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Political Consolidation The recent assignment of leading Communist military figures to high political positions suggests that the Communists now believe that the military phase of the revolution is virtually over, or at least subordinate to the task of political and economic consolidation. Top-rank Commanders Chen Yi and Liu Po-Cheng have been appointed to senior positions in Shanghai and Nanking. Their appointment appears normal and logical during the necessary period of martial law since both men are able administrators and experienced in organizing and operating military governments.

Communist Government Because of the need for further political and economic consolidation of Communist-controlled territory, the establishment of a central Communist government claiming jurisdiction over all of China is not imminent. Such a regime will probably not be proclaimed until at least October. Moreover, it is unlikely that the USSR will accord formal diplomatic recognition to the Communists until they have established such a central government. It will be some time, therefore, before the western powers will be forced to take a stand on the international status of Communist China, particularly with reference to China's seat on the UN Security Council and its representation on other international bodies.

Soviet Orientation Meanwhile, Chinese Communist statements have been entirely in accord with orthodox Communist doctrine and the Party continues in its unwavering acknowledgement of Soviet leadership in the international Communist movement. Despite this orthodoxy, the Chinese Communists may erect a temporary facade of

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friendly cooperation with the western powers in order to expedite trade and commerce essential to China. In fact, China's tremendous economic needs and the inability of the USSR to fill those needs offer the most likely prospect at present for the development of friction between the two nations.

