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How China government Building Homeland Security

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Building China Homeland Security

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The Threats to China homeland security

At present, the Primary threats to China homeland security do not come from foreign countries' invasion, but rather from following factors.

The so called "three agricultural" problems of China—"Farmer's life is really hard. Countryside is really poor, Agriculture is really in danger", which are raised to the leadership of State Council by Li Changping , who was a local cadre—test the stability of countryside in China.

After implementing the policy of reform and opening up, the increasing trend of farmer's income firstly decreased in 1985. In the second year, grain output had a soaring decline by 6.9% than last year, and it went up and down from then on. Farmer's annual income dropped from 15.19% in 1985 to 5.3% in 1988 respectively. From 1989 to 1991, our country rectified and regulated economic order, which made an influence on township enterprises, and farmer's income fell into low ebb with annual increase of 0.7% only. The 5 years from 1992 to 1996 was the resuming period. Their income increased by 5.3% on average. From 1997 to 2002, farmer's income declined sharply and had a negative growth. The net income per mu dropped from 376 RMB in 1995 to 161 RMB in 2000.

There are many reasons for this. Firstly, tax is a heavy burden on farmer's shoulders. Farmer's total duty was 188 billion in 1996. In order to impose tax on farmers, government sent someone by force to snatch grain from them. Secondly, education and medical service fees make farmers poor. Nowadays, although government affords the obligate education, the fee is still very high. The increase of medical service fee makes many people lose the chance of accepting necessary treatment which results labor lacking and family poorer. So we can know that the very reason for this is market. Thirdly, additional fees restrain the increase of farmer's income. Farmers go to city to earn money and live a very hard life, and before this, they have to apply many certifications, for instance, family planning certification, etc. All these may cost much. After arriving in city, they have to pay for temporary resident certification, sanitation and so on. Their work often is very hard and dirty, while they have to bear the disdain from city people. Not all the farmers who come to city can find a job. As a result, they cost all the money without any more to go back home.

Agriculture is in danger. For a long time, China's agriculture lost greatly. According to statistical data, from 1952 to 1989, Central government took about 1000 billion RMB away from agriculture through "price scissors" of industrial and agricultural products and agriculture tax. Additionally, in

the 300 billion RMB provided by our government, net loss is 700 billion. Since 1990s, Central government has taken and transferred farmer's surplus and agriculture capital through many ways, according to relevant materials, about 100 billion every year. Therefore, agriculture structure is still grain and cotton mainly, and farmers still have to rely on nature to earn their life.

Under the circumstance of bearing too much and lacking the measures to deal with calamities, farmers don't want to farm, which leads to farmland deserted seriously. This has become more and more grave and happened almost in the whole country. Although in the latest one or two years, our government increased its investment to agriculture and stimulated farmer's enthusiasm to take on agriculture and increased their income, other problems were raised to the front of us. So many farmlands were invaded and occupied by cities in virtue of exploitation, which sometimes is unbearable.

Consequently, farmer-revolting affairs in big scale happened in many regions to protest against government. Some scholars have indicated that countryside is suffering from political crisis. The most obvious phenomenon is big scale farmer-revolting affairs. This is unprecedented for our Republic. These revolt affairs suggest that the relation between farmer and government is developed to opposability, and the intrinsic change of the contradiction movement appears. This is the basic situation that China faces and the strongest alarm knocked by agriculture to government. We have seen the sign of farmer revolting in the history. There are many examples that dynasties were overthrown by it.

China's environment problem threatens homeland security seriously. Because China one-sided pursues of economic benefit and ignores environment protection, population over-increase and its low quality, environment problem become serious day by day.

Firstly, vegetation is destroyed. Chinese forest coverage rate is 14% which is lower than the world average level (27%). Especially in the northwest, it is only 3%. Lacking the understanding of forest's function in environment system causes the denudation and destruction to it. As a result, the consumption level is more than growth level. Furthermore, changing forest into farmland, forest fires and low living rate of planting trees also result in the decrease of forest resources. Grazing and reclamation too closely cause grass degeneration. 90% of grassland has degenerated or is degenerating. Degenerative grassland, which has been above middle degree, has reached 130 million hectares. and it is increasing with an annual area of 2 million hectares. In the north and west pasturing areas, the degenerative grassland has reached more than 70 million hectares, which is almost 30% of the whole pasture areas. According to statistics, the land affected by desertification is 3.32 million hectares, which is 13.3% of the whole country. Vegetation's destruction causes the abnormality of weather, for example, "sand storms", frequently flood disasters and river breaking or drying up. The frequently happened coast and mud and rock flow bring great losses to personnel and possession. Biologic gene resources disappear rapidly. Water and soil losses are more seriously. At present, the lost water and soil area has reached 1.5 million sq.km., and the lost sand has reached 5 billion ton annually. Nutrition in the soil equals to the annual fertilizer output of China. This is a great waste to our country which has relatively few resources. Water and soil losses not only cause a great loss of precious land resource, but also

