

Political warfare

The conclusions to the debate were offered by Gen. Teng Chieh, one of the most trusted advisers to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek from the late 1920s on, and the founder of the still-secret Society for the Realization of the Three Principles of the People, known also in China as the Society for National Revival, and known among the Japanese and the Communists as the Blue Clothes Society.

General Teng presented the struggle against the mainland regime in the framework of what he defined as "political warfare," a concept different from traditional military warfare. The problem, he argued, is that the Beijing communist ideology is to conquer the world using surprise attacks, treacherous stabs in the back, and violence and terrorism. Therefore, no negotiation with Beijing should be undertaken. Rather, the Sun Yat-sen program should be propagandized on the mainland, where Dr. Sun is still revered by hundreds of millions of persons.

General Teng argued that the Hsiung message is a lie, sent into the world by a liar (Deng Xiaoping). General Teng noted that the Communist leader has demanded the reunification of China by 1992, and that the great opportunity for subversion will be coming up in advance of the November 1989 elections to the R.O.C. Legislative Yuan, the national parliament. He predicted that Beijing will intervene in the election ferment with the goal of creating mass upheaval and destabilization. If the R.O.C. government cannot be toppled during 1989, General Teng went on, then Beijing will build up the parties in opposition to the KMT, seeking to start an internal revolution that might also provide Beijing with the excuse for an armed attack. General Teng strongly criticized the policy of the KMT, saying that forces inside the KMT are cooperating with the opposition forces and fostering their growth, giving Beijing its long-awaited opportunity to send armed forces across the sea.

He pointed to the unmistakable invasion preparations by the mainland, which constantly holds landing drills and amphibious maneuvers, and probes the Taiwan defenses with fishing boats outfitted for electronic reconnaissance.

He summed up by saying that if the KMT tried to attack the mainland, it would be at a disadvantage. But if Beijing attempts to storm Taiwan, they will be at a decided disadvantage. He pointed to the fact that Taiwan is divided into two halves, east and west, by a spinal mountain chain that has some of the highest peaks in East Asia. If Beijing were to land troops on the west coast of Taiwan, they would have a very hard time enveloping the eastern part of the island. The highlands would be very hard to capture in any case. As long as the mutual disadvantage for the attacker holds, General Teng argued, the political warfare aspect of the struggle will be the dominant one. General Teng concluded by saying that if the R.O.C. can hold out for the next three years, signs of collapse on the mainland will become evident, giving the R.O.C. a perspective for eventual victory.

Chaing Kai-shek's Adviser

A conversation with

by Webster G. Tarpley

Among those persons alive today who were closely associated with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek during the titanic struggles in China during the 1930s, the Second World War, and the aftermath of that war, a preeminent place is occupied by Gen. Teng Chieh, an elder statesman of the Nationalist Kuomintang (KMT) Party in the Republic of China on Taiwan. At the age of 84, General Teng was born in the same year as Beijing's Deng Xiaoping, and has dedicated his life to the struggle against Mao's and Deng's Chinese Communists.

Gen. Teng Chieh was born in 1904 in the mainland province of Kiangsu. During the 1920s, he was sent by Chiang Kai-shek to study first at Shanghai University, and then at the famous Whampoa Military Academy. At Whampoa, several members of the Chinese Communist old guard, including Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao, were among the fellow students whose mentality General Teng came to know well. General Teng also studied at the Meiji University in Japan. In the mid-1930s, General Teng traveled through Europe, visiting Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Greece, and Hungary.

By the early 1930s, General Teng had become one of the most trusted advisers to Chiang Kai-shek. In 1931, Chiang approved a plan for the reorganization of the KMT military and political forces that had been elaborated by General Teng. This plan was implemented by General Teng in the years through 1937. The plan brought about "a sea change in China's prospects and real strength, laying the foundation for victory in the eight-year war of resistance against the Japanese invasion that then followed."

The secret society

At the heart of General Teng's reorganization plan was the creation of a secret society called the Society for the Realization of the Three Principles of the People, also known as the Society for National Revival. The name of the grouping refers to the three principles of the people (national sovereignty, a democratic republic, and economic development) expounded by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the founder of the Republic of China in 1911. The Chinese Communists and the Japanese referred to General Teng's society as the Blue Clothes Society. Many aspects of this society remain unknown to this day.

