

A B S T R A C T O F T H E T H E S I S
on
THE UNITED NATIONS IN CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY, 1949-1972

The thesis is primarily concerned with analyzing relations between the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the United Nations system over twenty-two years during which China's seat was occupied by the Republic of China (ROC) based in Taiwan. China's influence and power in the U.N. was thus controlled by the nationalist faction from the mainland, a mortal enemy of the PRC enjoying strong and steadfast support from the U.S.A. The pursuit of the U.N. China seat, always claimed by the PRC on its own terms, assumed critical importance for it during the sixties after its rift with the Soviet Union. The PRC's persistent campaign for the seat was undertaken in a variety of ways and took a tortuous course in the face of changing situations in the domestic and international climate.

The analysis of the different phases and facets of this struggle and the tactics and strategies adopted inside and outside the U.N. forums by the parties directly involved and their spokesmen over all these years, and specially in 1971, broadly constitute the focus of the study.

The study includes an examination of Peking's relations with other states in the world since Peking's bilateral relations often help to explain the voting behaviour of the states on the Chinese representation issue. It also covers a discussion of the debates in the General Assembly, an analysis of the political and legal aspects of the Chinese representation problem, and a study of PRC's own policy toward the United Nations, with a particular view to examining how absence from the latter affected its ability to conduct external relations.