

TAIWAN COMMUNIQUÉ

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Election Results

'Kaohsiung Eight' relatives top vote getters

Relatives of detained opposition leaders scored impressive victories in the parliamentary elections held on December 6, 1980. Chou Ching-yü, wife of jailed lawyer Yao Chia-wen gathered more than 150,000 votes, 50,000 more than her clo-sest opponent, in taking one of eight National Assembly seats up for election in the Taipei city district. Hsu Jung-hsü, wife of jailed opposition leader Chang Chun-hung, won a seat in the Legislative Yuan with her victory in Taichung County.

Opposition leader K'ang Ning-hsiang held on to his post in the Legislative Yuan, and Huang T'ien-fu — brother of le-gislator Huang Hsin-chieh, who was sentenced to fourteen years imprisonment on charges of "sedition" also won a seat in the Legislative Yuan. Other opposition members who scored victories were Su Ch'iu-chen and Huang Yu Hsiu-ying in Kaohsiung, and Huang Huanghsiung in Taipei county.

These victories are significant, because the Kuomintang left very few stones unturned in their attempts to prevent



Mrs. Hsu Jung-hsu



Mrs. Chou Ching-yu

the relatives of the "Kaohsiung Eight" and others associated with the non-KMT from running in these elections and winning these victories: **The Guardian** compares the

KMT's tactics to "... trying to-squash a fly with an elephant" ('Taiwan leaders keep the screws on dissidents', November 15, 1980). The fact that they won by such a wide margin may be taken as an indication of the wide support of the populace for the Democratic Opposition, and an implied criticism of the Government for their handling of the Kao-hsiung incident.

Built-in hurdles

The elections were held by the rules and regulations contained in a recently-passed election law. The law was designed to ensure that KMT candidates would win. The supervision of the elections was trusted to a Central Election Com-mittee, which was personally selected by President Chiang Ching-kuo. Some points which were designed to work in favor the KMT candidates:

During the second week of the campaign only the Government could organize election meetings, where a series of candidates would speak for approximate-ly ten minutes each. In past campaigns the opposition candidates had gather-ed strong voter support through lengthy campaign speeches, in which they ex-plained their criticism of the government. In this new format the government alternated a long string of KMT-candidates with a sprinkle of opposition candi-dates: each candidate had thus only a few minutes in which to attempt to pre-sent their views.

The voting booths were not screened off: KMT-appointed election officials and military and security personnel continuously walked back and forth behind the backs of the voters, who had to cast their votes by marking their favored candidate on a sheet of paper. The officials could thus easily ob-serve for whom the voter cast his/her vote. If a voter was observed to vote for a non-KMT candidate a "subtle hint". from an official could often convince a voter to change the vote.

After the polls closed, the votes were to be counted on the voting sites, in full view of the public. However, observers at the scene said that in many election districts — in particular in Taichung and Yuenlin counties — the votes were counted secretly, and the tallies were not publicly recorded. In these districts Kuomintang officials secretly telephoned the election results to the Election Headquarters. These districts are generally considered to be strongholds of the Democratic Opposition, but two popular opposition candidates Chang Ch'un-nan and Huang Hsun-hsing "lost" by wide margins.

An eye-witness account

The election victories of Chou Ching-yü and Hsu Jung-shu, wives of two of the eight Taiwanese opposition leaders arrested after the Kaohsiung incident, were the culmination of a long and frustrating year: people close to their election campaigns indicated that ever since they decided to run for election, the harassment by KMT officials and agents of the various secret police agencies increased.

But to many Taiwanese the two women were the symbols of hope and they expressed their resentment against the Government's arrests and de-tention of the opposition leaders by voting for the wives. Particularly Mrs. Yao's elec-tion is significant, since she ran in Taipei where the mainlanderdominated KMT is considered strongest.

Starting out with very little, the two women had to overcome countless KMT-fabricated obstructions. With no money and few helpers they set out to build up a campaign network. When two wealthy business-men offered office space for their campaign headquarters the KMT quickly step-ped in and warned them not to do so: the men had no choice but to comply. With no other place to turn to, campaign headquarters were established in the wives' respective homes.

