



Man's Inhumanity

The "Third Straight Crop Failure" in Red China was again reported in May with a cataclysmic account of "natural calamities," with rations cut to a mere few ounces a day, virtually no meat, and only a few vegetables. However, according to a newspaper report originating in Tokyo, "weather men had noticed little unusual weather over China during 1960, and suspicions were raised that poor production methods and not failure were reasons for the poor showing."

Dr. Ellsworth Raymond, an expert on Russian area studies at New York University, who spoke at the Henry George School in New York, predicted the above crop failure report and said Khrushchev warned China that state farms in Russia had not met production — but the Red regime nevertheless gradually converted to total regimentation.

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Russia is also suffering a food shortage, and, like China, is forced to buy from other countries although in Czarist times it was a great supplier of food. It is a historical fact that slavery stifles production. On collective farms, communes and state farms peasants simply refuse to work efficiently, and they have slaughtered thousands of animals rather than have them taken by the communes. Farmers, like factory workers, drop to their lowest production when incentive is lacking.

Private gardens in Russia provide nearly 50 per cent of the food, though they represent only 4 per cent of the land area. This shows the strength of private gardeners, although they are heavily taxed. Khrushchev doesn't like them, of course, and is now trying to take their livestock away. When a dictator fails he purges the opposition, in this case the farmer.