

Song Jiaoren's Assassination & Second Revolution

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Song Jiaoren worked diligently for building a majority KMT party inside of the Parliament. But, Yuan Shi-kai, in order to fulfill his dictator or emperor's dreams, hired an assassin to have Song Jiaoren assassinated on March 20th 1913. Song Jiaoren, who had turned down a 'blank checkbook' from Yuan Shi-kai's proxy, travelled across the country and successfully campaigned to get KMT members elected to the majority seats in the Parliament. Further, at the time Song Jiaoren departed the Tang Shaoyi cabinet, Yuan Shikai had offered 500,000 units of gold which Song Jiaoren had declined. Tang Degang pointed out i) that Song Jiaoren had resigned from the cabinet after Lu Zhengxiang claimed that he would like to form a cabinet consisting of people with no party membership; and ii) that Yuan Shikai had at one time contemplated upon having Song Jiaoren form a "mixed party membership cabinet" but ultimately selected Zhao Bingjun for forming the cabinet since Song Jiaoren advocated for "one party [KMT] cabinet".

Song Jiaoren, at the invitation of Yuan Shikai, departed for Peking at Shanghai's train station around 10:40 pm on Mar 20th. At the ticket counter, he was shot in the kidney area with a poisonous bullet by an assassin called Wu Shiyong. Yu Youren, Huang Xing, Chen Qimei, Liao Zhongkai and other Song's friends immediately sent Song to the hospital and reported the incident to the police. At the hospital, Song Jiaoren stated that all his books in Nanking, Tokyo and Peking be donated to the Nanking Library, that his elder mother need to be taken care of by various comrades around him, and that comrades should carry on his cause for rescuing China. Before his death, Song Jiaoren recited a wire for Yuan Shi-kai, stating that he, having disciplined himself since childhood, never made any personal enemy and that he, always cherishing the humanity and justice, never dared to have a slight thought of selfishness. In his telegraph, Song Jiaoren kindly requested that Yuan Shi-kai open his heart, revive equitableness, guarantee civil rights and safeguard the Constitution in the environment when China was still standing on shaky foundation and Chinese people were still impoverished. By the early morning of March 22, Song Jiaoren passed away at the age of 33. Huang Xing, Yu Youren, Chen Qimei and Fan Hexian etc were in great sorrow, and Chen Qimei (aka Chen Yingshi) exclaimed that he could not stand Song Jiaoren's death in vain. Sun Yat-sen, who was touring Nagasaki for Japan's railroad experiences, sent over a wire of condolence. Huang Xing reported to Peking's "*Democracy*" newspaper about the incident. Yuan Shi-kai disguised his surprise at the news and asked his secretary wire over instructions as to generous mourning. Song was buried in Zhabei of Shanghai, a place that came to be known as "*Song Yuan*" Garden, with the word 'fishing

father' inscribed by Zhang Taiyan on the tombstone. (Song Jiaoren was from Hunan Province where ancient writer Tao Yuanming, i.e., grandson of Tao Qian, wrote the famous article "*Taohuayuan-ji*" to record a kind of Shangari-la a fisherman visited.)

Police received a tip that Wu Shiyong, aka Wu Fuming, i.e., an unemployed ex-soldier, had bragged that he would soon have money after killing someone. At Wu Shiyong's hotel [Liuye Hotel], police found the records of communications between Ying Guiqing and Hong Shuzu (secretary for the Interior Ministry). Per DZJ, instructions for the assassination were from Hong Shuzu (secretary for the Interior Ministry) and Zhao Bingjun (premier for the State Council), both cronies of Yuan Shi-kai. Ying Guiqing was said to be a Shang Bund godfather-like figure. However, historian Tang Degang pointed out that Wu Shiyong was a KMT member at the time of assassination and even attended the funeral. Tang Degang's research pointed out that Ying Guiqing belonged to the forerunner revolutionary society of 'Gongjin-hui' at the time of Xin Hai Revolution but had to seek for Yuan Shikai's protection after Li Yuanhong i) requested for execution of Zhang Zhenwu by borrowing Yuan Shikai's knife, ii) banned 'Gongjin-hui' as an illegal organization, and iii) furthermore issued a most-wanted list including Ying. Owing to acquaintance relationship with Hong Shuzu, Ying Guiqing received monthly 2000 yuan stipends from Yuan Shikai crony in exchange for espionage activity in Shanghai area on behalf of Hong Shuzu. Ying was offered a job as a 'detective' under Governor-general Cheng Dequan. For assassinating Song, Ying was promised a reward of 300,000 yuan currency by Hong, while Hong, in correspondence with Ying, had sought for some kickbacks from the reward which would be in the form of "government bonds" at a discount of 66%.

