

T A I W A N

to bolster up Chiang's corrupt regime. When counter-revolutionaries were routed from the mainland of China, they fled to Taiwan (Formosa), itself a part of China. And America continued to support and to prod Chiang into provocative acts against China.

America openly declares that she has no intention of abandoning Chiang Kai-shek and Formosa, because to do so would open the way for the 'expansion of communism' and endanger neighbouring Asian countries. This island is of strategic importance to America in its evil design to recapture the Chinese mainland.

The Chinese people migrated to these Islands five hundred years ago. 98 per cent of the population of 8 million in Taiwan consists of Han, the largest national group in China.

The Cairo Declaration of 1943 recognised the right of China over these Islands, and this was further confirmed by the Potsdam Declaration of 1945. From then on it was accepted by all, and no country ever doubted that Taiwan was part of China. Only in 1950 did America decide to challenge China's right to rule these Islands. The challenge itself is fantastic and contrary to all rules of logic. What would the American people say if England claimed sovereignty over America on the grounds that it was once an English colony? The position in Taiwan does not even conform to this example, since Taiwan never belonged to America, even in the past. Taiwan and these Islands belong to China. To argue against it is to deny simple facts and logic.

What, then, are America's real interests in these Islands? Simply the statements made by Americans themselves: that to lose Taiwan means that the West has lost Asia. Why shouldn't they lose it? It does not belong to the West. Asia belongs to Asians. "Our aim is to prevent the expansion of communism and protect democracy," the American leaders say. Accord-

ing to this theory, China or the Soviet Union have an equal right to conduct war on Britain or America on the grounds that capitalism is a menace to socialist countries, and is interfering with the internal affairs of socialism.

There is no question of protecting Chiang Kai-shek. America simply wants to make Taiwan its colony for the protection and expansion of its own imperial interests, for the purpose of conducting a policy (if necessary a war) of subjugation against the emergent Afro-Asian nations. More and more people in Western countries have become aware of this dangerous policy followed by the U.S.A. America, however, turns round to say that Formosa must be given independence — in other words, to create 'two Chinas.'

The position is made more dangerous by the fact that China, today a great and strong nation of 600 million people, is not permitted to become a member of the United Nations. America does not 'recognise' China, only the cardboard puppet Chiang, and prevents China from taking its rightful place in the World Councils. The United Nations is supposed to be a world organisation built on sound principles with the main object of maintaining world peace. Yet America is permitted to dominate the whole scene and to prevent one of the greatest powers of the world from taking its rightful place in the United Nations, simply because America's rulers don't approve of China's policies. Even if Formosa were an independent country, to accept its representatives on the United Nations, acting on behalf of 8 million people, while rejecting the representatives of the 600 million of China is so absurd and unreasonable that it must be obvious to all.

It is difficult to see how other governments today can justify this position, and support the exclusion of China from the United Nations.

It is not too much to say that those who are fighting for the inclusion of China have themselves been slow in forcing what is an obvious and correct step and in the best interests of world peace. The membership of China in the UNO should be made an issue even if it means the withdrawal of the Afro-Asian Nations in protest until America sees reason.

Is this all 'no concern of ours' here in South Africa? On the contrary, it is very much our concern. Not only because we are deeply involved with the rest of the world in the fight for maintenance of world peace and against total destruction of mankind; but also because we see clearly how the national liberation struggle in country after country is confronted with the material might of huge imperial powers. We will, therefore, take our stand on the side of peace, progress and national independence. We will join progressive mankind in demanding the admission of China to UNO, and that America should, once and for all, take its gun-laden hands off China and China's affairs.