

A TV INTERVIEW

With Chiang Kai-shek

Excerpts from an Interview With President Chiang Kai-shek by James Robinson of NBC

Q. President Chiang, is a military takeover of Communist China possible without a world war—or without direct United States support?

A. To answer your question, I must first point out the nature of the military takeover. We have never conceived the struggle with the Communists in the form of a war whereby the armed forces of one country are pitted against the armed forces of another country each backed by its own people. The people on the China mainland are no enemy. They are our own people, and we know definitely that they are opposed to the Communists.

It is our aim to overthrow the Communist regime because they oppress the people, and it is our aim to liberate our people from slavery. Therefore, this is a revolutionary struggle, and we shall use 30 percent military strength and 70 per-

cent political strength to attain our objective. In other words, the strength of our struggle will lie in the strength and desire of the people to be free from Communist persecution. We shall utilize our all to help them to attain their aim, and there is no need for a world war or for America to directly participate. All we hope for is moral encouragement from the free world.

I may add that I have never even thought of America's direct participation in our recovery of the mainland. I hope that our American friends will realize that.

Q. Mr. President, your government has been on this island for nine long years. Doesn't this isolation give the Communist Chinese the essential advantage of time—time to impose controls—time to sway people's minds—time to achieve international approval?

A. Time in this respect is a two-edged sword. It is true that the longer the Communists are in control on the mainland the more they are able to brainwash the people and to put every sort of restriction on their freedom of thought and action. At the same time, we must realize that the longer the Communists are on the mainland the more our people hate them because they are so persecuted and oppressed. The contrast between the progress we have made in Taiwan on the one hand and the sufferings of the workers, farmers and intellectuals on the mainland on the other, will become all the more glaring. It is precisely for this reason that the Chinese Communists are bent upon an early invasion of Taiwan in order to complete their conquest of China. However, so long as this government continues to exist in Taiwan and to make progress in freedom, the people on the mainland will oppose the Communist regime and cherish the hope of liberation.

On the other hand, to the free world as a whole, time is working against it. For this reason Soviet Russia will use all sorts of stratagems to prolong the cold war. We know that the Communist policy of world conquest will always remain unchanged. The Communists envisage a world where peace is a continuation of war, where peace offensives and infiltration are employed to achieve their ultimate ob-

jective of conquest without bloodshed. Lenin used to say that war should not be Russia's strategic weapon and that the chief method of conquest should be to force the enemy to surrender by peaceful means and without involving Russia in direct warfare. Today Soviet Russia holds the initiative by her effective use of various forms of peaceful offensives. I feel that we must begin to wrest the initiative from Soviet Russia. We cannot afford to lose more time.

Q. Again I'd like to get back to conditions on the mainland, Mr. President. What do your intelligence reports tell you?

A. There is no question that the Communists are stepping up their military capabilities and strengthening their military installations in anticipation of attacking Taiwan.

In 1956, I had, in fact, in several of my public statements, said that the intellectuals on the mainland were disillusioned and ready for a change. But the world did not believe me. Then in May of last year, if you remember, the Communist regime told the intellectuals and the people that they were free to criticize the regime. The results were so alarming that the Communists had to call off their promise of allowing freedom of speech, and we have what is called the "rectification movement" and all the persecutions and oppression that follow thereafter.

Q. Is it possible for a Hungarian type revolt today?

A. The Hungarian type of revolt is not only possible in the future. That type of revolt has been happening unceasingly for the past two years in Sinkiang, Tibet, Chinghai and on the borders of Yunnan and Szechuan. In scope, some of them have been even larger and more comprehensive than the Hungarian revolt, the reason being that not only are the intellectuals dissatisfied within the Communist regime, but also the farmers and the industrial workers.

Q. Mr. President, do you have a message for the American people?

A. Yes, I would like to give a message. First of all I would like to thank the American people and the American government for the help they have given us both in military aid and in our economic reconstruction. I would also like to express our appreciation to our many overseas compatriots who have given so freely of their substance and their hearts to our people here.

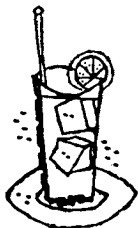
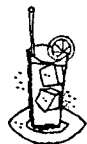
But I would also like to tell the American people about the danger of the nuclear war. Most people in the United States seem to expect the approach of a nuclear stalemate. Their belief is predicated on the

premise that both the United States and Soviet Russia, being fearful of the annihilating power of the nuclear weapon, would not dare or want to initiate an all-out war so costly to humanity. It follows, therefore, that there is no likelihood of an all-out war. Local wars, they think, may occur. This way of thinking is fraught with danger because Communism emphasizes the material rather than the moral.

We know for a fact that present-day Russia continues to cherish ideas of Communism particularly the teachings of Lenin. In short, it believes that Communism cannot coexist with free enterprise, and that world war is unavoidable unless the world is controlled by the Communists. As Lenin put it: so long as the Communists can control the world, it does not matter if it should involve the extermination of one-half of the human race to achieve it. We must all realize that the Americans and the Chinese people hold most dear their scale of human values. Such is not the attitude of the Russians.

The United States does not want war. But it would be a miscalculation on the part of the American or Chinese people to assume that for the same reason Soviet Russia would have scruples in starting an all-out war. We must recognize this, or we will be tragically deceived.

THE DOCTOR WITH



THE COOL IDEA

by Margaret Flynn

IN THE PARLOR of the pillared white mansion set far back among the sycamores and magnolias, two women sat fanning themselves.

"Every time I think of postponing the ice cream social tomorrow, Emily, I feel hotter," murmured Mrs. Blake to her friend.

Emily nodded over her glass of lemonade. Their church circle, deep in fund-raising plans, faced an emergency. For like all Southern communities before the Civil War, the cotton boom town of Apalachicola, Florida, depended for refrigeration on natural ice imported from New England.

Emily looked out the long window toward the bay. "Maybe the ice boat will come in during the night."

Her hostess shook her head. "The Harbor Master said 'No boat for a week'."

A handsome, slender man in his late forties entered carrying a physician's bag.

"Oh, Dr. Gorrie, we didn't hear you come in." Mrs. Blake put out her hand. "Come, have a cool drink before you see Grandmother."

Dr. Gorrie sat down. "I couldn't help overhearing you—so you're going to postpone the social?"

"Heavens, how can you make ice cream without ice?"

Dr. Gorrie took a long sip before answering. "Why don't you let me take care of it? Go right ahead with your plans."

"But everybody knows there's not a pound of ice in the whole county. The boat's never been so late."