By the time the campaigns were to start on November 21, Mrs. Yao had a core of ten aides, and enough money to rent a few trucks with loudspeakers and to print leaflets. The campaigning began; however, the two women were run-ning under their maiden names, and during the first two days of the campaign they drew only a few hundred people at each appearance. Then people in the crowd suggested that the two candidates should put "the wife of Yao Chia-wen" and "the wife of Chang Chun-hung" on the sides of the campaign trucks and on the campaign leaflets.



Mrs. Yao's campaign flier: "You will see the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32)

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The campaigns immediately attracted more attention: by the fourth day of the first week of the campaign Mrs. Yao was drawing an attendance of over 10,000 at each campaign appearance: she often talked about her jailed husband and star-ted each meeting with the singing of "I hope you come back soon," a love song which has become to signify the hope that political prisoners will be released. In Taichung, several of Mrs. Chang Chunhung's campaign speeches were attended by more than 30,000 people.

Thereafter the campaign headquarters were the scenes of frantic activity: More aides were hired to work (volunteers were not accepted because of the possible KMT reprisals against those who "willingly help dissidents").

KMT harassment also increased. Various aides were warned not to continue their political activity. One aide said that even his professor at his university was visited by someone who suggested that the student should not continue to help a dissident candidate. Mrs. Yao received threatening phone calls. Unwanted police stood guard by the entrance to the headquarters, observing those who entered the building.

On one particular evening of the second campaign week — during which only the Government could organize election meetings — this reporter observed one such meeting in a densely populated residential area on the north perimeter of Taipei: the candidates for the National Assembly and Legislative Yuan gathered to give their ten minute presentation.

About 3000 people stood expressionless and quiet through some speeches by KMT nominees, KMT members, and KMT friends. Then it was Mrs. Yao's turn to speak. The crowd suddenly came alive: there were shouts and applause. She spoke in Taiwanese, softly, and without gesturing. When she called on the KMT to end martial law, there were more applause and shouts of agreement. "Restore constitutional law" she said passively: more applause. "Return our human rights and dignity."

Applause and cheers. When Mrs. Yao finished, she walked out through the crowd and the people surged around and behind her. It was a strangely quiet scene as they followed her out through the gate. Money was thrust into Mrs. Yao's hands. Some people began to sing the Taiwanese folksong "We hope you come back soon." The schoolyard was nearly empty as the next KMT candidate took his position behind the podium.

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Mrs. Chang's campaign flier:

"We do not believe: that the dark night will last forever and our hardship will be endless.

We look forward to a democratic future.

We believe: that this adverse tide will turn one day, and that the tide of democracy will sweep over our land."

To suffer for justice' sake

By Patricia Jacobsen, M.M. From: Maryknoll



Head of Presbyterian Church in Taiwan defends right of citizens to determine their own future

Head of Presbyterian Church in Taiwan defends right of citizens to determine their own future

"My heart today is filled with a thankfulness too great for adequate expression. I am thankful to God that He created me Taiwanese. I am thankful that He caused me to be born in Taiwan, to grow up in Taiwan and to be alive at this particularly difficult time. In this spirit of thankfulness, let us think together about the mission of the Church in Taiwan."

With this profession, Rev. Kao Chun-ming, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan, opened his address to a Consultation on the Mission of the Church in Asia Today. He reminded the assembly of the Apostle Paul's conduct on being brought before King Agrippa for preaching the Gospel. "Paul did not plead with Agrippa to pardon him," Rev. Kao observed. "He single-mindedly bore witness to Agrippa that 'Jesus is Lord' ... The reason

for his witnessing to King Agrippa was that he wanted him to understand that the Lord of a nation was not the king, nor the emperor, but Jesus."

Paul's example did not fail Rev. Kao when in June of this year the 51-years-old Presbyterian pastor was sentenced to seven years in prison for allegedly hiding Tai-wanese dissident Shih Ming-teh.

Shih, general manager of the banned political magazine, Formosa, was sentenced to life imprisonment by a military tribunal on charges arising from his role as organizer of a human rights day rally sponsored by Formosa in Kaohsiung last December. The rally turned violent when police and large crowds of people began fighting. Rev. Kao and four other prominent Presbyterians were later charged with harboring Shih, who eluded arrest for 28 days.

