

for me to suggest, and I hope I have not, that this is the standard way foreigners are treated in China, even during the great cultural revolution. I will give you the example of my successor in Peking, David Oancia, who has assured us—and it has been printed in our newspaper—that during the height of the demonstrations outside the Soviet Embassy, he moved through the crowd and told anybody who questioned him that he was a Canadian, and there were smiles and the path was cleared and so forth. The incident with the French Counsellor, which I admit I brought up, I think is an isolated one. Certainly it is not typical of the way they handle foreigners. The treatment is always very correct and it is only at times of great stress, such as happened in Peking during that period, where it can break down, and that is why I feel it was a spontaneous incident. It was not decreed from above. I do not think there is a real danger that we would be subjecting Canadian nationals to humiliation or to physical danger. I certainly do not think that is the case.

Mr. MACDONALD (*Rosedale*): At a time when there is an obvious struggle for power at the top, can we assume that they would be agreeable, in essence, while an internal struggle is going on, to taking, to use their own phrase, a great leap forward in foreign relations.

Mr. TAYLOR: No. In the first place they would not regard establishment of diplomatic relations with Canada as a great leap forward because they do not regard us, as is rightly so, as being that important. As I said before, I think it is quite possible that if we did say we recognize China they would say nothing, which is all right.

Mr. MACDONALD (*Rosedale*): They might not recognize Canada.

Mr. TAYLOR: Yes, right, and I do not think they should be pressed. I think there are ways, as you know, of doing these things. We could recognize publicly and then privately inform them, through the various ways that are open to us, that if they wanted to discuss the exchange of diplomatic missions we would be delighted to do so, and leave it at that. Even if they ignored us we would have accomplished what I suggest should be our main purpose, which is taking this step that I regard as a realistic one and demonstrating to them that there is the possibility of some options to them in the foreign policy field.

Mr. MACDONALD (*Rosedale*): Thank you very much.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr. Taylor, on behalf of the Committee I would like to thank you very, very much for coming here this morning and giving us the very extensive benefits of your information and experience in China. This is an experiment for this Committee. You are the first witness that we have called from outside and I think, as a result of your appearance here, we will be calling a number more. Again, I thank you very much.

There will be a meeting of the Steering Committee in the very near future, when the chairman comes back, to discuss who the next witness will be. The Committee will be informed as to the date of the next meeting.

Mr. MACDONALD (*Rosedale*): I presume we can assume that because of the opening of Expo we will not meet, at least, next Thursday.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: We will discuss that later, Mr. Macdonald, but I would presume not.