

15
7

7/3/71

REAFFIRMATION

Chou's remarks were reaffirmation of the basic principles of Chinese foreign policy. He made it clear that these were not about to be changed by Mr. Nixon's visit.

Perhaps most significant in Chou's talk to our group was his emphasis on the danger of a remilitarized, imperialist Japan. Chou's associate Yao Wen-yuan, Central Committee member, complained bitterly about Japanese film like "Yamamoto," "Great Sea Battle in the Sea of Japan," "Our Navy," and others which are helping set the ideological stage for future Japanese aggression in Asia.

Chou Says Chinese Fear Japan's New Militarism

By Paul Pickowicz
Pacific News Service

Peking

Premier Chou En-lai of the People's Republic of China, views with special alarm the possibility of a remilitarized Japan.

He expressed this view during a four-hour conversation with a 15-member delegation from the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars.

The tone of the meeting was friendly and informal. Chou, relaxed and in shirt sleeves, even specifically accepted an invitation from the CCAS for young Chinese peo-

Mr. Pickowicz, a graduate student from the University of Wisconsin, was a member of the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars delegation which recently visited China.

ple to visit the United States.

"I think that our young Chinese friends should also return your visit," he said. "There are a lot of young friends in Shanghai. They should take the lead."

He also said he was particularly anxious for delega-

tions from various American minorities, notably blacks, Chicanos, American Indians, and Puerto Ricans, to come to China.

MAJOR ISSUES

Chou discussed at length the major issues dividing China and the United States. He touched on Japanese remilitarization, American aggression in Indochina, the tense situation in Korea, the question of Taiwan, and the problems of dealing with the United States itself.

As he put it: "In recent years, Chairman Mao himself has paid attention to the American situation and has also asked us all to note the fact that it can be said that the United States is now on the eve of a great storm. But the question of how this storm shall be developed exactly is your task, not ours."

"We can only tell you about something of our hopes. But now, at the present date, in contacting your government to normalize relations we must contact those who are in authority in your country."

LIFE-LINE

"The Japanese militarist are now saying that the Malacca Strait is their life-line. This place is a life-line; the place is a life-line. So on and so forth."

Chou said that Japan's "top-sided" economic growth was very dependent of foreign raw materials and markets. "Following the economic expansion, there is bound to come with it military expansion."

Japanese militarism, he pointed out, is on the rise. He expressed alarm about the sharp increase in Japan's military expenditures for the fourth defense plan (1972-76). He drew particular attention to the growing economic competition between the United States and Japan. The Japanese economy, he observed, had grown fat on wars fought by the Americans in Korea and Indochina.

Though the United States had fostered the growth of post-war Japan, present-day Japan is fast becoming the foremost economic competitor of the United States. Reviving memories of the horrors of Japanese expansion in the 1930s and 1940s, he noted that "the American people too will remember the Pacific War" — a hint perhaps that China and the United States may once again find a common enemy in the Far East.