

THE COLLAPSE OF NATIONALIST CHINA

When World War II ended, Chiang Kai-shek seemed at the height of his power – the leader of Nationalist China, one of the victorious Allied Powers in 1945, and with the financial backing of the US. Yet less than four years later, he lost China's civil war against the communists. Offering an insightful chronological treatment of the years 1944 to 1949, Parks Coble addresses why Chiang was unable to win the war and control hyperinflation. Using newly available archival sources, he reveals the critical weakness of Chiang's style of governing, the fundamental structural flaws in the Nationalist government, bitter personal rivalries, and Chiang's personal lack of interest in finance. This major work of revisionist scholarship will engage all those interested in the shaping of twentieth-century history.

Parks M. Coble is James L. Sellers Professor of History at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

**THE COLLAPSE OF
NATIONALIST CHINA**

How Chiang Kai-shek Lost China's Civil War

Parks M. Coble

University of Nebraska–Lincoln



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Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-29764-6 — The Collapse of Nationalist China
Parks M. Coble
Frontmatter
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UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

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www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009297646

DOI: 10.1017/9781009297639

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First published 2023

First paperback edition 2025

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

Names: Coble, Parks M., 1946- author.

Title: The collapse of Nationalist China : how Chiang Kai-Shek lost China's Civil War /
Parks Coble, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

Description: Cambridge ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2023. | Includes
bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022057929 | ISBN 9781009297615 (hardback) | ISBN
9781009297646 (paperback) | ISBN 9781009297639 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: China – History – Civil War, 1945–1949. | China – Politics and
government – 1945–1949. | Chiang, Kai-shek, 1887–1975.

Classification: LCC DS777.54 .C63 2023 | DDC 951.04/2–dc23/eng/20230110
LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022057929>

ISBN 978-1-009-29761-5 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-009-29764-6 Paperback

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Acknowledgments

I have accumulated numerous debts to individuals and institutions in the years spent researching and writing this study. None is greater than the support I have received from my home institution, the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. My colleagues in the history department have created an environment that encouraged research, and the university provided assistance throughout. I have been the James L. Sellers Professor of History since 2007, a position providing substantial research support. I am deeply grateful to the late Catherine and John Angle for their generosity. My chair is named for James L. Sellers, a distinguished historian who taught at the University of Nebraska from 1930 until 1959, through the difficult days of the Depression and World War II, and who was the father of Catherine Angle.

The archives of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace at Stanford University provided some of the most valuable material for this study. I thank the staff at Hoover for their assistance and support and particularly for a Visiting Research Grant for a visit in June 2016. Earlier in April 2015, I received a Visiting Research Grant for work at the Stanford University East Asian Library, awarded through Stanford's Title VI National Resource Center Grant from the Department of Education. The contents of this book were developed under grant #84.015A from the US Department of Education. However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

I have been privileged to be an associate-in-research at the Fairbank Center at Harvard University for many years. This has allowed access to

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

the libraries of Harvard, particularly the Harvard-Yenching Library and the Fairbank Collection at the Fung Library. I thank especially Nancy Hearst of the Fairbank Collection. Visits to Harvard also afforded the opportunity for informal discussions with scholars from around the world. It is impossible to list all who were helpful, but I would like to single out the late Ezra Vogel. Not only did he provide encouragement, but he organized important conferences, bringing together Chinese, Japanese, and Western scholars, which impacted my work.

I have been an inveterate conference-goer during my entire career, attending most regularly the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, the American Historical Association annual meeting, and in particular the meetings of the Association for Asian Studies (of which I am a fifty-year member). Perhaps the most significant conferences have been those with a specific research agenda with invited participants. My deepest debt of gratitude goes to Professor Wu Jingping of the Department of History at Fudan University who generously invited me to attend several such meetings in Shanghai and provided financial support for travel, which enabled me to connect with scholars and graduate students in China and internationally. Most generously, I had the opportunity to present my own research and receive the advice of Chinese colleagues.

This began in November 2013 when I presented at the “Symposium on the Soong Family and the Development of Modern China,” held at Fudan University and sponsored by the Modern China Research Center of Leadership and Archival Documents at that institution, the Hoover Institution at Stanford, and the Shanghai Soong Ching-ling Research Institute, with support from the Asia Pacific Fund. In October 2014, I participated in the “Symposium on the Soong Family and the Development of Modern China,” sponsored by the Modern China Research Center of Leadership and Archival Documents of Fudan University and the Shanghai Soong Ching-ling Foundation. I then presented at the conference “Bankers and Shanghai’s Financial Transformation,” sponsored by the Fudan University Research Center on the History of China’s Finance, the Shanghai Research Institute on Financial Regulation, and the Shanghai Municipal Archives. In July of 2015, I attended the “Symposium on the Collection and Study of the Soong Family’s Archives: The Soong Family and World War II,” an

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

invaluable experience that also allowed me to meet descendants of the Soong family. In August of 2015, I presented at “Shanghai Finance during the War of Resistance against Japan,” a symposium sponsored by the Center for China’s Financial Studies, Fudan University, and the Shanghai Institute of Financial Legislation.

In October 2016, I presented at the conference “Shanghai Finance: From the Perspective of the Interaction between Treaty Ports,” jointly organized by the Fudan University Center for China’s Financial History Studies and the Shanghai Institute of Financial Legislation. The following October, I presented at “The Symposium on Financial Risk Management in the Perspective of Globalization and Changes in Industry,” jointly organized by the Fudan University Center for China’s Financial History Studies and the Shanghai Institute of Financial Legislation. Finally, in May of 2018 I presented at a conference, “Studying in America and Modern China’s Finance, Economics, and Diplomacy,” at Fudan University. In addition to the Fudan conferences, I gained invaluable insights when I presented at the conference “Modern China in World Affairs: Interaction and Mutual Influence,” jointly organized by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of Modern History, and the Historical Society for 20th Century China, held in Beijing in August 2016. I thank all the abovementioned agencies for their support in allowing me to participate in these conferences.

I gained many insights over the course of my encounters with Chinese and international scholars in China and owe debts to many more individuals than can be named here. But in addition to Professor Wu Jingping, I would like to thank the following for comments given at the above conferences: Chen Hongmin, Nancy Gao, Kubo Toru, the late Lai Chikong, Pei-tak Lee, Lin Mei-li, Liu Zhiying, Ma Linghe, Ma Zhendu, Mou Libang, Shiroyama Tomoko, Wang Chaoguang, Xiong Yuezhi, Xu Ang, Yang Tianshi, Zheng Huixin, and Zhuo Zunhong.

Over the course of the years in which I was writing this study I gained support and insights from many individuals. I would especially seek to thank Morris Bian, Sherman Cochran, Po-shek Fu, Grace Huang, Emily Hill, Kang Jin A, Elisabeth Köll, Diana Lary, Sophia Lee, Greg Lewis, Lin Man-houng, Stephen MacKinnon, Ghassan Moazzin, Brett Sheehan, and Margherita Zanasi. I also thank my editor at Cambridge University Press,

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Lucy Rhymer, for her significant assistance, as well as two anonymous reviewers for the press who provided valuable feedback on this study. Emily Plater arranged permissions for the images used in the text.

This study is dedicated to the late Lloyd E. Eastman, my graduate mentor and friend who did so much to shape the field of study of Republican China before his untimely death. This study had its origins in questions raised half a century ago in classes, seminars, and discussions at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. At that time the archival sources proved insufficient to undertake this project. Yet I constantly recalled those discussions so many years ago as I wrote this study.