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The President Ford Committee

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1200 Eighteenth Street, N.W.

Suite 916

Washington, D. C. 20036

(202) 833-8920

August 11, 1975

FW


Honorable George Bush
Chief, U. S. Liaison Office
Peking
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George:

Thanks so much for your letter. It's great to hear from you and know that things are still going on in Peking. Some day I would really enjoy getting together with you and hearing about your experiences.

We have been in touch with Jim Francis. We know that he is top notch in every way and hope to use him later in the campaign. Due to expenditure limitations of the new campaign law, however, we are not putting together an extensive staff at this time. We hope to be able to use his "24-hour a day" characteristics a little later in the campaign.

Sincerely,



Bo Callaway
Chairman

BC/th

February 19, 1975

Freeman H. Cary, M.D.
The Attending Physician
Congress of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear Freeman:

Thanks ever so much for your January 14th letter. I hammered away at the chartreuse balls today, my first game since returning to China on Sunday. I was in the States for three weeks on consultation but spent a fair amount of time either in the sack at home or in Georgetown Hospital recovering from amoebiasis that I probably picked up traveling through Pakistan on my way home.

It was great seeing you here. I just wish we had been able to do more for you. Thanks again for the pellets -- most welcome.

Warmest regards.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

FREEMAN H. CARY, M.D.
F.A.C.P., F.A.C.C., F.A.C.C.P.

January 14, 1975

The Honorable George M. Bush
Chief, U.S. Liaison Office
Peking, People's Republic
of China

Dear George:

I certainly appreciated the opportunity of playing tennis with you in Peking. It was such a delightful relief after being cooped-up for so long. As soon as it is feasible, I hope to send you some chartreuse tennis balls to solve the problem of seeing them on that rust colored court.

I also wish to thank you for having me and Salpee for lunch at your residence. I am a great fan of Chinese food and your man prepared some very excellent dishes.

I have heard nothing but excellent reports about the job that you are doing and I am very pleased for our Government that you are there. I hope that by now you have had a very happy reunion with your wife and that you will have a splendid 1975.

Yours sincerely,



FREEMAN H. CARY, M.D.

FHC:wfw

May 12, 1975

Dr. Freeman H. Cary, M.D.,
The Attending Physician,
United States Congress,
Room H-166, The Capitol,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Freeman:

You are a most thoughtful guy. Your letter of April 24th arrived today. I hope we will see you here soon with some other delegation.

My health is good now, and all in all we continue to enjoy our stay in this fascinating land.

My regards to all my buddies in the Congress.

Warm best wishes,

George Bush
Chief, US Liaison Office

THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

FREEMAN H. CARY, M.D.
F.A.C.P., F.A.C.C., F.A.C.C.P.

April 24, 1975


The Honorable George M. Bush
Chief, U.S. Liaison Office
Peking, People's Republic of China

Dear George:

Many thanks again for the kindnesses shown to me personally when I was in Peking with Speaker Carl Albert's group. I regret that we were unable to have a tennis game, but maybe next time.

Sara, my wife, who is a registered nurse and I, would be happy to return again at any time there is a Congressional Recess to administer to the ills of your staff if suitable arrangements could be made. I understand Secretary and Mrs. Morton will be visiting you shortly and I am sure that they will have the incredible experience that each of us has had as your guest.

Yours sincerely,


FREEMAN H. CARY, M.D.

FHC:wfw

December 18, 1975

Mr. Elias Casado
3a Avenida
Quinta Mercedes
Altamira
Caracas

Dear Mr. Casado:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 14. I was pleased to hear of your new appointment and appreciated your thoughtful and kind remarks.

With all best wishes to you and your family for a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

George Bush

DEC 5 1975

London 14th November, 1975

Mr. George Bush
Washington D.C.

Dear Ambassador and Friend,

Your nomination as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency in the United States was given some prominence in the English Press in London, where at present I hold Office as Consul General for Venezuela. I have followed your political career with much interest and admiration since our acquaintance in Houston, where, as Consul General I resided from 1964 - 1968. I am confident that a person of your ability, personality and perception, viewing world affairs from the higher level of your new Office will not fail to observe the nationalistic restlessness of the Hispanic-American people and their eagerness to achieve a stable and democratic institution.

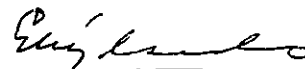
I am pleased to tell you that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Venezuela has graciously promoted me to Ambassador, although the specific country to which I shall be accredited is not yet confirmed. I understand it will be in the Caribbean area either Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Panama or Haiti. We plan to leave London 25th November on route for Caracas but will break our journey in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, to stay at our house there where our two sons are finishing their education at Rutgers University and Margarita, our daughter, is finishing her High School studies. We will be in Cherry Hill from 29th November until 5th December. - From then until the end of January we shall be in Caracas. During this time, in accordance with Venezuelan Law my nomination as Ambassador will be ratified by the Senate.

I take this opportunity to advise you that the present Venezuelan Ambassador in Washington, Dr. Miguel Angel Surelli is an old and intimate friend of mine. He is a distinguished lawyer, an outstanding and active figure in Venezuelan Politics with a deep understanding of the problems of Latin America and especially with those of the Caribbean. Ambassador Surelli has twice held ministerial posts and was a candidate for the Presidency of Venezuela in the 1969 Elections. I consider that it might be to your mutual interest if you could meet Ambassador Surelli, to whom I am writing today. He returns to Venezuela in February 1976 to resume his Law practice.

I attach, herewith, a list of addresses and relevant dates for your use if you should wish to contact me.

Alma joins me in sending our sincere good wishes both to you and your charming wife. Once again I assure you of my friendship and readiness to be of service to you at all times.

Yours sincerely,



Elias Casado

P. O. Box 2215
Alhambra, Calif.
91803

Nov. 30, 1975

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hand*

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DEC 10 1975

Hon. George H. Bush
U.S. Ambassador to
The Peoples Republic
Of China
Peking. Office

Dear Sir:

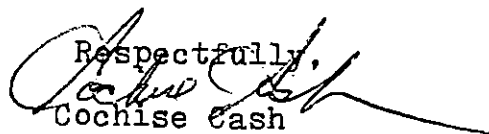
Belated congratulations on being appointed Director of the
Central Intelligence Agency.

I hope the murky water that engulfs the CIA on the Potomac
is clear when you arrive.

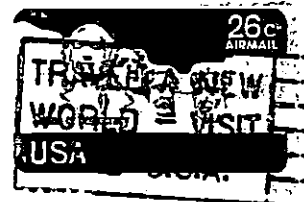
It seems that when the Party finds its self in trouble, it can
always find salvation in the cliché "Let George Do It."

We look forward to seeing your name on the Presidential Ticket
after Kansas City next year.

Mr. Ambassador, how does a Chinese Field Boss get his workers
to produce more? I often find myself asking that question, when
looking at economic development in foreign countries.

Respectfully,

Cochise Cash

P.O. Box 2215
Alhambra, Calif. 91803



U.S. Ambassador
George H. Bush
Peoples Republic
Of China U.S.L.O.
Peking, P.R. C.

美国联络处



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE
American Consulate General
Hong Kong

H M
F A S
Personnel

February 25, 1975

The Honorable George H. Bush
Chief, United States Liaison Office
Peking
People's Republic of China

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I was pleased to make your acquaintance during my short visit to Peking in October, even if only for a few brief moments during your arrival reception. As you may recall, I left Peking shortly after your arrival and proceeded to the Shanghai and Canton areas where I managed to arrange visits to several communes.

The main purpose of my trip was to observe the Chinese countryside and agricultural activities as they are actually carried out in present-day China. After twenty years of continued interest in Chinese studies, and in Chinese agriculture in particular, it was a most thrilling and rewarding experience finally to see China's impressive agriculture at first-hand.

Although I was disappointed in being able to visit only five communes, I did ask a lot of questions and took fairly comprehensive notes and eventually tied them together in a report which I completed at the end of January just prior to departing for Paris to represent the Foreign Agricultural Service at an OECD special seminar on the PRC agricultural economy.

I have now returned to Hong Kong and would like to forward a copy of my report to you with the hope that you will find time in your busy schedule of activities at least to scan the report. (I am also enclosing a second copy for routing to John Holdridge and others of your staff who may be interested.)

I very much appreciate the opportunity I had to visit China last fall and hope that I shall have the opportunity to make a "comparison trip" during a different agricultural season. Also, my wife and I would like to express our appreciation for the many courtesies extended by your staff during our visit to Peking.

Mrs. Champeau joins me in wishing you and Mrs. Bush every success
in your mission to China.

Sincerely,

Harold C. Champeau

HAROLD C. CHAMPEAU
Agricultural Officer

Enclosures

Unclassified
CLASSIFICATION

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

FROM : Hong Kong
TO : DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON
REF : 24-V
SUBJECT: Agricultural Observation Trip to the PRC: A Visit to
Five People's Communes.

Feb. 26, 1975

DATE

HK-5012

NO

CHECK ONE:

A B

In late October, 1974, the Agricultural Officer of the American Consulate General, Hong Kong, made a 3-week trip to the People's Republic of China to observe the countryside and the manner in which agricultural activities are currently carried out in China. As a result of such a visit it was anticipated that the Agricultural Officer would be able more effectively to read and interpret materials published by the Chinese government on their agricultural policies, activities, crop conditions and production results, and the utilization of agricultural commodities.

The vehicle of commune visits was selected as the most effective method of seeing fields and activities at close hand and of providing opportunities to discuss Chinese agricultural policy and practice with those actually supervising or performing the work carried out daily in China's vast and important agricultural economy. Because it was late in the season, actual crop observations were limited primarily to rice and cotton.

The results of observations made and conversations held during visits to the five communes which are located in three widely separated regions of China--Peking, Shanghai and Canton--are presented in the Enclosure. The information has been arranged by subject headings (see Table of Contents in Enclosure) in order to provide a systematic framework within which to describe the major commune activities. That approach was considered preferable to a commune-by-commune report.

Harold C. Champeau

HAROLD C. CHAMPEAU
Agricultural Officer

Enclosure

Unclassified

CLASSIFICATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Report on an Agricultural Observation Trip to the
People's Republic of China

October 16 to November 3, 1974

"A Visit to Five People's Communes"

Prepared By
Harold C. Champeau
Agricultural Officer
American Consulate General
Hong Kong

Table of Contents

Table: PRC: Basic Data for Five People's Communes.

