

OBSERVATION

A DIAPER FOR THE ALTA KAKA, PLEASE

The Jewish people refer to them as alta kakas.

The English and Americans call them senior citizens.

The study of such people is known as gerontology.

And the People's Republic of China (PRC) is a country, which could be described as a gerontocracy because, by and large, political decisions are made by people of advancing age.

Because the PRC has been controlled for some years by Chinese alta kakas, the care and comfort of them has reached a very high level.

The Chinese alta kakas, some of whom are members of the highest council in the Government of the PRC, are now referred to in certain quarters of the PRC Government as being, *'The Diapers Boys'*.

What started out as a joke is fast becoming an accepted requirement, it appears, because the idea of giving diapers to elderly Chinese statesmen, who have to sit in one place for up to 5 hours, listening to their peers spout words of wisdom, or to watch the enthronement of new additions to their ranks, means, literally, that they have to hold their water for an unbearable length of time.

(The cost of cleaning carpets in auditoriums, where certain political conventions are held, has, also, become a talking point in many a boardroom)

It has been proved that it is not always possible to have an alta kaka, even a Chinese alta kaka, wait for up to 5 hours to take a pee. This was discovered, very recently, when the cleaning bills came in for carpet and seat repair.

So some system had to be considered as a matter of urgency.

At the December 20, 1999 preparations for the swearing-in ceremony of people to assist in the running of the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) of the PRC, there were so many delegates and guests, seated in the auditorium, that it was only too clear that toilet facilities could never accommodate all of the needs of those in attendance.

Thus, diapers were said to have been dispensed in order that the elderly Chinese guests, and delegates of the National People's Congress, could stay in their assigned seats, without having to have an endless crush of people, all looking for the same facility where they could evacuate their bowels and bladders.

Diaper disposal has been a closely guarded secret, however, and only certain people have been made privy to the system, which was employed to cause no embarrassment.

It is a fact that the Chinese alta kakas did stay seated for the entire length of the proceedings so that one could say that the diaper solution was a thumping success.

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