Gen. Teng



In the view of some observers, General Teng's plan gave the KMT forces the strength they needed to resist Japanese invasion; without Teng's reorganization, they argue, the Japanese plan for a *Blitzkrieg* conquest of China in the space of three months might very well have succeeded. General Teng has been the author of a number of books over the years, but none of them were circulated publicly until about seven years ago. Up to that time, Teng's writings were used only for training KMT party, government, and military officials. Many of his disciples hold important posts in these fields in the Republic of China (R.O.C.) today. Their public circulation dates from a decision by General Teng to become a public figure in order to appeal to a broader public to fight communism and the Beijing regime. His published titles include *The Foundation of the Party and the Revolution* and *Organization and Strategy*.

General Teng is a point of reference for a sizable faction of the R.O.C. National Assembly, a body that functions as the electoral college in choosing the republic's President, and which also must approve amendments to the Constitution. The National Assembly can also try cases of impeachment. The National Assembly today is still the one elected in 1948 on the mainland, but a new election is scheduled for 1992. General Teng's starting point is a concept of warfare which he refers to as "political warfare" or "total war," and which is broader than the notions of warfare found among traditional Chinese military theorists like Hsun Tzu or Western ones like Clausewitz. This economic, political, and psychological "total warfare" is his answer to the development of the Communist war plan through the phases of Marx-Engels, Lenin, and Mao Zedong.

Beijing's strategy

In General Teng's view, the basic strategy of Beijing is to exploit conflicts between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. But while the goal of Communist Chinese strategy is to deprive Moscow of its hegemony, Beijing seeks the destruction of the United States and its elimination from the strategic contest. During the Carter era, the Communists sought to carry out the strategic encirclement of the United States, using bases in the Third World and elsewhere. In response, notes General Teng, "Carter did what the Communists wanted." The Carter administration planned the overthrow of Somoza

in Nicaragua, of the Shah of Iran, and of R.O.C. President Chiang. In Iran and Nicaragua, Carter succeeded, but in Taiwan, the KMT stayed in power and Carter was defeated, General Teng points out.

"U.S. leaders don't know what communism is, and the free world lacks any plan to fight communism," says General Teng. "If the United States system does not change, the U.S. will be eliminated by the communists. U.S. policy must change," General Teng stresses.

In his view, "Neither of the two U.S. political parties can fit into the modern world." He calls for a worldwide strategy embodied in an international anti-communist party which in his view must be egalitarian. General Teng notes that while many parties in the West call themselves democratic, they are really dominated by a principle of hierarchical ranking and must therefore be classed as pseudo-democratic.

'The U.S. was supporting the Communists'

General Teng also talks about a second plan which he presented to Chiang Kai-shek after the close of the Second World War. This was a plan to defeat the Maoists in the Chinese civil war. He describes this second plan as having been initially successful, but then the Reds became too strong.

The Nationalists should have prevailed, since they had over 5 million troops under arms. The Communists, by contrast, had only about a half-million troops and about 2 million armed civilians. The Nationalists outnumbered the Communists two to one, and the Nationalists had superior equipment.

"So how did we lose?" asks the general. He gives the responsibility for the loss of China to U.S. Gen. George Marshall, who was sent on a mission to China by President Truman in 1947. "Marshall forced us into peace talks with the Communists. Marshall forced us to retreat," says General Teng. When he found that the KMT was not enthusiastic about talks for a coalition government with the Reds, Marshall imposed an embargo of all U.S. arms shipments to the KMT. General Teng sums it up: "The Soviets were supporting the Communists, and the United States was supporting the Communists. And so, we lost."

General Teng explains this and other U.S. interventions in support of communism by saying that there are two countries in the United States. "One is the anti-communist U.S.A., which wants democracy, and which includes people like LaRouche," he explains. Then there is another faction which is "close to the communists." The anti-communist Americans often make friends with foreign nations, but those nations are then often betrayed by the pro-communist Americans. The majority of the U.S. population he sees as "neutral, with no influence." "The big question is how to get an anti-communist government in the United States."

"Man must work it out," General Teng concludes. "Leadership is everything. Important people are everything. Numbers are not important. When Dr. Sun Yat-sen started out, he had four people with him. Leadership is everything."