Church leaders have steadfastly denied any direct involvement by Kao in Shih's disappearance. His "crime" apparently was not reporting a phone call requesting help

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he was unable to give. His arrest stirred international protest and demonstrated the govern-ment's intention to stifle the Pres-byterian Church as an active proponent of democracy in Taiwan, where martial law has been in effect for 32 years.

Since 1971 the Presbyterian Church has three times appealed publicly to the one-party Kuomintang government to reassess the national situation and permit a broader base for decision making, protesting that Taiwan's 17 million people have the right to determine their own future.

Government leaders, however, consider their roots to be in mainland China, having come to Taiwan around the time of the Kuomintang defeat by Chinese Communists in 1949. Their position has been that they will someday regain control of mainland China and Taiwan would then fit into the overall Kuomin-tang plan for China. The Taiwanese, who comprise 87 percent of the population and whose roots in Taiwan are deep, see this goal as unrealistic and unjust.

Rev. Kao wrote to the Presbyterian Board Secretaries in September 1977 with reference to "The Declaration of Human Rights by the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan," issued a month earlier: "The central points were the Lordship of Christ over the whole world; that human rights and a motherland are gifts bestowed by God. We called upon President Carter to help establish the security, independence and freedom of the people living in Taiwan....

"For more than 350 years Taiwan has been under a succession of governments-Dutch, Spanish, Koxinga, Manchu, Japanese and the present government. Thus, our fate has been decided for us. But we are not pawns; we are people, made in the image of God, striving to become what God wants us to be."

Rev. Kao was first elected General Secretary of the General Assembly, chief administrative office of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan, in 1970 and overwhelmingly reelected by secret ballot in 1978. A spokesman for the United Presbyterian Church in New York recently said of him, "He is an effective, serene, devout pastor, known for his spiritual leadership and fidelity to the missionary task of the Church. His sermons are relevant biblical statements."

Rev. Kao was born into one of Taiwan's early Presbyterian families. He was graduated from Taiwan Theological College and worked for 15 years as a missionary among aboriginal peoples. For five years he was principal of Yu Shan Theological College for

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tribal pastors in eastern Taiwan where a dozen tribes are represented in the student body. He and his wife, Li-chen (Ruth), have two daughters and a son.

Rev. Kao remains Secretary General of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan while in prison as he and the Church he serves "single-mindedly bear witness that Jesus is Lord."

The Kaohsiung Tapes

One year ago today, the leadership of the Democratic Opposition in Taiwan and the staff of Formosa Magazine organized a rally in Kaohsiung to commemorate International

Human Rights Day. What exactly happened during the evening of December 10, 1979 has been the topic of considerable debate: the Taiwan authorities charged that the speakers incited the crowd to attack the police and security troops.

However, we ourselves and others sympathetic to the Democratic Opposition have doubted the official version, and have presented evidence which showed that the police encircled and then moved



Banners at the beginning of the march

in on the opposition gathering (ICDHRT Newsletters #7 and #9), that pro-KMT provocateurs incited disturbances in the crowd, and that the Government figures for police injuries were highly distorted (ICDHRT Newsletter #10).

Recently additional information contradicting the Government's version has become available: tape recordings of the speeches made during the evening of December 10, 1979. These recordings clearly show that:

1. In the beginning of the evening (at the Kaohsiung Circle, in front of the Number 1 Police Station) the police put a cordon around the opposition gathering, and refused entry to people who had come to listen to the speeches.

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- 2. After approximately half an hour the police tightened the cordon and let off tear gas, causing the crowd to stampede in the opposite direction and break out of the police cordon.
- 3. The crowd moved around the block, back to the Formosa Magazine Office; opposition leaders calmed down the crowd and a peaceful meeting with speeches and singing, lasting about an hour and a half, followed. Taiwan's women's rights leader, Lu Hsiulien, gave a moving analysis of Taiwan's lack of democracy and international status.
- 4. Shortly after ten o'clock riot troops arrived again, which started to plow into the peace-ful crowd with riot trucks and let off tear gas. The crowd responded by throwing torches at the trucks and at the attacking riot squads.
- 5. Opposition leaders later accused of "inciting" the crowd — continuously tried to calm down the crowd, and also attempted to convince the police authorities to call off the attacks.