Sun Yat-sen returned to Shanghai on March 25 and, in Huang Xing's home, held a meeting which was attended by Governor-general Bai Wenwei of Anhui Prov. Only Dai Chuanxian [i.e., Dai Jitao] concurred with Sun as far as armed struggle was concerned. Sun claimed that he would just need two divisions for a personal campaign against Yuan Shikai. After the assassination of Song Jiaoren, Huang Xing first advocated the same 'means' (assassination) as Yuan Shi-kai to avenge the death of Song. Huang Xing then advocated legal means for fighting Yuan Shi-kai by citing that KMT did not have adequate forces in the south. Sun Yat-sen later blamed Huang Xing's opposition for KMT's losing the steam in a possibly victorious rebellion against Yuan during the Second Revolution.

In Wuhan of Hubei Province, Li Yuanhong arrested and executed numerous KMT members on the pretext that KMT intended to assassinate the vice president. Victims included Xiong Yueshan & Ning Diaoyuan. When investigation results disclosed that the assassin Wu Shiyong was linked to Yuan Shi-kai's cronies, Yuan Shi-kai would force the KMT Peking Branch into declaring that Huang Xing be deprived of the KMT party membership. Sun Yat-sen failed to rally Governor-general of Guangdong Province for the Second Revolution: Tang Degang pointed out that it was due to infighting between Hu

Hanmin and Chen Jiongming that led to the weakness in Guangdong Prov. Shanghai's Governor-general, Chen Qimei, knowingly aware of his weak military forces, echoed Sun Yat-sen's order to stage a rebellion. Once rebellion started, Shanghai Bund's economy was affected. Across the nation, only few provinces like Jiangsu-Jiangxi rose up. Governor-general Cai Er of Yunnan Province expressed his opposition to the second revolution.

Scholar Yuan Weishi blamed Sun Yat-sen's military action as a cause of KMT's decline in early history of China's politics and a bad example for China's modern history, and further praised Cai Er and Liang Qi-chao as the pillar forces responsible for capsizing Yuan Shikai's imperial enthronement. Tang Degang pointed out that it might not be Yuan Shikai himself who had issued the order of assassination. Tang, a friend of Yuan Jialiu [i.e., the grandson of Yuan Shikai], had alluded to the possibility that Zhao Bingjun had intended to eradicate Song Jiaoren so that nobody would compete with him for the cabinet premier. Additionally, Tang cited Peking police chief Wang Zhiqing's disclosure to Zhang Ji in stating that Hong Shuzu had resigned after seeing Yuan Shikai unhappy about the reply that "it was our people who had exerted efforts on behalf of the President".