result in riverbanks raised, lake and reservoir filled up, which makes flood disasters take place frequently.

Secondly, industry pollution is serious. Without necessary equipment, industrial “three wastes”(waste water, waste gas and industrial residue) bring very bad results. Early in 1993, the irrigation area of China’s polluted water has reached 15.73 million hectares, which is 16.5% of the total farming area and 36.6% of the total irrigation area. Compared with this, the farming area affected by acid rain and air pollution is much more serious. In the early years of 1990s, it has reached 26.88 million hectares, and 5.30 million hectares, respectively. Additionally, the area occupied by industry wastes has reached 130 thousand hectares. Besides these direct economic losses caused by industrial “three wastes”, there are indirect losses. It threatens our body and mind health and affects our physical quality, which forms a hidden trouble to state security (there are examples in the history). According to exports, the lost of England in “Boer War” with South Africa attributes to their poor corporeity harmed by environmental sanitation.

Non-conventional security problems, domestically, which include strong epidemical disease mainly, such as SARS we suffered in 2003, flood and mud-rock flow, also threatens China’s homeland security. In China, diseases like this appear every now and then and bring great panic to our country. It is possible that epidemical diseases from foreign countries spread into our country, so we must watch and ward strictly. At present, the major non-conventional security problem focuses on circumjacent areas.

First, multi-national crime, smuggle, drug trade (the most rampant) become increasingly serious.

China is the victim of drugs, and has turn to be a drug smuggling and consumptive country from smuggling country. In 1998, the number of registered druggers was about 600 thousand which is several times than that of in 1990. Except the “Golden Triangle” area in the southwest and coastland, north and northwest area of China is also under the threat of drugs. In addition, drugs from Central Asia have been spreading into China. Terrorism becomes the hidden trouble. After the cold war, Islamic extreme terrorism outside China’s northwest area is straining every nerve to invade into Sinkiang and other Islamic regions with the purpose of making criminal affairs.

Furthermore, international finance and information security crisis become the challenging threat. After entering WTO, China will approach to international trade system such as international financial system gradually. So, the function of original administration department will decrease greatly, which means that, when other Asian-Pacific region and circumjacent countries suffer from financial and economic crisis, it must have a greater direct impact on China’s financial market.

Information security crisis is also a challenging non-conventional problem. Because of the difference on information technology between China and other advanced countries, China faces a serious fact that we may be wiretapped, interfered, watched and deceived. The equipment and software used in China’s network are all from overseas countries, which is an obvious disadvantageous element in the possible Taiwan Strait conflict.

Third, the war of fighting for resources that threatens China's sea resources is coming. China has disputations with many other countries on the issue of sea areas and islands. This not only includes sea areas, but also the exploration of sea resources. The actual exploration to South China Sea falls behind obviously. Some attempt to change South China Sea into so-called open sea in order to occupy its precious fortune. Recently, Japan is scrambling for the resources in East Sea. Some people deduced that the war about South and East Sea would happen in the future.

At last, non-conventional security problems will be the obstacle to the relationship between China and its neighborhoods. Japan criticizes the destruction to its economy and environment made by China's acid rain. China's huge amount of industry wastes and pollutants which have been dumped into Yellow Sea polluted South Korea Sea. Population rate has been in an unbalance state in the border of China and Russia with the population of 300 million and 80 million respectively. Drug mongers from adjacent countries collude with China's criminal organizations to sell drugs to other countries even to American. Refugees from North Korea also have influenced the relationship of Sino-Korea. Because of famine, a large number of refugees escape to China ceaselessly, which brings many administrative difficulties to both governments and causes bad effects to the relationship of our two countries. This circumstance has aroused great attention of North Korea government.

These non-conventional security problems have restrained China's successful development of the relationship with other countries, even will evolve into conventional security problem and lead to a serious military conflict.

