

Kang Sheng/Wang Ming's Return From Moscow

by Ah Xiang

[Excerpts from "Red Terror & White Terror"]

Kang Sheng, while in Moscow, became deputy chief for CCP Delegation To Comintern. During four year stay in Moscow, Kang Sheng became a devout supporter of Wang Ming and implemented the "Purge of Trotskyists" measure among CCP members in USSR by learning from the experiences of NKVD (People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs). NKVD, when the OGPU (q.v.) was abolished in 1934, became the commissariat that conducted the police and terror activities on behalf of Stalin, and it was replaced by KGB in 1946. Kang Sheng, in Aug 1935, was appointed "backup commissar" for Comintern Central Executive Committee. In late Oct of 1937, Wang Ming & Kang Sheng returned to Dihua of New Dominion Province and hinted that Yu Xiusong & Zhou Dawen etc (who had antagonized Wang Ming while studying at Sun Yat-sen University in Moscow) were Trotskyist suspects, and two months later, Sheng Shicai arrested Yu & Zhou and handed over to Russian Red Army which stationed its USSR Red Army 8th Regiment in Hami. On June 25th 1938, Russians transported Yu Xiusong to USSR where NKVD executed him as a Trotskyist. Also killed in early 1938 in New Dominion Prov, in the hands of Deng Fa and under the nose of Chen Yun, would be Li Te & Huang Chao, two surviving officers from Zhang Guotao's Western Route Red Army. (Numerous Chinese communists, during the Russian Purge, had been either executed or sent to Siberia's gulags. Per Zheng Yi, Wu Xianqing, i.e., wife of Liu Ding [aka Kan Zunmin], was killed by Russian Purge in USSR. Chinese people in the Russian Far East were systematically rounded up and dispatched to the Arctic area for coolie labor as a result of Stalin's policy of cracking down on the Chinese to appease the Japanese in Manchuria.)

Wang Ming & Kang Sheng returned to Yan'an by late Nov 1937. Gao Hua stated that Kang Sheng had won Mao Tse-tung's trust by betraying Wang Ming, by acting as a match-maker for Mao Tse-tung & Jiang Qing [Chiang Ch'ing, aka Li Yunhe], and by implementing his former 'red terror' experiences in Shanghai and NKVD [i.e., Ge-bo-wu]. (Mao took in Jiang Qing against the objections of CCP politburo as well as unfavorable reports by such secret CCP agents as Yang Fan & Wang Shiyong. Yang Fan & Wang Shiyong, per Sima Lu, stated that Jiang Qing was a woman like a 'public bus' while living in Shanghai. Cai Meegjian cited Zhang Guotao wife's account in pointing out that Jiang Qing often utilized the only brick house with sofa and furnace for a rendezvous with her boyfriend [an actor by the name of low-height Wang] at Yan'an while in the process of Mao Tse-tung. Yan Pu, the father of Yan Weibing, wrote to Yan'an against this marriage. Heh Long, in full support of Mao, had claimed that he would shoot anyone who opposed this marriage. Dong Zhujun, who had working relationship with Xie Yunxin [Zhang Min] in 1931, stated that she had been responsible for dissuading Zhang Min's wife [Xiao Kun] and Ma Jiliang [Tang Na] from committing suicides. All those suicide attempts resulted from Zhang Min's affairs with Jiang Qing [actress name Lan Ping] after the success of a drama "Big Storm". While drama director Zhang Min proposed divorce with wife Xiao Kun, actress Jiang Qing [Lan Ping] proposed divorce with Ma Jiliang [Tang Na]. Shortly afterward, Jiang Qing broke away from Zhang Min and departed for Yan'an for her "big dream". Dong Zhujun's acquaintance with such actresses as Jiang Qing & Wang Ying would led to her years of prison life during the 1960s

cultural revolution.)

In Dec 1937, Wang Ming, Kang Sheng & Chen Yun entered CCP's secretariat. Wang Ming left for a three month meeting in Wuhan of Hubei Province in Dec 1937. On Dec 25th 1937, Wang Ming, in KMT-controlled Wuhan, issued a proclamation representing Stalin's line of thought, i.e., "CCP Proclamation As To Current Affairs", and proposed "five united" approaches to resisting Japanese under the KMT leadership. Wang Ming returned to Yan'an for Feb 27-March 1 1938 meeting and proposed "seven united" approaches in cooperation with KMT. Mao Tse-tung, privately calling Wang Ming a "rightist surrenderist", advised against Wang Ming's return to Wuhan. However, majority CCP politburo members did not object to Wang Ming's trip to Wuhan where CCP Yangtze Bureau had become a de facto CCP apparatus. Gao Hua cited Sima Lu's memoirs in stating that around Feb/March of 1938, Kang Sheng was still exclaiming a slogan "Long Live Comrade Wang Ming - The Genius Leader Who Guides Our Party". To counter Wang Ming, Mao Tse-tung recalled Liu Shaoqi to Yan'an in mid-March, and on March 24th, Liu Shaoqi was retained in Yan'an per politburo resolution. Meanwhile, Mao Tse-tung dispatched Ren Bishi to Moscow for winning over Comintern. In Wuhan, before KMT interim national congress, Wang Ming authored "CCP Wire To KMT Interim National Congress", declined Mao Tse-tung's version on April 1st, and refused to publish Mao Tse-tung's article "In Regards To Sustained & Protracted Warfare" on CCP organ "New China Daily" in May. Wang Ming claimed in his book "CCP 50 Years" that Mao Tse-tung's "Sustained & Protracted Warfare" was merely a passivity waiting in anticipation of the outbreak of war between Japan and USSR. After two months of work by Ren Bishi in Moscow, on June 11th, Comintern affirmed CCP's policies, and on July 6th, Pravda published an article with portraits of Mao Tse-tung and Zhu De. In Moscow, Ren Bishi replaced Wang Jiaxiang as CCP rep, while Georgi Dimitrov asked Wang Jiaxiang relay a message to CCP that Wang Ming etc should unite around Mao Tse-tung, a message that purportedly restored Mao Tse-tung's control over CCP. When Wang Ming returned to Yan'an again in Aug 1938, Kang Sheng was already a crony of Mao Tse-tung.

Kang Sheng, back in March, had stood on the same side as Mao, and for this, Kang Sheng was conferred the post of principal for CCP Party Academy in April. From March to August, Kang Sheng, together with Mao Tse-tung, Zhang Wentian, Liu Shaoqi and Chen Yun, had often expressed opposing viewpoints to those held by Wang Ming's CCP Yangtze Bureau. After Kang Sheng supported Mao Tse-tung in taking over Jiang Qing as his unofficial wife, Kang Sheng was conferred the posts of chief of CCP Central Social Department & CCP Information Department and deputy director of CCP Task Committee in Enemy-controlled Territories. Soon, Kang Sheng recruited agents for CCP Central Social Department throughout Yan'an, and by 1939, Kang Sheng established the "Northwestern Public School" for training espionage and purge cadres. Gao Hua stated that by 1941, Kang Sheng, who often likened himself to Dzerzhinskii and Beria, often walked around with four bodyguards and one dog in Yan'an while wearing his Russian-made leather jacket and boots.