The Formosa Magazine office with banners hanging from the windows

Here we present some important excerpts from the tape transcript. The full transcript will be published at a later date.

Chou P'ing-the tells the crowd about the Kushan Incident of the previous evening, when two Formosa Magazine workers were beaten up by policy;

So we all returned to our office, but when we got there, we found that the two men practically could not move because of their injuries. They had been beaten severely: their faces were swollen; they had marks of being kicked on their bodies, and they had open wounds on their chests, throats, and heads. They also had injuries on their shoulders.

By now it was three o'clock in the morning of the 10th. First we thought of returning to the police sub-station in Kushan to press charges against the policemen there, but the two injured men told us that it was the policemen in the main police station in the Kushan

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District who had beaten them. They said that some twenty or thirty policemen had attacked them in the police station. They had been picked up by the legs and swung around, so that their heads bashed on the ground. So we really felt that the most important thing to do was to get medical care for the two injured people and take them to a hospital.

Later on in the evening writer Wang T'o calls the attention of the crowd to pro-KMT instigators, which had mingled in the crowd:

Brothers and sisters, I noticed just now that some people standing over there, in front of our truck, are wearing armbands with the Nationalist Chinese flag on them: watch out for them ••• we want to prevent all violence ••• don't let those troublemakers stir up violence among you.

The crowd calls out: Yes, yes, yes, watch out for them.



Riot trucks moving towards the crowds

Later on – while the crowd is still at the Kaohsiung Circle, in front of the number 1 police station – Wang T'o states:

Dear friends, I see the riot trucks over there. We do not have any guns, but we have our spirit. Let us all clap our hands, let us clap our hands so loudly that the noise overturns the riot trucks. You all clap and shout after me: "Long live the Taiwanese people long live democracylong live righteousness."

The crowd shouts, claps, and repeats Wang T'o's words. He continues: Now I ask Miss Lu Hsiu-lien to speak to us.

However, the crowd starts shouting: The riot trucks are coming towards us, the riot trucks are coming towards us ... what can we say ... what speeches can we make now? We can't have any more speeches!

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Pastor Tung takes the microphone:

Dear brothers and sisters ••• unarmed people, please listen. Shih Ming-teh has already been at the Number 1 police station for nearly thirty minutes, so now we are going to raise our voices in protest. If Shih Ming-teh doesn't return when the thirty minutes are up, then we are going to protest, we are going to start marching, OK? Let us sing again, while we are waiting for them, OK? Let us sing again "We shall overcome". Today the beautiful island is ours, this is the place of the Taiwanese, we will be in charge. Will those in the back please come closer to the front? All come to the front please.

However, the crowd starts shouting again: The riot trucks are coming, the riot trucks are coming.

The meeting seems to be breaking up and turning chaotic, reverend Tung tells the people who have torches to light them. Pastor Tung:

If the riot trucks come any closer, or if the riot troops come any nearer, push them back, OK? Push them back!

The crowd shouts: OK!!Yes, OK! *Then the crowd starts shouting:* They are letting off teargas, they are letting off teargas, they have let off teargas!!

Pastor Tung:

Everybody shield your heads and try to keep calm. Be calm, keep calm everybody, please!! Let us save our own lives, don't be afraid, don't be afraid.

More noise from disturbances in the crowd.



Havily armed riot police advance towards demonstrators

Pastor Tung addresses the police: these violent methods today. All people of Taiwan are watching you use.

Then talking to the crowd:

I appeal to you, my fellow Taiwanese, please remain orderly and follow our vehicles out of here, please follow our vehicles out of here. Now we have seen what kind of violence

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the troops are using against us today we have all seen it, we have all seen it. Dear friends, although we have no weapons, we are armed with our spirit. As we follow the trucks out, let us join hands, let us join our hands together, and let us join together in our hearts.

The crowd moves around the block and arrives at the **Formosa Magazine** office. Then Shih Ming-teh speaks:

Dear friends, this is Shih Ming-teh speaking. I am the chief organizer of today's event. I hope that you will all come out. We have now arrived at the office of Formosa Magazine, which is sacred ground for the Taiwanese people. Will the first vehicle please stop. Kindly stop in front of the office of Formosa Magazine. I hope that there will be no misunder-standing between the military forces and the Taiwanese people themselves: Taiwanese must not fight Taiwanese.

