

University for Toilers of the East

by Ah Xiang

Excerpts from "Tragedy of Chinese Revolution" at <http://www.republicanchina.org/tragedy.html> For updates and related articles, check <http://www.republicanchina.org/RepublicanChina-pdf.htm>

In Moscow, Comintern reorganized the 'University for Toilers of the East' into 'Sun Yat-sen University' in honor of the late Sun Yat-sen who passed away on Mar 12th of 1925. [There is an apparent confusion since numerous memoirs pointed out that 'University for Toilers of the East', aka Orient Univ, was set up for communism activists, while 'Sun Yat-sen University' was set up for enrolling the Chinese Nationalist Party members.) Jiang Jingguo [Chiang Chingguo], the elder son of Chiang Kai-shek, on Oct 19th of 1925, together with about 90 Chinese students, boarded the stinky cattle freight ship for Vladivostok and onward to Moscow to attend 'Sun Yat-sen University'. Per Japanese author Xiaogu Haozhilang's "*Biography of Mr Jiang Jingguo*" (Central Newspaper Publishing House, 1990 edition, Taipei, Taiwan), Jiang Jingguo had shown interests in Bukharin and Trotsky's theories in early years of his stay in Moscow. Jiang Jingguo also enrolled in Communist Youth League which was under the supervision of CCP Moscow Branch. (Lenin, Trotsky and Bukharin had opposing views in regards to the war with Germany during WWII. Lenin proposed acceptance of any terms in exchange for peace with Germany, i.e., the Brest-Litovsk Treaty, while Bukharin advocated continuing fighting and Trotsky advocated the 'no war no talk approach'. Trotsky was deprived of the military committee commissar post in 1925, expelled from USSR Soviet Central Committee in Oct 1926, exiled to Alma-Ata in Jan of 1928, expelled from USSR in 1929, deprived of citizenship in 1932, and assassinated in Mexico in 1940. Bukharin, for his antagonism towards Lenin and Stalin, was classified as a rightist and opportunist in 1929 and sentenced to death for treason in 1938.)

Chinese students in Moscow would be engaged in numerous ideological struggles, either between CCP and KMT or between true Marxists-Leninists and Trotskyites. In Jan of 1928, Jiang Jingguo renounced Trotskyist thoughts.

Jiang Jingguo made up a decision for himself to attend this university in Moscow. Chen Jieru claimed that she had often played the role of pulling together the father and the son. In early 1925, Jiang Jingguo came to Canton, and took pictures together with Chiang Kai-shek and Chen Jieru as well as his teenager pals [including Wang Jingwei's son and daughter, Zhu Zhixin's daughter etc]. Chen Jieru stated that she had persuaded Chiang Kai-shek into allowing his son go to Moscow with his childhood pals. In Oct of 1925, Jiang Jingguo arrived in



Shanghai where he officially joined the KMT as a member, consulted with senior KMT leader Wu Zhihui for advice, and on Oct 19th, together with about 90 Chinese students, boarded the stinky cattle freight ship for Vladivostok and onward to Moscow by Nov 1925. Jiang Jingguo would serve as 'hostage' for close to 12 years in USSR, enduring various hardships, persecutions and coercions. After graduation in April 1927, Jiang Jingguo was forbidden from return to China. (In Jan 1928, Jiang Jingguo was exiled to Alma Ata though he severed himself from Trotsky thoughts which he acquired from his teacher at Sun Yat-sen University [converted from Far East Toilers' University established by Stalin in 1920 after Sun Yat-sen death on March 12th 1925]. Then, Jiang Jingguo was sent to Central Military & Political Research Institute in Leningrad. On May 27th 1929, Zhang Xueliang's troops raided Russian consulate in Harbin, confiscated 3rd Comintern documents, and arrested 39 Russian and Chinese communists. On July 10th, Russian and Chinese communists were expelled from Manchuria. USSR severed diplomacy on July 18th, launched an invasion on 20th, and occupied Suibin, Tongjiang, Lubin and Hailaer by Nov. After graduation in May 1930, Jiang Jingguo was forbidden from return to China again, and was sent to Lenin University [i.e., Sun Yat-sen University]. Using two letters directed for Chiang Kai-shek, CCP members accused Jiang Jingguo as a reactionary. Jiang Jingguo was sent to an electricity company at the outskirts of Moscow. As a result of confrontation with Wang Ming [Chen Shaoyu] in Oct 1931, Jiang Jingguo was exiled to a village for hard labor in Nov. In Nov 1932, Japanese pushed against Jinzhou of Manchuria. Chinese Soviet declared war on Japan. USSR and China re-established diplomacy. Wang Ming forced Jiang Jingguo into a relocation to a gold mine in Altai Mountains [Jan 1933] and a heavy machinery plant in Ural Mountains [Sept 1933]. In Dec 1934, Jiang Jingguo refused Russian coercion in writing a declaration of no return to China. In Jan 1935, Wang Ming called Jiang Jingguo to Moscow again, but for writing a statement about his personal freedom inside USSR. Sometime in 1935, Jiang Jingguo was married with a Russian woman he got acquainted in Ural. Inside China, CCP invaded Shanxi Province in the name of "eastern campaign against Japanese" on Feb 21st 1936, withdrew from Shanxi on May 3rd, and issued May 5th Promulgation as well as Aug 25th open letter to KMT. After Dec 12th Xi'an Incident, USSR released Jiang Jingguo to China.)