

## 5-30 Bloody Incident, HK-Guangdong Strike, & Boycott Movements

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Workers and sailors in HK, back in Jan 1922, organized a "HK Sailors Strike". When British authorities closed down two unions and arrested workers' leaders, over 100000 people held a strike. To lend assistance to HK workers and sailors, Canton's sailor union office organized a blockade of HK. To help with subsistence of the workers and sailors on strike, sailor union office called upon 100000 workers and sailors in walking back to Canton. On March 4th 1922, workers and sailors, on the way back from HK and when passing through Shamian, encountered police crackdowns, which led to a death toll of 6 workers and a casualty of several hundreds. Railroad workers in Canton, Jing-Han Line, and Long-Hai Line rose up in support of HK workers and sailors. 56 days later, British authorities had to make shipping companies increase wage by 15-30%, reinstate the unions, release the arrested leaders, and reimburse the families for the victims of "Shamian Bloody Incident".

From June 12th to 20th of 1923, Maring hosted CCP's 3rd National Session in Canton, with participants from both the south and the north. The meeting was held at Chen Duxiu and Maring's residencies alternatively. At the meeting, Maring pushed through the KMT Enactment which was about KMT-CCP alliance, summarized Feb 7th Railroad Workers' Strike as something which had dealt a blow to the vitality of Cao Kun/Wu Peifu's Peking government, elected the nine executive committee members including Chen Duxiu, Li Dazhao, Mao Zedong, Luo Zhanglong, Wang Hebo, Cai Hesen, Tan Pingshan, Xiang Derong and Zhu Shaolian etc, and set up the five member Politburo including Chen Duxiu, Mao Zedong, Luo Zhanglong, Cai Hesen and Tan Pingshan. Chen Duxiu was elected "*wei yuan zhang*" (i.e., CCP generalissimo), and Mao Zedong was to be the secretary. 3rd National Session made a policy change in shifting workers' movement to major cosmopolitan cities like Shanghai, Canton, Wuhan and Qingdao etc. In late 1924, Liu Shaoqi relocated to Canton as deputy committee chair for the Chinese Consolidated Workers' Trade Union. CCP dispatched cadres such as Li Lishan & Deng Zhongxia etc to Shanghai for organizing workers' clubs, laying the foundation of launching the anti-imperialism national level strikes of 1925.

In 1925, CCP, at the approval by Comintern, also established the so-called Inner Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party which, having disintegrated after the 1927 collapse of CCP-KMT alliance, would later implicate 346,000 victims during the cultural revolution of 1960s.

When Japanese capitalists [i.e., a textile factory] cracked down on Shanghai workers and killed CCP leader Gu Zhengong on May 15th 1925, CCP members took blood-stained clothes to schools and factories and led mass protests on May 30th. British extraterritorial police made arrests of protesters. Protesters surrounded the extraterritorial police bureau. British, on May 30th, shot dead 10 protesters, including students, on Nanking Road. Hu Qiuyuan biographical account stated that he had heard from Li Lishan around 1945 that it was Li Lishan himself who orchestrated the anti-British protests from Yipingxiang [first class fragrance] Hotel of Shanghai under Moscow instructions that anti-Japanese protest be turned into anti-British protest for echoing USSR's wars against British subversion. In Wuxi, on June 1st, Xu Zhucheng joined the student gangs in going to the four city gates for calling upon vegetable peasants and vendors on the matter of anti-British patriotic movement. Chen Yongfa pointed out that CCP, possessing about 1000 members nationwide prior to "May 30th 1925 Bloody Incident", lowered its stringent intelligentsia requirements to have expanded to 11000 members within the next 12 months.

In the aftermath of nationwide protests against "May 30th 1925 Bloody Incident", Qian Xincun [i.e., Qian Defu, aka [Ah Ying](#)] established "Min-sheng [Livelihood] Middle School" in Wuhu of Anhui Province together with Gong Qianyan & Li Kenong. Later in the spring of 1926, Ah Ying joined the communist party but had to flee to Wuhan of Hubei Province when Chiang Kai-shek launched April 12th 1927 purge movement against communists.

At Hankou [Hankow], on June 11, British sailors fired on demonstration, killing eight and wounding twelve. In HK, in early June, Su Zhaozheng & Deng Zhongxia established "All HK Workers' Consolidated Union". HK sailors started a strike on 19th, and Canton workers started the strike on 21st. Hearing of the bloody incidents in Shanghai and Hankou, 100000 Canton people, including workers and sailors who returned from HK, mounted a protest against the British on June 23rd. When passing through Shaji [Shakee Road Bridge], across Shamian's extraterritorial area, British & French police shot at protesters with machineguns, and Portuguese warships shot cannon balls onto shore. Altogether 80+ Chinese were killed. Hence, 250000 workers and sailors in HK mounted a strike, and another 130000 workers and sailors left HK. On 27th, All China Consolidated Union held a meeting in Canton and declared an "economic blockade" of HK by establishing "Canton-Hongkong Strike Committee". 2000 workers and sailors organized picket lines and set up road blocks on July 3rd, making HK a dead port after a strike lasting 16 months, till Oct 10th 1926.

When Nationalist Army mounted northern expeditions, Chinese nationwide were in full motion against imperialist interests. British concessions in Hankou [Han-k'ou] of Hubei Province and consecutively Jiujiang [Chiu-chiang] of Jiangxi Province would be taken over by Chinese masses as a result of confrontations between British and Chinese. (Hankou returned to Chinese rule on Jan 1st 1927 during a mass parade for celebrating the victory of

KMT Northern Expedition.) To counter Chinese anti-imperialism, British often resorted to fire power in retaining its control. In Sept 1926, bloody incident called 'Wanxian County Incident' occurred in Sichuan Province when British warships bombarded Chinese on the shore of Yangtze River. On Jan 3rd 1927, British caused Chinese injuries in Wuhan. Chinese populace stormed the British concession in Hankou. The next day, British caused Chinese injuries in Jiujiang and fired cannons from warships as a demonstration of power. Chinese populace, like the counterparts in Hankou, stormed the British concession in Jiujiang. After losing Hankou & Jiujiang, British decided to defend the Shanghai territory.

During the battle for Shanghai, imperialist nations assembled an army of 23000 in Shanghai and dispatched over 90 warships towards Nanking. On March 24th 1927, 6th & 2nd Corps of the Nationalist Army took over Nanking. Sun Chuanfang's army fled, and pillaging occurred in Nanking. [Pearl Buck](#) [Sai-zhen-zhu] had recalls about her ransacked residence in Nanking. Li Dongfang pointed out that it was Cheng Qian's communist-dominated troops that ransacked Nanking's foreigner area on March 24th. At this time, British and American warships fired cannon balls into Nanking city from warships near Xiaguan Wharf on the pretext of punishing mobsters. Bombing led to a Chinese casualty of over 2000 people, i.e., Nanking Bloody Incident. Japanese, headed by Prime Minister Shidehara Kijuro [Biyuan Xichonglang in Chinese], refused to join the British, American, French & Italian in an ultimatum against Chiang Kai-shek. One Japanese Navy commander was said to have committed suicide for failing to protect Japanese immigrants and citizens. On March 31st, in Shanghai, Chiang Kai-shek held a news conference about punishing the perpetrators and resorting to peaceful means for revocation of unequal treaties.