joy for thousands of years, China changes and yet is unchanging.

SECTION B PAGES 1 to 10  
**MEDFORD TRIBUNE**  
MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1963

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While 200 Last!

**1<sup>99</sup> and 2<sup>99</sup>**  
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**2 for 88¢**

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Concealed Hood!  
Sizes 8 to 20

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