Extraterritory police in Shanghai handed over the case to Jiangsu Prov. Yuan Shikai, to show that he had nothing to do with the killing, ordered that Governor-general Cheng Dequan of Jiangsu Province conduct an investigation with Shanghai's attorney general Chen Ying. Zhao Bingjun, under pressure, resigned on April 3rd. On April 24th, assassin Wu Shiyang had a sudden death in prison. (Ying Guiqing, rescued from prison by his rascal accomplices on July 25 of 1913, would later go to Peking to ransom Yuan Shi-kai, only to get killed on the Peking-Tianjin Train by Yuan Shi-kai's detectives while he fled Peking. Hong Shuzu, who resigned his job for asylum in Qingdao, would go to Shanghai where he entangled himself with debts due to a German merchant and later got caught by Song Jiaoren's 15-year-old son. Hong Shuzu was sentenced to death on April 5th of 1919 by Shanghai's court. Zhao Bingjun, whose resignation was refused by Yuan Shi-kai, was assigned the post of governor-general for Zhili Province and he later died of poisoning on Feb 27th of 1914. Zhao Bingjun, back in early 1912, went to see last Manchu Qing Emperor Pu-yi to relay Yuan Shi-kai's request for imperial abdication. Historians had listed few other instances of Yuan Shi-kai authorized assassinations.)

In the aftermath of the assassination, Yuan Shi-kai, who was contacting six countries for loans, was notified on April 27th that his loan request for 2 million silver dollars equivalent had been approved by five countries. USA had pulled out of the 6-country consortium. Per Mike Billington's writing on "*How London, Wall Street Backed Japan's War Against China and Sun Yat Sen*" [http://www.larouchepub.com/other/2004/3123morgan_v_dr_sun.html], "when President Woodrow Wilson took office in 1913, one of his first acts was to pull the United States out of the Consortium, labeling it a tool of imperial policy interests in China. Wilson appointed Professor Paul Samuel Reinsch as United States emissary to China". Sun

Yat-sen thought that the foreign loan was Yuan Shi-kai's attempt at arms race for sake of cracking down on KMT forces in southern China. KMT called on their members in the Parliament to block the ratification of the loan. Four provincial governor-generals echoed the support as to blocking the loan. Huang Xing, however, opposed Sun Yat-sen on the matter of open conflicts with Yuan Shi-kai and cited that foreign powers might force China into a "Korea enslavement scenario" should civil wars break out between north and south. Both Huang Xing and Sun Yat-sen had changing minds about appropriate response to Yuan Shi-kai's assassinating Song Jiao-ren, yielding to Sun Yat-sen's later blame on Huang Xing for missing the opportunity of a rebellion before Yuan Shi-kai dismissed the governor-general posts held by KMT leaders. Meanwhile, Yuan Shikai ordered in early May that Li Chun's 6th Div go to Wuhan of Hubei Province from Baoding of Hebei Prov.

Yuan Shi-kai decreed that KMT governor-generals for Jiangxi-Anhui-Guangdong provinces be dismissed. On June 9th, Yuan first dismissed Li Liejun of Jiangxi Province, and on 14th Hu Hanmin, and on 30th, Bai Wenhui. KMT, for sake of maintaining peace, surrendered governor-general posts of four southern provinces. On June 10th, Li Liejun wired over his resignation. Bai Wenwei resigned before Yuan Shi-kai's decree was issued. When Wang Jingwei (Wang Zhaoming) returned from his European tour, KMT dispatched him to Peking for reconciliation talk with Yuan Shi-kai. Meanwhile, Liao Zhongkai was sent to Peking for mobilizing the parliament members against Yuan Shi-kai, but had to escape from Yuan Shi-kai cronies soon. (Japan, however, secretly maneuvered to have Cen Chunxuan prepare for declaration of his presidency in southern China. Xiong Xiling stated on July 28th of 1913 that it was a Japanese attempt to divide China into two halves. Meantime, Zhang Taiyan held matrimony with Tang Guoli on June 15th, which was attended by Sun Yat-sen, Huang Xing, Chen Qimei & Cai Yuanpei.)

Yuan Shi-kai intended to eradicate the KMT forces altogether and dispatched his military apparatus against the southern provinces of Anhui-Jiangxi-Jiangsu-Hubei-Shanghai etc. Yuan Shi-kai sent two columns to the south, with Duan Zhigui's First Corps in charge of two divisions in Hubei-Jiangxi battlefield and Feng Guozhang's Second Corps in charge of miscellaneous corps against Nanking of Jiangsu Prov. Duan Zhigui's First Corps included Wang Zhanyuan's 2nd Div and Li Chun's 6th Div. Yuan Shi-kai intended to have Duan Zhigui take over governor-general of Hubei Province and Feng Guozhang governor-general of Jiangsu Prov. In Hunan Province, Yuan Shi-kai's agents burnt the weapons depot. In mid-July, Yuan Shi-kai dispatched two warships to Shanghai under the helm of Zheng Rucheng and Zang Zhipin.

