

Taiwan elections: Resistance mounts to British efforts to split China

by Leni Rubinstein and Michael Billington

The Dec. 2, 1995 elections for the Legislative Yuan, Taiwan's Congress, resulted in a vote of no confidence in the new directions taken by the ruling Kuomintang Party (KMT), which barely held on to a two-seat majority. President Lee Teng-hui, who has led the KMT since the 1987 death of Chiang Ching-kuo (the son of Chiang Kai-shek), has abandoned the historic commitment of that party, defined by its founder, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, and developed under a half-century of leadership by Chiang Kai-shek, to unify and develop the Chinese nation as a whole. The negative response of the electorate has posed a serious challenge to what many consider to be President Lee's betrayal of that tradition.

In March, the Republic of China (the government in Taiwan) will hold the first direct Presidential elections in its history, as well as elections to the 334-member National Assembly. The just-completed legislative elections, and the upcoming Presidential election, must be seen in the context of intense British geopolitical destabilization operations aimed at provoking chaos and war on the Chinese mainland in the near term, with the relations across the Formosa Strait a major potential point of conflict.

The winner in the legislative elections was the New Party, a party recently created by former leaders and members of the KMT, who have mobilized opposition to the direction taken by President Lee Teng-hui. The New Party, as well as a rapidly growing faction of collaborators who still remain within the KMT, are fighting to retain the tradition of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, against President Lee's transformation of the party and the country into a tool of the British financial oligarchy, and of the Conservative Revolution fanatics in the United States.

Two of the four vice chairmen of the KMT, Lin Yang-kang (a former president of the judicial yuan) and Hau Pei-tsun (the former prime minister and military chief of staff), have announced their candidacy for President and vice president against their own party's official candidates, President Lee and current Prime Minister Lien Chan, demonstrating the depth of opposition within the party. President Lee and his allies expelled both vice chairmen from the party in December, accusing them of supporting New Party candidates in the legislative elections. Last summer, the KMT used the same desperate measures when they expelled Dr. Sun An-di, a member of the central committee, because of his effort to revitalize the KMT in opposition to the policies of President Lee.

The New Party itself, participating in its first election,

increased its strength in the legislature from seven (the original founders who split away from the KMT), to 21 seats, a result that surprised all the pundits. They won every seat they contested in the three major cities, and spread their base outside of the cities. The anti-nuclear, anti-development opposition party, the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), which has led a campaign to declare the independence of Taiwan from China, lost the seats of several of their leading incumbents, ending up with 54 seats, an increase of only four. This relatively poor showing by the DPP is a further blow to President Lee's leadership of the KMT, because he has increasingly aligned himself with the DPP on major issues, including the issue of the formal separation of Taiwan from the mainland, to the extent that the DPP generally supported him.

'One China'

The maintenance of peace across the Formosa Strait since the victory of the Communist Army in 1949, has depended on the mutual agreement between Beijing and Taipei that China must remain an undivided unity, despite the two contesting governments. Reunification was the goal of both sides, with "One China" their agreed policy.

Chiang Kai-shek had learned through bitter experience that the British design to keep China weak and divided included support for the Communist insurgency and for various warlords against the Chinese government. With President Franklin Roosevelt's death in 1945, U.S. resistance to British colonial policy generally collapsed. The Taiwan-based government of Chiang Kai-shek after the 1949 communist victory, however, refused to give up on the designs of Dr. Sun Yat-sen for the international development of China. The KMT was not only dedicated to reunification with the mainland under republican rule, but continued in the preparation of extensive and detailed plans for the industrial and infrastructural development of the entire mainland.

Beijing, for its part, only threatened military intervention across the strait in the case of a foreign invasion of Taiwan, or in the case of a declaration of independence by the Taiwanese government. Such a call for independence is precisely what is being proposed by the DPP, and Beijing (as well as many in Taiwan) believes that President Lee is leading the KMT in the same direction. In the months preceding the December elections, Beijing held a series of military exercises and weapons tests in areas near Taiwan, including a 10-day landing

exercise involving air, naval, and ground forces, clearly intended to be a warning to the Taiwanese politicians and electorate.