Introduction (p. 1)

I. Communes (pp 2-6)

- A. Background Notes on Communes Visited
 - 1. "Red Star China-Korea Friendship" People's Commune (A)
 - 2. "Ma Ch'iao (Horse Bridge)" People's Commune (B)
 - 3. "July 1" People's Commune (C)
 - 4. "Hua Tung" People's Commune (D)
 - 5. "Lok Gang" People's Commune (E)
- B. Policies, Programs, Campaigns
- C. Land Use and Cropping Practices
- D. Commune-Operated Enterprises and Sideline Occupations
- E. Private Sector

II. Production Inputs (pp 7-9)

- A. Water Conservancy
- B. Mechanization
- C. Agricultural Chemicals
- D. Agricultural Research

III. Crops (pp 10-17)

- A. Grains
 - 1. Grain Production
 - 2. State Purchase, Requirements, Self-Sufficiency and Storage of Grain
- B. Industrial Crops
 - 1. Cotton
 - 2. Oilseeds
 - 3. Sugar Crops
 - 4. Other Industrial Crops
- C. Fruit
- D. Vegetables

IV. Livestock (pp 17-21)

- A. Hogs
- B. Cattle
- C. Poultry
- D. Feeds and Feeding

V. Peasant Income and Living Standards (pp 21-26)

- A. Agricultural Income
- B. Health
- C. Education

People's Republic of China
Basic Data for Five People's Communes
Visited October 23 - November 2, 1974 a/

<u>Item</u>	A	B	C	D	E.
Name of People's Commune	Red Star China-Korea Friendship	Horse Bridge	July 1	Hua Tung	Lok Gang
Location	SW of Pe- king	27 km SW of Shanghai	SW of Shanghai	N. of Can- ton (Hua Hsien)	35 km E of Canton
Date Established	1958	9/58	9/58	10/58	1958
Total Area (ha) <u>b/</u>	n.a. <u>c/</u>	5,200	n.a.	15,000	12,000
Cultivated Area (ha)	10,800	2,900	1,346	4,740	7,000
Sown Area (ha)	19,440	9,000	3,685	11,860	12,200
Multiple-Cropping Index (%) <u>d/</u>	180	310	275	250	174
Private Plots (% of Cultivated Area)	5	7	7	4	n.a.
Major Crops	Rice,wheat, corn,cotton, fruit	Rice,wheat, cotton, vegetables	Rice,wheat, cotton, vegetables	Rice, peanuts, fruit, sugar cane	Fruit, rice, sugar cane, peanuts
No. of Members	80,000	36,000	17,075	60,950	55,000
No. of Households	17,000	8,000	4,320	12,230	11,000
(Av. No. of Persons per household) <u>d/</u>	4.7	4.5	3.95	4.7	5.0
No. of Prod. Brigades	10 <u>e/</u>	20	11	20	14
(Av. No. of Prod. Teams per Brigade) <u>d/</u>	13 <u>e/</u>	10	8	16	15
(Av. No. of Households per Brigade) <u>d/</u>	1,700	400	393	611	786
No. of Production Teams	126 <u>e/</u>	197	88	319	210
(Av. No of Households) <u>d/</u>	135	41	49	38	53

a/ Visited by Harold C. Champeau, Agricultural Officer, American Consulate General, Hong Kong.

b/ ha. = hectares

c/ n.a. = not available

d/ Derived

e/ The Red Star China-Korea Friendship People's Commune recently reorganized and apparently expanded the size of its secondary and tertiary units. Thus, the former production brigades are now "administrative areas" and the former production teams are now "production brigades". The "production team", as such, has been abolished.

Introduction

In late October, 1974, I had the opportunity to visit the People's Republic of China for three weeks with the primary objective of gaining a first-hand glimpse of Chinese agricultural activities as they are actually carried out. Because of the lateness in the season, crop observations were limited primarily to paddy fields and scattered fields of cotton and, in Kwangtung Province, to sugar cane. The other major grains--wheat, corn, kaoliang, millets, and barley --and other important crops including soybeans, potatoes and peanuts had already been harvested, for the most part.

To compensate insofar as possible for the impossibility of observing those crops in the field and also to seek opportunities to ask questions on crop and livestock production and other aspects of the Chinese agricultural economy, I attempted to arrange visits to as many communes as possible. That was not easy, either; it was not until my eighth day in China that I was able to visit the first commune--a hurried, two-hour visit to a large commune outside of Peking, as part of a small group. Subsequently, I was able to arrange visits to two communes each in the Shanghai and Canton areas. I attempted to arrange visits to at least three additional communes but was unsuccessful.

This report will be limited to highlights of personal observations made and conversations held on the five communes visited. Little attempt is made to fit the information into a broader framework such as comparing with Chinese communes as a whole or to make too many generalizations based on conditions in five communes which vary so greatly in location, size (from 17 to 80 thousand members) and major activities. Although an effort was made to obtain similar or comparable information on each commune by asking the same or similar questions whenever possible, it was impossible to achieve any real uniformity "across the board". However, the resultant information related below should provide a glimpse of commune life in China today.

The material has been organized into five sections, each with subsections. Information on a particular subject gained on one or more communes will appear under the appropriate subject heading.

The five major subject headings are as follows:

- I. Communes
- II. Production Inputs
- III. Crops
- IV. Livestock
- V. Peasant Income and Living Standards.

To assist in identifying the source of certain specific pieces of information, the commune on which the material was collected will be indicated by the letter-references (A), (B), (C), (D) or (E) which refer to the summary table at the beginning of this report.

I. Communes

A. Background Notes on Communes Visited

1. "Red Star China-Korea Friendship" People's Commune (A).

Originally established in the Peking suburbs in 1958 on the base of seven advanced agricultural producer cooperatives, this is one of the communes known recently to have changed its organizational structure while maintaining three levels of operation. The commune's 80,000 members were recently reorganized into (a) "administrative areas" (roughly equivalent to large brigades) and (b) production brigades (equivalent to large production teams). Production teams--at least in name--were abolished. (This is a possible future trend, particularly in larger communes.)

2. "Ma Ch'iao (Horse Bridge)" People's Commune (B).

According to the Vice Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Committee, the commune is considered "average" in the Shanghai area and even though they have made considerable progress, there are still "shortcomings", especially when compared to more-advanced communes. (This statement was heard frequently on the different communes.)

3. "July 1" People's Commune (C).

This was the first of 199 communes eventually established in Shanghai and it is obviously a model. Sixty percent of the 9800 workers are women, reflecting the strong role of women in China's agricultural economy. According to those interviewed, there are still large differences in productive efficiency from brigade to brigade and from team to team.

4. "Hua Tung" People's Commune (D).

The primacy of the production team was stressed by the Vice Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of this Canton area commune. The teams "own" the land (not the brigades or the commune); they are the basic accounting units; and they are responsible for all production including crop and livestock production, forestry and fisheries. The contrast in current conditions with pre-liberation conditions was heavily stressed--as it was on other communes visited--with a recitation of the three major changes which have taken place since liberation: (a) Changes in the spirit and ideology of the people; (b) changes in the land; and (c) changes in production output, living standards and educational standards.

5. "Lok Gang" People's Commune (E).

Natural conditions for agricultural production on the commune were admittedly favorable, with fertile soil, generally good weather with plentiful rainfall. However, in pre-liberation days "most of the land was in the hands of cruel landlords which exploited the peasant masses" so they did not benefit much from the naturally favorable conditions, according to a member of the Revolutionary Committee.

B. Policies, Programs, Campaigns

Commune officials referred to Chairman Mao's teachings with considerable emphasis on the policy of "taking grain as the key link and ensuring an all-round development". Also heard was repeated stress on self-reliance with examples of its implementation on that particular commune. Another of Chairman Mao's policies, "irrigation is the lifeline of agriculture," was credited with the impetus behind considerable accomplishments in water conservancy (E) a/. Chairman Mao's "8-point charter", which called for increased emphasis on soil amelioration, water, fertilizer, close planting, seed, field tending, plant protection and improved farm implements, also was "resolutely carried out" in more than one of the communes, according to commune officials.

There was considerable reference to "learning from Tachai," the nation-wide rallying point for China's agricultural sector. This campaign has "increased the people's consciousness" through recognition of the "superiority of collective production," I was told. With Tachai as a model, commune members display the "spirit of struggle" and now "dare to fight heaven and earth to change nature." Officials of Hua Tung People's Commune proudly referred to an instructive visit from Ch'en Yung-Kuei (the Tachai Brigade's famous peasant leader and crusading Politburo member, (and who also was just appointed as a Vice Premier at the recently held Fourth National People's Congress.) Some 50 peasants from the commune had in fact been sent to Tachai in 1974 to study its superior ideology. As a result, Hua Tung is planning a speed-up in "learning from Tachai".

It was made clear that party apparatus at the commune and brigade level were actively engaged in political and ideological work, offering guidance both in party principles and policies in such campaigns as the one to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius and the all-out effort to learn from Tachai; as well as to provide direction to agricultural production including increased emphasis on large-scale production and implementation of the Party's general line for the national economy to achieve "greater, faster, better and more economical" results. (Surprisingly, only one mention was made of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution on the communes visited.)

a/ Refers to Commune "E" in the summary table.

C. Land Use and Cropping Practices

All communes visited grew both rice and wheat and the three northernmost also raised cotton. Multiple cropping on all of the communes was above the national average index which has been estimated as high as 165-170. The indexes ranged from a low of 174 in a fruit-growing, hilly southern commune (E) to a high of 310 in a commune in suburban Shanghai (B). In the Peking area, wheat is now transplanted at an increasing rate after the rice harvest because of growing season limitations in the north. This practice was started experimentally in 1973 on Commune A, but is expected to expand annually because resultant yields of 6,750 kilograms per hectare (kg/ha) from transplanted wheat are 30 percent higher than for wheat sown directly, too late in the year.

In the Shanghai and Canton areas, wheat or rapeseed are commonly planted in the period between the harvest of late rice and the transplanting of early rice in the following year--intensive triple-cropping which has greatly increased the total output per hectare. This is a fairly recent development in Shanghai. Formerly, winter wheat and only one rice crop were rotated. In 1964, however, a second rice crop was introduced. Now, 60 percent of the total cultivated area is triple-cropped. Vegetables are multiple-cropped, with the number of crops per year increasing southward to 6-7, or more.