With the nodding approval of Sun Yat-sen, KMT governor-generals and generals, i.e., Li Liejun of Jiangxi, Tan Yankai of Hunan, Bai Wenwei of Anhui and Xu Chongzhi of Fujian, declared independence. Li Liejun, who had arrived in Shanghai for talks with other former KMT governor-generals and Sun Yat-sen on June 15th after resignation, would leave

for Hukou of Jiangxi Province on July 8th. Li Chun was declared by Yuan Shikai as the "zhenshou-shi" of Jiujiang of Jiangxi Prov. On July 12th, Li Liejun led two of his subordinate regiments and two battalions of logistics and engineering for a takeover of Hukou Battery. Answering Li Liejun would be Ouyang Wu's First Division, Liu Shijun's 2nd Div and Cai Sen's 4th Brigade of southern Jiangxi Prov. On July 13th, Jiangxi Parliament elected Li Liejun as the commander-in-chief of the 'Jiangxi Army for Campaigning against Yuan Shikai'. KMT members in Anhui, Jiangsu, Guangdong & Shanghai echoed Li Liejun. In Hunan Province as well as Xuzhou of Shandong Province, KMT rebellion was put down in no time. In Jiangsu Province, Cheng Dequan deserted his governor-general post for Shanghai. Heh Haiming defended the Nanking city against Yuan Shikai army. Huang Xing, for a short time, went to lead the rebel army in Nanking of Jiangsu Province on July 15th 1913. After Huang Xing fled Nanking, Bai Wenwei condemned him as "impotent general". This would be called the 'Second Revolution'.

On July 21st 1913, Revolutionary-monk Su Manshu published an open letter against Yuan Shikai on "Min Li Bao" [people-published newspaper] in the name of Buddhists from ten corners of China. Su Manshu cited British poet Byron as an example of his devotion to revolution by possibly referring to the Japanese nationality of his mother. (Su Manshu travelled to Japan on June 21st 1912 after finishing his biographical novel "Stories of Stranded Swan" [i.e., "duan hong ling yan ji"], returned to China in Nov 1912. On Dec 13th 1912, Su Manshu went to Anqing Grand Academy as an English language teacher at the invitation of Chen Duxiu [i.e., secretary to governor-general of Anhui Province]. After Yuan Shikai's armies sacked Nanking on Sept 1st 1913, Su Manshu went into hiding in West Lake of Hangzhou as a result of Zheng Rucheng putting him on a most wanted list. In Dec 1913, Su Manshu went to Japan due to illness. In Japan, both Sun Yat-sen and Chen Yingshi had subsidized Su Manshu financially; however, Su Manshu did not participate in politics even though Sun Yat-sen re-established "Chinese Revolutionary Party" on July 8th 1914. (Chiang Kai-shek was No. 102 among 741 members who had registered from Dec 1913 to July 1914.) Su Manshu continued to translate ancient Chinese literature into English and vice versa. Later in June 1917, it would be Chiang Kai-shek who asked Chen Guofu to pay for the medical costs while Su Manshu was staying at hospitals in Shanghai. Su Manshu passed away at Guangci Hospital on May 3rd 1918, and Wang Jingwei hosted the funeral under Sun Yat-sen's order.)

