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February 22, 1968

THOUGHTS ON CHINA

Prologue to the Present

The Present Predicament

The Most Probable Future

Relations with Others

The term "madness" has been applied to the present climate in Peking. In some ways it is not inappropriate. But to a Chinese, because of the historical prologue to the present and because of the Chinese way of viewing China and the world, much of the "madness" is explained as inescapable logic and reason.

December 8, 1941

A night telephone call from Ribbentrop; he is overjoyed about the Japanese attack on America. He is so happy about it that I am happy with him, though I am not too sure about the final advantages of what has happened. One thing is now certain: that America will enter the conflict, and that the conflict will be so long that she will be able to realize all her potential force. This morning I told this to the King who had been pleased about the event. He ended by admitting that in the "long run" I may be right. Mussolini was happy too. For a long time he has wanted the real relations between America and the Axis to be definitely clarified.

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By J.W., NARA, Date 6/19/94

1. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WHICH FOLLOW WERE OBTAINED FROM SEVERAL USOC OFFICIALS.
A. AFTER DEMONSTRATIONS AT AWARDS CEREMONY BY SMITH AND CARLOS TOMMIE OCTOBER 15, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) ADVISED USOC THAT FIRM AND PROMPT DISCIPLINARY ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST SMITH AND CARLOS. IOC ALSO ISSUED PRESS STATEMENT ON DEMONSTRATION WHICH IOC LABELED POLITICAL ACT OUT OF PLACE IN OLYMPIC CONTEXT. USOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MET AND DECIDED AGAINST SEVERE ACTION SUCH AS SUSPENSION BUT AGREED TO ISSUE WARNING TO ALL U.S. ATHLETES AGAINST FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS. (USOC TRIED TO GET AGREEMENT FROM BLACK ATHLETES THAT NO FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD OCCUR, BUT ATHLETES REFUSED AGREE.)

"Flash - Not so blinding as New Mexico test because of bright sunlight. First there was a ball of fire changing in a few seconds to purple clouds and flames boiling and swirling upward. Flash observed just after airplane rolled out of turn. all agreed light was intensely bright and white cloud rose faster than New Mexico test reaching thirty thousand feet in three minutes it was one-third greater diameter. It mushroomed at the top, broke away from column and the column mushroomed again. Cloud was most turbulent. It went at least to forty thousand feet. Flattering across its top at this level. It was observed from combat airplane three hundred sixty-three nautical miles away with airplanes at twenty-five thousand feet. Observation was then limited by haze and not curvature of the earth.

d. Nehru likes green foods - particularly salads. He likes ice cream - the ordinary flavors not the unusually rich varieties. Nehru likes milk. He will occasionally drink a small sherry, but has gone through an entire Russian banquet on one glass of sherry.
e. Nehru prefers and is quite fussy about his preference for fine Virginia (i.e., British) tobacco.



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WORLD WAR II – DIARY OF GALEAZZO CIANO, SON-IN-LAW OF MUSSOLINI



“If these notes of mine ever see the light, it will be because I took the precaution of putting them in a safe place before the Germans seized me by base trickery”

A 616–page Diary of Italian Prime Minister Benito Mussolini’s son-in-law Galeazzo Ciano, written from January 1939 to Feb 8th 1943. Ciano records details and dates regarding: Mussolini’s allegiance with German Chancellor Adolf Hitler; Ciano’s influence in securing Italy’s entry into World War II in 1940; major events occurring during World War II; America’s entrance in the war after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbour; Italy’s political turmoil during the war...Ciano was the Italian Prime Minister from 1936 to February 1943 when he was arrested by the German army. He was executed in Verona, Italy by the Germans and Mussolini partisans on 11th Jan 44.

The below is an account from December 8th 1941, Ciano’s entry the day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour.

December 8, 1941

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Department of State, 23 Dec. 1943. U.S. Declassified Documents Online, <http://tinyurl.galegroup.com/tinyurl/6TvcT1>

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third annual release | 5,000 documents

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WORLD WAR II - THE IMPACT OF THE US ATOMIC BOMBING OF HIROSHIMA, MAJOR GENERAL LESLIE GROVES

The decision to use the atomic bomb against Japan, to destroy Nagasaki and Hiroshima remains controversial to this day. There are various records in USDDO that provide insight into the reactions at the time, including eyewitness accounts and scientists and doctors' interviews and response to the Japanese reporting. Events before and after are also included and highlight the massive consequences that this political decision has had since.