An illustration of the tight rotational scheduling for triple-cropped grain in the Shanghai area (C) is as follows:

- (1) Late May/early June--harvest winter wheat
- (2) Late May/early June--transplant early rice
- (3) End of July--harvest early rice
- (4) Early Aug (c.10th)--transplant late rice
- (5) Early Nov (c.5th)--harvest late rice
- (6) Early Nov.--sow (or transplant) winter wheat

Rice is in the seedbeds for 30-40 days before transplanting. As soon as early crop seedlings are removed, late crop rice is sown in the same seedbeds which occupied a large area (530 hectares). On one brigade visited, approximately 40 percent of the rice was transplanted by machine in 1974, much more than in 1973. Machine transplanting damages the seedlings to some extent and the survival rate is lower than that for hand-transplanted rice. It also takes 2-3 days longer to ripen, but it is expected that the practice will continue.

In the Shanghai area too, transplanting of other crops is on the increase. For example, rapeseed sown October first in a peach orchard "seed bed" was to be transplanted in late November. On Commune C, cotton transplanting began only 2 years ago but 40 percent of all cotton is now transplanted. Yields are higher when the 3-to 4-week old cotton seedlings are transplanted.

Interplanting is also used to squeeze in an extra crop within the limits of the growing season. In a cotton-winter wheat rotation, cotton is interplanted in April with maturing winter wheat. In late October, the procedure is reversed, with cotton plants literally spread apart by hand as the inter-row spaces are sown to winter wheat.

With increasingly intensified pressure on limited land, it seems highly likely that multiple-cropping, transplanting and interplanting, along with any other imaginative cropping practices which may prove to be productive and economically feasible, will be applied increasingly in the Chinese countryside.

D. Commune-Operated Enterprises and Sideline Occupations.

A wide range of manufacturing and repair and agricultural processing activities are carried out at both the commune level and the production brigade level. However, it was not determined what the policies were which may have directed the operation of a certain type of industry to be operated at one level but not at the other. Nor is it easy to generalize concerning the types of enterprises which were commune-operated as contrasted to those which were operated at the brigade level--in part because certain types of activity appear to have been organized and directed at both levels in the same commune. For example, on one commune (C), the commune operated an agricultural machinery repair facility, as did each of the eleven brigades. There was no mention of enterprises operated at the production team level.

Most of the enterprises were designed to support the agricultural production effort or to process agricultural commodities which were produced on the commune or brigade. Other activities provided selected necessities of life for commune members. One official stated that communes also are expected to meet the requirements of the surrounding areas for certain products--non-agricultural products in particular. (This contributes to regional self-reliance or self-sufficiency and helps to ease the pressure on an already overburdened transportation system.)

The commitment to communal enterprise is substantial. On one commune (D), 15 factories or enterprises were operated at the commune level and an additional 45 at the brigade level. On another (C), 1,100 out of 9,800 workers were employed in workshops. Those workers are salaried and paid monthly. The workers in a foundry on another commune (D), which employed 150 workers, made their own molds and castings and reproduced lathes and other machine tools which were "carbon copies" of various pieces of "sample" equipment provided to the commune by the State. The commune-produced equipment was then installed alongside of

the more sophisticated equipment where it appeared to be operating effectively. A concrete and practical example of self-reliance!

The following represents an attempt to systematize the number and types of enterprises which are operated by the communes visited.

1. Support for Agricultural Production

- a. Manufacture of agricultural machinery; spare parts and implements,
- b. Repair of agricultural machinery.
- c. Manufacture of generators--primarily for irrigation, but also for tractors, threshing machines and oilseed crushing machines.

2. "Primary" Production

- a. Hog and poultry raising
- b. Fish farming (usually carp)
- c. Mushroom cultivation (in large, specially built structure)
- d. Apiculture

3. Agricultural Processing

- a. Grain milling (rice, wheat)
- b. Cotton ginning
- c. Oilseed crushing
- d. Milk processing (powdered and condensed milk)
- e. Sugar refining
- f. Fruit processing
- g. Starch production

4. Other Activities

- a. Brick and tile manufacture
- b. Manufacture of transformers
- c. Construction of cement boats
- d. Repair of wooden boats
- e. Coal mining
- f. Carpentry (including all furniture required on one of the communes.)

E. Private Sector

The private sector of China's agriculture is primarily the private plot sector of people's communes. On those plots, the peasant may plant what he wishes and keep whatever livestock he can sustain. On the communes visited, private plots accounted for 4 to 7 percent of the total cultivated area. In Peking (A), peasants raised grain, vegetables, hogs and poultry on their plots. In Shanghai and Canton, vegetables (for food and feed), medicinal herbs, tobacco and poultry were raised. (This was not a subject much developed in conversations with commune officials.)

II. Production Inputs

Under policies encouraging self-reliance, learning from Tachai, overcoming nature and other measures to increase agricultural production, a tremendous amount of rural capital construction has been carried out in China, particularly in the past 2-3 years. Great masses of peasants have been mobilized to work on impressive projects, especially in water conservancy, but also to improve and reclaim farmland, build roads and create conditions favorable to mechanization of agriculture. The peasant masses also have been active in accumulating and distributing organic fertilizers and in carrying out research "in the field" which is designed to increase yields of grain and other crops. The continued, intensive use of rural mass labor in these tasks most certainly has resulted in increased and more dependable production of grain in China and, to a lesser extent, other crops.

A. Water Conservancy

The term "water conservancy" includes flood control, irrigation and drainage. As areas of chronic flooding are brought under control, attention has turned increasingly to irrigation and drainage work. In irrigation, in particular, the results are impressive. In the Peking Commune A., 95 percent of the cultivated area can be irrigated in time of drought, officials claimed, and in periods of heavy rainfall they are able to drain off up to 4 inches of water from the fields in a 24-hour period. The commune has constructed more than 1,000 deep wells (with pumps) among its projects.

Both communes in the Shanghai area claimed that 90 percent of their cultivated area was irrigated and both had installed pipes underground--under roads and fields--to conserve space. One commune in Kwangtung Province (D) has made use of its mountainous northern area by building 26 mountain reservoirs which control floods, provide irrigation water and produce hydroelectric power. The peasants have built dams, canals, dikes, dual-purpose irrigation/drainage control stations and hydroelectric power stations. The latter, however, supply only half of the commune's requirements so the other half must be provided by the State--presumably the next higher level in the administrative hierarchy.

Where hydrological conditions require construction outside of a commune, it is the practice for several communes to work together on a project. For example, seven communes cooperated in building an impressive dam across a tributary of the Pearl River and a 70-kilometer long irrigation canal. Half of the investment required was from accumulated commune funds and half was provided by the State. During the construction of the dam, the one-day record for mass labor was 40,000 persons, including 17,000 from the commune visited (D). Such is the intensity of rural capital construction in China!

B. Mechanization

In China, a stated aim of mechanization is to release manpower for more labor-intensive tasks in the countryside such as transplanting and interplanting and other techniques which are uniquely Chinese. A major objective of agricultural mechanization most commonly heard--that of releasing manpower to work in industry--was not mentioned on the communes visited.

Although officials generally claimed among their shortcomings that mechanization on their particular commune was not advanced, there is little doubt that there was more mechanization on the communes visited than in the countryside in general. For example, on the largest commune visited (A), there were 115 large tractors (an average of 1 tractor per 94 hectares of cultivated land) as well as 250 "walking" tractors. In the Shanghai communes, (B) and (C), 95 and 90 percent of the cultivated area, respectively, were "tilled by machinery", but there were admitted shortcomings in mechanization. For example: Threshing, transport and storage of grain is mechanized on (B) but officials failed to mention harvesting. Experimental work has been carried out since 1970 on the uprooting and transplanting of rice seedlings by machine, but it has not yet been perfected, apparently. On the other (C), mechanization shortcomings were noted in sowing, interplanting and plant protection work. Where rice was transplanted by machine, there were complaints about damage to seedlings.

In the Canton area, one commune (D), had 29 medium- and 260 small-sized tractors which enabled them to plow 65 percent of their farmland. In the workshops of that commune, 3,090 farm machines of all kinds have been produced (probably since liberation), including rice threshers and peanut shellers and crushers. The commune also constructed 80 kilometers of highways for the use of their eight trucks and, in slack farming season, for the use of tractors with trailers for transporting agricultural produce and other goods--a common sight in China's countryside.

The national level of mechanization in China is not high. The claims of the communes visited indicate a far higher level of mechanization than the national level--whatever it may be. (An estimate has been made that 30 percent of China's agriculture is "mechanized," whatever that ambiguous term includes. Even if it is limited to a few basic operations, the figure would seem to be too high.) There was little evidence of mechanization observed during the visit, although one could not expect to see optimum or even average use of agricultural machinery in the fields at the time of the visit--late October.

C. Agricultural Chemicals

Information gained on the availability of various types of fertilizers and their application was extremely limited. An

impression formed is that considerable reliance is placed on organic fertilizers rather than on chemical fertilizers. One also gets the impression that chemical fertilizers have not been readily available in quantity in the communes visited. The observed use of plant protection chemicals was very limited although, again, the time of year was not a time of expected intensive use of such chemicals.

Commune officials stressed the role of hogs in particular--and also of cattle and other animals--in providing organic fertilizers. On one commune (B), there was increasing concentration on hog raising "to solve the fertilizer problem." The superiority of organic fertilizers for soil improvement and in grain production was stressed, although 20-30 percent of the fertilizer used on that particular commune (C) was chemical fertilizer--part provided by the State "under the plan" and part purchased from a nearby plant. Their stated experience with chemical fertilizer was that "the grain looks good and grows well, but yields are low." (The elements of a rationalization appear here, especially when it was the considered opinion of the U.S. plant scientists delegation who visited China in September, 1974, that increased applications of nitrogen would result in increased unit-yields of grain.)

There was mention of "micro-fertilizers", in use over the past 2-3 years, which are believed to be particularly useful in soil improvement when combined with manures. On Commune C, a combination of cottonseed meal and micro-fertilizers is now being used on most crops, but only as top dressing--not in preplanting. On another commune (E), a compost which also includes green manure, ammonia water and phosphate, is spread over the fields and plowed under in preparation for the early rice crop in particular. Fertilizer is then added when heading takes place and insecticides are also applied.