Soldiers, will you please move back? Taiwanese must not fight Taiwanese. It would be pitiful if Taiwanese people fight each other. Taiwanese soldiers, move back!! Taiwanese soldiers move back!! Please, go away quickly! Taiwanese people, let the Taiwanese soldiers go! They have their own problems. Let them get away. Don't fight the Taiwanese soldiers. Don't fight the Taiwanese soldiers! Don't fight the Taiwanese people! Don't fight the Taiwanese people. Taiwanese people, move back a bit ... move to the side. Taiwanese people don't fight eachother: sweet potato must not fight against sweet potato.

Some time later, Annette Lu Hiu-lien addresses the crowd. A small part of her address:

In the Shanghai Communiqué, and in the statement made at the end of last year by the Chinese Communists and the Americans, it was stated that the United States acknowledged that the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Straits hold the view that there is only one China, and that Taiwan is part of China. The United States expressed its hope that the Taiwan question can be settled peacefully.

Please note that the attitude of the Communist Chinese and the United States w.r.t. the status of Taiwan had changed: first the American government said that they felt that Taiwan was part of China (Cairo Declaration -Ed.); but when the Peace treaty with Japan was signed, the United States changed its attitude, and stated that Taiwan was to be taken from Japan, but could not be returned to China: they were of the opinion that it was to be left to the United Nations to settle that point, or that it was to be settled between Japan and China.

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However, more recently the United States changed again: now they say that they realize that the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Straits hold the view that there is only one China, and that Taiwan is part of China. However, the Americans did not use the word "recognize", but the word "acknowledge". They merely said that they knew that this was the point of view of the Nationalist and the Communist Chinese — they did not say whether they agreed with it or not: the Americans merely said that they knew that the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Straits held this point of view.



The police make their move. Here a contingent maneuvers among the torch-bearing demonstrators

But, secondly, they now did not say that the Taiwan problem should be settled by the United Nations: they now say that the Taiwan problem should be settled by the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Straits, and that it is not for any third party to settle this matter, nor should it be settled by force of arms. So we can say that this is the most recent point of view held by the Americans on this matter. However, there are two problems with regard to the American acknowledgement that the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Straits say this. I would like to ask whether the Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Straits includes us here. If it does, then by what body or organization, and through what channel has our opinion been consulted?

The crowd call out: None at all, none at all.

May I ask whether our National Assembly, our five Yuans, our Provincial govern-ment, or the authorities in the counties, cities, or rural and urban districts can fully represent us? I think we all know what the answer is!

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Lu Hsiu-lien continues:

All who identify themselves with Taiwan; all who are willing to live and die in Taiwan are champions of freedom, and they will therefore never become like the boat people. It doesn't matter whether you speak the dialect of Chekiang, or of Canton, or of Hsinkiang: since we all live in this place together, we should all love each other from the bottom of our hearts. Our hearts should be bound to each other, we should be holding hands together. Together we should be struggling for the future of Taiwan. Isn't that so??

The crowd applauds.



The police use teargas against the crowd. *This picture was taken at the Formosa Magazine office at approximately 10:30 pm*

Friends, we know that our grandfathers and our great-uncles changed from being Chinese to being Japanese without being consulted. Afterwards, those who were Japanese became Chinese again, and perhaps in the future there will again be this or that change: this is in complete contravention of our human rights!! We, who are here today, struggling for human rights, must give our utmost for our homeland.

At this point there are noises of disorder again. People shout: The riot troops are coming, the riot troops are coming!

Chang Chun-hung takes the microphone:

Dear friends, dear fellow Taiwanese, who are here tonight out of your concern for human

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rights: our activities today are now finished. Please remain quietly where you are standing now. Dear Taiwanese soldiers, do not approach any closer again. Although I know that you have enjoyed our speeches, please do not come any closer, so as to avoid clashes. Dear friends ...

Then the meeting becomes very disturbed. There are shouts: sticks, sticks, get your sticks ready.

