

Communist China

Problem to UN

By JEFF GREENFIELD

Daily Press Correspondent

The first echo of Communist China's nuclear shot heard round the world will be gauged next month when the General Assembly of the United Nations convenes.

Once again Red China will press for the expulsion of Nationalist China and the admission of the "People's Republic" to the U.N. and 'the Security Council'. Its chances this year were rated as high even before it became the fifth nuclear nation in the world; now experts are giving the world's most populous country a near-even chance to gain entry into the world body.

The key factor may not even be the crude atomic device exploded in the Western province of Sinkiang' but rather the diplomatic bombshell exploded months ago by French President Charles de Gaulle. Last January the enigmatic French leader recognized Communist China. In addition to dealing the United States a diplomatic body blow, de Gaulle's action may have tipped the voting scales in the U.N. General Assembly.

French Policy Echoed

French foreign policy is often echoed in the former French colonies of West Africa. Nations such as the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Chad, Dohomey, and others still look to Paris for diplomatic leadership. France's economic and technical aid to its former territories have made these nations dependent on France; and the long tradition of French diplomacy has made its views felt in West Africa.

Prior to the French recognition of Red China, West Africa had voted heavily against Communist China's admission to the United Nations. Now these votes may well be cast on the other side; and if every vote in French West Africa switches, Red China could have a majority.

Moreover, the neutral leadership in the U.N. — especially India — has long been in favor of China's admission to the world body. Despite India's increasing hostility to Peking, she has been known to feel that U.N. status might curb the aggressive policies of China, by bringing the huge Communist nation within the "moral confines" imposed by a world parliament.

Growing Pro Vote

With China now a nuclear power psychologically, if not militarily, India and the other non-aligned powers may be expected to press for her entry into the United Nations. By wooing Latin Americans in particular with the argument that a vote for Red China is a vote against United States domination, the total for Red China may swell considerably when the vote comes, probably in late November or early December.

These trends do not mean that Red China is assured of the seat now held by the Nationalists. For one thing, the United States may be able to get the issue of admission listed as an "important matter" on the agenda, which would mean that a two-thirds vote would be required for admission.

For another, the United States still wields a powerful influence in U.N. circles. It may well be able to use its threatened move to deprive the Soviet Union of its voting rights for non-payment of dues as a lever to gain votes against China's admission.

Not Really Victory

Such a victory, however, would be Pyrrhic indeed. A majority vote for Peking's admission would be a heavy diplomatic defeat for the United States, placing it against the will of the U.N. majority. Further, it would fray already tense diplomatic ties with allies such as Britain which favor Red China's admission.

Basically, however, the question that America must realistically face is whether it is wise to keep fighting against the

admission of Red China to the U.N. Such admission would not imply recognition, would not give any moral victory to Peking, and would not endanger our defense commitments. Further, a compromise which would keep Peking off the Security Council and keep Taiwan in the U.N. would be far more preferable than seeing Red China oust Formosa and capture its permanent Security Council seat.

Politically, the Cold War jargon in which the United States still wallows would make such a move tactically dangerous. But it is time the U.S. stopped clinging rigidly to what Sen. Fulbright has called "old myths." It is time we faced the "new realities;" that China is a major power, that she is vital to a workable disarmament system, and that if the U.N. membership can curb her militantly revolutionary posture, then it might be in the long run best for America and for the world that Red China be in the U.N.