# THE EAST IS RED

## A REVOLUTIONARY OPERA



The history of the Chinese People's Revolutionary struggle in epic ballad opera form transcribed from the sound-track of the film, THE EAST IS RED, produced in Peking, 1963.

# CHRONOLOGY OF THE CHINESE × REVOLUTION



1900:

Peking is occupied by foreign troops as a result of the Righteous Harmonious Fist (Boxer) Rebellion.

1911:

Revolution breaks out in Ch'angsha, Hunan on Oct. 22 against Manchu dynasty and sets in motion establishment of the Chinese Republic under Sun Yat Sen.

1919:

The May 4th student and intellectual patriotic movement to defend the national soverignty of China breaks out in Peking; Chou En-lai and Yiu Tai-ying and others found socialist groups at various places.

1921:

The Chinese Communist Party forms in Shanghai (1st Congress).

1922 - May:

Mao opens the Anyuan Workman's Club and begins building a mass based movement.

1922 - August:

The CCP decides to cooperate with the Kuo Min Tang under Chiang Kai-Shek to resist western imperialists and feudal warlords.

1926:

The coalition armies of the KMT and CCP now embark on the Northern Expedition from Kwangtung province to wipe out the feudal landlords.

1927:

The Nanchang uprising is followed by the Autumn Harvest uprising against the KMT which ends temporarily in failure. Workers and peasants organize themselves in the Red Army.

1927:

A base for the Red Army is established in Chienkiang Mt. by Mao.

1928 - April:

Chu-teh (future commander of the 8th Route Army) joins Mao on Chienkiang Mt. The 4th Route Army comes into existence.

1928 - May:

The first attack by the KMT in Chienkiang Mt. ends in miserable failure. Mao calls for the Maop'ing conference to stabilize and develop local party structure. Japanese troops open fire on Chinese in Chinan.

1930 - October:

Mao takes Chian and establishes first province-wide government (Kiangsi Provincial Government).

1930 - December:

The KMT begins the first of five encirclements to wipe out the CCP.

1931 - September:

The famous 18th of September Mukdin incident which marks the Japanese expanded occupation of Manchuria.

1934 - October

The Long March of the 1st Route Army begins as a result of the encirclement by Chiang Kai-Shek.

1935 - January:

At the Tsunyi conference, Mao is elected Chairman of the Politburo of the CCP and now assumes leadership of the revolution.

1935 - October:

The 1st Route Army which is under Mao, makes a coup.

1936 - May:

The 2nd Front Army which began its Long March in November, 1935, and the 4th Route Army meet at Kangtzu.



1936 - October:

All three armies meet at Hui Ming, end the incredible 20,000 mile Long March.

1937 - September:

The Sino-Japanese War beings.

1940 - August 20:

The 8th Route Armylaunches the famous "Hundred Regiment Campaign" in N. China against the Japanese in order to keep the spirit of resistance alive and set back Japanese military plans while KMT troops are handing over large areas of sacred land to the Japanese.

1941 - January:

Under the orders of Chiang Kai-Shek, KMT troops traitorously slaughter 8,000 men of the 8th Route Army instead of fighting the Japanese. Thus ending the cooperation of the CCP and KMT troops.

1942 - February:

KMT starts economic blockade of liberated areas and is met by increased production in those areas and Rectification campaign to strengthen unity of CCP.

1945 - August:

Mao visits Chunking to talk peace and unity with Chiang Kai-Shek.

1945 - October:

Mao and Chiang sign peace agreement of October 10th in an attempt to end Civil War.

1947 - July:

KMT under Chiang Kai-Shek traitorously orders general mobilization against Chinese Communists.

1948 - November:

The Peoples' Liberation Army is organized into four full armies and launches Manchuria Campaign, campaign ends in complete victory for PLA.

1949 - January:

The PLA victoriously concludes both the Peking, Tientsin and the Hsuchow Campaigns, thereby virtually controlling all of North China.

1949 - April:

The Peoples' Liberation Army takes Nanking from KMT.

1949 - October 1st:

The Peoples' Republic of China is founded!





#### INTRODUCTION

The East is Red is a revolutionary epic opera produced in 1963 to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the founding of the Peoples' Republic of China. Later made into a movie, it was shown all over the world. Depicting the course of the Chinese Revolution starting from the early days of colonized China to the final days of liberation, this production, performed throughout China, became a symbol of the progress and energy of the Chinese revolution. The production in Peking from which the recording is made involved over 3,000 workers, students and peasants who came from numerous local players groups. Produced 15 years after the revolution, the East is Red represents the victory over the colossal problems of feudal colonialism and western imperialism. China, which had been devastated by 107 years of internal strife and western occupation as well as with a brutal invasion by the Japanese had been left a country in ruins, a country without either industry or agriculture.

After the liberation, China embarked on the great road toward reconstruction and the building of a truly great socialist society. The success of the revolution meant the liberation of approximately 500,000,000 Chinese people. These people, determined never to be dominated by Western imperialism again, exerted superhuman effort in the reconstruction of their land. Relying on their efforts and resources they eventually conquered the basic problems of building industry and providing food. However, there were other ongoing struggles in Revolutionary China which were being waged along with the economic ones. Some of these were in the field of literature and art.

After final liberation in 1949, many of the bourgeois elements of feudal China found refuge in the sectors of literature and art. These reactionary elements of Chinese society attempted to keep literature and art above the revolution itself. They resisted change and persisted in glorifying those elements of Chinese society which had held China back for so many centuries. For example, even after liberation, the Peking Opera stage was dominated by stories about ghosts, kings and queens, oppressor landlords and greedy businessmen. Stories about the corrupt lives of feudal Chinese folk figures were also glorified, and it soon became very clear that the road that China's culture should take and the road that was actually taken up to 1964 was a contradiction. In opposition to creating new contemporary themes which reflected the real nature of Chinese society, the old liners tried to restore the cult of capitalist, corrupt China. Instead of presenting the heroes of China's revolution, Chinese art was becoming bourgois and elitest. Many of the prominent figures in literature and art became die-hard defenders of China's feudal art, proclaiming it to be "Sacred."

In the Cultural Revolution that followed, China's art was transformed from fantasy to fact. In the Peking Opera, new plays were written about soldiers, workers and the peasants, and the emphasis was given to realism and revolutionary ideals. The Cultural Revolution even affected established revolutionary plays such as "Taking the Bandits Stronghold" and "The White Haired Girl" which were revised to bring out the highest possible degree of revolutionary consciousness. Positive characters were reinforced and given much more life and figures like the white haired girl assumed more dominant characteristics, in order to resemble the actual liberation of women in China. Old feudal plays were deemphasized and eventually eliminated as the revisionist leaders in China's art were weeded out. In contrast to the contradictions in the Peking Opera, Chairman Mao had said in his famous Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art in 1942 that, "...all our literature and art are for the masses of the people, and in the first place for the workers, peasants and soldiers. They are created for the workers and peasants and soldiers and are for their use."