Chang Chun-hung calls out: Stop, stop, stop!! Let no-one move, nobody move, nobody move!! (repeated sixteen times).

Wang T'o: Don't let the teargas off!! Just let the squad commander come out and talk! That will be enough! Police, go away. Riot squad, your parents are here, your brothers, your sisters, you must not attack your mother!! Let us all shout: "Squad commander, go away; squad commander, go away; squad commander, go away." KMT, do you want to make world headlines?? Squad commander, do not attack us. For our people's sake, do not attack us!!

Other opposition leaders also take the microphone to calm down the crowd, and to convince the commander of the riot troops not to attack the crowd. Some typical statements:

K'ang Ning-hsiang says: Will you all shout three times: "Long live Taiwanese democracy." It is most important for us here today not to clash with the riot troops, because that does not make sense!

Shouts: Hear, hear!!

K'ang continues: Remember, those riot shields which they are using, they were paid for by our taxes!! Their vehicles were paid for by our taxes too. So what is the point of clashing with them? They are using the tax money that we paid to confront us! It does not make sense at all, it is completely useless. As I stand here tonight, I tell the commander of the riot troops, your behavior tonight is a black mark on the history of Taiwan.

* * * * * * * * * *

The crowd shouts: We agree, we agree!!

Well- timed arrests

The Taiwan authorities have developed a habit of announcing the arrests of "spies" just before elections. The announcements are generally believed to be timed with the intent of intimidating non-KMT politicians ("if you don't behave then the same fate will await you") and of lulling the populace into the belief that the government is being "vigilant." Two cases were recently announced by the Taiwan Garrison Command:

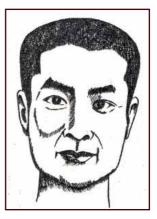
Mr. Kao Hao-yuan (27), was apparently arrested — together with four or five other persons — in the beginning of October. However, the arrests were not announced until November 10; the Taiwan Garrison Command has yet to disclose the identity of Mr. Kao's companions. Little is known about Mr. Kao, except that he is a merchant seaman who visited the United States in 1979.

The Taiwan authorities accused Mr. Kao of establishing contacts with the Overseas Alliance for Democratic Rule in Taiwan. This organization is headed by Dr. Kuo Yuhsing, a respected Taiwanese elder statesman, who resides in the Washington, DC area. However, in a statement issued on November 21, 1980, Dr. Kuo denied having had any contacts with Mr. Kao, and characterized the announcement of the arrest as "KMT drama."

The second arrest was that of **Ms. Yeh Tao-Lei**, age 29, an American-educated sociologist, who studied at the University of Minnesota. While in the United States Ms. Yeh, a Chinese mainlander, dated a Taiwanese fellow-student, and attended Taiwanese social and political gatherings.

This did not sit well with the KMT secret police agents operating in Minneapolis, and Yeh and her boyfriend were visited and threatened by the agents — two brothers named Ch'ao (one of whom is now operating from the CCNAA office in Seattle).

The threats did not work: Ms. Yao con-tinued to attend the Taiwanese activities. The Ch'ao bro-thers then started to



Mr.KaoHao-yuan



Ms. Yeh Tao-lei

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spread rumors that Ms. Yeh had contact with "prominent communists" in the United States. These rumors are now apparently being used as "evidence" against Yeh Tao-Iei.

Ms. Yeh returned to Taiwan in April 1978; taught for some time at her alma mater, Fu-jen University, and then moved to Tainan, where her father serves in the Air Force. She was instrumental in setting up a "life line" crisis clinic and a women's aid center in Kaohsiung. She was an admirer of women's rights leader Lu Hsiu-lien.

Ms. Yeh decided to follow in Ms. Lu's footsteps: after Ms. Lu was arrested in the wake of the Kaohsiung incident, Ms. Yeh made the decision to run for election. In August she started to talk openly about her plans to run as a non-KMT candidate. This was apparently too much for the KMT and its secret police: a well-bred mainlander girl, daughter of an Air Force officer, running as a non-KMT candidate? On September 9, 1980, she was arrested.

