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Spotlight on The Far East

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makes it imperative that not only the leaders of China and those who are sent here to give aid, but also the people of the world must understand what the Chinese people feel and want. The Chinese people, above all else, want peace and freedom. They want peace and freedom in the rest of the world. They want the United Nations Organization to work."

The transcription of Madame Sun's address was made in Shanghai, China, and flown to New York for this meeting.

Before introducing the speakers who "spotlighted" the Far East, Rev. Stephen H. Fritchman, editor of "The Christian Register", explained that the banner which hung behind the speaker's table appropriately read, in Chinese characters, "Freedom and Democracy."

Theodore H. White, Far Eastern correspondent of "Time" and "Life" spoke on America in China. Emphasizing that the stability of American policy and her attempt to freeze the old feudal systems in China has meant civil war and death for that country, he urged that America change her policy so that China may live. Comparing the fragile truce in China to a bomb with the fuse out but the powder still there, White urged that America must move quickly and match a Russian policy of change with still greater change and liberty. By opposing change, America is opposing Russia and not making for peace. If we do not do this, we may have peace now, but our children will not have peace.

Spotlighting Japan today, Hugh Deane, United Press correspondent in the Far East, cautioned against too great confidence in the apparent submissiveness of Japan to American rule and ideals. Japan is still being ruled by the old personnel who want to wait out the occupation and then resume their powerful control of the country. They are making verbal concessions through liberals, registering their property in other names, keeping the peasants in line with money, and still using methods of terror to keep the status quo. In warning against the coming elections in Japan, Deane stressed that there has not been sufficient time for new parties to organize and that underhanded methods are being used to control the election. He laid the hope of Japan in the organization of workers, peasants, and small businessmen. Deane admonished us not to be fooled by "liberal" talk but to see that the old Japan does not return in a liberal dress.

Quoting General Chu Teh, commander-in-chief of the Communist-commanded armies in China, "Our war is not only a war of national liberation. It is also a war against serfdom, against human slavery. Millions of Chinese peasants are serfs and slaves," Miss Agnes Smedley spotlighted China's destiny in the narrowing down to the three policies for which the Chinese Communists have fought since 1927 and for which they still struggle: "1. The liberation of China from foreign control. 2. The completion of the agrarian revolution—that is, the liquidation of feudal or semi-feudal agrarian conditions which hold the Chinese peasant in de facto serfdom and, often, in slavery. 3. The completion of the democratic revolution." Wherever possible the Chinese Communists have introduced agrarian, industrial, and educational reforms, democratic elections, and civil rights for the people. Their war record stands proudly; not one Communist went over to the Japanese. This is in strong contrast with the 450,000 Kuomintang soldiers who, led by over 70 of their generals, deserted to the Japanese after Pearl Harbor when they thought the Allied powers were going to be defeated. Pointing out that despite a "New York Her-

ald Tribune" lamentation that "the sad truth is that there are few good administrators in China today" as shown by the "inept, oppressive and scandalous" Chinese official administration of Shanghai, Formosa, and Manchuria — China does have many capable and honest men and women who could lead the country but neither Chiang Kai-shek nor his Kuomintang Government want them in any official position—nor, as far as she can see, "do the American authorities in China want such men in power because such officials could not be bribed or coerced by American finance-capitalism which regards China as its oyster." Miss Smedley told of the thousands of soldiers in the Communist armies and the civilians in the regions which they protect who have been educated and trained in self-government and who have proved themselves capable of fighting the powerful Japanese armies. She also told of several highly educated men and women, who are capable of such administrative jobs. To mention a few: General Nieh Yung-chen, General Chen Yi, Lo Fu, General Yeh Ting, Ting Ling, Mao Tze-tung, and General Chu Teh. Miss Smedley stressed that: "Unlike the Kuomintang, the Communists have not concentrated power in the hands of one, or a few men. Because Chiang Kai-shek and his party are still intriguing to retain their one-party rule, their struggle is not ended, nor can it be until the Chinese revolution is completed."

Ira Gollobin, a former sergeant in the Army, and who saw service in the Philippines, told of the debt we owe to the anti-fascists in the Philippines. If Roxas, a known Jap collaborator during the war and candidate supported by General MacArthur and U. S. High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, wins over President Osmena in the coming elections, America will lose her hold in the Philippines and in oriental diplomacy. If Roxas is elected, America will continue a policy of economic imperialism in the Philippines; the Philippines will not get her promised and earned independence on July 4th of this year. We cannot afford this.