The East is Red is a good example of the transition from bourgeois art to revolutionary art because it presents the peasants, workers and soldiers as they appeared in history as the vanguard and the main force of China's revolution. From the very beginning, the screen and the stage is dominated by the presence of the workers, peasants and soldiers. This production also shows how the main impetus for the Chinese Revolution came from these three groups. The fighting force of Chairman Mao's red army came primarily from the peasant and worker class. The growth of the workers and peasants movement is traced to the birth of its mass base organizations - the peasants' association and workers clubs. Chairman Mao understood very clearly that the basis for a successful revolution lay with the masses of the people. This opera involved the work of all segments of Chinese society because all classes of Chinese society were instrumental in bringing about the final victory over Chiang Kai-Shek and western and Japanese imperialists. Even the Revolutionary students and intellectuals contributed substantially to the formation of a nationwide movement for national liberation. They started the May 4th movement at Peking University in response to the dividing of China into "Spheres of Influence" by the western powers including Japan. This movement eventually spread to all parts of China as a patriotic antiimperialist movement among the students and intellectuals. The role of women was also represented in the opera by the women's militia and other fighting units like the red women's detachment. Women also assumed the role as tillers of the soil while the men were away fighting. The inevitable liberation of women took place alongside the revolution itself. This opera also documents the significant military victories for the Red Army, such as breaking out of the Chiang Kai-Shek encirclement, the Long March, and the defense of the Yellow River. The military expeditions of the Red Army brought them in contact with the numerous national minorities of China. From Szechwan to Manchuria and then south to Kwangtung Province. Wherever the Red Army went they were aided by the masses of the people and the final military victories came about as a result of the united efforts of all the Chinese people. The opera ends with a huge celebration and the singing of the 'Internationale.'

However, the East is Red had its weak points also. Because this was a large scale grandiose production, it could only be performed in the cities. The production of the East is Red needed many players, props and much preparation. Therefore it was not possible to stage this play in the villages and countryside. In order to remedy this problem, the more recent plays are done on a smaller scale to reach all the people. These new plays contain an even higher degree of revolutionary ideals and fervor. The transformation of China's art and literature is one of the most significant events of the Cultural Revolution. By putting the interests of the greater majority of the people in command, art and literature has been made to serve the people and not the interests of the few.

In conclusion, a quote from Chairman Mao's Talks at the Yenan Forum gives us an explanation of the ideology which revolutionary artists must follow in order to truly produce fine revolutionary art.

China's revolutionary writers and artists, writers and artists of promise, must go among the masses; they must for a long period of time unreservedly and whole-heartedly go among the masses of workers, peasants and soldiers, go into the heat of struggle, go to the only source, the broadest and richest source, in order to observe, experience, study and analyze all the different kinds of people, all the classes, all the masses, all the vivid patterns of life and struggle, all the raw materials of literature and art. Only then can they proceed to creative work.

#### SIDE ONE DAWN IN THE EAST

#### 1) Theme and narration: "The East is Red" (4:06)

#### The Fast Is Red

From the Red East rises the sun There appears in China Mao Tse-Tung He works for the people's welfare He is the people's great saviour

Chairman Mao loves the people He is our guide He leads us onward To build up New China

The Communist Party is like the sun Wherever it shines there will be light Wherever the Communist Party is There, the people will attain liberation.

#### Narration:

'Sunflowers Facing the Sun'
In the Mao Tse Tung Era, our people are happy. Our land
Takes on a new splendor. But how can we forget the
Suffering of the past. How can we forget the thousands
Of mountains and rivers we crossed led by Chairman Mao.

Over the vast blue sea the sun is rising, shedding its brilliant radiance with a thousand bright rays. Over the vast Motherland, thousands of sunflowers face towards the sun. Under the brilliance of Mao Tse Tung thought, spring covers our beautiful land. In the Mao Tse Tung Era, six hundred million people sing with the greatest happiness, the highest praise for our great leader Chairman Mao and the glorious Chinese Communist Party.

#### 2) Narration: The people drown in misery (1:18)

In old China, the earth was dark, the sky was dark. Our People drowned in misery, all but crushed by the three Big mountains, the weight of a triple exploitation — Imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism. Time and again they arose to protest and fought back. But night reigned and the journey seemed endless. When was dawn going to light the skies of Mother China.

#### 3) Dock workers struggle (5:36)

A dark cloud hangs overhead and the storm rages on. This scene depicts the miserable life of the people about half a century ago. The Huang Pu River was filled with American, British and Japanese Warships as well as trading ships. However, the dockworkers suffered under the whips of the exploitation and hard labor. The hatred for the foreign imperialists and the aristocracy ran very deep among the people. The peasants were oppressed and exploited. They had no food, no clothes, no place to live A little girl, kneeling before her mother, crying, asks her mother not to sell her. A dockworker, with sympathy for these victimized people of his own class, takes off his own shirt and puts it on the little girl.



#### 4) Seizing of conscripts (1:27)

Soldiers of the reactionary Kuomingtang Army, seize the dockworker for conscription into the KMT Army. A group of young people and the woman rush to the aid of the dockworker. The soldiers ruthlessly beat the woman as an angry crowd rushes to her aid. However, a businessman of U.S. Imperialism brutally kicks the worker down. Enraged, the other workers raise their fists in revolt and beat the businessman down. Immediately, reactionary forces surround the people but the masses forcefully resist. (sound of a gunshot) The businessman wounds the leader of the dockworkers. A little girl rushes up to help the wounded worker without thinking of her own safety. The heartless businessman mortally shoots the little girl in the back.

These people who are suffering under the weight of the

These people who are suffering under the weight of the three great mountains are living in the dark years of China's history. They look forward to the immediate breaking of the new dawn.

#### 5) Narration and "October Winds from the North" (1:55) Narration

Night must end, dawn is breaking Salvos of the October revolution ring out Marxism — Leninism

Take the Russian way, this is the conclusion The May 4th movement raises the banner of struggle Against imperialism, feudalism and spreads the ideas Of communism

In 1921, the great Chinese Communist Party is born Comrade Mao Tse-Tung integrates the ideas of Marx And Lenin with the Chinese revolution. Truth begins to illuminate the path to the Chinese Revolution.

The masses of the workers, peasants, and revolutionary intellectuals cheer and sing songs.

#### Song: 'October Winds from the North'

The wind of revolution blows from the North and awakens Our suffering brothers

Workers arise, unite with the peasants and attack Raise the Red Flag high and let its light shine afar Raise the Iron Hammer, and let the mountains and rivers Shake

The Chinese Communist Party is born on Chinese soil
A spark sets the whole prairie afire, the whole sky is red
A spark sets the whole prairie afire, the whole sky is red

### 6) Narration and "Song of the An Yuan Miner's Club" (1:27) Narration

Under the leadership of the Communist Party, workers and peasants movements gather force and sweep the land. A new situation arises where the nationalists and the communists cooperate. The clarion call of the northern expedition is sounded.

On Anyuan square, strikers hold up the sign "Dignity of Labor". The workers gather together, and a representative anxiously runs up to the crowd and triumphantly declares that they have won the strike. Workers cheer and loudly sing "The Worker's Song". The workers of the railway stations, factories and docks come from other places and help celebrate the victory.

#### Song:

We will stay on strike until we win
We workers are insulted, we workers are oppressed
It is we who will build a new world
We who will wipe out oppression
We will show our mighty strength
Let us workers unite!
Let us join our efforts
Workers be masters of the world, be masters of the world

#### 7) Narration and "The Peasants' Song" (1:35)

The Hwa-Nien peasants who won a similar struggle raise high their flag "All Rights Belong to the Peasants Associations."
They sing "The Peasants Song." Everyone celebrates the vic tory with their worker comrades. The Northern Expedition Army, Workers Patrol Team, and the Peasants self-defense group all gather together. Worker, Peasant, and Army associations march forward together.

Song: 'The Peasant's Song'

We will stay on strike The thunderbolt shakes heaven and earth Down with local bullies and bad gentry The poor used to stand inches shorter than the rich But today their heads touch the sky Now the peasants are standing up We are masters of our own lives All power to the peasants association The Communist party is our guide Now black hands hold the seal of office The banner of communism lights our hearts Tightly grasp flint locks and spears We march firmly forward in the revolution

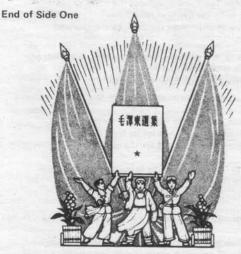
#### 8) "Worker, Peasant and Army Unite" (1:35) Song: 'Worker, Peasant and Army Unite!