However, the Taiwan Garrison Command waited with announcing the arrest and in-dictment until November 17 — one week before the start of the election campaign. Similar "spy scare" tricks were pulled just before previous elections in 1975 (Pai Ya-tsan), 1977 (Tai Hua-kuang), and in 1978 (Wu Tai-an).

The "evidence" produced by the Garrison Command: twenty (20) rolls of micro-film, allegedly hidden in the hollowed-out heels of two pairs of sandals. We find this "evidence" rather implausible: First, such a large number of micro-films hardly fit in a bag, let alone in the heels of sandals. Secondly, it seems to us that Ms. Yeh — if she really smuggled the films into Taiwan in the heels of the shoes — would have disposed of such damning evidence a long time ago. It thus appears that these two cases are yet further examples of KMT frame-ups designed to intimidate the opposition.

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Prison report

1. Lin Hung-hsüan treated. The Urgent Action campaign (ICDHRT-Newsletter #14) apparently had some result: in the middle of November Mr. Lin was treated for his ailments at the Three Services Military, Hospital in Taipei. While we have no information on Mr. Lin's present condi-tion or on the quality of the medical treatment, we believe that the present situation is a slight improvement over the previous "malign neglect" treatment given Mr. Lin by the authorities.

2. Chen Chu and Lü Hsiu-lien moved. In October the two "Kaohsiung Eight" women were moved from the Taiwan Garrison Command jail to the Tu-chen detention center, where the conditions are slightly less restrictive. The Society for the Protection of East Asians' Human Rights (P.O. Box 1212, New York, NY 10025) published this letter of Chen Chu in its Winter 1981 issue of SPEAHRhead.

Letter from Prison

It is my wish that before long all oppressed and struggling people can be free. I hope that my beloved Taiwanese brothers and sisters will soon live in equality, liberty and democracy. Legal institutions should be symbols of social justice, not instruments by means of which rulers manipulate the people.

Jesus died nailed to the cross without uttering a word in self-defense.



Ch'en Chü

Although I have been subjected to endless insult and humiliation, my heart is with-out remorse or animosity.

In an unjust society, prison is the last repository formen and women of conscience. Sitting here, I continue to maintain a strong belief in the importance of encouraging the people to struggle for their rights. This is solely a matter of conscience, and certainly not [as has been claimed] a matter of violence

I urge friends at home and abroad to keep the embers of democracy burning, and to not forget the cries of the oppressed. Do not pity me. I am not the first to be sacrificed -- the process has been going on for over thirty

years. When I think of the terrible tragedy that befell [Lin] Yi-hsiung, my own suffering seems insignificant. ...

To those friends with whom I once sang "A Shooting Star" and "Twilight in the Homeland," please do not feel sad. The last time I grasped your hands and caressed your worn faces, you had already embraced my understanding of things, and my hopes. I trust, though, that I will live in your hearts

Should I die in prison, please bury me atop Three Star Mountain near my home. I ask that Antonio Chiang write my epitaph.

3. Chang Chun-hung's poetry. The following poem was written by Provincial Assembly member Chang — one of the "Kaohsiung Eight" — on the evening of the verdict (April 18, 1980). Mr. Chang was sentenced by a military tribunal to twelve years imprisonment.

Do not silence peace

A peaceful reformer is accused of "sedition", A movement which is aimed at democracy and security is labeled "seditious".

I am a peaceful reformer in a democratic movement, I am willing to sacrifice myself and go to jail.

But I hope that in my country this is the last "sedition", I hope that primitive methods like political imprisonment will no longer be used to solve political problems of our modern times.

I only hope that good intentions and high ideals will no longer be distorted and twisted.

Let selfishness, ignorance and cruelty depart from my people and my land.

Please do not let peace, righteousness, and justice be silenced by the shadow of "sedition."

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Articles

1. *British opinions*. The British publication **The Guardian** recently published a comprehensive article on the recent political develop-ments in Taiwan (*'Taiwan leaders keep the screws on dissidents'*, November 15, 1980). Some excerpts:

But the coterie which has ruled Taiwan for 30 years is not inclined to give a sporting chance to its opponents. Taiwan is formally in a "state of siege" during the "Communist rebellion" on the mainland, and the law forbids the formation of opposition parties. When a few respected legislators, lawyers, and leaders raised

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critical voices, to an ever widening audience, the authorities cracked down sharply. Stiff jail sentences were given to eight intellectuals running the magazine Formosa on charges of plotting to overthrow the Government. A well known Presbyterian minister was imprisoned for seven years at another political trial.

