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Mrs. Roosevelt

I Was Denied a Visa to Visit Red China

WINCHESTER, Va. — One of the newspapers which prints my column (the New York Post) has asked me if I would be willing to go to Communist China and try to interview some of the people in government there. I had long wanted to go to China, just as my husband always wanted to go there.

Hoping that the State Department was ready to relax its rules and allow for communication between our countries thru the press, I made application for a visa and was told that, as yet, no newsman was permitted by our government to visit Communist China.

I still hope that the State Department may find it possible to allow all correspondents who wish to gather news from this area of the world to go there if the Chinese will allow them to enter.

I believe it might be easier to learn some things in China than in Russia. But I am anxious to go to Russia, too, and since I cannot now go to China, I hope that I will be able to visit Russian in the near future.

My husband acquired his earliest interest in China and his great respect for its people thru his grandfather, Warren Delano, who had lived there for a number of years. Warren Delano had been a partner in one of the British trading firms dealing primarily in tea.

I believe that we need all the information we can get about every part of the world, regardless of the type of government that may be in power.

We now are officially recognizing the Fascist government of Spain which actually came into existence thru cooperation with our German and Italian enemies in World War II. During that war, because of the danger facing all of us, we fought as allies with the Soviet Union and only when the war was at an end did our difficulties seem insurmountable.

The difficulties we face with any Communist country are still considerable, but I believe that trade and communication are essential if we are ever to come to some soultion of how to live in the same world, despite our differences, without war.

Above all else, the peoples of the world desire peace. We must feel secure from attack, but in the long run just building up military strength is not the way to find out how to live together in the new world we face.

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Wash. Post and Times Herald
Wash. News
Wash. Star
N. Y. Herald Tribune
N. Y. Journal-American
N. Y. Mirror
N. Y. Daily News
N. Y. Times
Daily Worker
The Worker
New Leader

Date JUN 26 1957

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