Workers, peasants association march forward millions of one Heart

Workers, peasants association march forward. To wipe out The enemy bravely we fight,

United we march forward against the imperialists and Reactionaries.

Workers and Peasants Associations the final victory is ours.



#### A SINGLE SPARK CAN SET SIDE TWO A PRAIRIE FIRE

#### 1) Narration: Chiang Kai Shek; first co-operation, then betraval (0:57)

Workers, peasants and soldiers march forward bravely. The tide of revolution surges high, Suddenly threatening clouds obscure the sky. A blizzard chills the earth. Chiang Kai-Shek, at the instigation of the imperialists betrays the revolution. A massacre begins. Dhen Ku Shou's capitulation prevents the party and people organizing effective resistance against the surprise attack. The Revolution of 1927 meets with failure. The blood of revolutionaries and Chinese Communists redden the Huang Pu River, the banks of the Pearl River and the Yangtze, the far reaches of the Yellow River and the land on both sides of the Great Wall.

SHOUT: Long live the Great Chinese Communist Party

#### 2) Narration: Massacre of the communists (0:55)

A group of revolutionary comrades fall in blood while another group facing the bloodstained bayonets stick out their chests. They are in high spirits as they march to the execution courtyard in chains. Resolute revolutionary comrades facing the sun with the confidence of victory in their hearts, sing out a loud resounding oath to liberate the Great Motherland.

3) "Song of the Sacrifice" (2:00)

Song: 'Song of Sacrifice'

Taken down the street in fetters

I say farewell to kith and kin

To be beheaded is nothing

As long as our cause is just

One may be killed; but the revolution marches on

#### 4) Narration: Resurgence of the revolutionaries(1:53)

People can be killed

But the revolution can never be extinguished.

Communists can never be intimidated

They rise again to their feet, wipe away the blood, Bury their mourned comrades and carry on the fight.

LISTEN, the roar of the guns of the Nanchang uprising Comes as the first clap of spring thunder.

Look, the Autumn Harvest uprising, led by Comrade Mao Tse-Tung, lights a blazing torch. The first contingent of the

People's forces is formed, the first revolutionary base in The countryside is established and the thunder of armed

Struggle roars over the banks of the Yantsze.

Peasants holding spears and swords, workers and soldiers holding hammers and guns, gather together en masse. The news of the "Autumn Harvest Uprising" sweeps across the Motherland and brightens men's hearts, and shows the way to revolution.

#### 5) Introduction and "Autumn Harvest Uprising";

Narration: Developing bases in the countryside (3:25)

Song: 'The Autumn Harvest Uprising'

Pick up arms to start the revolution, heroic peasants and Workers.

Autumn Harvest uprising is successful.

Putting politics in command, workers and peasants unite as

One. Red political power takes firm root.

The revolution marches on

The revolution marches on

Led by Mao Tse-Tung

We march to great Chiankiang Mountains

The revolution needs a base

Land to strike root in

Guns to give us courage

Workers and peasants unite as one

The Red Political power takes firm root

The Revolution marches on

The Revolution marches on

The Revolution marches on

Red flags fly, songs shake the sky. Workers, peasants and soldiers hold up revolutionary banners as they march forward to Chenkiang Mountains.

#### Narration

Songs of triumph shake the earth

Red flags fly high in the wind

The revolutionary forces of the Nanchang and Autumn Harvest uprisings join hands on Chiankiang Mountains

Land reform is carried out

The peoples' forces are enlarged

Guerrilla fighting is developed

Red bases are set up one after another The countryside is used to encircle the cities

The brilliant thought of Mao Tse-Tung is used to guide our

Great revolutionary practice.

Gathering at Chiangkiang Mountains Friends and relatives of Chenkiang mountains bring sandals made out of straw and hemp for the Red Army. Follow Mao Tse Tung's fight on Chenkiang mountains, follow Mao Tse Tung, awake millions of workers and peasants. Rely on the countryside and win all of China.

'Straw Sandals for Our Red Army'

Red flags cover the hills Flowers bloom on every side All of us love the Red Army Bring sandals, sisters, bring sandals We make sandals of straw and hemp For our soldiers in the Red Army Led by Mao Tse-Tung We wage the fight on Chiangkiang Mountain We have raised the Red Flag to the sky Hearts of Revolutionaries everywhere Have turned to Chiangkiang Mountains Enlarge the bases Develop guerrilla warfare Arise millions of workers and peasants To rely on the countryside and win all China We give staw sandals to the Red Army All with red pompoms on them like balls of fire They redden every place they go A single spark can start a prairie fire If we follow close behind Mao Tse-Tung Everyone can win every victory We shall march ever forward Everyone will win every victory We shall march ever forward

#### 7) Introduction and "Ching-Kiang Mountains" (2:00)

Atop one of the peaks of the Chenkiang Mountains which is surrounded by other mountains and dense trees, flies the flags of the Chinese worker, peasant and revolutionary Red Armies. The revolutionary forces of Nanchang and Autumn Harvest Uprisings join hands on Chenkiang Mountains. Friend and relatives come up and welcome them.

The revolutionary armed forces get stronger and more powerful on Chenkiang Mountains. Under the leadership of Chairman Mao, soldiers and people having a high spirit of unity and good fighting spirit are able to win successive victories.

Song: 'Chiangkiang Mountain'

Behold the hills Were our flags and banners To the hilltops were the sounds of our bugles and drums The foe surrounded us, thousands strong But we were steadfast and never moved But we were steadfast and never moved Our defense was strong as our will United for the same goal From Huangyang chia came the thunder of guns The enemy army had fled in the night

#### 8) "Three Main Rules of Discipline and the Eight Points of Attention (1:02)

Soldiers of the Red Army and peasants' self-defense army sing "The Three Main Rules of Disclipine and the Eight Points Points of Attention", in high spirits to greet another new victory.

#### Song: 'Red Army Marching Song - 3 Rules of Discipline and 8 Points of Attention'

Every revolutionary fighter must bear in mind the three Main rules and the 8 points of discipline. First, always carry out orders Only by keeping in step can we win Second - do not take even a stitch from the people For then they will support us and be our friends Third - hand in everything captured Make an effort to lighten the peoples' burden Always remember revolutionary discipline The peoples' army must love the people Defend the motherland March ever forward The people of the whole country support and welcome you

#### 6) Introduction and "Straw Sandals for our Red Army (2:47) 9) Narration: Landlords overthrown, land divided, old deeds destroyed, and celebration (5:02)

BATTLE SCENE - Landlords overthrown and their land divided. Women display sheets stained with blood representing brutal enslavement by landlords. Deeds are torn up and a celebration is started.

Before the gates of the landlord's house comes the sound of guns and cannons. Soldiers of the Red Army and the peasant self-defense group bravely rush up. An enraged crowd rushes the residence of the landlord.

The peasants who have been oppressed for generations stand up. They drag the landlord out, the people want this exploiter to pay for the thousands of years of exploitation. Angry masses crush the landlord's sign and burn the land deeds which have been stained with the blood of many generations. The light from the fire reddens up half the sky. The vibrations from the laughter shake the earth down 1000 feet. In the past year, the result of the peasants' labor went to the landlord's storage bins. But to-day, they can reap the fruits of their own labor. Under the sunshine, the young women bring out basketfuls of white rice and dance and sing. Peasant, worker and soldier governments are building up. Young people raise the weapons captured from the enemy, and solemnly swear to firmly defend the revolutionary bases. The young people stay in the base areas and join the Red Army. Friends and relatives send red pompoms to the young people who join the Red Army. The young soldiers and people sing the victory song together.