D. Agricultural Research

Commune officials were questioned about agricultural research policies and activities but not much information was developed. In the Shanghai area, research on one commune (C) was primarily in seed selection with the major objectives of developing (a) faster-maturing seed to use in the growing seasons now shortened by increased multiple cropping and (b) higher-yielding varieties. Work was also being carried out on fertilizer response and the use of plant protection chemicals.

Structurally, there was a commune-level research institute whose members all had long experience as peasants (C). There were also "research groups" at the brigade level whose operations were supervised by the commune's research institute. The institute normally exchanges research results and experiences with similar organizations on other communes as well as disseminating material to members within the commune.

III. Crops

A wide range of crops were grown on the communes visited, with grains dominant except in one Kwangtung commune (E), which specialized primarily in fruit production. Examples of cropping practices have already been given above (I,C) so this section on crops will attempt to illustrate further how the production of grains, industrial crops and other crops is carried out on the model communes visited. A common thread of favorable comparison with "the old days" (pre-liberation China) ran through the talks held on the communes. The comparisons made were indeed impressive and, however favorably constructed such comparisons were, there can be no doubt that tremendous progress has been made in increasing yields and production, achieving self-sufficiency at the local level and--further--delivering increasingly larger quantities of grain and other commodities to the State.

Another observation, which is apparently a continuing trend, is the northward march of double-cropped rice and the southward expansion of winter wheat, the latter primarily to serve as the third grain crop in an annual triple-cropping regime. But perhaps most striking of all as one traverses large areas of China is the rice. It seemed to be "everywhere," dominating the landscape in the north and in the south. One commune (D) plants 77 percent of its total cultivated area to rice, all of it double-cropped. (It is difficult for the traveler to avoid the subjective impression that FAO, "Washington" and everyone else who tries to piece together China's grain economy simply must be underestimating China's rice production. It appears to be that all-pervasive!)

A. Grains

1. Grain Production

"Take grain as the key link and ensure an all-round development," advocated Chairman Mao. True to that exhortation, the communes visited have indeed worked hard and produced results in their grain sectors. Yields quoted must be considered to be above average because the communes certainly were. The following examples will illustrate what can be--and has been--accomplished on above-average communes in China. In the Peking area (A), rice yields exceeded 5,200 kg/ha in 1974 for a single rice crop. That commune enjoyed eleven successive increases in grain production (but the important factor of sown area and its role in such increases was not determined).

In Shanghai area, one commune (B) had reaped twelve successive record grain harvests "through the efforts of the commune members". The stress was on "accumulated" grain yields; i.e., the total per-hectare yield of two rice crops plus one winter wheat crop. In 1973, the yield was 12,500 kg/ha, double 1957 and triple 1949 yields.

In the Shanghai area, there is a problem of distinguishing among the components of the winter grains because of local terminology which lumps the three major winter grains together as "the three 'mai's'"--(a) Hsiao mai (wheat); (b) ta mai (barley); and (c) yuan mai (naked barley). On one commune (B), the percentage-breakdown of the "winter wheat" grown in rotation between the late rice crop one year and the early rice crop the following year was: (a) wheat (50); (b) barley (30); and naked barley (20). Yields of these three "mai's" averaged 3,750 kg/ha in 1974, a commune record. According to one official, there are advantages to planting naked barley rather than wheat even though unit-yields are lower. One is that naked barley can be harvested earlier and is thus preferable to winter wheat in a tight rotation schedule. Also, naked barley is claimed to be better than winter wheat for fattening hogs.

In its rice cultivation, for what it is worth, one commune (C) used primarily "Double-Harvest No. 1" and "Worker-Peasant No. 15" varieties. (I am unable to compare these with known "western" (e.g., IRRI) varieties.) There is a commune-level seed department which collects the best seed from each production brigade for distribution to brigades and teams. Generally, however, each brigade prefers to provide its own seed because it is more adapted to its own unique soil conditions.

Also, in rice cultivation, there was an interesting contrast in claims of yields of the early rice crops compared to the late rice crops. In Shanghai, commune officials (C) stated that early rice is higher yielding than late rice, primarily because of better climatic conditions; more sunshine in particular. In the Canton area, one commune (E), claimed that the late rice crop yielded better because there were fewer insects. This despite the heavy damage typically suffered from late-summer typhoons in that part of China.

Because of typhoon damage, incidentally, there is a preference for short-stalked rice which is not only more resistant to typhoon destruction but also higher yielding. Much short-stalked rice was seen, at times side-by-side with fields of longer-stalked rice. Also observed were the after effects of typhoon damage in southern Kwangtung Province and the measures which were being taken to reduce losses. These included (a) the harvesting of lodged rice which was then laid out to dry in fields which were still extremely wet from recent rains and (b) the mobilization of large numbers of commune members armed with long "T-shaped" poles who were systematically pushing badly lodged rice back into an upright position, apparently hopeful that the rice would continue normal growth until ready for harvest.

2. State Purchase, Requirements, Self-Sufficiency and Storage of Grain.

Communes consider themselves at one stage or another between (a) grain-deficiency at the lower end of the scale, through (b) self-sufficiency and (c) "above-self-sufficiency" (at which point they are able to meet State quotas for grain deliveries) and on up to (d) the highest level, where they regularly make above-quota deliveries to the State. The large commune outside of Peking (A), expected to deliver 9,000 metric tons (m.t.) above their 1974 total grain quota of 7,000 m.t. At the time of the visit, they had already delivered 9,000 m.t. of just wheat alone, and they also expected to make rice and corn deliveries in addition.

On one Shanghai commune (B), 25 percent of the grain crop is sold to the State. The balance remains on the commune where part is distributed to members, part is stored and part is fed to livestock. Another commune (C) recently (1972) reached self-sufficiency. As late as 1970, the commune failed to meet its requirements for food, feed, seed and storage and was forced to obtain 600,000 kg from the State (an average of 35 kg per member that year). By 1973, however, grain production exceeded requirements and 1 million kg. (approximately 59 kg per person) went into storage on the commune. (If this type of progress is made on many communes in many areas, one can only be impressed.)

In Kwangtung, one commune (D) reached the stage of grain self-sufficiency very early in its development (1956), two years before its formal establishment as a commune. Prior to that year, the cooperatives annually required an average of 1.8 million kg of grain from the State. Since 1957, when it became a surplus producer, the commune has regularly made grain deliveries to the State. With a bumper harvest in 1972 (unlike most parts of China that year), the commune delivered 2.7 million kg of grain above quota; i.e., 33 percent above quota. Such is the "new spirit of love of country" as it was described by a commune official.

Among Chairman Mao's many policy directives aimed at China's agricultural sector and its peasants is the well-known call to "store grain everywhere". In Peking, a commune official noted that grain was indeed stored at all levels--at the communal level, the administrative area level (see earlier description of the structure of the Peking commune), the production brigade level and the individual household level. Outside of that statement, no information was obtained.

The only other information gleaned on this apparently delicate subject was on a Shanghai commune (C) where officials noted that grain basically is stored at the production team level but it is also stored at the commune level were it is considered to be

"state-owned" grain. It was claimed that when the new crop comes in each year, the older grain is removed from storage and sold to the State or distributed within the commune. (This practice guarantees a certain degree of turn-over, but one could hardly call it regular, periodic aeration.) (Note: Despite a determined effort to obtain "a feel" of grain storage in the Chinese countryside, it was virtually impossible to develop anything beyond the fragments above.)

B. Industrial Crops

The only industrial crops observed to any extent were cotton in the north and central regions and sugar cane in the south, along with a scattering of peanut fields outside of Canton (D). Otherwise, industrial crops either were already harvested or not readily visible on the communes visited or along the train routes traveled.

1. Cotton

One is impressed by the wide coverage of cotton cultivation in China. Fields were observed in most parts of northern and eastern China traversed by train and on the three northern communes visited. There was little or no cotton observed in the Canton area, however. One is also hard put to make any assessment of the crop's condition from a passing train or car, in particular, because the fields were generally bare in mid-October even though picking was to continue-- in the Shanghai area-- until late November/early December. It was not much easier to get a feel of the cotton crop while standing in a commune field, either.

The reason for this strange situation soon became apparent. Cotton harvesting in China appears to be a continual, selective picking process which leaves only scattered, small, immature bolls still visible in the fields. The mature cotton usually has already been picked. On one commune I commented on the bareness of the fields and was told that just yesterday a weather report of impending rain led to the mobilization of a large number of peasants who almost literally swept through the commune cotton fields with their baskets, leaving very little behind. It makes cotton crop estimating, even by experts, extremely difficult.

Cotton is planted directly, transplanted or interplanted, as mentioned earlier (I.C), apparently depending on growing season limitations and agro-techniques in use. In the Shanghai area, the growing season is long--planting in late March/early April and picking from late September on through late November/early December. Yields may vary considerably, even in the same area. For example, 1973 average yields on Commune B were 890 kg of ginned cotton lint per hectare and 1,072 kg on Commune C. (The national average that year is estimated at 430 kg/ha.)

There were differences also in the distribution of harvested cotton, all of which appeared to be ginned on the communes where produced. In Peking (A), lint was sold to the State and the seed was kept on the commune--in part for seeding the following year and in part to provide cottonseed oil, one of the major vegetable oils in China. In contrast, on Commune C, the seed is sold to the State and the lint is retained by the commune. On all communes, the peasants who were actually engaged in cotton production were permitted to retain a share of the lint for their own use. That amount varied considerably: 0.5 kg per person in Peking (A); 2.5 kg on Commune B; and 0.75 kg on Commune C. (It was learned in Shanghai, incidentally, that the cotton cloth ration coupon issued to each person is for 18.5 "chih" (approximately 6 meters) per year. There is no rationing for cloth made from man-made fibers but price is believed to be a deterrent to heavy purchasing of such cloth.)

2. Oilseeds:

Little activity in oilseed production was noted in the northern regions visited; no fields of soybeans were observed, for example, and no information on China's important soybean crop was obtained. The transplanting of rapeseed (noted in Section I.C above) produced yields of 1,530 kg/ha. As far as could be determined, peanuts were grown only on a small scale, on private plots, in Shanghai (C), but were a major crop outside of Canton. Otherwise, it was not possible to learn anything of substance about China's oilseed economy.

