

within the next year because of lack of seed and lack of agricultural activity at this key time?

Mr. TAYLOR: I certainly would not say that widespread famine is inevitable or even likely. I think there is a serious possibility that their food grain production this year will drop below what it was last year when it was not sufficient.

Mr. THOMPSON: In other words, do you see the course of revolution getting out of hand?

Mr. TAYLOR: I do not know. I am not in touch as much as I should be. This is almost a week by week thing, because it depends on the rain and it depends on the planting. I think they got enough order in the key months of March and into this month to get the spring crops planted. Whether they will be able to harvest them all right or not, depends again on the way things are stirred up. I would rather suspect that they will get a crop that is not a disastrous failure, but again it depends on the weather. The weather has not been good.

Mr. THOMPSON: I have just a couple of questions with regard to the control of the outer provinces and the activity in relationship with Russia, Tibet, Sinkiang and Inner Mongolia. Do you regard that as a serious threat to law and order in the country?

Mr. TAYLOR: I could see a situation arising where it might become a serious threat. I do not think it has yet but we know so very little about what is happening, especially in Sinkiang and in Tibet, that whole northern and western region of the country. Apparently the political and military men who were in control still are in control, even though they have been criticized at times and they are being very quiet so far as we know. We do not know where their allegiances or their loyalties lie or which way they are likely to go if the struggle intensifies again.

Mr. THOMPSON: I have just one or two questions with regard to foreign policy. Do you think the Chinese would accept diplomatic recognition and eventual exchange of missions without using the Republic of China or Taiwan as an issue?

Mr. TAYLOR: I think there is a very good chance because they accepted this from the French. There is the precedent and the Chinese are as keen on precedent as anybody else.

General de Gaulle, in the spring of 1964, recognized Peking. You will remember there was a flap about what would happen because he did have a mission in Taipei and we do not. Eventually, the Chinese Nationalist Government broke with de Gaulle but at no time, to the best of my knowledge, did the French government ever make a formal declaration saying that Formosa or Taiwan was part of China or that in recognizing the government in Peking it was recognizing Peking's claim to control Taiwan. I remember writing this at the time so it can be documented, I believe that a French leader—I think it was Mr. Pompidou—some months after French recognition made a speech in which he said the status of Taiwan was undecided and the Chinese said nothing.

Mr. THOMPSON: In this area of foreign policy there are approximately 350 million people in the neighbouring countries of the China rim from Japan to