#### 10) "When the Cinnamon Flowers Bloom in August" (1:59)

Song: 'When the Cinnamon Flowers Bloom in August' in August, cinnamons are in bloom everywhere The bright red flag is flying high Put up lanterns and ribbons for decoration The bright lights reflect a bright new world The Red Army, so bold and brave Our heroes have never been defeated in any battle. They smashed and punished the traitors Bit by bit they destroyed the enemy's army and let the Red flag fly proudly in the wind To protect the rights of the workers and peasants the Working masses started the revolution The red army fighters are the best Our beloved working brothers and sisters Pick up the sword and spear to aid our Red Army

End of Side Two





#### SIDE THREE THE LONG MARCH

### 1) Narration and "The Red Army Fighter Thinking of Mao (4:20)

#### Narration

The revolution marches on victoriously
The Red Bases flourish
But opportunists chart a wrong course f

But opportunists chart a wrong course for the revolution Once again the cause of the people is endangered

Song: 'The Red Army Fighter Thinking of Chairman Mao' We look up at the North Star

And our hearts turn to Mao Tse-Tung In the dark night you show us the direction And if we lose our way you put us right

On Sinklang Mountains you set up the first revolutionary base Mighty the power in the hands of the workers and the peasants Encircled by the River Kan

You led our charge

And you routed a mighty host of Chiang Kai-Shek's men It was you who built up the Red Army Who drew up our strategy

The Revolutionary fighers are always thinking of you Our great leader Mao Tse-Tung

### 2) Narration: the Tsunyi meeting; "The Red Sun Shines Over Tsunyi" (2:23)

#### Narration

At this critical moment, the Tsunyi meeting disperses the heavy mist like the roaring sun. Mao Tse-Tung our great helmsman puts our ship on the right course, hoists the sails and steers us through turbulent rapids and victories ahead.

Singing-Dancing The Radiant Meeting of Tsungy! Explanation "Raising our heads we see the lantern that points the way. In our hearts we think of Mao Tse Tung, When we lose our way you give us direction. In the dark of night you brighten our path. In times of difficulties you give us energy, and in victory when we think of you our hearts are full.

Song: 'The Red Sun Shines Over Tsunyi'

Magnificent town of Tsunyi, towering high above the Wuchang River

The clouds and mist scatter, the Red Sun rises to shine over The land

Our great leader Mao Tse-Tung, our brilliant helmsman, sets a true course and hoists sail

Leads us from victory to victory forward and forever forward

#### 3) Narration and "Taking the Tatu River" (3:10)

Dance Taking Over Enenmy Strongholds

ExplanationThe river is raging with turbulant waves. Gunsmoke everywhere on the iron chain bridge, an intense fighting scene. (Music)

Explanation Red Army Fighters- the surprise attack team bravely rushing forward into the shower of bullets. The team leader is in front, crawling forward alonside the iron chain. As he approaches the end of the bridge he is seriously hurt and he gives up his last drop of blood for the revolution. Bullets spray from the enemy fort across the bridge, a young fighter filled with hatred pierces the firing line and runs right up beneath the fort. A great fiery roar and the fort is blown open. The surprise attack team, braving the fire, rushes the enemy.

Song: 'Taking the Tatu River'

The waves of the Tatu foam and swirl Steep the cliffs

Fierce the enemy

China's best sons cross the river of Golden Sand

And we are welcomed by National Minorities A lonely boat puts out from Anchunshang

Braving wild waves to complete the route of the enemy

Fearlessly and resolutely we press on

And with one swift assault take Luching Bridge
On its iron chains our heroes showed their might

Their fame will live through all eternity

**Explanation** Red flag waving in the air, trumpets sound clear, the troops marching victoriously acrs the iron chain bridge. (Singing)

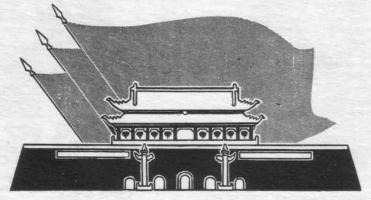
### 4) Narration: national minorities welcoming the Eighth Route Army; "Our Love and Comradeship are Deep" (2:47)

Singing-Dancing Long Lasting Friendship Explanation In a village where the Yi and Chuang people live, the country folk come to say goodby to the Red Army on the long March and to express their long-lasting friendship. The Red Army fighters standing in line to say goodby. The commander presents a bright red flag and a bundle of guns to the Yi and Chuang people's representative. The Yi and Chuang people give a snow white woolen jacket in return.

Song: 'Our Love and Comradeship Are Deep'

Clouds bright as rainbows float on high
A bird with golden plummage has flown down from the blue
The Red Army men are our kinsfolk
They fear not the trials of a distant march
The wayside flowers burst into bloom
As the Red Army marches past our home
The Red Army takes the road to revolution
Flowers of Revolution blossom in our hearts
LONG LIVE THE RED ARMY (Shouting and Dancing)

**Explanation** The Red Army and the Yi are of the same family. Their revolutionary friendship is deep and long. Saying goodby to our relatives on the roadside we sing and dance our hearts are together. The RedArmy troops, together with the newly recruited youths, wave goodby and continue on the road of the long march.



#### 5) Shout: Long Live the Red Army!; dancing in the streets; the long march begins; "Crossing Mount Shieu" (5:45)

Marration

After breaking out of the Chiang Kai-Shek encirclement, the Red Army face countless hardships ahead.

Dance Snow Capped Mountains and Grasslands (Wailof the Snowstorm)

**Explanation** On the snow capped mountain everywhere was the dazzle of white. The storm blows up the snow and darkens the sky.

**Explanation** The Red Army fighters march forward through the snowand ice with much difficulty on the mountain road. The winds blow stronger and stronger. The flying snow blocks off all vision. They slip and crawl up, pressing forward through the snowstorm. A young fighter passes out,an old fighter rushes up to carry him up. Moved by the class friendship and revolutionary ideal, they link arms with each other, stubbornly climbing up and marching forward.

**Explanation** The Red Army fighters crossed the snow capped mountains, heading through the boundless swampy grasslands. Marching ahead step by step they endured the hunger and withstood the wind and rain.

Song: "Crossing the Mt. Sheu'

A waste of snow
A sea of white
I see the steppe
The grain runs out
But our Red Army troops are men of iron
Tempered like steel no difficulty daunts them
Snow capped mountains bow to their quest from far away
And in the grassy swamps they make their camp
A drenching in the rain simply toughens them
No food but wild herbs strengthens their resolve
Officers and men share rough and smooth together
For their revolutionary ideas are higher than the sky

 Narration: the Long March continues, the Red Army escapes Chiang's pursuit; "Song of the Three Joint Forces Forces" (3:52)

An enemy calvary unit appraises them - the fighters, grasping the weapons tightly are ready for action. (Music) **Explanation** The brave Red Army chases the enemy away. Carrying captured enemy weapons on their backs, the soldiers are jubilant and ever more determined to march on.

Singing-Dancing The Joining of Forces at Shen Pei

'Song of Three Joint Forces'

Our three main armies have joined forces
On the northwest highland.
We applaud our three main armies.
Our heroic brothers are ever victorious.
Unite the might of the workers, peasants and Red Army.
March to the front against the Japanese invaders.

