

A MEMORABLE DAY 70 YEARS AGO

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PART II

Now, for the first time, supporters of the revolution in the United States were working together, teaming the resources available to the widespread Triad organization with the energy and elan of the Tongmenghui. By July, a Revolutionary Treasury (Geming Chouxiang Ju) was formed under the aegis of the Chee Kung Tong. In order to avoid attracting the unwelcomed attention of U.S. authorities, the official name was given as Bureau for National Relief (Guomin Jiuji Ju.) However, there were few in the Chinese American community unaware of its real objective.

This brings the flow of events to September 2 when the Treasury sent two teams across the country to speak and raise funds. Sun Yat-sen and Wong Won-Su took the northern route while the other team, consisting of Jung Oi Wong and C. S. Yook, traversed southern United States. They were preceded by announcements in the Chinese newspapers giving the routes.

A number of China scholars have made attempts to trace the routes but many have floundered on the language problem since the transliterations of the geographical terms were based on the Sze Yup pronunciation rather than on Mandarin. Also, names have changed over the years. Following is a reconstruction of the proposed route which seems logical and from it, one can see why Chee Kung Tong co-operation was necessary to ensure success for fund-raising efforts, for its members were found throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

Northern Route:

Portland, OR; Seattle, Spokane, Walla Walla, Wa; Baker City, Huntington, OR; Nampa, Boise, Pocatello ID; Ogden, Salt Lake City, UT; Rock Springs, WY; Denver, CO; Kansas City, St. Louis, MO; Chicago, IL

Cincinnati, OH; Pittsburgh, PA; Baltimore, MD; Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia, PA; New York, NY; Hartford, CT; Springfield, Boston, MA; Providence (?), RH; Buffalo, NY; Cleveland, OH; Detroit, MI; Madison, WI; St. Paul, Minneapolis, MN; Omaha, NB; Dakota Junction, Deadwood, SD; Billings, Livingston, Helena, Mill City, MT; Winnemucca, Elko, Reno, Carson City, NV.

Southern Route:

Merced, Madera, Fresno, Hanford, Tulare, Bakersfield, Needles, CA; Prescott, Williams, Flagstaff, Winslow, AZ; Albuquerque, NM; Canyon City, Ft. Worth, TX; Oklahoma City, OK; Kansas City, St. Louis, MO; Indianapolis, IN; Cincinnati, Columbus, OH; Pittsburgh, PA; New York, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Baltimore, MS; Washington, D.C.; Raleigh, NC; Columbia SC; Savannah, GA; Jacksonville, FL; Macon, Atlanta, GA; Montgomery, Mobile, AL; New Orleans, LA; Beaumont, San Antonio, El Paso, TX; Silver City, Lordsburg, NM; Clifton, Globe, Benson, Tucson, Phoenix, Yuma, AZ; Redlands, Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, San Diego, Oxnard, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Lompoc, Guadalupe, San Luis Obispo, Salinas, Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Gilroy, San Jose, Menlo Park, San Mateo, CA.

Sun never completed his portion of the route. While the northern team was somewhere in the Rockies, an uprising occurred on October 10th at Wuchang, sounding the death knell for the Manchu imperial order. Sun learned of the news on the 12th after he had arrived in Denver. He then hastened to leave for China via Europe and arrived in Shanghai on Christmas Day. On January 1, 1912, he was inaugurated as the Provisional President of the newly established Republic of China.

In the meantime, the Revolutionary Treasury continued to raise funds, and by the year's end, when it concluded its operations, more than \$140,000 had been raised.

Thus ended an episode in the key role played by Chinese Americans in the founding of the Chinese revolution.

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