

U.S., Chinese Collusion Hinted

By Stanley Karnow

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A leading China expert has asserted that the United States and Chinese leaders tacitly cooperated to influence the vote that won the Peking regime admission to the United Nations last fall.

Ross Terrill, an Australian scholar now at Harvard, also discloses in a forthcoming book that the Chinese seriously contemplated inviting one or more Democratic senators to China last spring but changed their minds as plans for President Nixon's trip took shape.

Terrill suggests as well in his book that Peking's position on the Taiwan issue was clearly defined by the Chinese well in advance of the President's trip and essentially accepted by Mr. Nixon during his visit to China last month.

The Terrill book, entitled "800,000,000: The Real China," will be published later this month. It is based on the author's travels in China last summer and his frequent talks with Chinese diplomats in New York and elsewhere since then.

Administration contentions to the contrary, Terrill claims to have learned from "fragments of information" that the question of Peking's admission to the U.N. was a crucial item in the talks between Chinese Premier Chou En-lai and Kissinger during their first encounter in July.

Terrill says that Kissinger indicated to Chou that a



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public U.S. announcement of the subject that the administration would support Peking's entry into the U.N. and replace on the Security Council. Kissinger further told Chou, according to Terrill, that the United States would back Taiwan's attempt to remain in the U.N. but "did not know" if that effort would succeed.

As Terrill describes it, the administration's uncertainty about the result of the vote constituted an "olive signal" to Peking that the United States was "swooning" rather than "fighting" strenuously to defend the Chiang Kai-shek regime. More significant in Terrill's estimation was the timing of Kissinger's second visit to China in October. As he re-

with and thus sway the U.N. vote but kept Kissinger in Peking two additional days should a signal occur.

The administration presumably acquiesced to this schedule and thereby Terrill submits, Kissinger's presence in Peking was "more eloquent" than U.N. Ambassador George Bush's activities in New York.

Retracing the events that led to the President's China trip, Terrill reports that Mr. Nixon initially expressed his hope to visit China to breach President Charles de Gaulle in early 1969. De Gaulle relayed the message to the Chinese through his ambassador in Peking, Etienne Manac'h.

What was impressed the Chinese, according to Terrill, was Mr. Nixon's intention to "draw Peking's attention to the

fact that the United States did not intend to force the matter" and that these "two major powers" were "particularly worried" at that time by the possibility of a "great" defection from Premier Zhou En-lai's political camp and the establishment of a right-wing Laotian regime.

Partly last spring before the President's visit was organized, Chinese were close to making agreements with Democratic senators to China. Among those in line for invitations were Sens. George McGovern and Edward Kennedy. But according to Terrill, the

idea was dropped when plans for Mr. Nixon took shape.

Terrill quotes Chinese officials as telling him that they really prefer Republicans because the Democrats "have been very keen on collusion with Moscow." Among other things, they cited former Ambassador Averell Harriman to support this point.

On the critical Taiwan issue, Terrill accounts, the Chinese affirmed that they would not demand that the Nixon administration "hand over" the island to Peking. Instead, he reports, they sought a U.S. pledge to remove American troops from Taiwan and an accord that the problem would be resolved by the Chinese themselves through "a process of re-absorption that could stretch out over decades."

The communique that followed the President's trip last month came close to Peking's position, stating as it does that the withdrawal of American forces and military installations from Taiwan is the "ultimate" U.S. aim and the Taiwan problem should be settled peacefully "by the Chinese themselves."