Below is a 'flash report from the vital plane by Captain Parsons' and records how the attack was relayed to Washington.

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Major General Leslie Groves updates Army Chief of Staff George Marshall on the impact of the U.S. atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, which immediately killed at least 70,000 people. Department of Defense, 6 Aug. 1945. U.S. Declassified Documents Online, <http://tinyurl.galegroup.com/tinyurl/6Ts4L4>



USDDO 'SPECIAL FIELDS' ANOTHER WAY TO EXPLORE THE MATERIAL

The search and discovery interface for the collection allows researchers to locate the full text of documents and quickly filter their search results by document type, issue date, source institution, classification level, and date declassified as well as other document characteristics.

THE SUMMER OLYMPICS, MEXICO 1968

The run up to the Summer Olympics certainly wasn't smooth. Student protests in Mexico leading up to the event caused anxiety about the safety of President Nixon should he attend. Reports in USDDO illustrate the decision that he would visit the Olympic village as a private citizen rather than as a guest of the Mexican government to avoid ruffling feathers.

There was concern and a belief that it was a Communist tactic to start or inflame student protests before the games and evoke security fears.

What wasn't predicted was the protest by 200-metre gold and bronze medal winners, African American athletes, Smith and Carlos respectively, during their medal ceremony. Silver medallist Peter Norman, a white Australian runner, didn't raise his fist that day, but stood with Smith and Carlos. His show of solidarity ended up destroying Norman's athletic career, and the three athletes' actions that day would become known as one of the most overtly political statements in the history of the modern Olympics. The International Olympic Committee reportedly decided that the act was 'out of place in Olympic context' and forced the USOC to suspend them.

INDELIBLE IMAGES

Taking a Stand

For 40 years, Olympians Tommie Smith and John Carlos have lived with the consequences of their fateful protest. BY DAVID DAVIS

WHEN THE MEDALS were awarded for the men's 200-meter sprint at the 1968 Olympic Games, Los Angeles photographer John Dominis was only about 20 feet away from the podium. "I didn't think it was a big news event," Dominis says. "I was expecting a normal ceremony. I hardly noticed what was happening when I was shooting."

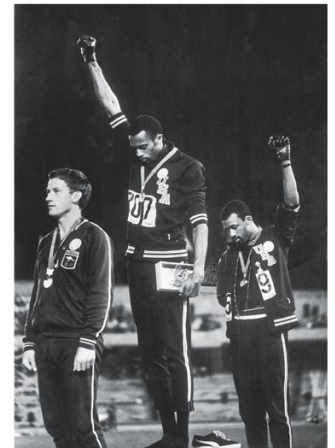
Indeed, the ceremony that October 14 "seemed passed without much general notice in the packed Olympic Stadium," New York Times correspondent Joseph L. Strebler reported from Mexico City. But by the time Strebler's observation appeared in print three days later, the event had become front-page news for publications the Games, U.S. Olympic officials, and the press from the International Olympic Committee, had responded in kind. Tommie Smith and John Carlos and were Smith and Carlos, winners of the gold and bronze medals, respectively, in the event. In addition to the ceremony, the protesters wearing black socks and no shoes to symbolize African American poverty, black gloves to express African American anger, and black beads, in memory of the Black Panther Party, each man bowed his head and raised the fist. After the news was broadcast, images of the gesture entered the consciousness of athletes' process.

"It was a shocking moment because it was seen as an example of black power radicalism," says Doug Horowitz, a University of Wisconsin sociologist and the author of *Race, Culture, and the Birth of the Black Athlete: The story of Olympic athletes and their struggle*. "Most Americans have never seen it."

The United States was already deeply divided over the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement, and the athletes' protest was a stark reminder of the nation's racial tensions.