Though moderate in tone, **Formosa Magazine** became a platform in which arti-culate critics advocated dangerous ideas — the dismantling of the one-party system and more democracy, with greater participation by native Taiwanese.

The article then discussed the elections and the candidacy of the relatives of the jailed opposition leaders. It continued with a quote from Mrs. Yao Chia-wen:

"The KMT ... is afraid that the people will act as a court overthrowing the trial if I am elected," Mrs. Yao says.

The authorities have gone to some trouble to avoid this happening. A new law, approved after her husband's trial, prevented her running in the district where she stood the best chance, disallows employing students (who are among her strongest supporters) to campaign, and forbids her referring to her husband, which would be discussion favoring "treason."

 Japanese opinions. Saburo Takahashi, a well known Japanese writer published an essay on the developments in Taiwan in The Words of the Cross (October 1980, Vol. 16, No. 10). The article focuses particularly on the restrictions put by the Taiwan Government on the activities of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (in Japanese).

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Notes

1. Journalists not welcome. The elections in Taiwan were accompanied by the usual attempts of the KMT to prevent "unfavorable" information from getting out of the country: Far Eastern Economic Review correspondent Phil Kurata was informed one week before the elections that his visa would not be renewed. Another correspondent, an American woman who had gone to Taiwan to cover the elections, wanted to take some campaign leaflets home for later reference: when she left Taipei all the campaign materials—including 18 rolls of film—as well as her personal belongings were confiscated.

2. Taipei stock market a "trading jungle."; The Wall Street Journal recently reported on the interesting state of affairs at the Taiwan Stock Market ('Trading Jungle in Taiwan is Chasing Potential Investors away from Stocks,' November 13, 1980). Usually we do not cover stock market news; however, the picture painted in this article is, alas, rather typical of how things go in many government organizations in Taiwan. Some quotes from the Wall Street Journal:

"The price of stock is entirely controlled by professional manipulators. There is so much fraud and hanky-panky going around, that it is more dangerous than a gambling joint."

"... Taipei newspapers almost daily carry stories of how big investors, often closely connected with a brokerage house, are driving up or forcing down the price of a certain stock."

"Taiwan has a Securities and Exchange Commission, but the agency only has a negligible number of professional accountants and lawyers on the staff, who show 'little enthusiasm'".

"A well-placed source at the SEC, who didn't want to be identified, said that most of the staff members are either retired servicemen or relatives of influential people."

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Action

Appeals on behalf of Kao Hao-yuan and Yeh Tao-lei. We urge our readers to send expressions of concerns about these arrests to the American and Taiwan Government officials listed below. Indicate that you believe that there is no convincing evidence that these persons were involved in anything but normal social and political activities.

Mention that they have been determined to be "guilty" by the Taiwan newsmedia and authorities before they have even been tried. Urge that these two, and others who may have been arrested in association with them, receive an open trial in civil court.

Please write to your Senator/Congressman and bring the cases of Mr. Kao and Ms. Yeh to their attention. Also write to:

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President Chiang Ching-kuo Office of the President Chieh Shou Hall Taipei TAIWAN

Coordinating Council for North American Affairs, attn. Konsin Shah 5161 River Road, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20016

光理长行额统车日零

Chinese Association for Human Rights 8th. Floor, 100 Hengyang Rd. Taipei TAIWAN

President-elect Ronald Reagan 9841 Airport Boulevard, Rm. 1430 Los Angeles, CA, 90045

○有利用伊朗老机,立刻停止 笔羊, 程臻遵任!

Anerican journalist

American journalist: If Jimmy Carter was President of Taiwan, What do you think would have happened?

Kuomintang General: He would have used the Iran crisis to cancel the elections and continued for four more years!



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Private:

If you were President Carter, and you were running for reelection in Taiwan, what would you do?

Officer: I would first arrest Mr. Reagan, and then hold elections! FROM: TAIWAN COMMUNIQUÉ P.O. Box 31 3984 ZG ODIJK The Netherlands

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