

EVIDENCE

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THURSDAY April 20, 1967.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: We have more than a quorum. Will the meeting please come to order.

This morning we have with us Mr. Charles Taylor, of the *Toronto Globe and Mail*. Mr. Taylor has spent about one and one half years in China and another year or so in the general area of the Far East, southeast Asia particularly. He has also been in South Viet Nam. Apparently he had some problem trying to get into North Viet Nam, but he can tell you more about that than I.

I understand that Mr. Taylor has a half hour presentation to make, and after that you may ask questions. I will turn the meeting over to Mr. Taylor.

MR. CHARLES TAYLOR (*Toronto Globe and Mail*): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. McINTOSH: Mr. Chairman, are there copies of the brief for the Committee members?

MR. TAYLOR: I prefer to speak from notes, sir, because I find this is more effective. I am sorry, I do not have a written brief.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: I quite agree with you, Mr. Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you. It was suggested, gentlemen, that I might talk for about half an hour and that I should, first, give you, my ideas and other people's ideas about what is happening inside China today; then, try to relate this to Chinese foreign policy, with special reference to the situation in Viet Nam. That is what I propose to do. These are both tremendously big and complicated subjects, so I will undoubtedly over-simplify. I will try not to get bogged down in detail, but I am quite prepared to be tackled on some of my over-simplifications when I am through.

It is one year, almost exactly, since the so-called great cultural revolution in China became apparent to the outside world. There is still, as there has always been, a considerable amount of confusion over what exactly is involved. There is inevitably, I think, a considerable amount of distortion and a certain amount of exaggeration in the outside world, but I have no hesitation in describing what is happening inside China today as the most profound social and political upheaval since the communist victory of 1949. It will certainly have very major repercussions for the Chinese inside China and I am sure it will also have significant repercussions, at least in the long run, for Chinese foreign policy and for nations who attempt to deal in various ways with the Chinese.

It is partly a struggle for power, partly a struggle for the mantle of Mao Tse-tung, who is aging and certainly ailing. This aspect of it has been emphasized in the outside world and in the Western press. I think, to some extent, it has