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Connally's Defense of Our China Policy

The problem of what to do about China is perhaps the most controversial foreign policy question the United States has faced in many years. The problem is complicated by occasional emotional outbursts and by the injection of domestic political considerations.

A favorite Republican theme song is that American policy in the Far East sold Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and Chinese Nationalist government down the river and gave China to the Communists.

Senator Connally of Texas, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, has met this canard with a ~~has~~ terse reply that patently is correct.

"China was not ours to give," says Senator Connally.

There are some Americans who now say that the United States should have given the Nationalists all aid necessary to enable them to defeat the Communists. The Communist victory was a sad and sickening blow to the United States, but preventing defeat of the Nationalists was beyond our capabilities. Furthermore, their defeat was a disaster which is shared by all the democratic peoples of the world, by freedom-loving men everywhere -- not alone by the United States.

China, it should be remembered, ~~has~~ has an area almost as large as that of the United States, and it has a population more than three times as large as ours. There is a mountain of evidence that the Nationalist government was corrupt and inefficient. But not all of China's recent difficulties have been due to the weakness of its government. Long before the United States became involved in World War II the Chinese were fighting both Japanese invaders and a civil war.

Despite all difficulties, however, the Nationalist forces at the beginning of 1948 -- estimated at 2,700,000 -- outnumbered Communist forces -- estimated at 1,150,000 -- by more than two to one. But some-

where along the line in 1948 the Nationalists apparently lost their will to fight.

The collapse of the Nationalists' fighting spirit has been variously ascribed to the disease of poor leadership, to lack of faith in the honesty and integrity of the government for which they were fighting, and to the over-powering weariness brought on by year after year of war. Whatever the cause, once the Communist armies got rolling, defeat of the Nationalists came rapidly.

It is estimated that between September 1948 and February 1949 the Nationalists lost 45 per cent of their strength, mostly by surrender and defection. Whole units of Nationalists troops voluntarily turned their uniform caps inside out and went over to ~~going~~ join the enemy.

Even if the people of the United States had been willing for American troops to be sent to China to fight for the preservation of the corrupt Chiang regime -- which they were not -- it is inconceivable that we could have sent enough men and enough equipment to have staved off military defeat of a government in which it is obvious that the masses of China had lost confidence.

The American people did sanction military and economic ~~xxx~~ aid to Nationalist China, however, and this assistance since the end of World War II already has cost the taxpayers of this country more than \$2 billion.

The facts of China, as Senator Connally concedes, may be hard to swallow. But the American people should understand that these unpleasant facts ~~are~~ ^{are} the result of the political, moral and military weakness of the Nationalist government, and are not due to the shortcomings of the American people or the United States government.

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WAITING FOR THE OTHER HALF

by Rube Goldberg

PITCHING HORSESHOES

by Billy Rose

Did anyone ever tell you the story of Know-It-All Louie, the East Side tough guy who thought he knew everything about everything? Well, it's been told, retold and mistold in the coffee houses of Allen St. for as long as I can remember, and today, in the interests of folklore and folderol, I'd like to pass it along.

As old-timers tell it, Louie had achieved quite a reputation as a know-it-all by the time he was kicked out of Public School No. 20 after spending three years in the seventh grade. And before he had worn out his first pair of bellbottoms, this reputation had carried over into the poolrooms of the section where he seldom played but never missed a chance to criticize those who did. On the rare occasions when he did play, he always had a handy excuse for his ineptness—the cushions were too fast, the balls weren't true, etc., and so on.

Understandably, the loud-mouth got to be known around the East Side as Know-It-All Louie, and just as understandably his brassiness finally attracted the attention of a local hoodlum known as Nick the Carp who, at the time, was planning to burgle a wholesale furrier and needed a nery kid to drive the get-away car.

Had Own Idea.

When he outlined the job to Louie he said, "Remember, no



ASSIGNMENT:
 AMERICA

by Inez Robb

NEW YORK (INS).—So I spent 10 cents on a subway ride down to City Hall to see Thomas F. Murphy sworn in as police commissioner and I haven't had so much fun for a dime, the tenth part of a dollar, since the barn burned and inflation started spiralling.

To a battered, disgruntled John Q. Citizen and taxpayer of New York City like myself, it was a pure pleasure to see the ward heelers and the district politicians sweating blood throughout the swearing-in ceremony in the Board of Estimate chamber.

They were present all right, the ward heelers and the Katzenjammer Kids from the clubhouses who 72 hours earlier wouldn't have given Mr. Murphy an Annie Oakley to the gents' room. And now they beat their hands together in a great show of nervous enthusiasm as the Hiss prosecutor took the oath of office.

Up there on the dais with the gold badge of office pinned to his lapel was the man who convicted Alger Hiss but who couldn't get a federal judgeship because he had never been in a political clubhouse in his life, didn't know a single ward heeler and couldn't get the indorsement of the state Democratic moguls.

Politically a Dead Duck.

Here was the guy whom Presi-