There are three kinds of vicious powers (terrorism, national secessionism and religion extremism) which threaten China homeland security greatly. The major reflection is "[Eastern Turki Independence Movement](#)". [ETIM](#) organization is the combination of the above three powers with the purpose of splitting Sinkiang from China and establishing [Eastern Turkistan](#).

[ETIM](#) organization has been supported by imperialism since the very day of establishing, and is the main reason for the unstable situation of Sinkiang. [ETIM](#) organization in Sinkiang colludes with foreign terroristic powers to obtain military equipment, capital and trained persons. It has become an international terroristic organization. Since 1990s, its terroristic activities have been increasing seriously, such as assassination, bombing, poisoning, armed rebellion and so on. According to incomplete figures, from 1990 to 2001, [ETIM](#) organization inside and outside China has made more than 200 terroristic activities and killed 162 and injured 440 persons at least.

[ETIM](#) organization, in order to separate Sinkiang from China, tries its best to make "Sinkiang problem internationalized". For one thing, it moulds public opinion in foreign countries to obtain international support. For another, it creates disturbance and terroristic activities in Sinkiang and other areas to enhance its effect and make the society unstable.

Some western countries never want to see China stronger day by day, so their policy on this issue is to support [ETIM](#) organization to stir up "internal strife". American, especially, takes Sinkiang as the important area to implement "westernization" and "secessional" strategy and attempts to

interfere Chinese interior through ETIM and other issues. American supports ETIM organization outside China to create destructive activities. We can conclude through the facts that ETIM organization is a special detachment which is supported by hostile powers inside and outside China to stir up “internal strife”.

Although international society has regulated terrorism much more strongly, ETIM organization always changes its strategy and takes flexible methods to continue its terroristic and secessional activities.

Tibet is also confronted with the threat of splittism and the interference of international powers.

At present, the most serious threat to China homeland security is Taiwan problem. Li Denghui and Chen Shuibian implemented peaceful secessional plan step by step in order to separate Taiwan from China. They have used many ploys, such as modifying “constitution”, changing “country’s title”, to realize legal “Taiwan independence”. Second, they are straining every nerve to enhance military equipment and buying weapons from American and other advanced countries. Third, they created “two China” in the international world. Those claim “Taiwan independence” high on entering UN (permits sovereignties only) and its special institution---World Health Organization. At the same time, they cost too much to “establish good relations with other countries”. Forth, they are getting rid of “Chinese features” in politics, history and culture. They use many methods to separate from mainland in history and culture.

To ensure country security is an important function and inevitable duty of a modern government. The ability and activity of a government have direct relation with country’s fate and its image in every citizen’s heart. Compared with foreign countries, China homeland security is in the junior phase. SRAS happened in 2003 suggested the firm will of our new government, but also exposed its limitation in ensuring homeland security.

First, lacking the understanding to country security. In the past, we take the invasion and war as the dangerous situation, such as Korea War. Soviet Union disposed millions of soldiers along border. We didn’t realize that country security threat is various, including national secessionism. Chinese government didn’t understand the threat brought by national secessionism in Sinkiang and Tibet on strategical level, while took the rebellions as common counterrevolution revolts. We didn’t realize that they had colluded with foreign anti-China powers to make the problem internationalized, and didn’t realize they had combined with terrorism and religion extremism into international terrorism. In order to separate Sinkiang from China, they killed plebs cruelly. Our government also didn’t realize that Taiwan problem would develop into such a difficult state. During “two Jiang” (Jiang Jieshi and Jiang Jinguo) times, although our government had treat this problem on strategical level, we only make limited success because of the lack of necessary propaganda and the influence of “the Great Cultural Revolution”. What is worse, our government still considered that Taiwan would implement the policy in “two Jiang” times, and wouldn’t develop to “Taiwan independence”. It also considered that, although there might be the people who claim “Taiwan independence”, they would be suppressed by Taiwan authority and couldn’t become a strong power. But now, Taiwan problem has been the greatest hiding trouble of China

homeland security.

The demerits in China homeland Security

After reform and opening up, China always takes economic construction as the most important duty, and national defense construction comes the second. This idea seriously restrained the modern construction of our forces. As a result, our forces still lagged in the mechanized or semi-mechanized days, and equipment and skill fell far behind those of advanced countries about 20 years at least, and the way and theory of taking military activity cannot be applied in information age. Under this occasion, we can see the obvious danger to China homeland security. For instance, islands belong to China are occupied by foreign force; our army cannot protect the resources in Chinese sea, while it has been explored by other countries; our forces cannot control “Taiwan Independence” power. Although our government has enhanced modern force construction recently, we still cannot prevent resources from being thieved, islands from being occupied and control the situation of “Taiwan Independence”.