On one southern commune (D), peanuts were planted on 680 ha., 14 percent of the total cultivated area and the second most important crop (after rice) on the commune. The commune raised two peanut crops a year: The first planted in January and harvested in July; and the second planted in August and harvested in November. In 1974, the early crop was a bumper crop, 71 percent above the early crop of 1973. With sales to the State of 125,000 kg. of peanut oil in 1973, the outlook was even better in 1974. A peanut-crushing mill visited (D) produced 300-odd kgs. of peanut oil per 8-hour shift, with the oil hauled away in tanker-trucks. On the other Canton-area commune (E), peanuts were only planted once a year and yields in 1974 were 1,575 kg/ha. (Yield figures for Commune D were not obtained.)

3. Sugar Crops

China grows both sugar beets and sugar cane, possibly on a rough 35:65 ratio, with sugar beets in the north and northeast and cane concentrated in the south, particularly in Kwangtung Province. No sugar beets were sighted on the trip; most of China's estimated 300,000 ha., of sugar beets were to the north or west of the areas visited. In Kwangtung, with harvesting less than two months away, the cane fields look good. On one commune (D), the cane was planted

in January and on the other (E), in February. Both communes harvested in December. (Cane in some other areas is autumn-planted and autumn-harvested, according to one official when asked about cane planting regimes in south China.)

Sugar cane is processed at harvest time and immediately after, until all the harvested cane has been crushed. Communes have their own crushing facilities and do process part of the cane, but on Commune E, at least, most of the cane was delivered to the State for refining. Asked about the use of production residues, I was informed that the bagasse was used both for fertilizer and for fuel. (I also received the impression that "powdered cane" was used as feed, but that was not clarified.)

4. Other Industrial Crops

Very little tobacco was observed in any of the areas visited. On one commune (D), there were 24 ha., under tobacco with some also grown on private plots. Many peasants are inhibited from growing their own tobacco, however, because of the costs of fuel and the facilities required for curing (flue-cured tobacco). Tea was not observed at close hand; only on distant hillsides with the exception of one commune (D), on which tea seedlings were planted close together in nursery-type plots and later transplanted to the hillsides. No other significant industrial crops were observed except for a wide variety of largely unidentified medicinal herbs grown both on commune fields and on private plots. Those plants are believed to be widely grown in China as dependable, substantially profitable crops.

C. Fruit

Fruit is a highly important item in Chinese diet and considerable emphasis is placed on fruit production in China. In the Peking area, apples in particular and also grapes were grown on the commune (A) visited. There were 150 ha. under fruit trees which produced enough fruit to permit deliveries of approximately 2,000 m.t. of fruit per year to the Peking market. The orchards, shown with considerable pride, appeared well tended and produced three types of apples including "banana" apples. The orchard manager claimed that new trees bear after 5 years and average 500 kg. of apples per tree at 22 years (with a record of approximately 1,000 kg. of apples from one tree). The trees are sprayed 4-5 times a year and their worst pest is red spider, or red mite. (That was not clarified.) The productive life of the trees extends to 50 years.

Strangely enough --on looking back--the subject of fruit production was not even mentioned on either of the communes visited in the Shanghai area, and only in passing on one of the Canton area communes (D). On the other (E), however, the production of fruit appeared to be its primary function.

Lok Gang People's Commune (E) raises more than 30 varieties of fruit--practically "the whole range" of tropical and sub-tropical fruits with heavy emphasis on bananas, tangerines, pineapples, lychee and olives. Also grown are pomelos, lemons, plums, pears, mangoes, walnuts, "honey pineapples" and a number of other not so wellknown fruits. The commune had more than 4,000 ha. under fruit trees, more than one-third of its total area. Production of all fruits in 1973 totaled 10,500 m.t., more than triple the pre-liberation output of 3,000 m.t.

Policy guidelines appear simple--adapt fruit cultivation to the existing natural conditions of the area. (There was less emphasis in "overcoming nature" here.) Among measures then taken are: (1) the improvement of existing orchards by transforming slopes into terraces; (2) the enlargement of orchards through land reclamation, with the result that more than 65 ha. of orchards are added each year; and (3) the application of scientific methods of combating insects. (For example, a heating element on a tower erected at the edge of the tangerine orchard was designed to attract and kill insects.)

Tangerines--the total area under tangerine trees was not learned but trees were spaced at 1200 per ha. with average annual yields of 50 kg. per mature tree. The tangerines are picked in December and harvesting begins two years after planting. The orchards are irrigated in the dry season (winter). Bananas--grown year round. 1974 was an excellent year with total production of 6,000 m.t. Pineapples--planted in two closely spaced rows, the pineapples may be harvested two years after planting. They produce for six years before replanting is required. (The plants observed were well covered with insects, indicating a strong need for spraying.)

Olives--Lok Gang People's Commune produces olives both for domestic consumption and for export. The year 1974 was a "bumper" year for olives on the commune's 665 ha. of olive trees. The crop was so large, in fact, that a large yard was completely covered with olives drying in the sun. (The skins had already been "scored" in a grinding machine and heavily salted for preservation.)

D. Vegetables

Very little specific information was obtained on vegetable production on the communes visited but there was little difficulty in observing the vegetables which were growing everywhere--in large fields, especially in suburban areas, in private plots, and on "waste" land along dikes, paths, ditches and roadways. Vegetables are, of course, multiple-cropped "in the extreme," with the length of growing season at the various latitudes and altitudes the only apparent limitation. To override such limitations, large plastic-covered cold-frame type structures, already built or under construction, were commonly seen in the Peking area as winter weather approached. On one commune (C), the accumulated production of

vegetables averaged 75,000 kg. per hectare, nearly 5 times 1950 production. A continual flow of bicycle-drawn carts piled high with vegetables--particularly cabbage--was observed heading towards the center of Shanghai from that commune and others nearby. That traffic continued on through the night so that the vegetables would be ready for the early-morning opening of the city markets.

IV. Livestock

Little is really known about China's livestock sector, certainly less than the crop sector of the economy. Some points are clear, however: (1) the main objectives for raising particular types of livestock are in some ways quite different from those in the west; (2) estimates of livestock numbers are believed to be totally unreliable, in part because such a large share of the total animal and poultry population is raised privately by the peasants and thus not easily accessible for statistical compilation; and (3) livestock feeding practices vary greatly from the scientific, measurable, standard-component-type feeding in the U.S. Also, it is not clear on some communes whether livestock raising is a main function of production ("primary" production) or a "sideline enterprise". Both descriptions were heard. Nor is it clear at which level the responsibility for livestock raising is--at the commune- brigade- or team-level. (It probably varies from commune to commune and with the types of livestock or poultry raised.)

In short, there are many unknowns concerning this sector which makes such an important impact on the China scene as an indispensable source of fertilizer, draft power, industrial raw materials, food, income and exports; and which is also a consumer of vast quantities of feeds, some of which could quite readily be consumed directly by the population. The information gained on five commune visits is necessarily fragmentary and does not pretend to shed much light on the major questions which may be raised concerning China's livestock economy, but it does offer glimpses of what is being done, and how, on a limited sampling of model communes.

A. Hogs

Chairman Mao has ordered the peasants to raise one pig apiece as an easily remembered but highly ambitious statistical objective which is aimed more at increasing the output of manure than the production of pork. Some of the communes visited had met that goal; others had not. In Peking (A), 1973 hog numbers reached 65,000, well below the 80,000-member population of the commune. Of that number of hogs, 31,000 were sold to the State. On that particular commune, hogs were raised at the commune level and primarily for breeding rather than for slaughter. The animals were sold to subordinate levels within the commune as well as to other communes (where they were to be raised).

In the Shanghai area, a commune official (B) stressed that hog numbers were being sharply increased "to solve the fertilizer problem." They were ahead of the goal with 49,000 hogs raised in 1973, one-third more than the membership and 4 times the number in 1957. The commune had a good record in hog production--two litters a year, an average of 11 per litter and a high survival rate. At 2 months, the pigs are sold to peasants to be raised on their private plots. The peasants, in turn, may either sell the mature pigs to the State or keep them for their own use.

On the second Shanghai commune (C), hog numbers--20,000 head in 1973--also exceeded the member population--by 17 percent. That commune maintained a foundation herd of 1,500 head. Sows (bred at 90 kg) and piglets were both distributed to production brigades. The breed, "Shanghai White", also produced 2 litters a year, averaging 11-12 each. It is a meat-type hog, thin-skinned, not too fat and with meat well-liked by the population. The hogs sold to the State for slaughter in 1973 averaged 91.65 kg liveweight.

The Canton area hog numbers in one commune (D) were limited in the past by the inability of the commune to grow sufficient feed. In the past decade, however, production has increased sharply and currently exceeded the goal (peasant population) by 10 percent. On the other Canton area commune (E), which is primarily engaged in fruit production, hog raising is restricted to the peasant households which averaged 2-3 hogs each. No hogs are raised at either the commune or brigade level. The objectives for hog raising were stated as (1) meat and (2) manure.

B. Cattle

Cattle raising for milk production was noted in the north but not in the south. In Peking (A), a herd of 3200 black-and-white dairy cows, (called "Nan Chiao", lit. (Peking) southern suburb) and strongly resembling the Holstein-Friesian breed, produce approximately 11,500,000 kg of milk annually. Milking machines, connected to a network of pipes, collected the milk for eventual use in direct consumption or the production (on the commune) of butter, condensed milk and powdered milk. This is obviously an important dairy farm serving Peking. (This commune, incidentally, also had 3300 horses used primarily for short-distance transport.)

In the Shanghai area, the dairy cattle were also "black-and-whites". On one commune (B), the herd of 150 generally young (approximately 1½ years of age) milk cows were a cross between "Ho-lan" (Friesian) and Chinese native cattle. (No information on the original source of the western breed stock was obtained) Artificial insemination alone was used in breeding. Some 80 of the 150 cows were producing milk averaging 15 kg per day. Part of the milk is distributed within the commune but most goes to a Shanghai dairy.

On the other Shanghai commune (C), some 60 black-and-white cows also yielded an average of approximately 15 kg per day with an annual average yield of 4,500 kg per cow. There are reportedly four veterinarians at the commune level and 1-2 veterinarians on each brigade. (It is not clear, however, exactly what a "veterinarian" is at either level.)

In the Canton area there was no mention of dairy cattle or milk production; livestock in that area are raised primarily for draft power although one commune (D) had 5 "cattle farms" raising mainly Chinese yellow cattle for meat--in addition to 3,800 head of water buffalo used for draft power. The other commune (E), with less paddy and more dry fields under cultivation, raised both water buffalo and yellow cattle for draft purposes.