Some myths dispelled

One irony in the unfolding confrontation, is that Beijing, which until the last few years always portrayed Chiang Kai-shek as the greatest monster of modern Chinese history, is now openly commending Chiang and his political descendants as patriots in the battle to preserve a united China. The Hongkong-based *Wen Wei Po*, a Beijing-run paper which often publishes commentary on issues which are too sensitive for publication in the mainland, wrote on Dec. 12 that the anti-Lee candidates, KMT officials Lin Yang-kang and Hau Pei-tsun, had denounced President Lee for “destroying the party and betraying the nation.” The report praised the two for “standing by the greater China concept of Sun Yat-sen and the two Chiangs” (meaning Chiang Kai-shek and his son Chiang Ching-kuo). Chiang’s youngest and last surviving son, Chiang Wei-kuo, has even been given friendly interviews in both Hongkong and mainland newspapers.

A second irony arises from the historical relationship between the KMT and the United States. Taiwan’s most vociferous support in the United States always came from the conservative, anti-communist forces, dating back to the old “China Lobby” and the World Anti-Communist League of the McCarthy era. Since the election of the Newt Gingrich-Phil Gramm “Conservative Revolution” majority in 1994, however, Chinese patriots in Taiwan have finally realized that that support is not meant for the benefit of China as a whole, but to support the British geopolitical goal of keeping China weak and divided. When the Republicans pressured the Clinton administration to invite President Lee Teng-hui to visit the United States last year, not only was this viewed as a provocation by Beijing, but it signalled the patriots in Taiwan that they had been deserted by their “old friends” in the United States, who not only supported President Lee’s betrayal of the historic KMT commitment to the unification and development of China, but they were in fact primary instigators of that policy shift, together with their allies in the British foreign office. President Clinton, on the other hand, has assured both Beijing and the Taiwan patriots that U.S. policy will remain that of “One China.”

The next ‘incarnation’ of the KMT

Many of those who are determined to reverse President Lee’s dangerous course, have not yet left the KMT to join the New Party. Following the legislative elections, the New Party announced that their own Presidential candidate was withdrawing, and that the New Party would support the candidacy of Lin and Hau, who had not yet been expelled from the KMT. There is still hope that the KMT can be saved as a patriotic institution. In a statement released last summer, the youngest son of Chiang Kai-shek, Chiang Wei-kuo, reviewed the many stages of development of the KMT since the “first incarna-

tion,” when Sun Yat-sen formed his first revolutionary society in 1895. Chiang ridiculed President Lee for telling a Japanese journalist that his party was “only two years old,” as if the party had been founded only when Lee assumed power after the death of Chiang Ching-kuo. Chiang Wei-kuo suggests that the KMT had been hijacked, and would better be called “The Two-Year-Old Party,” while the New Party had in fact become the “sixth incarnation” of Sun Yat-sen’s KMT. He concludes: “Only when fifth and sixth incarnation orthodox loyalists in Taiwan unite can they then join with followers of Dr. Sun in mainland China to become the seventh incarnation, and build a new China which is democratic, unified, secure, and socially just. Only in this way can the Chinese nation have a true renaissance, becoming the pride of all Chinese people and serving to put at ease the souls of Dr. Sun, President Chiang, and all the revolutionary martyrs who have gone before us.”

The New Party has made a significant effort over the past two years to organize the overseas Chinese, especially in the United States. In August, for example, a delegation of 20 leaders of the New Party toured the United States, including three legislators, several city and county officials, and a conductor, who conducted local Chinese choruses in Chinese songs as an important part of the organizing process. Public meetings in San Francisco and Los Angeles drew several thousand each. The group then split up and fanned out across the country for a week of intensive organizing. The result was evident in the election itself. All Chinese are allowed to vote in Taiwan elections, but this year, for the first time, there was no absentee voting. As a result, it is estimated that several hundred thousand overseas Chinese returned to Taiwan for the December election, with 20,000 coming from the United States alone. Even larger numbers are expected in the March Presidential election.