At the moment of the medal ceremony, Smith and Carlos were not the only African American athletes in the Olympic village. Carlos, born and raised in Harlem, was "a successful runner with a challenging personality," says Edwards, now executive professor of sociology at the University of California at Berkeley. Smith, the son of a sharecropper who grew up in rural Texas and California, was "a much softer person." "When they raised their fists on the medal stand, they were using the same gesture," Edwards says. "They were both protesting the same thing."

Among the Games athletes, opinions were divided. Another 1968 Olympic medalist, the silver medalist in the 200-meter sprint, Australian Peter Norman, who was wearing a badge supporting Olympic neutrality, thought the protest was "a disgrace." "I don't think it was a big news event," says Edwards.



Davis, David. "Taking a Stand." *Smithsonian*, Aug. 2008, p. 12+. *Smithsonian Collections Online*, <https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/SGLFX1440730710/SMIT?u=webdemo&sid=SMIT&xid=74333983>

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Details about civil rights demonstrations by Black U.S. athletes at Summer Olympics in Mexico City, Department Of State, 19 Oct. 1968. U.S. Declassified Documents Online, <http://tinyurl.gale.com/tinyurl/CNoE76>



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HOSTING HEADS OF STATE

Biographical sketches, profiles of royals, statesmen (and women) and international officials are all included in Department of State and White House sources. Information, talking points and overviews of countries are provided to US Presidents and can provide minute detail on personalities, relationships, and idiosyncrasies. In the document below, Eisenhower and staff are provided with details about Prime Minister Nehru before his visit to the US in 1956. Levels of detail include food, gifts, topics of conversation and what kind of leisure activities Nehru has a preference for.



Nehru – hosted by Eisenhower

Picture source: "An Excessively Friendly Welcome: President Eisenhower Greeting Mr. Nehru on His Arrival in America." Illustrated London News [London, England] 29 Dec. 1956: [1099]. Illustrated London News.

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Information on the likes and dislikes of India's Prime Minister Nehru so that entertainment for Nehru and his staff can be planned for his Washington visit. Department of State, n.d. U.S. Declassified Documents Online, <http://tinyurl.com/tinyurl/CNq6D2>

PERSPECTIVES ON CHINA

A basic search 'China' in *USDDO* provides a return of well over 19,000 documents within all the *USDDO* releases.

Alfred L. Jenkins served in the American foreign service from 1946 – 1974 and was an expert advisor on Chinese-American relations during the Lyndon B. Johnson and Nixon presidencies. There are numerous memos, notes, reports and essay type observations written by Jenkins in *USDDO* about China and the surrounding environs.

During the 50s as American Vice Consul in Hong Kong he reports on communist activities in Shanghai, including sightings of warships, jet planes flown by German PoW, ammunitions and even the police and army summer uniform "with buttons only half-way down the front and with the typical Russian-style collar" as China possibly prepares to invade Taiwan.

In 1966 he writes several memorandums to Walt Rostow expressing a belief that there needs to be a clear US Policy regarding mainland China. One of the memos highlights his concern that an escalation of the war in Vietnam might lead to World War III and what the US action should be to this.

In a reflection of China in 1968 Jenkins writes 'Thoughts on China' a summary of China's position since the Opium War of 1842, placed in the context of China's history. Mao's policies are presented – for example the *Great Leap Forward*, *The Cultural Revolution* and the impact these have or will have on future political, military and economics policies. Jenkins provides a very interesting personal opinion on what he has witnessed in Communist China and steps the US might take that make sense 'profitably'.

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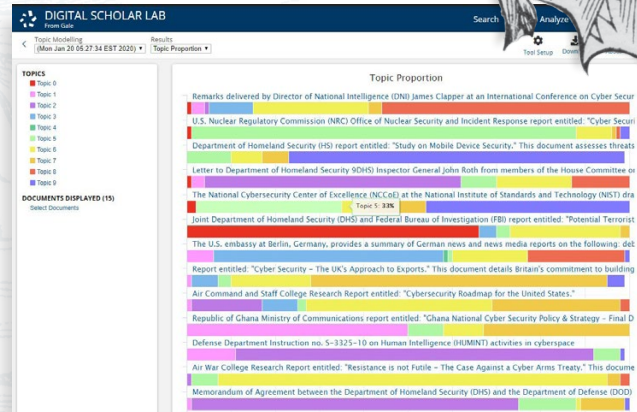
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