C. Poultry

Information picked up on poultry raising in China is fragmentary at best. Ducks and geese, of course, play a far more important role in the poultry sector there than, say, in the U.S. On the Peking commune (A), for example, they deliver 140,000 ducks annually to the Peking market from their three duck farms.

Poultry production is obviously a serious business on the two Shanghai communes. One commune (B), with 240,000-odd chickens, ducks and geese, raised "foundation stock" of 4-day old chicks which were distributed downward, on a contractual basis, to production brigades and teams. Individual peasants could also buy breeding stock. Observed on the commune was a flock of "Australian Blacks", large 3 month-old, white birds, about to lay. Also seen were 2-month old "Shanghai Whites" which were kept under carefully recorded observation for five months. The geese and ducks appeared in beautiful condition. Their offspring were distributed to lower levels as well.

On the other Shanghai commune (C), there were "foundation" flocks of very large Australian Blacks and smaller, brownish "Shanghai Reds." The latter are preferred for their meat but growth is slower. As a result, there is some crossing of the two breeds. The annual hatch is approximately 200,000 chicks from eggs incubated at 39°C, for 21 days. The chicks are sold to commune members for ¥0.28 apiece. Members are charged ¥0.04 per egg for private use of the commune incubator. Ducks and geese were also bred on the commune.

D. Feeds and Feeding

A good deal of "generalizing" is heard on the subject on China's livestock feeding practices. "No grain is fed", "some grain is fed", "only scraps and trash are fed", and so on. It has been my opinion that much more grain is consumed for feed than is generally thought. Because China's major livestock numbers probably approach

or exceed half a billion, and their poultry 1-2 billion, or more, the question of grain consumption--on however small a scale it may take place--becomes an extremely important factor when attempting to account for China's grain disappearance; not to mention its production.

For that reason, special emphasis was placed on questions of feeding practices, the use of grain in feeding, formula feeding, and so on. The information developed on each commune is piecemeal at best--as it has been with other attempts at systematic inquiry. But there are a few pieces of the puzzle and some indications which together point to a wider use of grain in feeds than some have thought previously--at least insofar as reflected by the very limited sample of communes visited.

In Peking (A), hogs are fed white potatoes, vegetables and mixed grains (including kaoliang, corn, barley and rice or wheat husks). The commune operates a feed mill in which those three grains and husks are mixed, ground, bagged and sold to the production brigades (which are team-level units on other communes). The formula used is: corn (60%); kaoliang (10%); barley (10%); husks (10%); and salt and miscellaneous (10%).

Feed for hogs and cattle on one Shanghai commune (B), includes: (1) ground barley (probably including naked barley); (2) sweet potatoes; (3) wheat husks; (4) rice husks; (5) vegetables; (6) melons; and (7) water hyacinths. (Water hyacinths were found to be widely used as feed by the U.S. plant scientists delegation which visited China in September 1974.) Chickens are fed rice husks and rice offals (after threshing). In addition, mature chickens--but apparently not the younger ones--are also fed barley. Dairy cattle, as opposed to just "cattle", are also fed: (1) barley flour; (2) cottonseed meal; and (3) green vegetables including sweet potatoes, cabbage and turnips--crushed by machine. In summer time, pumpkins and sweet potato vines are also fed.

Chicken feed on Commune C included the following: (1) "ch'ing tsai" (cabbage); (2) barley flour; (3) wheat flour; (4) ground corn; and (5) ground fish bones (fishmeal?). Hog feed was the same as for chickens except that no corn was included! The ratio of feed to weight gain for hogs was given as 3.5 kg of grain (non-grain feed components were not included) to 1.0 kg of "meat" (i.e. weight).

The need for close "mutual coordination" in the development of crop production with livestock production was stressed on one Canton area commune (D). That was primarily because of the feed requirements of the commune's livestock population--which, incidentally, included 67,000 hogs, 3,800 water buffalo and five farms with cattle raised for meat (mentioned earlier). Feed for the Australian Black chickens included (1) "powdered" rice husks; (2) fishmeal; and (3) greens. Sweet potatoes, sliced and dried, are used primarily for hog feed.

On the last commune visited, the fruit-growing commune outside of Canton (E), very little grain was fed to the hogs. But not much grain, comparatively speaking, was grown on the commune. Hog feed there comprised mainly corn stalks "ground up and crushed", sweet potatoes and vines, and cassava (the latter in apparently plentiful supply in that part of China). Cattle are maintained through grazing and through feeding straw, rice husks and sugar cane leaves.

There are a number of feeding practices, therefore, varying from one type of livestock to another and reflecting the types of crops produced on a particular commune. Based on the limited information of the trip, it is doubtful if much livestock or poultry feed is brought in from outside the commune under normal circumstances. The impression one gets is of self-sufficiency in feed within each commune to the maximum extent possible.

V. Peasant Income and Living Standards

A. Agricultural Income

The principles governing the payment of agricultural "wages" or distributing the agricultural income of a commune were spelled out clearly in Shanghai (C), where one official repeated the oft-heard tenet "From each according to his ability, to each according to his work." It was put more bluntly in Canton (D), where I was told that the principle of income distribution on that commune was simply "Work more, earn more; produce more, earn more." Under such guidelines it is apparent, and admitted, that the strongest, fastest agricultural workers earn more work points and hence more income.

As near as could be determined, the highly complicated system of payments operates something like the following:--at least on one commune--the "July 1" People's Commune outside of Shanghai. As the basic producing organization and accounting unit of the commune, the production team is charged with the responsibility for the distribution of agricultural income. Twice a year the teams carry out a survey and evaluation of each team member according to such criteria as:

1. Attitude of the team member towards labor.
2. Attitude towards collective property.
3. Technical level of the work performed.
4. Physical output of the worker.

After making such an evaluation, the responsible team members determine, "on a friendly basis", the total number of workpoints which each team member should receive. There is flexibility according to circumstances, however, and the hypothetical example was given of a worker who suffered from poor health but who had a "good" attitude and no doubt would have produced much more if

health permitted. A discussion of his case by team members would probably result in the award of more work points than the worker felt he deserved.

A sketch of procedures followed in computing production team income for purposes of determining the value of work points is as follows:

1. Compute total gross income
2. Deduct production costs (usually approximately 25 percent)
3. Deduct "public funds" (approximately 13 percent)
4. Deduct state tax*. (The team is assessed a tax of approximately 4 percent of the gross income, insofar as I could determine.)
5. The balance is then divided among production team members according to work points earned.

*Note: In 1958 when Commune C was established, the State set the level of taxation at 7 percent of the production which would result from achieving "normal" unit-yields. Those yields, varying from area to area, were determined by the State. Through the years, the norm has remained at the same level and has become, in effect, a tax based on a specified quantity rather than on a percentage. With continually increasing production, the margin left for disposition by the commune has also increased and, concomitantly, the share (percentage) of tax relative to total production has decreased. Thus, in the past few years, the State tax has amounted to only about 4 percent of the total production of the average production team. (The incentives to increase output and the increased benefits accruing to a production team under such a system are obvious.)

On another commune (E), the total value of agricultural production in 1973 was given as "more than ¥11 million," of which 60 percent was distributed to commune members and 40 percent used as follows:

1. Production costs (20% of total income)
2. Public reserve fund (8%)
3. Public welfare fund (6%)*
4. Agriculture taxes to the State (6%)

*Note: In contrast, only two percent of total commune income went into the "public welfare fund" on the Peking commune visited (A).

The distribution of income according to work points is part in cash (approximately 70 percent of total distributed income) and part in-kind (the balance--30 percent). In-kind payments are primarily grain and firewood. According to the figures given by one commune official, the quantities of grain distributed appear to be substantial. Each person, on the average, now receives approximately 260 kg., a

distribution which is made "according to need," it was stressed. "Formerly"--no year given--grain distribution averaged only 200 kg. per person. (It was not clear whether the grain distributed was milled or unmilled rice, wheat, or some other grain--or a combination. It certainly must depend on the types and quantities of grain grown on any individual commune. Nor was it clear if such distribution is the only access open to commune members to obtain grain, or just how they may purchase additional grain.)

The income from commune-operated industries and other enterprises accrues to the commune, and that from brigade-operated enterprises goes to the brigade, and so on. Workers in some enterprises are paid a monthly salary. (Others probably are paid under a piece-work system, although that was not verified.)

The level of income, of course, is dependent on a number of factors, but a few examples will at least give an impression of peasant income on model communes. On the Peking commune (A), the average annual income per "worker" was put at ¥400. On a Shanghai commune (C), average income per household in 1973 was ¥893. (With 3.95 persons per household that is only ¥226 per person.) A peasant family visited on the commune earned ¥2,400 in 1973, an average of ¥400 per working member. (From the appearance of the dwelling and the furnishings and from the fact that it was selected for my visit, the family was obviously of above-average means.)

The average annual income per household of 4.7 persons in 1972 on one Canton area commune (D), was given as ¥576, of which ¥456 was "collective" income and ¥120 was from private plots. That is a per capita income of only ¥122 per year! On the other Canton commune (E), average income per member in 1973 was stated at ¥330. (Unfortunately, that figure--which seems high--cannot be reconciled with the figures for total value of agricultural production and its distribution as mentioned earlier. There may be translation problems with "value" and "income", but that would not explain the disparity. It is possible that the figure ¥330 was income per household, rather than per person, but that would be too low. The figure is included here only because data obtained are so limited and because the figure may include a large amount of non-agricultural income earned on the commune.)

Although monetary income may not be high, there is the added income in-kind. Also important are consumer prices--generally low and stable. And not the least among other factors contributing to peasant "income"--at least on one commune (E)--are such fringe benefits as: (1) peasants generally have their own houses; (2) they pay no rent; (3) they pay no water fees; (4) they can freely obtain their own wood for fuel (although that would certainly vary in many regions); and (5) they can grow their own crops, livestock and poultry for their own use or for sale. As a result, savings are increasing in the countryside. On one commune (D), savings deposits totaled ¥1.4 million in 1974, 25-30 times the level when the commune was established. While a part of the disposable

income of peasant households is saved, a part is typically spent for such necessities as bicycles, radios and sewing machines--commonly mentioned acquisitions. More ambitious expenditures are also being made for new housing.