The KMT under President Lee has gone far beyond expulsions and threats against the New Party and its supporters within the KMT. Reports of “dirty tricks” have included the following actions: phone taps and personal surveillance of military personnel suspected of New Party sympathy, including their families; accusations that some of these military officers were being bribed by the mainland’s People’s Liberation Army; break-ins of New Party offices and theft of membership lists; suggestions that New Party networks were smuggling explosives into the country from the mainland to disrupt the elections; and similar threatening charges.

The economic crisis

Beyond the question of relations with the mainland, President Lee Teng-hui is steadily eroding the economic protective structure established under Chiang Kai-shek’s leadership, which helped bring about the “economic miracle” in Taiwan (Taiwan is now one of the dozen largest economies in the world, and has recently surpassed the United Kingdom as the second largest foreign purchaser of U.S. public debt, after Japan). The British-International Monetary Fund policy for

Taiwan is to transform it into a new dirty-money laundromat, along the lines of the British-created Hongkong and Singapore. In the middle of January, Margaret Thatcher visited Taiwan to promote such a policy and to advise Lee Teng-hui on election strategy. President Lee's prime minister and vice presidential running mate, Lien Chan, proudly told a conference in September honoring Samuel Huntington, the author of the notion of "fascism with a democratic face" and, more recently, the "clash of civilizations," that the three professors who influenced him the most were Friedrich von Hayek (the fascist mentor of today's "Conservative Revolution"), Leo Strauss, and Hans Morgenthau, at the University of Chicago. Under such direction, the Taiwan policy toward the mainland has been primarily the export of low-technology, cheap-labor manufacturing, rather than the needed agricultural and industrial infrastructure. The institute dedicated to planning the development of great projects on the mainland, has been entirely dismantled.

Meanwhile, the "financial AIDS" of the bankrupt Western financial system is beginning to infect the economy, as a result of the liberalization of the financial markets. Indeed, the current confrontation may well determine whether Taiwan will become another degenerate Hongkong and a spark for civil war, or become instead a force for the development of China and the broader Eurasian landmass.

British Crown fosters Canadian separatism

by Raynald Rouleau

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Canada, as a nation, is suffering from what is known in psychiatry as a "multiple personality disorder." This has been carefully crafted into the social fabric of the nation, by the British Crown's social engineers, using the "divide and conquer" method. Canada also suffers from a very virulent social disease, the unshakeable belief that the British monarchy is only an insignificant relic from the past, which has no influence on world events, and particularly not on Canadian affairs. This axiomatic assumption has prevented Canadians from seeing who has been pulling their strings, and especially who is now pushing them down the path toward self-destruction.

After the "No" vote in the Oct. 30, 1995 referendum on whether or not Quebec should secede from Canada, Jacques Parizeau, the leader of the separatist Parti Québécois, crowned his destabilization efforts by giving an inflammatory speech, blaming the "ethnic vote" for the failure of his referendum. He announced his resignation as premier of Quebec the day after. The script of which Parizeau's words were a part, has its origin in the policy enunciated by Britain's Prince Philip, during his last official trip to Washington, D.C., on May 18, 1990. The Queen's consort boasted about his idea of dividing the Americas into a multitude of "bio-regions." In other words, regions based on bio-diversity, in which human beings are considered as just another species of animal, according to their ethnic and genetic background.

Another key player, Lucien Bouchard, started his federal government career in 1984, when he was appointed by the Queen's Privy Council to the board of directors of the Canadian Development and Investment Corporation (CDIC), a Crown holding company set up a year before by British intelligence operative Maurice Strong. Later, as minister of environment in the federal government of Brian Mulroney, Bouchard was helping do the Malthusian dirty work of Prince Philip's World Wildlife Fund. He then "suddenly" turned separatist, and became the leader of the opposition in the Canadian House of Commons, at the head of the Bloc Québécois—a federal, Quebec-based separatist party which he himself created, to separate the "ethnic" entity called

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