Because of pursuing the speed of economy development solely, we have to face serious environment troubles, woodland has been destroyed; grassland has been degenerated; environment has been polluted. All these bring a series of natural disasters, such as, the Changjiang River flood happened in 1998, severe epidemic diseases and so on, which have greatly influenced the sustainable development of Chinese economy. Many experts consider that “protecting environment is a great and permanent plan to secure territory. ” If we pay all the attention to industry development while pay no to agriculture and occupy farmer’s farmland endlessly, “three agricultural” problems will be more and more serious. So countryside will be in an unstable state, and anti-government affairs will be increased. Gradually, it may form an organized group to fight against our government.

Influenced by traditional culture, we only take temporary measures when urgency happens and ignore the construction of homeland security. So we prefer to overcome difficulties in full sail when danger is happening. Before Taiwan problem worsened, our government had little consciousness to homeland security and lacked the basic alert and measure to potential and obvious threat. “9.11”event happened in American makes us learn much.

Second, Chinese government lacks a standing and comprehensive administrative institution of homeland security.

Internationally, many advanced countries put great emphasis on establishing a powerful homeland security system. For example, American established [Federal Emergency Administration Bureau](#) in 1979. This department performs duties to president directly, and it has developed a comprehensive emergency administrative system to deal with all kinds and all scales of disasters including homeland security threats. After 9.11 event happened, this system started in time to rescue the people and others things trapped in the buildings. It decreased the losses to the lowest degree.

After 9.11 event happened, American rapidly established [homeland Security Department](#) which was responsible to protect country security and other relevant work. Compared with American, China lacks this kind of department. Since the founding of new China, our leadership has experienced many hard and great battles, such as, “the war to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea”, “Jinmen War”, “Suppression of Tibet Rebellion”, fighting against flood in 1954, 1963, 1975 and 1998, 3 years natural disaster in 1960s, southeast Asia financial crisis in 1997 and so on. When we are facing the threat to homeland security (except wars) and have suffered from it to some extent, the general measure is, decisive section will establish a temporary department including some competent leaders. This special temporary department is supported by some relevant institutions, and it takes measures as soon as possible to deal with the trouble. After finishing the task, the department will be dispersed and the workers will go back to their original department. If this crisis happens again, they will do the above things again and never establish such a standing administrative department. So we cannot know where and what the homeland security threat is, and cannot eliminate the threats as soon as possible, which increases the cost of dealing with it.

Third, China homeland security administration lacks a law norm.

Public crisis administration including homeland security administration in advanced countries has a relative comprehensive law norm. To secure country, there is law which includes basic even detail regulations as the evidence and guides government, citizens and relevant department. For example, [Federal emergency Plan](#) in American, [Law for State of Emergency](#) in French and [Law of preventing and dealing with disasters](#) in southeast Asia. In the late years, China has enacted some relevant law to deal with natural disasters too, for example, [Law of Preventing Earthquake and Dealing with Disasters](#), [Law of Flood Protection](#), [Law of Fire Fighting](#) and so on, but the relevant departments over stress on administration and lack necessary correspondence and co-operation between every section of government or government and society. When dealing with high frequent and multi-field country security problems in modern times, our government always cannot develop its ability very well. The legal system construction of country security administration is relatively lagged behind. Although there are regulations in Constitution and Martial Law to deal with emergencies, we lack a comprehensive country security law and [Law for State of Emergency](#) which makes the lack of a special legal protection to the relative administration. So we have to establish a law to regulate government’s responsibilities and right when crisis happens. What is worth of mentioning is that anti-secession law is being fermented. This law will control “Taiwan independence” power and regulate relevant functions of our government to prevent Taiwan from being separated away.

Forth, we lack long-term strategical plans to deal with homeland security crisis.

Homeland security administration is a comprehensive administrative project with the features of cross-fields, cross-times. Central government or local government must consider this question from a long-term point of view and put emphasis on macroscopical control, and establish periodical strategical plans and hold the initiative right to deal with crisis. China has established

crisis early warning institution in only some fields (PLA does this better), but these institutions only do their own work without any necessary communications and conformity. They are corresponded by government only when facing serious homeland security crisis. homeland security administration lacks both long-term strategical plans and comprehensive correspondence. The command system is in turbulence and their activities lacks legal proceedings, which make our government deal with trouble passively without any preparations and have to control repeatedly.