#### 7) "The Long March" (2:08)

#### Narration

The Long March is a manifesto. It proclaims to the world that the Red Army is an Army of heroes. The Long March is a propaganda force. It tells the people that the Red Army's road is the only road to liberation. The Long March is a sower, it sows the seeds of revolution which will grow, blossom and reap the harvest.

BUGLES SOUND — PEOPLE CHEER

**Explanation** The ever victorious 1st, 2nd and 4th Workers and Peasants Red Army unite with ShenPei Red Army at the northwest.

Song: 'The Long March'

The Red Army takes the road of revolution To them a thousand mountain and ten thousand rivers Are nothing

To them five ridges ripple like little waves
And the mountain peaks of Wu Ming roll by like mud balls
Warm are the cloud top cliffs washed by the river of
Golden Sand

Cold are the iron chains that span the Tatu River The knee length snows of Nishan will only make them Happier

And when the Army has crossed, each face is smiling.

End of Side Three



#### SIDE FOUR THE WAR OF RESISTANCE AGAINST JAPAN

#### Narration: the people join the United Front to resist Japanese agression!(1:30)

#### Narration

The First, Second and Fourth of the peasants and workers army join forces in the northwest. Victoriously, they complete their incomparable twenty-five thousand li Long March.

The Chinese Communist Party calls for an end to the Civil War and forms a United Resistance against Japan. It raises the flag of National Liberation and inspires the people to join the National United Front against Japanese Aggression. The Chiang Kai-Shek reactionaries, heartless to the cries of the peoples' and country's perils and bent on crushing the Communist Party point their guns toward their own compatriots. They kowtow to the Japanese imperialists. Bit by bit they hand over vast areas of our sacred soil to the enemy. Millions of the Chinese people lose their dear ones, millions are forced to abandon their homes.

#### 2) September The Eighteenth (1:06)

#### September Eighteenth Song

As the \*Gaoling and the leaves turn green the Japanese invaded on September Eighteenth They captured the ammunitio cache They captured Manchuria They slaughtered many and pillaged the land (repeat above line)
The Kuomingtang has millions of troops but kowtow to the Japanese Imperialists and flee from Syingyangsing

<sup>\*</sup> grain from the north

#### 3) Narration and On The Sungari River (3:58)

**Explanation** Countrymen of the northeast coming into the south of the Great Wall from Exile. Filled with hatred towards the Japanese Imperialists and angered by Chiang-Kai shek reactionaries they sadly talk about the pain of losing their homeland.

Song: 'On the Sungari River'

My home is by the Sungari in the Northeast
Where forests and coal abound
Soya beans and Sorghum cover the hills and plains
My home is by the Sungari in the Northeast
Where my old father, mother and countrymen live
After the tragic 18th of September
After the tragic 18th of September
I left home abandoning these boundless treasures
And have been adrift south of the Greal Wall
When shall I return to my beloved home
When will we take back those boundless treasures
Dear countrymen
When shall we meet again

#### "Arise" - (Chi Lai). Also called "March of the Volunteer Army".

#### Narration

All China is seized with rage

The people led by the Communist Party launch a patriotic movement of December 9th, Resist Japanese aggression, save the nation. A new surge of determination rises over the country.

Chi Lai March of the Volunteer Army Arise, ye who refuse to be bondslaves! With our very flesh and blood let us build our new Great Wall

China's masses have met the day of danger Hate and anger fill the heart of all our countrymen

Arise! Arise! Arise! Many hearts with one mind Brave the enemy's gunfire. March on! Brave the enemy's gunfire—

March on! March on! March on! On!

Explanation The great masses of workers, peasants, soldiers students, and businessmen bring out banners with the slogans: "STOP THE CIVIL WAR" "UNITE TO RESIST JAPAN" OPPOSE THE HUA PEI AUTONOMY" "BE PATRIOTIC" "FIGHT FOR FREEDOM", and hand and hand rush towards the Koumingtang army and police line.

#### 5) Narration: Yenan is the center of revolution "The Graduation Song" (1:40)

#### Narration

Like a tower of strength, the Chinese people look to Yenan as the fountainhead of revolution. Like a beacon it draws tens of thousands who refuse to be slaves. It is the center of the struggle against Japanese aggression. Here, the Central Committee of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao lead the people to victory.

**Explanation** Under the Sacred Tower Mountain of Yenan, a group of students from the RESIST JAPAN MILITARY AND POLITICAL ACADEMY gather on the square, getting ready to set out for the front. They sing their college song.

Song: 'The Graduation Song'

On the banks of the Yellow River, father the fine sons of the Chinese people to liberate mankind, to defend our mother-

Land
Schoolmates study hard
Develop our school's fine spirit
United, serious and hardworking
Schoolmates study hard
Carry on our tradition
Work hard, he brave in the face of

Work hard, be brave in the face of death, Like the Yellow River surging and sweeping forward

Drive the Japanese invaders out of our land

To a new society we march We are pioneers of the working people 6) "To the Rear of the Enemy" and "Song of the Guerilla"
(2:45)

**Explanation** Teachers, students, and country folk wave their banner "TO THE ENEMY'S REAR" and bid farewell to their relatives.

Song: 'To the Rear of the Enemy'

Go to the rear of the enemy
Drive the bandits from our land
(Repeat first 2 lines)
Braving wind and storm
Raiding from the rear
Today we capture a village, tomorrow a town
We strike from east and west to scatter their forces
Go to the rear of the enemy
Drive the bandits from our land
(Repeat first 2 lines)
If we attack from both sides we must win
The victory must be ours
Go to the rear of the enemy
Drive the bandits from our land

**Explanation** Teams of revolutionary fighters march together resolutely. In the midst of singing they leave Yenan, swiftly moving to the enemy's rear, rushing towards the front line and towards national liberation. (Singing)

Singing - Dancing Guerilla War (Music)

**Explanation** At the enemy's rear, party cadres lead the soldiers and the people to resist Japan by developing active guerilla warfare.

Song: 'The Song of the Guerrilla'

Crack marksmen are we whose every bullet downs an enemy Winged fighters we

No torrent, no sheer cliff can bar our way In forests thick our comrades set up camp

On towering mountain heights our men stand guard

If we are short of food and clothes our enemy will provide them

Are we short of supplies? Our enemy will supply them

For this is our native home, every inch of soil is dear to us

If an invader tries to seize it from us we still fight him to the

End

(Repeat above verse twice)

7) Narration and instrumental "battle scene": reprise "Song of the Guerrilla" (1:55)

**Explanation** The brave partisans make use of home-made canons and foreign guns. Waving knives and spears they smash the enemy everywhere. (Song)

**Explanation** The partisans capture enemy weapons, strengthen their forces and recapture areas of the sacred Motherland at the enemy's rear.



#### 8) Narration and "Inside the Liberated Area" (2:14)

#### Narration

The 8th route and the new 4th route army battle courageously to resist the brutal Japanese invasion. The Kuomintang reactionaries blockade the liberated areas. They pledge to stop our forces there and exhaust them, but no power can block or wear down the revolutionary people. The army and people of the liberated areas responding to the call of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao launch a great movement for production. Relying on their own efforts they overcome all obstacles and carry on the protracted war of resistance.