On July 23rd of 1913, Yuan Shi-kai revoked Sun Yat-sen's title of 'plenipotentiary' for China national railroads, a job Sun Yat-sen accepted on Sept 9th of 1912 to fulfill his dream of laying 200,000 li distance railroad tracks. On the same day, Yuan Shi-kai declared Huang Xing, Chen Qimei and Bai Wenwei as 'traitors'. In Peking, Yuan Shi-kai coerced KMT Peking committee into declaring a revocation of KMT membership from Huang Xing etc, albeit leaving out Sun Yat-sen for the time being. Yuan Shi-kai initially dared not outlaw KMT yet because his 'interim presidency' still needed the ratification by the Parliament.

Sun Yat-sen left for Guangdong Province on Aug 2nd; en route, at a stopover in Mawei Port of Fujian Province, a Japanese consulate official informed Sun Yat-sen of the possible conspiracy by Long Jiguang in Canton; Sun Yat-sen, together with Hu Hanmin, then changed ship for Taiwan; and thereafter, Sun Yat-sen secretly arrived in Japan where he re-organized KMT into the so-called "*Zhonghua Geming Dang*" (i.e., Chinese Revolutionary Party). Liao Zhongkai assumed the deputy finance minister of the new party CRP. Huang Xing, who differed from Sun Yat-sen over the reformed "Chinese Revolutionary Party", left for USA where an American doctor, John J Mallowney, got acquainted with Huang Xing entourage and wrote a book entitled "*A Revelation Of The Chinese Revolution*" [New York, Fleming H. Revell, 1914]. Per Hsueh Chun-tun, Sun Yat-sen pleaded with Huang Xing for allowing him two years to wage a new revolution against Yuan Shi-kai. Meanwhile, 20-year-old Song Qingling, who graduated from Wesleyan College at Macon of Virginia, had arrived in Japan, met with Sun Yat-sen nine times for discussions, and then worked for Sun Yat-sen as secretary which sister Song Ailing had undertaken previously. Chen Jieru's memoirs stated that it was Soong Ai-ling who acted as the secretary but recommended Soong Qing-ling after encountering her future husband Kong Xiangxi in 1914. (Song Qingling (i.e., Soong Ching Ling or Mme Sun Yat-sen) was the daughter of Song Yaoru who, a Hainan Island native, had worked as a [coolie](#) in US and then a priest in Shanghai where he assisted Sun in printing revolutionary materials. Song Qingling, against the objection of her father in Shanghai, would later go back to Japan to marry Sun Yat-sen on Oct 25th 1915. Japanese Toushan Man was surprised that Sun married a younger sister, not the elder sister. This marriage was opposed by majority of KMT comrades. Ma Beiming pointed out that only the Japanese attended the matrimony. Sun Yat-sen's original wife Lu Muzhen agreed to a divorce after the matter of fact or never went through an official divorce. Ma Beiming also pointed out that Sun Yat-sen had adopted his pen name 'zhongshan' after a Japanese noble family name, not the ancient Chinese prefecture with the same name. Historian Tang Degang cited Mao Tse-tung's claim of "learning from Sun Yat-sen" when Xiang Ying objected to the marriage between Jiang Qing and Mao Tse-tung.)

In Jiangxi Province, Li Chun, a crony of Yuan Shikai, attacked Li Liejun's army. Li Chun managed to make a stealthy crossing of Yangtze River in upperstream Wuxue, cut off Nan-Xun [Nanchang-Jiujiang] Railway at Nanchang, and surrounded Lin Hu's army. In the capital of Jiangxi Province, Li Liejun fled after a mutiny. Lin Hu broke through the siege, arrived in Liling of Hunan Province, and disbursed his army to the custody of Hunan governor-general Tan Yankai. Second Revolution ended with the defeat of Li Liejun by Yuan Shi-kai's army and the loss of Nanchang in Jiangxi Province on Aug 18th of 1913.

