

## Editorial

*The massive importance of Communist China in world politics has led The China Quarterly to concentrate heavily on developments in mainland China during the three and a half years it has been published. In face of the well-organised régime of 700 million people under Communist rule, the ten-odd million under Nationalist Chinese rule on the island of Formosa seem almost of derisory significance. And yet the existence of that régime is still—fourteen years after the Communist revolution—one of the major problems of world politics and a possible flash-point for the start of the Third World War.*

*Formosa has also been a crucial factor in the development of the Sino-Soviet dispute. For it is clear that the Chinese Communists have greatly resented Soviet efforts to reach a détente with the Americans before there is any sign of America abandoning Chiang Kai-shek. There can be little doubt that Mao feels that the Russians have not behaved in a truly comradely manner.*

*With the admission of Communist China to the United Nations becoming a more acute problem for American policy year by year, it becomes increasingly necessary to know more about the Formosan régime and the direction in which its leaders are trying to take it. This special survey seeks to fill one of the big gaps in our knowledge of Chinese affairs. It has been made possible as a result of considerable editorial work by Dr. Mark Mancall, of the East Asian Research Center at Harvard University, who prepared the issue and to whose first-hand knowledge of Formosa this journal is much indebted.*

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## *Communist China and the Soviet Bloc*

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