#### Song: 'Inside the Liberated Area'

In the liberated areas production goes with a swing Army and people working side by side
To open up the forests, open up the wasteland
Men and Women in hundreds climb the mountainside
Relying on ourselves, on our own efforts
We send more grain to the fighters on the front
We can fight, we can write, if you ask who we are:
WE ARE THE 8TH ROUTE ARMY

**Explanation** On the hillsides wild fire is lit up. The Eighth Route Army fighters and the peasants, waving their hoes, opening up the virgin land. (Song and Music)

Explanation In the beautiful springtime of the 2nd month (Chinese calendar) the soldiers and the people, with their hearts together, are busy in production, to turn wild mountainous terrain into crop farms. (Music)

#### 9) Introduction and "The Naniwan Song" (4:05)

**Explanation** Everywhere on the hillside there are farm houses. Everywhere on the plain there are cattle and sheep. Reaped cotton is spun into thread with self-reliance. There will be enough to eat and to wear. (Applause.)

**Explanation** The peasants come to visit the Eighth Route Army. They praise the fighters for their revolutionary spirit and hard struggle, singing of how Shen Pei has become like the South Yangtze.

#### Naniwan Song

We are giving the flowers in my basket
Listen to the song I sing
Here I am in Naniwan, and what a fine place it is
A fine, beautiful place; fields full of crops, hills covered
with sheep and cattle
Last year's Naniwan was nothing but barren mountains
Today's Naniwan has changed
It has changed completely and become the lower Yangtsze
Valley of the North Shensi
Learn from Naniwan
Turn every place into a Yangtsze Valley
First fight and develop production
Brigade 359 is our motto
We present flowers to our model



#### 10) "Defend the Yangtse Valley" (2:00)

#### Song:

'Defend the Yangtsze Valley'

The wind roars, the horses niegh
The yellow river is raging (Repeat)
Mountains tower west of the river
In the east and north there are fields full of barley
In the 10,000 mountains there are many heroic guerrillas
Across the 1,000 miles our guerrillas show their mettle
Picking up homemade and foreign weapons
Picking up swords and knives to
Guard the Yellow River
Guard North China
Guard the whole great Motherland
(Repeat the above verse once)

#### **End of Side Four**



#### SIDE FIVE BURYING THE

#### CHIANG- KAI-SHEK DYNASTY

1) Narration: Chiang, backed by U.S. Imperialism, launches civil war: "What's Jail to Us ?" (2:21)

#### Marration

Throughout the 8 years of the war of resistance Chiang Kai-Shek hides himself, but as soon as the victory is won, this traitor supported by the u.s. imperialists, unleashes an allout Civil War. In the KMT areas the people stand up and fight hunger, persecution and Civil War. The iron gates of prison cannot stem the surging tide of resistance. Water from police fire hoses cannot put out the flames of struggle.

Song: 'What's Jail to US?'

What's jail to us? True revolutionaries

Do not flinch from the butcher's knife

Living we stand erect and dying we shall stand on our feet

What is jail to us?

We are true revolutionaries

Fired by hatred

We oppose the Civil War

We call for peace

We shall overthrow the Chiang Kai-Shek regime

And drive u.s. imperialism out

The international is upon our lips

We march towards the dawn

Then build up a new China

**Explanation** Inside the jail in the area of the KMT rule, revolutionaries were under extreme oppression! Torture could not change the belief of a communist; jail doors failed to lock up the determination to struggle of a revolutionary.

#### 2) "Unity is Strength" (1:01)

Song: 'Unity Is Strength'
Unity is strength, Unity is strength
Strength of iron, strength of steel
Harder than iron, stronger yet than steel
It strikes at facism, to end all tyranny
As the spring is to the sun, it sheds new brilliance
All over new China
(Repeat above verse)

#### 3) Narration: Chiang will be vanquished despite U.S. aid: "March of the Chinese People's Liberation Army" (1:58)

in the demonstration procession. People raised banners say "OPPOSE HUNGER, OPPOSE INTERNAL WAR" POSE OPPRESSION: STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM". They marched forward, linked arms with one another, and broke the ranks of the reactionary army and the police.

Dance Dance of Moving Troops Forward (music)

#### Narration

Counting on his millions of troops and squadrons of war planes supplied by the u.s. imperialists. Chiang Kai-Shek bears his fangs and tries to swallow up the liberated areas. But the wheels of history cannot be reversed! This is the decisive fight between light and darkness! Between two destinies and two futures. The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao sound the call to battle. Down with Chiang Kai-Shek! Liberate all China!!

Song: 'The March of the Chinese Peoples' Liberation Army' Forward! Forward! Forward!

We are marching towards the sun

Over our great Motherland

The hope of our whole nation, we are an invincible force The sons of workers and peasants

We are the armed forces of the people, fearless and un-Yielding. Heroically we shall fight until all the reactionaries

Are wiped out And the banner of Mao Tse-Tung is floating high Hear the wind howl, the bugles blare Hear the songs of revolution loud and clear Comrades march in step to the battle to set our people free Comrades march in step to the frontiers of our land Forward, Forward, we are marching toward the sun To final victory and national liberation

The Chinese People's Liberation Army reso-Explanation lutely carried out the task to liberate the whole country, advancing bravely on all fronys. The high-spirited revolutionary people gave support to the front lines. The Army and the people were all of one heart. Resolutely, wholeheartedly, and completely, they smashed the enemy!

4) Narration: the courageous Red Army will triumph; celebration (3:29)

Dancing Heroic forces of millions crossing the Yangtze. (Music)

Explanation The battle of heroic forces of millions crossing crossing the Yangtze has started. Dark is the night, the current runs fast, waves roam high, gunsmoke fills the sky, cannons roar, the great liberation force sets out tens of thousands of boats to go across the Yangtze. (Music)

Explanation At the bow of each ship flies the banner of "DOWN WITH CHIANG KAI SHEK, LIBERATE ALL CHINA" The boatmen calmly hold the helms, moving fast forward across the swift current. (Music)

Explanation Enemies fire heavily on the boats. Suddenly an old boatman is shot, another bullet overturns the boat.

Brave fighters and the old boatman continue to swim forward. (Music)

Explanation Approaching the southern shore, the enemy's fire becomes more untense, but the fighters and boatmen continue to go forward all the same, because they are deter-(Music) mined.

Explanation By the shore, the fighters one after another wade through the water and dash to the shore. (Music)

The red flares broke the darkness of the sky. The victorious red flag waved on the south of the Yangtze. The great liberation force achieved great victory - they crossed the river. (Music)

Singing - Dancing Celebrate Liberation

Explanation The handful of KMT reactionaries and U.S. imperialists rolled up their tails and fled. A shower of bullets brought down the KMT flag from the puppet presidential Explanation Outside the jail came the shouting of the masses palace. This brought an end to the running of China by the reactionary KMT dynasty. People everywhere in the city of Nanking were rejoicing. Music filled the sky. People from different walks of life flocked the street to celebrate their liberation. (Music)

> **Explanation** The skyscrapers were heavily decorated. The bright red slogans said "LONG LIVE THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY! LONG LIVE CHAIRMAN MAO! WEL-COME THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S ARMY OF LIBERATION!"

#### 5) "A Day in the Liberated Area; celebration; "The People's Liberation Army Takes Nanking (3:30)

Song Day in the Liberated Area Bright the sky in the liberated areas and happy the people There

The democratic government loves the people The goodness of the Chinese Communist Party is boundless (Repeat above verse)

Explanation Columns of the people's Liberation Army held ceremonies to enter the city. A huge tank came over. Some grade students jumped onto the tank and presented red flowers to the heroes. From the Happy crowd out came a group of young men and women. They gathered around the tank and played the waist drums. (Music)

Explanation Songs of victory were heard everywhere vowing to carry the revolution to the end.

