CHINA

This Week In The Chinese Press

By SAMANTHA CHAN

Chinese Times

JAPANESE WOMAN ACCUSED OF HELPING WU'ERKAIXI

Chinese authorities informed the Japanese Embassy in Beijing late July that Futian Yahui (translated from Chinese), a Japanese woman, is suspected of being involved in helping Wu'erkaixi flee from China. Futian, 36, attended Beijing Foreign Studies University as an international student from February 1988 until returning to Japan in mid-June of this year. Her boyfriend operated a bar near the University in which the pro-democracy Chinese students frequented. In an interview with a Japanese journalist, Futian said she had done nothing except to donate 20 *renmenbei* (Chinese dollars) to the students.

'OUR EYES ARE FILLED WITH TEARS'

During a fundraising banquet held in New York on Aug. 1, Wu'erkaixi said that although "we Chinese can now stand up straight and proud in the world community, our eyes are filled with tears. The only day we Chinese can stride forward with a smile and our chins up is the day when democracy, freedom, equality and universal fraternity belong to the Chinese." A total of $43,399 was raised at the banquet.

Sing Tao Jih Pao, Chinese Times

TAIWAN REFUSED TO HELP ESCAPING DISSIDENTS

When the Chinese dissidents fled from China, they asked the Taiwan governmental agencies in Hong Kong for help but were refused. An official in one of the agencies explained that they could not help the dissidents go into Taiwan directly but agreed to transfer their application forms to Taiwan.

Taiwan's Administrative Ministry is thinking of delaying the planned visit to Taiwan of Wu'erkaixi, Yan Jiaqi and other pro-democracy leaders for fear they might "say something that is not good for Taiwan."

Sing Tao Jih Pao

CHINA TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDENTS' WORLD GAMES

A 106-member athletic delegation will represent Chinese college students at the Fifteenth College Students' Games of the World to be held in West Germany from Aug. 22 to 30. They will leave Beijing on Aug 18.

International Daily News

WU'ERKAIXI CRITICIZED

Wu'erkaixi, one of the best known Chinese student dissidents, was criticized in a recent talk given by Huang Shengyu, a UC Berkeley graduate student.

Huang, who attended the first national conference of Chinese students in the US in Chicago last month, told an audience of Berkeley Chinese students and others that Wu'erkaixi is a very effective student leader, but as a statesman, Wu'erkaixi still needs more experience in how he conducts himself in society. Huang also said that Wu'erkaixi needed to organize his thoughts better, saying that his speech to the convention had no main point and was incoherent.

Ming Pao Daily News

CANADA LETS CHINESE NATIONALS STAY

As of July 26, 2,261 Chinese had applied for permanent status in Canada for humanitarian reasons. Out of that number, 2,056 have been approved. In some of the provinces, all of those applying have been given permanent status.

In order to help Chinese students, the Canadian government has started a program called the Emergency Support for Chinese Students Project. The Canadian Bureau for International Education is administering a $300,000 fund for the Emergency Foundation for Chinese Students.

China Events Leave Some Chinese Newspapers Split And Confused

By HIM MARK LAI

The bloody events at Tian'anmen Square and subsequent developments in China have caused dismay and disarray among the left all over the world. In New York they have led to splits and confusion in the pro-China camp and the closing of the only Chinese organ of the left in the US and the oldest existing Chinese newspaper in New York, *China Daily News*.

After the Chinese regime regained some semblance of control in China it launched a vigorous campaign of disinformation and damage control. Abroad it has sought to regain lost ground. In mid-July China's New China News Agency in Hong Kong brought the wayward *Wen Wei Pao* back into line by dismissing publisher Li Zisong, who had led the paper in denouncing the bloody repression of the democracy movement (*E/W* 7/20).

Two weeks later came the turn of New York's *China Daily News*. This longtime staunch supporter of China had also backed the democracy movement. After June 4 it strongly condemned the Li Peng regime's military suppression of the movement and subsequent repression of dissidents (*E/W*, 7/6). This action incurred the displeasure of Beijing authorities, who then cut off the flow of advertising funds to the newspaper. On July 29 the newspaper announced "temporary" cessation of publication due to "financial difficulties."

China Daily News was founded almost half a century ago by intellectuals from China and members of the powerful New York Chinese Hand Laundry Alliance (CHLA) to provide a progressive voice for Chinese Americans. The first issue hit the streets on July 7, 1940, the third anniversary of the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War. The first president of the corporation was Ji Gongquan and the managing editor, Tang Mingzhao, then English secretary at CHLA.

From the beginning the paper took the stance that for Chinese Americans (1) it is a natural expression of human feelings to be concerned with developments in their ancestral land, and (2) it is their duty to be loyal to the US and their right to improve their situation in this country. It was one of the few Chinese newspapers to urge Chinese Americans to vote, providing information on the background and platforms of competing candidates. During the forties the paper's literary section was a popular forum for young writers who advocated use of Chinese American themes in creative writing. The paper also decried corruption in the Chinese govern-

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Student Bill On Hold

WASHINGTON, DC - Representative Nancy Pelosi vowed a renewed fight after suffering an unexpected setback in the passage of her bill HR 2712, which allows Chinese students to remain in the US and change their immigration status after completing their studies rather than return home to face persecution.

