Changing Alliances In International Arena

by Ah Xiang


World War II, in both East and West, were the inducements of the British, and Anglo-American syndicates. For what? British wanted Hitler to attack the Soviet Union, and the British wanted Japan to suppress China's nationalistic movement and to counter the Soviet Union. In both cases, Stalin out-smarted the British and Anglo-American syndicates. Hitler attacked westward instead, and signed a non-aggression pact with Stalin to halve Poland; and Japan attacked Southeast Asia and Pearl Harbor after China, not the Soviet Union. (Half a year before Russo-Japanese Neutrality Treaty of April 1941 and one year ahead of the Pacific War, Japan already reached a secret deal with USSR to halve China, as evidenced by Dec 1940 negotiations between Whang Jingwei and Japan. The same cunning Stalin, who fought Zhang Xueliang over China Eastern Railway, would quickly divest himself of the railway after Japan invaded Manchuria on Sept 18th 1931.)

The Anglo-American support for Japan could be dated to Japan's post-Meiji era. While US had supported Japan from 1894 First Sino-Japanese War to 1904 Russo-Japanese War, Britain tacked on the job of supporting Japan from 1904 onward, for 20 continuous years. To reign in Japan the mad dog from biting themselves, Britain and America somehow pressured Japan into some concessions through several conferences, i.e., Washington Conference on naval disarmament in 1922, and the Kellogg-Briand Pact in 1928. Nothing had shaken Anglo-American long-term objective of supporting Japan, no matter it was the sinking of Captain T. R. Galsworthy's merchant ship from British-owned Indochina Steam Navigation Company of London in 1894, or the sinking of Panay by Japanese bombers on the afternoon of Dec 12th 1937, or the attacks of two British warships on the Yangtze at the same timeframe. The Anglo-American & Jewish romance with Japanese, as exhibited in Steven Spielberg's EMPIRE OF THE SUN [based on the autobiographical novel by J.G. Ballard], had seemed to be corroborated by James Liley's recollections of his family's limited war experiences in China, obscured by the naked truth which the Prisoners of the Japanese : Pows of World War II in the Pacific would
rather forget.

Anglo-American's foes made their moves. In 1933, Germany withdrew from the League of Nations. Soviet Russia launched diplomatic initiatives by establishing diplomatic relations with China in Dec 1932 and with USA in 1933, consecutively, hence dispatching large embassy of agents for espionage and instigation. In September 1934, the Soviet Union joined the League of Nations. ("16 out of 17 of the AMERICANS that were involved in creating the U.N. were later identified, in sworn testimony, as secret communist agents. The first Secretary General was the AMERICAN Alger Hiss. Hiss served time in prison pursuant to his involvement in a Communist spy ring." The whole United States government was in fact taken over by the Comintern agents, including: Alger Hiss; Harry Dexter White; Lauchlin Currie; Laurence Duggan; Frank Coe; Solomon Adler; Klaus Fuchs; and Duncan Lee.)

In March 1935, Hitler denounced the disarmament clauses of the Treaty of Versailles and announced Germany's rearmament. Some 20,000 German Jews, with stamped passport by ROC ambassador to Germany, escaped Hitler's Nazis grip to find a haven in Shanghai. Chinese ambassador to Austria, i.e., Heh Fengshan, assisted Jews in granting visa to thousands of Jews from 1938 to 1940. See Shanghai Ghetto.

Beginning from 1935, Nationalist government enlisted 2.5 million labors for building four railway lines leading from Sichuan Province to Shenxi, Hunan, Guizhou and Yunnan Provinces. This turns out to be a big contribution to the later resistance wars against Japan.

On June 18th of 1935, Liao Zhongkai's coffin was relocated to Nanking for a state funeral. One day earlier, in Shanghai, over 300 representatives, together with Mme He Xiangning, received the coffin from a French-registered postal ship.

In July & August 1935, the Third Comintern announced an "anti-imperialist front" all over the world. In Moscow, Wang Ming, i.e., head of the Chinese communist delegation, passed on the new directives to CCP at home. When the Communist forces relocated to Yan'an [i.e., Yenan] in late 1935, they renamed themselves to the "Chinese Anti-Japanese Red Army". Chiang Kaishek, from 1935 to 1936, had authorized the "Secretive Sino-USSR Contacts and KMT-CCP Contacts In Multiple Channels", a manifestation that Chiang Kaishek was preparing for an inevitable confrontation with Japan by means of an alliance with Russians & Chinese communists. In Dec 1935, Chen Lifu, with Chiang Kaishek approval, went on a secret mission to USSR with Zhang Chong by disguising themselves among Cheng Tianfang & Feng Ti's embassy to Germany. Stalin declined an invitation over possible Japanese reactions. Meanwhile, Japan's news agency repeatedly claimed that KMT top representative Chen Lifu was sent to Moscow. Chiang Kaishek hence recalled Chen & Zhang, and pierced Japanese "rumor". Chinese government vacillated between an alliance with Soviet Union versus that with Japan.
Meanwhile, Soviet Union made an alliance with Sheng Shicai the warlord governor of Xinjiang [i.e., Sinkiang] in westernmost China. Sheng Shicai invited the Soviet Red Army and Chinese Communist Party into his dominion. (Wu Xiangxiang stated that Russian Red Army 8th Regiment came to Hami in Jan 1938. However, 2000 Russian Red Army was invited over to Ili by Sheng Shicai on Jan 3rd 1934 for fighting the "naturalized White Russian army" who were subordinate to Zhang Peiyuan the Chinese "garrison & farming commissioner" for Ili. Russian Red Army at one time took over Yining, Suiding & Huiyuan cities. One month later, on Feb 11th 1934, Russian Red Army, again at the request of Sheng Shicai, intruded to Urumqi where they defeated 36th Division Chief Ma Zhongying [i.e., the commander-in-chief of "joint armies of Gansu-Ningxia-Qinghai provinces"]. Later, on Aug 5th and Oct 13th of 1937, twice, Russian Red Army attacked Ma Hushan rivalry in southern Chinese Turkistan on behalf of Sheng Shicai, and on Oct 15th, bombed the city of Yutian where Chinese casualties numbered at 2000. Sheng Shicai, on the pretext of a purported CCP uprising on April 12th 1942, would defect back to Chiang Kai-shek's nationalist government by taking advantage of Russian entanglement with Germany during WWII. Against Stalin's demands, Sheng Shicai arrested and executed Chinese communist cadres, including Mao Tse-tung's brother. Stalin, being forced to withdraw Red Army 8th Regiment from Hami on April 10th 1944, would later harass the Chinese Turkistan border by supporting minority tribal rebellions in March of 1944, revenge on China by extracting interests in Manchuria from the Yalta Conference, and raid deep into Northern Chinese Turkistan with Russo-Mongol troops in June and July of 1947, respectively.)