B. Health

Commune officials point with justifiable pride at the impressive advances made "since liberation", and even in very recent years, in the areas of health and education. On the first trip, of course, one is unable to contrast current conditions with those in earlier years. However, one cannot help but be impressed by the visible signs of apparent good health in all areas and by the medical facilities--not pretentious but seemingly adequate--whose services are freely available to all commune members.

Chairman Mao said that medical priorities should be focused on the countryside, according to one commune official, and it is quite apparent that much attention and effort has been placed on commune medical services. Each commune visited had one commune-operated hospital, and one commune had two. Each brigade and several of the commune-operated factories were equipped with a clinic, typically manned by 3-4 "barefoot doctors." In addition, many of the production teams were assigned one "health worker" each.

The hospitals visited had departments of internal medicine, external medicine, gynecology and obstetrics, surgery, pediatrics, dentistry and out-patient clinics, along with laboratories and x-ray facilities. One 50-bed hospital (C) had 76 staff members, of which 40 were medical staff--doctors, nurses and related staff. (On the day that hospital was visited, it happened that most of the hospital's doctors were away for the day participating in labor projects.)

As far as could be determined, both traditional and modern (western) medicine is practiced in all of the hospitals, and probably the clinics. Surgery carried out includes a number of well-known operations along with deliveries and abortions--although there is a decline in abortions with increasing use of "the pill" and other birth control devices. Patients who are seriously ill or who require complicated or more sophisticated surgery are usually "referred upwards" to the larger urban hospitals for treatment or surgery.

It is "the policy" to concentrate on the prevention of disease rather than to depend on post-facto treatment of disease or illness. Thus, there are sanitation campaigns (of which the fly-killing campaign is perhaps the best known) and the use of inoculations for disease prevention. In Kwangtung, officials on one commune (E) claimed that smallpox in their area had been wiped out through such efforts. (No dates were given.)

Outside of the hospitals, the burden of delivering medical service to the peasant masses on a day-to-day basis (and at night) falls on the now famed "barefoot doctors." Barefoot doctors appear generally to be young men and women, trained in basic medicine, who operate the brigade-level clinics and "make the rounds" regularly among the peasants--at their homes and in the fields and in the commune workshops. Their role is largely one of prevention and they use both traditional and western methods in their work. They, in turn, receive guidance and supervision from doctors of the commune hospital, some of whom travel frequently throughout the commune, as do a number of medical technicians from the commune hospital.

Because the barefoot doctor system is of such great importance to rural China and has received so much publicity, I inquired on one commune (C) as to how one becomes a barefoot doctor. I was informed that after graduation from middle school, the future barefoot doctor (who may be totally unaware at that stage that he will become just that in a few years) works for 2-3 years in the countryside. At some later date, his performance is evaluated by his fellow workers and he is chosen by them to serve as a barefoot doctor. (His own interests and inclinations, however, will be a factor in his accepting that apparent honor.) If he accepts, he is sent to a large hospital--in Shanghai, in the example given--where he will be trained for up to six months in a wide range of medical skills. He then returns to the commune and takes up his duties at a brigade-level clinic. (One barefoot doctor interviewed has been serving in that capacity since 1965.)

As a result of this comprehensive program to upgrade the health of China's rural population, there is little doubt that the State has gained much. Not the least of the benefits--but not mentioned on any of the communes--should be improved work performance by a healthier working population. The peasants themselves must be appreciative of the availability of the rural medical assistance, especially those who can remember when access to such service was not only difficult but also that the cost of medical care was sometimes prohibitive. In contrast, cost now is merely a token cost. On the five communes visited, the annual payments required to obtain complete coverage under the "coop medical system", as it is called, are as follows: (A) ¥1.00 per person, per year; (B) ¥2.00; (C) ¥1.50 (D) ¥1.50 to ¥2.00; and (E) ¥2.40. Not a very large assessment!

C. Education

There has been an upgrading of rural education under the commune structure which is also pointed to with pride by commune officials. Contrasts were made with pre-liberation conditions, in particular, when the rate of illiteracy was undoubtedly very high. In the Canton area, commune officials claimed that pre-1949 illiteracy rates were 74 percent (E) and 85% for women and 40 percent for men (D) in the areas now occupied by the communes.

From all indications, most commune children now attend school, beginning at the age of 7 and remaining in school until age 16 or 17, for an average education of 10 years. There has been continuing progress in reaching the stage where all commune children in fact do attend school (unless mentally handicapped or otherwise incapacitated). One of the Shanghai communes (C) did not achieve that goal (enrollment of all children) until 1970; and one of the Canton area communes (D) still has 95 school-age children who are not yet in schools. That commune does, however, have 11,360 children enrolled in its schools.

In addition to those attending primary and middle schools, there are many pre-school children of working mothers who attend nurseries and kindergartens operated either at the commune level or at the production brigade level. With more women than men in the work force of some communes, that places an additional burden on the commune educational system.

A visit to a commune kindergarten is to be recommended to anyone who has the opportunity as an interesting and informative experience. One cannot help but be greatly impressed with the discipline, skills (singing, dancing and reciting), general high spirits, friendliness and obvious good health of the 3-4-year old children. They are on the threshold of a life and livelihood which can only be fairly compared with conditions in the same area a generation ago--and the comparison must be favorable. In time, of course, they will make comparisons with their contemporaries living in other countries.

CHAMPION COMPANIES

POST OFFICE BOX 16213
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32216

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GEORGE CHAMPION, JR.
PRESIDENT

January 27, 1975

The Honorable George Bush
Ambassador to China
The State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear George:

What a magnificent job you did at The Alfalfa Club dinner
Saturday night.

Your speech was timely, hilarious, and certainly in the very
best of taste.

We certainly hated to see you move on from Chairman of the
Republican Party. It was a wonderful thing, indeed, to have
you there for the time you were able to serve. You are
badly missed.

With very best and warmest wishes always.

Yours sincerely,


George Champion, Jr.

GC/vb

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.

230 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

(212) 684-2300

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GEORGE CHAMPION
*Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer*

January 27, 1975

JOSEPH A. GRAZIER
Vice Chairman

Ambassador George Bush
Chief, U. S. Liaison Office
Peking, Peoples Republic of China
% Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

PAUL BUSSE
President

EDWARD H. TUCK
Secretary

R. MANNING BROWN, JR.
Treasurer

Dear George:

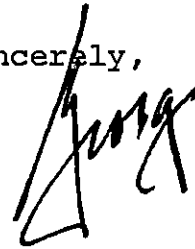
You did a perfectly wonderful job Saturday night! I am only sorry I did not have a chance to see you in the big crowd but your acceptance speech was simply superb.

Having gone through that ordeal, I know it is not an easy one. I realize how much time you must have put on this in addition to the heavy duties you are carrying on so effectively, according to all information.

Do hope you and Barbara are not finding the winter too rugged in China and that we will have the good fortune of seeing you on one of your various visits here.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,



Directors

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12A KERIN COURT
MAN WAN ROAD
WATERLOO ROAD HILL
KOWLOON, HONG KONG

March 24, 1974

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Bush,

file
and

My husband and I greatly
enjoyed the luncheon at
your home when the Maltesers
and Mellans were waiting

Bekery.

The food was superb and

the surroundings as beautiful.
We wish we could be there often.

the premier that morning.

The officer, whom we

met on the train to Hong Kong
have kindly consented to take

some handwritten notes to you.

from us.

Mrs. C. F. Chan

April 7, 1975

Mr. John Chan,
Causeway Bay,
P.O. Box 20685,
Hong Kong.

Dear Mr. Chan:

I have received your letter of April 2nd and am sorry to hear that your niece is not well. I do not, however, have any means other than mail to forward your traveler's check to your niece. I am afraid, though, that she would not be able to use it, because you have not countersigned it and therefore it does not appear to be negotiable.

May I suggest that you either mail it to her directly or that you arrange for a draft to be paid to her by the Bank of China. I understand that this can be easily done in Hong Kong.'

Sincerely,

George Bush
Chief, US Liaison Office

Enclosure:

Traveler's Check No. 653-280-936 for \$10.00

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Bush
Thru : Robert Blackburn
FROM : Jerome ~~Opden~~

DATE: April 7, 1975

SUBJECT:

As a general rule, I think it would be wise if we refused to forward money. We know that our mail is sometimes opened and even if an accompanying letter made it quite clear why the funds were being forwarded, the fact of sending money could be used to our disadvantage should someone wish to do so.

The letter you sent me is a fairly simple one to refuse since the traveler's check is not negotiable, not having been countersigned.

Attachment: draft letter

From the desk of

GEORGE BUSH

ADM - Bob Blackburn

Bob,

This one troubles me. Advice
and draft letter, please.

4-7-74

← TO OPEN SLIT HERE

Mrs. John Chan
CWB PO Box 20685
Hong Kong B.C.C.

IF THIS AEROGRAMME CONTAINS ANY ENCLOSURE
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AT THE RATE FOR AIR MAIL LETTERS

若本航空郵簡載有任何物品或附有任何附件，必須補足航空信件所需之郵資。

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BY AIR MAIL
AIR LETTER
PAR AVION
AEROGRAMME



Ambassador George Bush
American Liaison Office
Peking
China

Causeway Bay
Po Box 20685
Hong Kong
B.C.C.
April 2nd 1975.

The American Liaison Office,
Peking, China.

Attention of Mr. George Bush,
American Ambassador.

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

I am American and Republican.

Recently my little niece 陳小瑛 CHAN SU-LA
residing at 廣東省 廣州市 河南
州 咀橫巷 十七號 by

letter told letters received at Hong Kong B.C.C.
said she is sick and asked me to
buy some medicine, for which only
by a General Practitioner's prescription is
purchasable here in Hong Kong.

She is only 15 years old.

I am sending a travellers cheque for US\$10.-
to you, hoping you will be kind enough
to pass it onto this Canton address
of hers, as a mere token of my help
offered to her.

Thank you very much and permit me
to wish you best of luck.

I remain, Sir,

Sincerely yours

John Chan

Encl: Traveller cheque # 653-280-736
First National City Bank N.Y. N.Y. USA.

December 24, 1975

Dear A. G. :

Thank you for that very thoughtful letter you wrote me on December 19.

Please give my best to those two good neighbors of yours, Howard Duke and Steve Stephens. Thanks so much for your words of encouragement and support.