Song: 'The Takeover of Nanking'

A sudden storm sweeps over Chungshan A million fighters cross the Yangtze The crouching tiger and the curling dragon Surpass the impassioned heroes and overturn heaven and earth Use all your strength to pursue the tottering foe Do not buy fame like the King of Chu Were you to wait for nature to change the state of things, You too, would pass from youth to age But in man's world, peace comes only after struggle

End of Side 5

#### SIDE SIX THE CHINESE PEOPLE STAND UP

1) Narration; the long night is ended; "Arise" (Chi Lai) instrumental; "Without the Communist Party There Would Be No New China" (3:24)

#### Narration

Dear comrades, do you remember the days when the dawn was dark, when at night the blizzards raged? How much we yearned for the day of final victory. This day has finally arrived. Look! Everyone is happy with tears. Everyone is joyously celebrating our liberation. Even the mountains and rivers seem to be smiling. They are listening to Chairman Mao's earthshaking proclamation: The Chinese Peoples' Republic of China is born! The Chinese People have finally stood up!

#### PLAYING OF NATIONAL ANTHEM

**Explanation** Under the bright sunlight on Tien An Men Square the first five star red flag of the People's Republic of China flew high.

Singing - Dancing The Great Festival

**Explanation** Putting on festival clothes, people of different races gather in front of Tien An Men Square to celebrate the birth of New China.

#### Song: Without the Communist Party, There would be no New China'

Without the Communist Party, there would be no new China The Chinese Communist Party works hard for the people The Chinese Communist Party is determined to safeguard China

They show the people the road to liberation

It leads China toward a bright future

It persisted in the 8 years of the War of Resistance against Japan

It bettered the people's lives

It rebuilt the areas abandoned by the enemy

They put forth a new peoples' democracy

Without the Chinese Communist Party, there would be no New China

### 2) Narration: all the people of China come out and celebrate (0:55)

**Explanation** A group of young people come out of the crowd. In the midst of music and noise, they wave their flags. (Sound of waving flags.)

**Explanation** They waved their flags up and down, like fishes jumping in water.

#### 3) "Song of the Prairie" and celebration (4:25)

**Explanation** A folk singer from the grasslands of Inner Mongolia sang a song of praise, accompanied by the horse head guitar. The Mongolian girls started dancing. They raised the little wine pot with both hands to wish the beloved leader Chairman Mao a long live without end. (Music)

**Explanation** The happy Turkestan youth danced the hand drum dance. During the festival everyone is filled with happiness. As the drums beat faster, the Turkestan girls whirl faster. They energetically dance, showing the Hsin Jian under Tien Shan were rejoicing with a spirit as hot as fire. (Music)

#### 'The Song of the Prairie'

From the grasslands I arrived in Tien An Men Square Raising high the goblet
I sing my song of praise
We thank the great Chinese Communist Party
And wish Chairman Mao a long, long life,
Our great motherland has finally stood up in
The east, like the radiance of the newly-risen
Sun illuminating the land
Our brothers of all nationalities gather together
Happily to celebrate our liberation and emancipation.

**Explanation** The Chuang girls come from the Li River area with light, swift steps they dance the straw hat dance. To Tien An Men, they brought with them the happy feeling of liberation. (Music)

#### 4) "We Wish Chairman Mao a Long Life!" (3:05)

Song: 'We Wish Chairman Mao a Long Life'
We wish Chairman Mao a long long life
Chairman Mao's radiance shines over the snow capped mounTains. It has melted the frost and ice of 1,000 years
We wish you a very long life
The people's leader, Chairman Mao
Our red hearts turn toward the Red Sun
You have made many things become reborn and grow
We wish Chairman Mao a long long life

#### Shout: Long Live Chairman Mao!; Celebration by national minorities (1:42)

Explanation Fire works burst in the sky of Tien An Men. The bright search lights light up the festival grounds. A Si youths sing and dance. (Music) Cho San girls danced the long drum dance. (Music) Thai girls followed the rythmn of the Elephant foot drum, danced the beautiful brocade dance. (Music) Miao youths danced the lively Reed flute dance. (Music) People from different races, like brothers and sisters, welcomed the bright dawn of the Motherland, together they sang to the great Motherland.

#### 6) "SOng of the Motherland" (3:05)

#### 'Song of the Motherland'

(a) See the five star red flag flying high Loudly rings our songs of victory Praising our beloved Motherland Growing richer, stronger every day Praising our beloved Motherland Growing richer, stronger, every day We cross mountains, we cross valleys We cross the rushing Yellow River and Yangtze Great and spacious and beautiful Is our beloved Motherland Heroic, the people have stood up Firmly united, with the strength of steel (Repeat verse (a)) We are industrious, we have courage Independence and freedom we hold dear Countless hardships we overcame Till we attained liberation We love peace, as we love our Homeland Whoever dares attack us will meet death

#### 7) "The Internationale (1:42)

The Internationale --- Performers and Audience sang together.

#### Song: 'The Internationale'

Arise, you prisoners of starvation!
Arise, you wretched of the earth
For justice thunders condemnation,
A better world's in birth
No more tradition's chain shall bind us
Arise, you slaves, no more in thrall
The earth shall rise on new foundations
We have been naught, we shall be all
(Chorus)
Tis the final conflict, let each stand in his place
The Internationale shall be the human race

End of Side Six



Text transcribed from the film "The East is Red" and cover art courtesy of Asian and Asian-Americans working in the New York Chinese community.

# MILITANT ORGANIZATIONS OF ASIANS IN THE UNITED STATES

#### I WOR KUEN

(The following statement is excerpted from 'Getting Together the newspaper of the I Wor Kuen.)

I Wor Kuen means Righteous Harmonious Fist. This is the name of a revolutionary Asian organization based in New York's Chinatown. The name is taken from a patriotic peasant movement in China in the late 1800's. This movement was a nationalistic, anti-imperialist movement whose aim was to return the national soverignty of China to the Chinese people. Our organization started because as Asians, and especially as Asians in Amerika, we saw the need to develop a revolutionary movement among the Asian people in this country in response to the genocidal and racist war in Indochina, as well as to the deteriorating living conditions in our community. The struggle of our brothers and sisters in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos is especially relevant to us since the racist, barbaric attitudes of the amerikan military reflect the attitudes of the greater amerikan society as a whole. The war, added to the decaying conditions in our community, demanded that a revolutionary organization be started.

For decades, the truth about the inhuman conditions of Chinatown had remained squashed by the corrupt businessmen of Chinatown and their cohorts, the corrupt Fifth Precinct police. The Kuomintang (the political party of Chiang Kai-Shek, now in exile on Taiwan) having established chapters in all major cities of the u.s. prevented our people from learning the truth about China. The KMT along with the harsh political repression of our people in the past has taught us not to voice our dissent and fight for freedom and liberation despite the very obvious ghetto conditions in Chinatown. However, as the problems of our community grew worse, it became impossible to conceal the plight of our people. Even the very basic essentials of food, clothing and shelter are hard fought for. Our parents slave away 10-11 hours a day - mostly in garment factories (sweatshops), restaurants or laundries (68% of our people are employed in these categories). Because of labor discrimination men almost inevitably end up working in restaurants and women in the sweatshops.

Crowded housing conditions, poor sanitation facilities, and unsafe working conditions prove to be death traps for our people. Tuberculosis, a highly contagious disease, is rampant in our community. San Francisco's Chinatown has the highest T.B. rate in the city. N.Y.'s Chinatown is second only to Harlem. In February 1970, in response to the people's needs, I Wor Kuen started "Serve the People" programs along with a bi-lingual monthly newspaper called "Getting Together.' We chose to attack T'.B. first. We undertook a systematic T.B. testing program which lasted four months. In this period we tested over 600 people and we found that the positive rate (those people who got a positive skin reaction from the test) was almost 25%. This means that almost one out of four people have had contact with the germ. We later expanded our health programs into a Free Health Clinic in order to treat people who chose not to go to conventional hospitals.