On Sept 30th of 1935, at the outskirts of Nanking, Whang Jingwei observed the joint military exercises conducted by cannons, cavalry and field armies that were trained by German advisers. [Hitler's advisers, such as Hans von Seeckt, had played a role in remodeling Chiang Kai-shek's army.] Whang Jingwei proposed simultaneous talk and fight policies as to Japan as a show of his disapproval of Chiang Kai-shek's appeasement policy. (Whang Jingwei's opportunism could be seen in his later resorting to treacheries and collaboration with Japanese occupiers for winning an upper hand over Chiang Kai-shek.)

Xu Haidong's Red Army 25th Corps broke through the KMT siege in Hubei-Henan-Anhui area and entered the border area of Shenxi-Henan. By Oct 1935, Communist Red Army 1st [Central] Front had come to northwestern China as their new enclave after checking out KMT newspaper report about Liu Zhidan's Shenxi enclave. The wife of Liu Zhidan's brother, however, claimed that the Liu brothers dispatched an emissary for inviting Mao Tse-tung over to Shenxi. Though fatigued by the long march, Red Army managed to win two battles, i.e., 1) eliminating a "wild mule brigade" under Ma Bufang at Wuqi-zhen town; and 2) taking over Niu Yuanfeng's 109th
Division of Northeastern Army at Zhiluo-zhen town in Nov 1935.

In late 1935, the KMT [i.e., Guomindang] government, which had signed the June 9th 1935 Heh Yingqin [Ho Yinqin] and Umezu Yoshijiro agreement [i.e., Ho-Umezu Agreement], intended to improve relations with Japan for countering Russian encroachments. Japanese proposed "three principles", including i) joint action against "the anti-Japanese Communist movement" in China and ii) no Chinese resort to maneuvering Western powers or Russians against Japan.

In Nov of 1935, KMT held the 6th Plenary of 4th Congress. On Nov 1st, during the photo session, Whang Jingwei was shot by an assassin [i.e., Sun Fengming] sent by Hu Yunqing [aka Hua Kezhi]. Sun Fengming and Hu Yunqing, who set up a shadow news agency called "Chen'guang [twilight] Agency", were commonly linked to Wang Yaqiao's assassination team, with the original target being Chiang Kai-shek. Sun Fengming died of poison he had taken prior to the action, and Hu Yunqing later fled to communist territory of Yan'an in 1937. (Dai Li, chief of KMT special agents, would launch a campaign to track down Wang Yaqiao and kill him in Gui-xi [Guangxi Prov] domain where Wang Yaqiao was seeking asylum.) In Nov of 1935, KMT held the Fifth National Congress in preparation for resistance war against Japan and Chiang Kai-shek gave the famous speech 'Final Moment'.

In 1936, Germany remilitarized the Rhineland. The Spanish Civil War broke out, with Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany supporting the two sides, respectively. The Rome-Berlin Axis was formed, whereas Italy already invaded Ethiopia years back. Later in 1938, Germany annexed Austria. Hitler continued to encroach on its neighbors under the appeasement of British when Chamberlain, at the Munich Conference, awarded Sudetenland to Germany. However, Stalin outsmarted the British by reaching a "Nonaggression Pact" with Hitler.

Mongolia, i.e., the puppet People's Republic of Mongolia under USSR, declined Japan's request for stationing Japanese military observers. Japanese's puppet Manchukuo called Mongolia a "dangerous country" and claimed that Manchukuo intended to "regulate all issues and settle all disputes by force of arms as it saw fit". On March 29th 1936, Soviet Russian compelled its Outer Mongolia puppet into a "Russo-Mongolian military pact for mutual assistance" which the Chinese government protested as an intervention in China's sovereignty over Mongolia. During the coming Second Sino-Japanese War, Russians engaged with Japanese in three border wars, at Zhanggufeng on July 18th 1938, at Nuomenhan on May 11th 1939, and at Suifen-he River area on March 28th 1941, culminating in the Russo-Japanese Neutrality Pact on April 13th 1941.