George S. Wuchinich, a former captain in the Army and the only U. S. soldier to serve with Marshal Tito in Yugoslavia and the Nationalist troops in China, and the Eighth Route Army, operating out of Yen-an, said that he found the same aspirations and desires in Communist China as in Tito's army: Democracy and good living. This is in sharp contrast with the speculation, prostitution, etc. which he found in South China, the headquarters of the Nationalist troops in China. Wuchinich is now writing a book on the basis of his experiences with the peoples' armies of both Yugoslavia and China.

Presenting the colonial problem as the "most burning issue of our times," Congressman Hugh Delacy attacked American foreign policy in the Far East. He cited American policies in relation to Indonesia, India, the Philippines, Korea, and China, in support. Delacy named China as the place where the basic drift of American policy takes clearest shape and stated our alternatives there as: "Either we go forward with the Chinese people, which means keeping the heat on Chiang Kai-shek and his reactionary lieutenants until they carry out the recent political agreements, begin soberly to organize the beginnings of a representative government, and get down to the business of raising living standards, improving agricultural methods, and developing the human and natural resources of that great nation, or we give full military and financial aid to perpetuate the Kuomintang dictatorship, whose leading spirits are flesh and blood of the landlord system that is

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Madame Sun
AUTHOR'S NOTE: This report on SPOTLIGHT ON THE FAR EAST, a dinner honoring the people of China and the Far East, sponsored by Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy, was written before the recent resumption of hostilities between the Nationalist forces and the Chinese Communists.

By Mimi Blechman

Declaring the bonds which unite China with America much stronger because they have weathered the "violent trials of the eight-year war against fascism" and because "they have been strengthened by the common sacrifices of our peoples to assure the Four Freedoms to all peoples," at a recent address to a dinner-meeting sponsored by the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy, Madame Sun Yat Sen, widow of the founder of the Chinese Republic, appealed to the American public for friendship between the United States and the Soviet Union lest China become a pawn in the game of power politics. Pleading for unity and understanding, Madame Sun stated: "These two factors mean China will have a chance to achieve her aims; Russia and the United States their aims; the United Nations Organization its aims." In speaking of the aid of General Marshal in trying to settle China's internal crisis, Madame Sun acknowledged these far-reaching accomplishments and gave due credit, but at the same time cautioned that it must be remembered that this is only the beginning: "Up to this point, the goals have been put on paper, the general outlines have been drawn. Now the actions to complete the outlines must be forthcoming, these actions must fit on practical frames; they must involve China's economy, there must be planning for full rice bowls—for all people, not just a few." Continuing, she explained that "all of these activities must have their roots in the people of China. This

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strangling the great majority of the Chinese people." He appealed to Americans to do everything possible "to help carry through the sound objectives followed by President Roosevelt and re-enunciated by President Truman as the corner stones of American policy in China" and expressed his own hope "for a conference between China, ourselves, Russia, France, Britain, and other powers having interests in Asia. Our object should be to get all foreign troops out of China and out of every other Asiatic country — barring the necessity of occupying Japan—and to promote measures leading to democratic government and to basic economic progress." In reference to the colonial problem, Congressman Delacy said: "Within the framework of the United Nations Organizations, the world must soon adopt a common policy for the liberation and self-government of all peoples now in colonial or semi-colonial status. Until that explosive question is resolved, there will be no lasting harmony even, or perhaps I should say, especially, among the Big Five. For either we help the colonial peoples get their independence and stand politically and economically upon their own feet, or we will all pay the price in wasting depression and totally destructive atomic warfare."

Senator Charles W. Tobey, New Hampshire Republican, stressed that war is international and therefore the effort to prevent it must be international. He urged United Nations unity and support of the objectives of world organization by a sympathetic and intelligent interest in U. N. proceedings. The hopes of the peoples of the world are centered on the deliberations of the United

Nations Security Council, he declared. In reference to Russia, he said that American and Russian differences will never be as important as our common aims. Senator Tobey stated that a breach of peace in China is a threat to the peace of the world; political unity in China must be worked out by that country herself. The complexion of world peace has been changed by the atomic bomb against which there is no defense, he said, and the problem today is: How can people live together without fighting? Senator Tobey urged preventing war by removing the things that cause war and by being good neighbors.

Other speakers included Richard Watts, Jr., former "Herald Tribune" drama critic and OWI editorial chief in China, and writer on the Far East; and Albert Kahn, co-author of "Sabotage, The Plot Against the Peace," and "The Great Conspiracy."