Pelosi and the House leadership had reached an agreement with the Senate last Thursday, Aug. 3, to assure Senate passage of the bill before the August recess, thereby obtaining the president's signature only two months after the Tian'anmen Square massacre.

However, the agreement broke down late the following Friday when the Senate passed a much more limited version of the Pelosi bill instead and sent it to the House for final approval.

The House rejected the amended version, insisting on greater protections for the Chinese students, and sent the original Pelosi language back to the Senate. The Senate failed to act on the bill before its August break.

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Chinese Newspapers

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ment and championed a democratic China.

After the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950 both Ji and Tang departed for China, where they joined the government. Eugene Moy, who had been in charge of the literary section, took over their positions. Moy, however, had the misfortune of assuming his posts when US and Chinese troops were fighting each other on the Korean Peninsula and the McCarthy anti-communist hysteria was rising to a crescendo in this country. Under these circumstances *China Daily News* naturally became a prime target for the anti-communist crusade.

On April 28, 1952 a New York grand jury indicted the newspaper, Moy and four others connected with *China Daily News* and CHLA for violation of the Trading with the Enemy Act, an obscure law passed during World War I that had never been enforced. The "crimes" were that *China Daily News* had run about $600 worth of ads from two Hong Kong banks connected with the PRC and that the defendants had remitted 44 checks totaling less than $10,000 from various individuals to their families in China over a one year period. In the highly charged political climate the paper, Moy and two defendants were found guilty in 1955. The paper was fined $25,000. Moy was jailed for a year while the others served six months. He died soon after his release from prison.

During the 50s some of the the paper's staff as well as key leaders of CHLA were also harassed and deported by the immigration service. These actions succeeded in the intimidating effects as few with dubious immigration status dared to be connected with the paper or with CHLA. Subscriptions dropped to a few hundred while advertisers left wholesale. The paper survived through the loyalty of staff members and CHLA volunteers. Periodically it appealed to its few remaining supporters all over the country for donations to continue operations. In 1963 there was further belt tightening when the paper cut back to semiweekly publication.

The tide began to turn when US-China relations thawed during the early 70s. After China reclaimed its UN seat, it sent former *China Daily News* editor Tang Mingzhao to New York to serve as undersecretary for the UN. Tang was instrumental in arranging help for his former colleagues to improve the paper's financial condition.

New blood was infused into the newspaper with the entry of younger intellectuals, many of whom had participated in the Diaoyutai Movement or were community activists in Chinatown during the early 70s. Control of the paper passed from CHLA into their hands. In January 1977 *China Daily News* resumed daily publication.

When China began opening up for tourism, a group of supporters formed Kuo Feng Travel and Tours in 1978. For the first couple of years this company had a near monopoly on US tours to China and a large part of the revenue went toward helping to pay part of the paper's operating expenses and upgrading its facilities.

In the80s more ties were forged with China. In 1984, the newspaper moved into a building purchased with PRC money from Hong Kong. Advertising money flowed in from Chinese enterprises. The paper contracted to print the overseas editions of *People's Daily* and *China Daily*. Aside from the newspaper, 11 subsidiary enterprises were created, many of which were connected with China.

It is ironic that this newspaper which survived the battering of anti-communist persecutions and had so loyally. . . promoted the cause of China . . . should now fall victim to events in that country.

The improved financial picture allowed the paper to increase its staff and expand to 32 pages daily. By 1988 it also computerized typesetting. However, the multiple financial ties to China also cost the paper much of the financial independence it enjoyed during its less affluent days during the late 70s.

When *China Daily News* denounced the Beijing regime, street sales of the paper skyrocketed, but not nearly enough to offset the loss of income from PRC advertising and from the collapse of China tourism and other PRC connected enterprises. According to *China Times Weekly* (8/5) the New York consulate had demanded, as the price for a continued flow of funds, dismissal of the newspaper's current board chairman and managing editor and for the paper to publish an announcement expressing its "repentance." On top of this blow was the fact that earlier CHLA had broken with the paper. In an advertisement in *Centre Daily News* (7/11) it denounced the *China Daily News*' attacks on the Li Peng regime. The CHLA also boycotted *China Daily News*' annual board of directors meeting and its 49th anniversary celebration in early July. Thus deprived of the support of the paper's oldest ally in the Chinese community and faced with a bleak financial future, very few options were left for the newspaper's management.

On July 27 the board met and, rather than bowing to pressure, decided to shut down operations. Whether by design or by accident the choice of the date of closure was just before Aug. 1, the 62nd anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army.

It is ironic that this newspaper which survived the battering of anti-communist persecutions and had so loyally and ably promoted the cause of China in the Chinese community these many decades, should now fall victim to events in that country. This closure leaves the PRC without any voice in the Chinese community except for the occasional pro-China editorials published in the unpredictable *Centre Daily News*. Even in their wildest fantasies, the Taiwan KMT would hardly have anticipated such a windfall in its struggle with China to win over the Chinese in America.