

# Red China Gains Strength From Great Population

**Red China Menace Or Paper Dragon?**  
By ARTHUR J. DOMMEN  
United Press International  
Communist China exploded its first nuclear device last October. As observers in the West had predicted, the Peking regime proceeded to make the most of its scientific feat by trumpeting to the world its membership in the atomic club. At the same time, Peking failed to achieve its often-proclaimed goal of "liberating" Taiwan, 100 miles off the China coast. Its reluctance to back up verbal pledges of support with anything more than some funds, advisers and arms to harassed rebels in certain Asian and African countries suggest a foreign policy of caution rather than recklessness.

Peking appears to have understood realistically the severe limitations on its policy that are imposed by China's economic weakness and the constant need to maintain its forces in readiness in case of attack against its own shores. Yet this huge country of 700 million persons, which without doubt aspires to the predominant voice in Asia, weighs heavily on the thoughts of leaders around its rim from Japan to Afghanistan.

How is it that Communist China can exercise such leverage on its neighbors and yet be so weak by western standards of 20th century technology and development? Is Red China really a menace, or is it a paper dragon?

**Largest Army**  
First, what are Red China's sources of strength? Then what are its sources of weakness? Red China's greatest strength without a doubt, is its vast population, a resource that allows it to maintain the largest standing army in the world—2.5 million men—and in addition a militia that covers every village in a country larger than the United States.

But the reality of the military balance of power is not quite so favorable to the Chinese. This fact is being brought out by such modern military practices as the conduct of reconnaissance flights over the territory of a country not equipped with the advanced electronic detection and guidance systems needed to prevent overflights.

For instance, the U.S. Air Force has been conducting such flights over the China mainland for years with planes like the high-altitude U-2, sometimes manned with Chinese Nationalists as pilots. "Spy-In-The-Sky" satellites will make this even more commonplace in the future.

China also complains about intrusions into its territorial waters without being able to take effective action to stop armed vessels from violating its self-proclaimed 12-mile limit.

**Air Strike**  
Today's advanced aircraft make it possible to imagine a lightning pinpoint air strike against the plant or plants manufacturing materials for China's nuclear development program.

Some military men think that such a strike, carried out without publicity and having the effect of seriously setting back China's nuclear program, would lead the Peking leaders to adopt a less belligerent propaganda line and would show the timorous leaders of Southeast Asia that Communist China is not such a fire-breathing monster after all.

Peking has been careful not to over-extend its capabilities in any way that would open it to receiving a bloody nose. It has on various occasions threatened to send its ground forces into Laos or Cambodia to "defend" these weak countries against foreign "imperialists." American military sources believe that China has at least 10 divisions of troops within one day's motor march of Southeast Asia. But Peking probably has kept these troops in Southern Yunnan Province rather than sending them across China's borders. Their psychological effect is greater than their military capability in an age of nuclear weapons.

An important factor in China's caution may be the serious effect on China's arms arsenal, especially its air force, by the reduction of Soviet supplies as a result of the Sino-Soviet dispute after 1960.

In the no instance where Peking did send ground troops into a neighboring country—the Indian border invasion of October and November, 1962—air cover was not required. Furthermore, Peking acted only after it had made careful logis-



**SEA OF RED MILITIA** — A lone Communist China militia woman (circle) was spotted in this sea of militia men as the group paraded past Tiananmen Gate while the Red Chinese were celebrating a holiday in Peking.

— UPI Telephone

power grows out of the barrel of a gun. Mao's dictum applies to international politics as well as to internal revolutions. But the secret of success, in Mao's book, is never to place oneself in the position of having to use the gun.

By threatening belligerent actions, the Chinese achieve yet another goal besides inspiring respect in their neighbors. They entangle the United States, described by Peking as the arch-enemy, in all sorts of defensive alliances. They then proceed to stir up trouble, by cultivating neutralist sentiments and by forcing the United States to show its hand and live up to its commitments.

Communist China sometimes appears as a menacing dragon.

## Perfect Prizeword Puzzle Answers Still Lacking Despite \$975 Prize

Despite the huge prize which has mounted to \$975, there is still no winner in the Prizeword Puzzle Contest, sponsored locally by Medo-Bel Products and Waggoner Drug Company. The contestant closest to the perfect answer necessary to win was still five words off last week, according to the judge's report.

**LURID** C  
U S C O R E  
C O S T H A  
K L T E R S E  
M A Y A A S  
L O V E P L G  
I T E L A A U  
M L O S S E S  
P A Y W A T C H

more than in a mood to make mild, Cross remarks.

4. It's apt to be a shock when a person we've long respected proves to be CHEAP (Cheap). Cheat understates, CHEAP doesn't go so far and fits better with the restraint of the clue.

6. The woman who can make a man SLAVE for her usually has him well hooked! (Shave). The sentence completed by Shave is far from true. SLAVE is more in tune with the spirit of the clue.

8. We're apt to feel remorse when we've persuaded someone to TELL something he didn't want to (Sell). Remorse is more likely with TELL; he told us against his will. In respect to sell, he at least received something of value in exchange for our purchase.

9. We tend to be irritated by a jest that ridicules a friend's LIMP (Lisp). Because his Lisp is more likely to be a permanent defect, tend doesn't go far enough. His LIMP may be temporary.

10. LAST speaker in a debate often has a big advantage (Fast). Fast is less true; much depends on what he has to say LUCK (Luck) is better than on what he says if he says it. LAST is to the point. He has the last word.

11. A boy at the beach is apt to try when water begins to GUSH into his sand castle (Rush). Rush implies a considerable flow or force of water, and apt scarcely goes far enough. GUSH doesn't carry such an implication. It might GUSH but briefly.

**ACROSS:**  
1. A LURID style of writing appeals to many people (Lucid). A Lucid, clear, style appeals to most people. LURID, sensational writing doesn't by any means have such an appeal.  
2. It's often very difficult to SCORE off a person who is full of self-confidence (Scare). Scare is open to question; much depends on how you scare him! SCORE is better; it goes against the grain for him to be bested by anyone.  
3. The question of COST is often a big problem to a teacher putting on a school play (Cast). The question of Cast is at least usually a big problem for the teacher. The COST of the production is unlikely to worry so much; students usually help with scenery, costumes, and so on.  
4. It's often very difficult to keep up a conversation with a person who is TERSE (Tense). TERSE makes a reasonable statement. He says very little. Tense is debatable; his very Tenseness might make him talkative.  
5. As a rule, it's easier for women than for men to LOVE unselfishly (Live). LOVE is better here; women can be very self-sacrificing in this respect, particularly where children are concerned. With Live, the difference between men and women isn't nearly so marked.  
6. Irresponsible young men often treat LOSSES far too lightly (Lasses). Often exaggerates with Lasses; even irresponsible young fellows can a

fall in love! LOSSES fits better with irresponsible.  
13. As a rule, the more curious people are the more likely they are to PAY (Pry). As a rule understates with Pry. Explorations are more likely with PAY, in the sense of to suffer for their curiosity.  
14. To WATCH jungle animals might well be called dangerous (Catch). No qualification is needed if you use Catch as the key word. The phrase might well be fit better with WATCH; you could watch from a safe distance — or at the zoo, for that matter.  
**DOWN:**  
1. Probably few of us realize how dependent we are on LOCK (Lock) for our lives. When we use a Lock, we know that safety depends on the Lock. LOCK is more apt; many things happen — or fail to happen — by chance.  
2. As a rule, we're more likely to make a CHASE or force of water when we're very irritated (Cross). Stupid, unrefined remarks are in character. We're

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