

# SECTION 4

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Prospects for Soviet Control  
of a Communist China

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# PROSPECTS FOR SOVIET CONTROL OF A COMMUNIST CHINA



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## PROSPECTS FOR SOVIET CONTROL OF A COMMUNIST CHINA \*

## SUMMARY

It is the intention of the Soviet Union to advance toward its goal of eventual world domination by adding to the Soviet orbit the enormous territory and population of China, and by employing China to facilitate Soviet expansion into other Far Eastern areas.

A coalition government formed by the Chinese Communists, while representing a temporary tactical maneuver, will contain no elements capable of offering real opposition to the Communists.

A moderate Chinese Communist policy toward small business proprietors, landowners, and peasants will help to gain popular support, at least until the government feels strong enough to launch into the more vigorous phases of communismization.

The Communist timetable in China will be flexible and will be influenced by internal conditions in China generally, as well as by the international situation. The complexities of ruling a country like China will, undoubtedly, retard the consolidation of Communist control, but these complexities in themselves probably cannot, in the long run, prevent it.

The Chinese Communists will support Soviet foreign policy by diplomatic moves calculated to embarrass the Western Powers, by blatant anti-Western propaganda, and by assistance to the Communist parties and nationalist movements of Asia.

Foreign loans which involve no political commitments will be negotiated by the Chinese Communists wherever possible, and foreign trade (under state supervision) will undoubtedly be continued with non-Communist countries. This policy does not imply permanent benevolence toward foreign business interests in China.

The Soviet Union will attempt to use the CCP as its chief instrument to consolidate control over China as it has successfully used the various national Communist parties of Eastern Europe. The strong influence exerted by the Soviet Union over the Chinese Party has been variously revealed and provides ample indication that the present leadership of the Chinese Communists identifies itself solidly with international Communism as promulgated by Moscow. The Kremlin will endeavor to prevent possible cleavages in the Party leadership from jeopardizing eventual Soviet control over China.

The present Sino-Soviet Treaty can be directed at the US and its allies, and other agreements may provide for a high degree of economic and military integration between the USSR and China. At the same time, in accordance with its strategy of creating on its borders easily dominated political entities, the Soviet Government will probably press for political autonomy in all present Chinese border areas adjacent to the USSR.

Note: The intelligence organizations of the Departments of State, Army, Navy, and the Air Force have concurred in this report. The information herein is as of 12 April 1949.

\* This paper discusses a pattern of developments which should become apparent prior to 1951.

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It must be emphasized that the process of consolidation of Soviet control over China will unquestionably encounter considerable difficulty, in view of the many potential points of conflict between the USSR and the Chinese Communists, e.g., the issues of US aid, control of peripheral areas, control of assistance to Communist movements in other Far Eastern areas, and the subservience which Moscow will undoubtedly demand of the CCP. While some opposition to Moscow control probably exists in the CCP, for such opposition to be effective the dissident groups must wrest the control apparatus from the pro-Moscow leadership, or that leadership itself must change its policy toward Moscow. Until evidence is available that an effective opposition is developing, it is concluded that the CCP will remain loyal to Moscow.

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