In Anhui Province, Yuan Shi-kai's crony, Ni Sichong, took over governor-general post on Aug 28th of 1913. In Jiangsu Province, Zhang Xun sacked Nanking. In Shanghai area, Yuan Shi-kai conferred the post of "*zhen shou shi*" (i.e., garrison commissioner) of Shanghai onto

Zheng Rucheng and "*zhen shou shi*" of Songjiang onto Yang Shande; in Fujian, Yuan conferred the post of governor-general of Fujian Province onto Liu Ganxiong. In Guangdong Province, Long Jiguang assumed governor-general post and Chen Jiongmeng fled on August 5th. In Sichuan Province, Xiong Kewu declared independence on Aug 9th but he resigned within one month. In Hunan Province, Li Yuanhong recommended Tang Xiangming (Tang Hualong's brother) to Yuan Shi-kai for the governor-general post to replace Tan Yankai and Zhao Hengti on Oct 24th of 1913.

Cai Er first proclaimed neutrality on behalf of three provinces of Yunnan-Guizhou-Sichuan, and then claimed to supply three divisions to aid Yuan Shikai. In Aug 1913, when Xiong Kewu rebelled against Yuan Shikai in Sichuan Province, Cai E ordered that Tang Jiyao dispatch Ye Quan army to the aid of Sichuan Governor-general Hu Jingyi. Though Governor-general Cai Er of Yunnan Province opposed the Second Revolution, Yuan Shi-kai issued an order on Sept 28th 1913 to have Tang Jiyao assume the governor-general of Yunnan Province while Cai E came to Peking for three month medical treatment. Cai E, together with Liang Qichao and "*Progressive Party*", had appeared to be supporters of Yuan Shikai; however, Yuan Shikai intended to relocate Cai E away from provincial post the same way as he did to vice president Li Yuanhong. (Cai E remained in Peking for three years, and had to resort to pleasure with "distinguished prostitute" Xiao-feng-xian for distracting from Yuan's control, an event that had caused him to delay treatment when he wrongly believed that his deadly throat disease was possibly related to sexually-transmitted disease. Alternative saying is that Liang Qichao and Cai E had agreed to have Cai E leave Yunnan Province on the precondition that Cai E go back to his native Hunan Province to replace Tan Yankai, which Yuan had renegaded on once Cai E arrived in Peking. (Tang Jiyao was converted to official governor-general of Guizhou Province on May 6th of 1912 after Cai E pacified the opposing factions in the province prior to leaving for Peking.) After Tang Jiyao vacated Guizhou Province on Nov 1st, Xie Ruyi tacked on Tang Jiyao's post while Liu Xianshi was conferred the post of "*hu jun shi*". (Liu Xianshi, in early 1912, had borrowed Tang Jiyao's Yunnan Province army in killing dozens of feuds from the "autonomy" faction and provincial consultancy bureau of Guizhou Prov.)

During the Second Revolution, both Chiang Kai-shek and Zhang Qun returned to Shanghai from Japan. Chiang Kai-shek called on his followers to support Chen Qimei as the commander-in-chief of 'Shanghai Army for Campaigning Against Yuan Shi-kai Imperial Enthronement'. During the Second Revolution War, in Shanghai, Chen Qimei ordered that Chiang Kai-shek attack the Gaochang-miao Weapons Depot which was guarded by Yuan Shi-kai's 1300 navy soldiers under Zheng Rucheng. Chiang Kai-shek attacked Gaochang-miao for few days in vain, and then rerouted towards Songjiang and attacked it in vain, either.

On Oct 10th of 1913, Yuan Shi-kai, having hijacked the Parliament in passing the 'election

law' ahead of the Constitution and locked up the Parliament members to coerce an election, was officially elected the president of ROC. Yuan Shi-kai barely passed the majority ballots needed after forcing three rounds of ballot casting for sake of achieving the votes needed. Yuan Shi-kai held a ceremony in Forbidden City's Taihe-dian palace and a military parade on Tian-an-men Square. Foreign minister-envoys promptly acknowledged ROC government. Manchu remnants congratulated him on the ascension to presidency. On the night, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sun Baoqi hosted a dancing reception where Gu Weijun's wife (daughter of Tang Shaoyi) was said to be among the most prominent female attendees. Details of the Second Revolution would be covered in section [2ndrevolution.htm](#)