Along with this program, we started a politically oriented movie program which brings news of various liberation struggles throughout the world. We also have a draft counseling program for our brothers who chose not to fight in the Vie nam War. Aside from these programs we are active in the field of housing because we believe that we must be concerned with the basic needs of the people. In the summer of 1970, we helped community people liberate over 50 apartments from Bell Telephone Company, which was trying to throw people out and build a high-rise 30 story building.

Since the conception of our organization, we have made tremendous strides in our community. By basing our work with the youth of our community, we have built a solid base for the future. Other segments of the community from the elderly to the very young are attracted to us because they are tired of the corrupt and capitalistic power structure of Chinatown and the greater society in general. Along with working within our community we are also working with all progressive Third World organizations to bring the concept of Third World Unity into a reality.

Only by support by the people and serving the people can we achieve progress and at the same time end the system which has bred so much exploitation and racism. We hope that more people begin understanding the objectives of revolutionary organizations rather than merely responding emotionally. Revolutionary organizations will always be formed where there is rampant oppression, poverty, racism and exploitation of our people in the u.s. If you wish to contribute you can do so by making contributions to:

I WOR KUEN 24 Market Street New York, N.Y. 10002

or by subscribing to:

"Getting Together" 24 Market Street New York, N.Y. 10002

Subscription rate: \$5/year



#### TIAO - YU TAI MOVEMENT

This movement began with the discovery of rich oil deposits in the sub-sea area of eight small islands located between Taiwan and Okinawa known as the Tiao-vu Tai Islands and along the whole continental shelf extending as far down as Vietnam up to Korea. Anticipating the return of the Ryuku Islands (of which Okinawa is the largest), the Japanese government claimed possession of the Tiao-vu Tai Islands and on September 21, 1970, Ryuku patrol boats with the consent of the U.S. government, expelled at gunpoint fishing boats of the Chinese fishermen of the Tiao-yu Tai area after having torn down the Chinese Nationalist flag a few days earlier. In face of this incident, the Taipeh government not only took no action, but also tried to maintain an "official silence" about the affair. This aroused the indignation of Chinese foreign students abroad as well as the people of Taiwan and when it became clear that the Chiang Kai-shek government was allowing a free hand to the Japanese imperialists (colluding with the U.S. governemnt); Chinese students, particularly in America, began to mobilize on the issue. In the early months of 1971, many meetings were held on campuses all over the United States and soon Tiao-yu Tai Action committees were formed in New York, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles to name a few. On January 29 and 30, 1971, mass demonstrations were held protesting the Japanese aggression on the Chinese territories of the Tiao-yu Tai Islands, the U.S. approval and support of Japan's actions, and the inaction of the Nationalist government. At first the political atmosphere was low key but as time went on the Nationalist government not only tried to keep silent on the affair but called the Berkley Chapter Communist infiltrated. With that, the Action Committee published an article openly denouncing the Nationalist government as corrupt. Soon Tiao-yu Tai Action Committees were being formed all over the world; in HongKong, Singapore, and China. On April 9 and 10, 1971, huge mass demonstrations were held in Washington D.C. and in San Francisco in which thousands of overseas Chinese students participated. This movement has the support of many Chinese communities and other Asian Organizations.

### U.S. - CHINA PEOPLE'S FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

About three years ago many patriotic overseas Chinese felt that the people's Republic of China was the sole representative of the Chinese people, that it should have its rightful place in the United Nations, and that there should be more normal relations between the people of the United States and China. Then, April 10, 1971, the U.S. ping-pong team became the first large group of Americans to go to China since the revolution of 1949. Because of this, U.S. - China People's Friendship Associations began forming all over the United States. The following statement by the San Francisco group is a representative statement of principles:

1: To promote friendship between the people of the United States and China.

2: To work for an end to all U.S. interference in the internal affairs of China. All U.S. armed forces must be removed from Taiwan, an inseparable part of China. The People's Rebublic of China is the sole legal government representing all the people. 3: To advocate the following five principles as the basis of relations between all countries: mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-agression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

4: To work towards an end to the U.S. Government's imperialist war in Indochina.

5: To campaign for the restoration to China of its legitimate seat in the United Nations.

6: To promote educational and cultural exchange and trade that is mutually beneficial to the people of the United States and China.

#### THE RED GUARD PARTY (SAN FRANCISCO)

A few years ago, because of the degrading conditions in San Francisco's Chinatown, and inspired by the example of black and anti-war groups, the Chinese youth, mostly street youth, decided to form the first radical Chinese organization in America. They decided to name it the Red Guard Party which they took from the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution that was going on in China. They started community service programs, such as a Free Food program, to serve the needs of the Chinese community in San Francisco. They held the first anti-war demonstration in San Francisco's Chinatown where they unfurled the flag of the People's Republic of China. The conservative elements, seeing a left-wing Chinese organization, got uptight and began harassing the Red Guard Party until finally they were forced to close their office when the landlord was pressured to raise the rent to an abnormally high price. With the closing of their office, they could no longer carry on any community service activities, and sometime in April and May, 1971, they finally dissolved the organization but because of what they did they set an example for Asians all over America to mobilize and organize against the oppressive conditions in which Asian communities are forced to

#### THE ASIAN COALITION

This group is an umbrella organization of many radical Asian groups on the East Coast and consists of community people of the various Asian nationalities: Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, etc. They have organized demonstrations to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to protest the continuing threat of nuclear war, and they have participated as a separate contingent in general anti-war actions.

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On New Democracy by Chairman Mao Tse-Tung

Talks at the Yenan Forum on Literature and Art by Chairman Mao Tse-Tung

Letter to the Yenan Peking Opera Theatre After Seeing "Driven to Join the Liangshan Mountain Rebels"

Report to the Second Plenary Session of the 7th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

Lei Feng, Chairman Mao's Good Fighter from "Foreign Language Press" (Peking)

Great Changes in a Mountain Village by Chou-Li Po. Vol. I & Vol. II. Transformation in a Chinese Village after the Revolution. Published, 1961.

China 2001 by Han Suyin. Analysis of China's Political Theory and Outlook Before and After the Cultural Revolution, Published, 1967.

#### PAREDON RECORDS exists because-

People's movements all over the world need to communicate and to define themselves free of the cultural manipulation and economic control of the system's media.

We are tired of contributing the innovations, style, and energy that this system is only too happy to bring to the marketplace and to use as its liberal window dressing. We are tired of legitimizing "the man's" instruments of cultural control through our own participation.

People's movements are finding voices to express their determination to survive and to prevail. This expression will soon become a torrent and must be made readily available to everybody, without exploiting such materials for individual profit.

We must put "the man's" technology to work on behalf of the people's struggles. We must respond to the networks of television and radio, bigger-than-life billboards, and wrap-around screens that surround us. We must use our intelligence to create guerrilla theater, plug-in-anywhere 16mm film, simple chants and shouts that can travel like seed on the wind-and phonograph records that can be made quickly and can travel from hand to hand.

#### Therefore, PAREDON RECORDS-

Will respond to the needs of people's struggles, and not to the demands of some corporate balance sheet.

Will seek out the music and speech, documentary or dialogue, that spring from the conscious artist who relates to people's movements, and which pour from all people in struggle.

Will never issue dividends or profits, but will use all money earned to produce other materials to help educate and define ourselves.

Will make it possible for groups and organizations to use materials issued to raise funds for their own work.

Will maintain open and honest relations with all individuals, groups and organizations—both here and abroad and will conduct its affairs with a revolutionary morality.