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AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING FEBRUARY 22, 1945, NYC
----- Lin Yutang

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p. 9

Current negotiations have been going on for a year and half, and have failed, principally because the Chinese Communists are not willing to place the national interests above the party interests. All revolutions profit from war and chaos, and the Chinese Communists are profiting tremendously from the present war and chaos. You do not suppose that the Chinese Communists have setup a separate state and a separate army in the midst of a foreign war, do you?

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In any intelligent search for the causes of the conflict, we must seek the causes first. In the current discussions, there has been too much unwillingness to get at the causes, or to quote the Chinese Communists and let them speak for themselves. Having studied carefully all the writings of Mao Tseung, the Communist dictator, and Communist resolutions, declarations, official telegrams and important editorials, I think I can make my best contribution in tonight's discussion by quoting the Communist writings, at the risk of making myself spokesman for the Chinese Communist Party. Everybody is trying to speak for the Chinese Communists; nobody gives them a chance to speak for themselves.

The negotiations are six years old, still without results. During 1940, the Chinese Government's readjustment to let them control territories captured by bloody conflicts north of the Yellow River ~~did not stop their~~ expansion ^{with} ~~onwards~~ or their ^{continued} war with other Chinese. Negotiations have failed because the causes are deeper. The two primary causes are, first, the divergence of ultimate aims of the parties, and second, the Communist theory of internecine social warfare ^{a part of} as revolutionary technique.

First, the avowed aim of the Kuomintang is democracy, while the avowed aim of the Chinese Communist Party is proletarian dictatorship. In his book, "The New Democracy," Mao Tseung says, clearly and unequivocally, that the present revolution in China "is part of the new world revolution, part of the proletarian socialist world revolution." (p. 10) He clearly

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The superficial observers' idea that the Chinese Communists are not true communists, but only reformers is specifically scoffed at by ^{and other communist leaders.} Mao Tsetung ~~in his book~~. To sum up, I quote from Edgar Snow. "My personal feeling in the matter," says Snow, "is that liberals who build up hopes that the Communists in China are 'different' and 'only reformers' ...are doomed to ultimate disillusionment." (Battle for Asia, p. 290.) He says, "How all these people reconcile such interpretations with the ^(Communist International) Chinese C.P.'s loyal adherence to the Comintern I do not know." ^{of} Because/the divergence of aims, the two parties must continue to fight.

The second cause of the conflict is the Communist theory of internecine social war, which alone explains the extended and continued conflict. In October, 1939, two years after the war started, Mao Tsetung, writing in The Communist, advocated continued armed struggle in the midst of a foreign war, and gave a curious definition of guerrilla wars as internecine class warfare. "The armed struggles of the Chinese C.P. are the peasants' war under a proletarian leadership, i.e., land revolution. These struggles are collectively called guerrilla warfare....For 18 years, we have steadily learned, and rigidly clung to, the method of armed struggle. We understand that, in China, without armed struggle and apart from armed struggle, there would be no place for proletarian dictatorship....for revolutionary victory. For eighteen years, the strengthening and bolshevization (bu-er-shie-vi-ke-hua) of the Party have progressed through revolutionary wars. Without armed conflicts, without guerrilla wars, there would be no Chinese Communist Party today." (p.19)

In other words, by asking the Chinese Communists to stop armed conflicts and achieve national unity, you are asking to destroy the Chinese Communist Party. This was said in 1939. No comment is necessary.

Handwritten notes:
 Main on
 Liberation
 Communist
 Peasants
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