Fifth, the mobilization is not enough to deal with country security crisis.

Chinese “big government and small society” feature makes the deficiency of mobilization ability. That is to say, the initiative and enthusiasm to organize a group and keep away the crisis automatically is not enough, which makes our government bear too much.

Measures of building China homeland Security

Considering the practical country security problems and disadvantages existed, we should make references to other advanced countries and establish a homeland security system. In my opinion, China homeland security building should take measures in such aspects.

First, we should establish country security strategy and relative laws.

Homeland security strategy should make it clear that what kind of homeland security threat is, and it should decrease the losses brought by the coming or existing homeland security threat and restore the situation to a stable state. It also needs to define the range of homeland security, such as, the civil and military facilities used to defend terrorism, protecting network from being disrupted, guarding against nuclear disasters and establishing a united emergent response system in the whole country and so on.

The key of establishing such an administration system is to constitute a relatively comprehensive law system. This law system regulates the right and duty of a government and defines the principle of dealing with homeland security problems. It will improve the ability of a government and maintain its public fame, authority and legality. According to the current homeland security state, we should conform relative departments to administrate homeland security together and establish a united [Law for State of Emergency](#) which defines the settings of the administration system, functions, rights and responsibilities. This law should include emergency dealing system, early warning system, information providing system and emergent homeland security crisis starting system. [Law for State of Emergency](#) ensures this department run legally. According to the law, this department can realize its responsibility as soon as emergency happens and decrease the losses. It also needs to make necessary administration reform. This department has broken through the unconventional administration form, which suggests that homeland security is developing towards professional direction.

Second, we should establish a homeland security administration department.

If we want to perform administration effectively, a homeland security administration department like [Homeland security Department](#) in American should be founded. With this department, government will be ensured in executing its homeland security responsibility. China hasn't such an independent and standing homeland security administration department. So when we are facing crisis, our government will establish a temporary group which doesn't have an effective plan to solve the problem, while a special department has a mature strategical plan. So we have to establish a homeland security department with clear responsibility distribution as soon as possible.

This department should have an early plan system which isn't only used to a certain kind of homeland security crisis but is a general and detail one that can deal with all kinds of crisis, including the way of corresponding between every sections, the right and responsibilities of everyone and their relations and important storage of necessary materials. Simulate training is an important section in emergency dealing plan, because it can cultivate citizen's security consciousness and improve the capability of adapting themselves to homeland security crisis.

Third, we should establish a scientific early warning system.

From the point of the aim and effect of crisis administration, early warning is more important than dealing with it. Homeland security crisis has the features of uncertainty and paroxysm. Although it is hard to predict, it still has a course from germination to outburst. In general occasion, there will be some symptoms at early time. So if we have established a comprehensive early plan system, we can seize the best opportunity.

How can we make an effective control and defense?

First, we should realize the importance of current homeland security administration and have a proper consciousness to it. We should prepare for danger in times of peace. Second, we have to establish an efficient and smooth homeland security information system to improve the function of intelligence agency. This system is responsible to collect and manage information and report any possible crisis. Information is the life of crisis administration, and information report is the necessary condition of homeland security administration, citizen's legal right and their effective participation into crisis administration. Third, we should establish an education and training system for crisis administration so as to provide security education and simulate training to improve their ability of dealing with crisis and self-protection.

Forth, we should establish aftermath dealing and inverting system. After the crisis has been controlled, aftermath dealing and restoring system should be started in time to restore economy and society order. Solving crisis successfully doesn't mean the ending of crisis administration. The homeland security administration department should hold the chance and do the following two things carefully. First, the department should cope with the aftermath of the crisis, including restoring the destroyed facilities and society order. Second, we should summarize the experience and reform the homeland security administration system to defend this kind of crisis from happening again.

Crisis means both danger and opportunity. We should make use of danger and transform it into opportunity. The key is to draw a conclusion from former homeland security crisis. First, we should investigate the cause, relevant defending and dealing measures drastically and systemically. Second, we should evaluate the whole course of homeland security administration, including evaluations to early warning system, emergency dealing system and so on. We should stress on analyzing the problems existed in crisis administration.