

# Red China's Food Shortage Seen Of Major Proportions

By RICHARD P. POWERS  
WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States agriculture department is facing a food shortage of major proportions.

Although detailed information is scarce, the department said it has become well established that a combination of mismanagement in the farm collectives, natural disasters and excessive exploitation of the farm sector of the economy has precipitated the crisis.

The situation in Red China was brought to world attention recently as thousands of Chinese fled from the mainland to Hong Kong before brakes were put on the exodus.

"The Communist Chinese government stands on the threshold of a crucial year," the department said.

"Another year of managerial bungling in agricultural production or widespread natural disasters, or some combination of these factors, could tax the current regime in them for of increased apathy and will to obedience, perhaps to the point of political instability."

**STATUS UNCERTAIN**

The department said it has become increasingly difficult to estimate the status of the economy of Communist China since the beginning of what the Communists call the "great leap forward" in 1958.

"Aside from specific reports of food shortages and malnutrition, the magnitude of the Chinese Communist food purchases from other nations at the expense of imports of industrial equipment indicates that the Communist regime has grown

of the patience and endurance of the Chinese people will allow development," the department said.

Official Communist Chinese statistics have been unreliable, the department said. Since 1958, the only available information has been gleaned from Red Chinese publications, refugee statements and the comments of a few foreign travellers who have been permitted to enter the country.

The United States has been keeping a close watch on the impact of Communist China's food imports on the world's grain trade, repercussions of Chinese sales of precious metals on the silver market and increased shipping rates resulting from Communist China.

**HIGH PURCHASE**

For 1961, the Chinese Communists signed purchase agreements for more than 6,000,000 tons of grain, including wheat, barley, rice, oats, corn and wheat flour. Agreements signed for shipment in 1962 now total 3,500,000 tons. Most of this grain is coming from Canada and Australia.

The pressure of food shortages on the mainland, the department said, has not kept the Communists from fulfilling commitments to ship food outside—such as to Cuba, Ceylon, Albania and East Germany.

However, the department said it is generally believed that food purchases have shrunk Chinese Communist foreign exchange reserves to the vanishing point.

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# With Famine On Mainland, Chiang Looking For Fight

By SPENCER MOOSA  
TAIPEI, Formosa (AP) —

Nearing the age of 75, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is still looking forward to a fight.

Reports of discontent and a threat of famine on the Communist-ruled China mainland

have raised the hopes of the Chinese Nationalist leader that his day for a comeback is approaching.

Chiang, who rules this island with a strong hand, has been sounding the same call since the Communists drove him and

remnants of his defeated army to refuge on Formosa in 1949.

Many foreigners have long regarded as a pipe dream any Chiang return to the mainland, but Red China's troubles, including the flight of thousands of refugees, has lent the idea at least a semblance of support.

**BOATS SUBSIDY**

Meanwhile, Communist boasts of "liberating Formosa" — across 100 miles of water—have subsided in recent months with the Communists apparently pre-

occupied with domestic problems.

Chiang has been bolstered by more than \$2,000,000,000 in American military and economic aid and Formosa is a cornerstone in the U.S. defence system in the Western Pacific.

The Chinese Nationalists have an army estimated at 600,000 men and 600 jet fighters make it one of the finest in the world. The navy has 60,000 men and several hundred landing craft.

Chiang probably could throw on more than 15,000 men into a frontal unopposed assault, however. That likely would be suicidal against overwhelming Communist forces on the mainland.

More likely would be hit-and-run commando raids or parachuting of guerrillas in an attempt to touch off an uprising before the launching of an assault by sea.

Nationalist China and the U.S. are bound by a mutual defence treaty that states: "Use of force

# Press Club's Competition Is Won By Toronto Woman

**WINNIPEG (CP)** — Dinah Kerr of Toronto won first prize in the news category of the annual competition sponsored by the Canadian Women's Press Club, it was announced here.

The prize, a medal and a cheque for \$100, was awarded Mrs. Kerr for a story on James Coyne, former president of the Bank of Canada, published in the Toronto Star.

Honorable mentions were given to Phyllis Griffith and Helen Allen, both of the Toronto Telegram, in the news category. The awards were announced during the triennial meeting of the press club.

Other awards included:

**Feature category** — Michelle Lasnier, Montreal, first prize for an article in the Montreal Chateleine-La Revue Moderne; honorable mentions to Jeannine Locke, Toronto, for an article in The Star Weekly magazine and Marjorie McEnaney, Toronto, for a CBC script.

**Column category** — Caroline Gunnarson, Winnipeg, first prize for a column in The Free Press Weekly Prairie Farmer; honorable mentions to Celine Legare-Michaud of Montreal's French-language newspaper La Presse and Ida Gallani-Delaney of The Maritime Co-operator, Antigonish, N.S.

**Photo-story category** — Adelaide Litch, Orangeville, Ont., first prize for an article in the Canadian Geographical Jour-

nal; honorable mentions to Kay McCall, London, Ont., for an article in Weekend Magazine and Marjorie Wild for a story in the Hamilton Spectator.

Articles on a Canadian topic category — Joan Morris of Brantford, Ont., first prize for a story in The Star Weekly magazine; honorable mentions to Solange Halvin, Montreal, for a story in Chateleine — La Revue Moderne and Mollie Gien, Toronto, for an article in Chateleine.

**Mrs. G. Watts New President**

Mrs. Gordon Watts was elected president for the coming year at the annual meeting of the Grand Trunk Home and School Association, held recently.

Other officers elected were Mrs. James McNabb, vice-president and Sister John of the Cross, secretary-treasurer, re-elected.

The association decided to sponsor the annual picnic for the pupils at the school closing. Delegates appointed to attend the annual meeting of the P.E.I. Island Federation of Home and School Associations at St. Boniface High school were Mrs. Watts, Mrs. McNabb, Mrs. Eric Klippen, Mrs. Alfred Morrison and Mrs. Hubert Morrison.

Mrs. Lloyd Ford, retiring president and her family are leaving the district soon to reside in Kootenay, B.C.

# Five Pupils Get Awards

A total of five pupils were presented with awards at the recent Home and School meeting in Tracadie Cross.

Leo MacDonald, grade 12 received a \$200 Canada Savings bond for coming first in an essay contest titled "Canada's Centennial 1967".

Educational awards were presented to Marie Knoekwood, senior arts, George Mitchell, intermediate arts, Mary Irene Corrigan, junior arts and Anne Mullen, intermediate writing.

Rev. K.C. MacMillan opened the meeting with a prayer and gave a talk to the members.

Members elected to attend the annual meeting of the P. E. I. Federation of the Home and School Association were Mrs. A.J. MacDonald, Mrs. Basil MacDonald, Mrs. James Hughes and Mrs. Leo Land.

Plans were made to take the pre-school children to the dental clinic at St. Stewart.

A committee was named to meet with Dr. Fournier to arrange for the TB X-ray survey.

# Manufacturers Name President

**MONTREAL (CP)** — Carl A. Pollock, of Kitchener, Ont., has been elected president of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

Mr. Pollock is president of Dominion Electrohome Industries Ltd. He succeeds F. D. Mathers, president of Royal City Foods Ltd., New Westminster, B.C.

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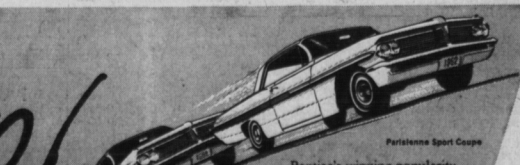


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