I hope you and your family have a great 1976.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

Mr. A. G. Chandler
Chandler Ranch, Inc.
Route No. 1, Box 62A
Bastrop, Texas 78602

GB:rs

Chandler Ranch, Inc.

Route No. 1, Box 62A

Bastrop, Texas 78602

December 19, 1975

Dear George,

May I congratulate you on your recent nomination as CIA Director. From the Wall Street Journal this morning, it appears all is going well toward the final confirmation.

You may know that we purchased some land close by to both Howard Duke and Steve Stephens a few years ago and this will be our retirement spot one of these days. I still have my old company - Petroleum & Mining Equipment - which remains very active in mainly Algiers, Egypt, the Middle East, Pakistan and India. I leave on my next trip around-the-world leaving here on January 26, 1976. I completed my annual check-up a few days ago and am still in first class health.

Had you stayed in China, I had hopes of getting there sometime in 1976, but this, at the moment, looks a bit doubtful for that period of time.

George, of course you have many friends who hope to see you in the White House one of these days. Your circle of friends and supporters around these parts continues to increase!

May I wish you and Mrs. Bush a wonderful Holiday Season and that 1976 brings continued happiness and success to you two.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



A. G. Chandler

From the desk of

AMBASSADOR GEORGE BUSH

Amb. George Bush's Statement on
Chou En-lai

Clearly he was an outstanding world leader with an unparalleled grasp of history. It took alot of vision to re-open real contact with the U.S. and surely he should be given great credit for this. My personal experience in China showed me first hand the great respect all Chinese felt for the Premier.

Jaf gave statement to:

Reuters -- 628-9212

William Ringle - Gannett Newspapers - 393-3460

CBS NEWS

A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
2020 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
(202) 296-1234

*Put in
file
ans - could
2-19*

November 29, 1974

Dear Ambassador & Mrs. Bush —

What a lovely surprise to receive your letter — I so enjoyed hearing from you. I had no idea you could pick up a VOA broadcast there, clearly, or that the VOA used CBS broadcasts. Friends overseas have told me they've heard my radio spots over the Armed Forces Network which apparently uses CBS reports. I've often wondered if they edit?!

I was happy to know that my voice helped provide a small touch of home — and am especially happy you took the time to write me about it.

It was particularly exciting to hear what you have to say about

CBS NEWS

A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
2020 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
(202) 296-1234

2
my original homeland! How fascinating
it must be — yet I can surely
understand how lonely it could
become at times.

I saw you in film clips on the
news during Secretary Kissinger's trip.
I hope you did not miss Thanksgiving
turkey too much — or did you happen
to find one for the traditional meal?

I did pass along your message
to Dick Juchs and Bob Pierpoint —
they are wondering when they might
have a chance to check out those tennis
courts.

I hope you will again find time
to drop me a note — I would love
to hear about your reactions to the
country and what Chinese words you
have mastered.

Warm regards —

Ronnie Chung

file.... personal letr. to Wm P. Clements.

JCD

Wash

March 2, 1975

Dear Bill,

It's Sunday morning. Bar and I are getting ready to make our weekly pilgrimage to what used to be the Bible Center, what today is a rather run down oasis of Christianity here in the middle of Peking. About 10-15 non Chinese attend the one hour service on Sundays at 9.30. The rest of the parish consists of 3 or 4 maximum old Chinese, one of whom plays the piano, two of whom alternate presiding. The service is all in Chinese, but it is rather special for us here to have this humble little church. Things like this count so much more. The Chinese obviously don't encourage this service, but they do permit it, and apparently the four old Chinese are permitted to worship as they see fit. This isn't why I wrote, just got carried away.

I never did write to thank you for all your consideration of me while I was sick- coming by the darn hospital, bringing the great Rita to the house, calling, asking me to the Richardson party. All of these things were most kind.

I loved our talk at the house. I have plenty of time to think out here. There is plenty to do, but I find that for the first time in my adult life I can control my own time pretty well. I have been thinking some about the future. The advice you gave me is very good indeed. I do not have elective politics completely out of my system, but I am deeply interested in foreign affairs and in the security of our country. I have been formulating more views on the latter subject that I would like to try on you sometime. My current thinking is that we be as direct, open and forceful in expressing our principles as, well, say as the Chinese are. They are polite, personally civil, etc. but they are not reluctant to express their 'principles'. Some times I think, in an effort to please or mediate, we are reluctant to express our principles. This is a vast over-



UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE

PEKING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

simplification given the responsibilities we carry, but I think we are getting more cheap shots at us these days because of an apparent drift on 'principle'. The Congress has of course complicated things here. Much work should be done there. Much education, much hand holding, and much leading. Enough of all this.

Life continues fulfilling and fascinating in every way. I am well now and Bill I am very happy here. So is Bar. It isn't forever and that is good too; but for now it is an experience indescribably unique and, though totally low profile and 'out of sight', it is exactly what I should be doing. In sum I am a happy 'Marican as LBJ would say.

I miss our visits. Love to all.

Sincerely,

October 21, 1975

Hon. William P. Clements, Jr.,
Deputy Secretary of Defense,
Pentagon,
Washington, D.C. 20301.

Dear Bill:

I was very pleased to get your handwritten letter, which Hal Sonnenfeldt gave to me.

Needless to say, I am honored, and did a lot of thinking about the contents of the letter. I can understand John Connally's feelings about Bentsen, given the record Bentsen has made, and given the campaign he ran against me, I must say I share Connally's sentiments.

As to Bentsen's vulnerability in Texas, certainly you and Rita and the Connallys would be good judges. My problem is that at this point I just don't have the burning desire to give up this kind of work and spend another year of my life campaigning across our tremendous state. I don't think being in Peking for a year has hurt me politically, but it has put me out of touch (temporarily, I hope) with the main issues.

I had a little talk with the President about my future when I saw him in Texas. You and I didn't have a chance to visit about that. All in all, I think it is best that I remain here for now, that I work hard and try to do a decent job, and that I forego the Senate race. I can't see very clearly into the future, but this doesn't worry me at all.

Life is full and fascinating. We are very happy here, and we will be happy in whatever the future brings.

Love to you and Rita. I am grateful to you both for your thoughts in this matter, and much more grateful for your friendship.

Warmest regards,

George Bush

10-17-75
12³⁰ noon

Dear George

A very hurried note in order to get on
HK's plane to China — will write in
more detail later.

Rita & I had a long (3 hr) dinner in
NY with John Connelly & Nellie
doubt which we discussed, or you'd
know we would, Texas politics.

John & Nellie are both terribly upset —
angry — or Lloyd Bentsen, they
are firmly set in their opinion that
Lloyd can be best in the Senate race
by YOU / I agree — so does Rita —
(so does Jim Baker with whom I
discussed this last night)

If you have any interest in being a
— Senator from Texas — now's the
time / John C will support you 100%
I will work for you — he'll go
all out.

Also, I know many others who would
give you strong support & be active
in your behalf — I really believe
you can win this time — up to you.

All the best, wish we could have a
good visit — regard to Bob,
thinking of you both,
your friend Bill

JAMES C. CLEVELAND
2d DIST., NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC WORKS
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
CONGRESSIONAL OPERATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 25, 1975

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2236 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BLDG.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
TEL: 225-5206

DISTRICT OFFICES:
316 FEDERAL BUILDING
55 PLEASANT STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301
TEL: 224-4187

23 TEMPLE STREET
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03060
TEL: 883-4525

File
cb
4/3
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Honorable George Bush
Liaison Officer
Peking, China

Dear George:

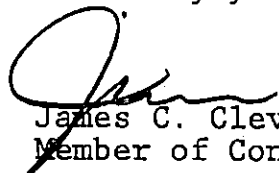
Thanks for yours of July 8 which arrived in my office on the 17th. The Percy group and the White House group have apparently been filled up, but I have asked the White House to consider Hilary and me if there is a cancellation.

In the meantime, I have signed up for a trip to Korea next fall over the Veterans Day Recess.

If you hear of any group being formed, please let me know.

Sorry you won't get back to Maine for a bit this summer. Things are really hectic in the House, or chaotic might be a better word.

Sincerely yours,


James C. Cleveland
Member of Congress

JCC:mkj

May 28, 1975

Mr. Robert G. Cleveland,
President,
Meridian House International,
1630 Crescent Place, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20009.

Dear Bob:

What a generous letter!

If your group puts anything in writing,
we at USLO would love to see it.

In the meantime, it was a great pleasure
to have you all too briefly in our house. I
just wish things had worked out so we could
have been more hospitable.

Warmest regards,

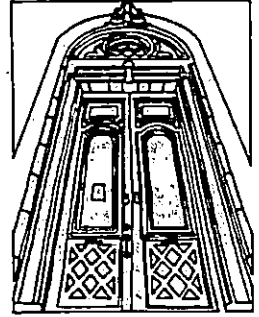
George Bush
Chief, US Liaison Office

Meridian House International

Doorway to the U.S.A.

1630 Crescent Place, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

(202) 667-6800



May 9, 1975

The Honorable
George Bush
Chief
United States Liaison Office
Peking, People's Republic of China
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Mary and I want to thank you and Mrs. Bush very much for the fantastic dinner we had together at the Chin Yang. It was not only the gastronomic high point of our trip, but we were so delighted to have the opportunity to be with you and Mrs. Bush again.

Now that we have been home a few days, we're trying to get our thoughts together about China, and figuring out what to say in 30 seconds when someone asks about our trip!

Our group as a whole were most grateful indeed for your generous gift of snake bite medicine as well as the fine reception and briefing organized by John Holdridge in your absence. I've known John for a long time, so his professional performance at the briefing was no surprise to me; but I should tell you that our entire group was enormously impressed.

Again our thanks and best wishes to you both from Mary and me.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Cleveland
President

Clifford, Warnke, Glass, McIlwain & Finney
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law
815 Connecticut Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20006

January 27, 1975

Honorable George Bush
Chief, U. S. Liaison Officer
Peoples Republic of China
Room 4318 A
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George:

Your speech Saturday night at the Alfalfa dinner was the best one I can remember. The wit and humor were original and effervescent. Your opening was inspired and got you off to a splendid start. Your delivery was thoroughly professional and allowed time for the audience to have their numerous laughs. It was a masterpiece.

My one regret was that your father could not have been present to hear it. He would have burst with pride. I will proceed on the assumption that he did hear it and was just as enthusiastic about it as I was.

I send my heartiest congratulations.

Cordially yours,



Clark M. Clifford