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Miss Smedley Says Cabinet Shift No Help To China - P.M.
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By **Agnes Smedley**

Chungking Deals New Hand With Old Deck

Miss Smedley Says Cabinet Shift No Help to China

The writer is author of *Battle Hymn of China* and other books on the Chinese Revolutionary movement.

The so-called "drastic reorganization" of the Chungking government announced yesterday by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek reveals the same old faces at new windows. According to reports, the shake-up was designed to meet the demands of Chinese public opinion as well as American criticism which followed Gen. Stilwell's removal. Actually, it can only serve to fool the Chinese people and to confuse American opinion.

Not even the formidable advance of the Japanese Army on Kweichow Province, which guards the approaches to Chungking, nor Gen. Wedemeyer's warning of Nov. 18 that the Japanese may strike through Sian at Chengtu—west of Chungking—seems to have made any impression on the Chinese Government. Nor has Gen. Wedemeyer's statement on Nov. 17 about the necessity of the government to compromise with the Communists resulted in any changes for the better.

Bad Connections

The three key men involved in the "reorganization" and upon whom Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek depends for power are Gen. Ho Ying-ching, Chen Li-fu, and Dr. H. H. Kung.

Gen. Ho Ying-chin, known to Chinese and Americans as a defeatist and a reactionary, had been concurrently Minister of War and Chief-of-Staff. Before and during the early years of the war, he was intimately connected with Wang Ching-wei who, in late 1938, went over to the Japanese and formed the quisling Nanking government.

Gen. Ho has opposed every effort to break the blockade against the Communist-led 8th Route Army and New 4th Army, and to recreate a national united front.

Gen. Ho was removed as War Minister yesterday, but he retains his position as Chief-of-Staff, a much more important job.

The Case of Kung

Gen. Chen Cheng, who replaces Gen. Ho as War Minister, is one of China's ablest and most honest young generals. But it is doubtful if he can clean out the men whom Gen. Ho Ying-chin has put in power in the Ministry of War or in the armies throughout the country. For years, Gen. Ho made a practice of appointing divisional and army commanders who were loyal to him personally. And as Chief-of-Staff, there is no reason to suppose that he will permit these men to be replaced.

Dr. H. H. Kung is a man of a dozen masks. In yesterday's reshuffle, he was removed as Minister of Finance and, one report states, as manager of the four government



Dr. H. H. Kung is no longer Finance Minister, but his successor is of same ilk.



Gen. Ho Ying-Chin, reaction-ary, holds to job as Chief-of-Staff in Chungking armies.



Gen. Chen Cheng, able and honest, faces tough job as new Minister of War.

banks. However, he retains his position as Vice-Chairman of the Executive Yuan (i.e., he is Vice Premier). Nor does his removal from the Ministry of Finance mean anything, for his successor, O. K. Yui is one of his clique and has been Vice Minister of Finance under his control.

Yui is a banker, a former mayor of Shanghai, and took over Dr. Kung's functions after the latter came to this country. Yui has been battling for Kung and he will keep it up.

Few men in China have aroused more hostility and active hatred than Dr. Kung. There have been student demonstrations against him, all of them suppressed by policemen's clubs.

A Hated Man

During the mid-September meeting of the government-dominated People's Political Council, a resolution was passed by overwhelming majority to the effect that the Minister of Finance should not hold concurrent positions as managers of government banks. Dr. T. V. Soong, present Minister of Finance, had formerly headed the Bank of China, but had been maneuvered out by Kung, who took over.

British and American bankers have always been able to work with and trust Soong, but have not trusted Kung further than they could throw a bull by the tail. Yet he has remained in power, except for a short interval, since 1927.

The third pillar in the edifice of Generalissimo Chiang's power is Chen Li-fu, head of the notorious proto-fascist CC. clique, who has now been transferred from his job as Minister of Education to the head of the organization department of the Kuomintang. Chen is feared and hated by every liberal and even by all people of moderate education because he has headed and directed the ubiquitous secret political police system which trails and spies students, professors, newspaper men, physicians and others.

There is a saying in China that *Chiang chia tienhsia, Chen chia tang*, which means "Chiang dynasty, Chen Party."

The official who now succeeds Chen Li-fu as Minister of Education is Dr. Chu Chia-hua, leader of the pro-Nazi clique. Dr. Chu was educated in Germany and was the official who first brought the German

military advisers to China.

As Minister of Education for a time, he sent hundreds of men to Germany to study in the Nazi Army and in German universities under Hitler. In 1941 he was chairman of the organization department of the Kuomintang, and later General Secretary of that ruling party. He and Chen Li-fu have now merely changed windows.

The other Cabinet changes have little significance. Chang Li-sheng, one of the top henchmen of Chen Li-fu, is the new Minister of Interior (similar to that of Ickes), and Liang Han-chao, the outgoing Minister of Information, also a henchman of Chen Li-fu—steps over into the chairmanship of the overseas affairs of the Kuomintang. The only "overseas" Chinese over which the Kuomintang can now claim jurisdiction are those in the democratic countries, including the U. S. A.

Wang Shih-chieh, who speaks fluent English and knows how to impress Americans and Englishmen outside China, is the new Minister of Information, a position he held in 1934-40. Wang has been an errand boy for Generalissimo Chiang for many years.

Studying all these "drastic" changes in the Chinese Government,

one cannot find a single new face. Not even one liberal member of the ruling party itself has been given any position of power. These liberals are Dr. Sun Fo, Dr. T. V. Soong, General Feng Yu-hsiang, Madame Sun Yat-sen, and the Kwangsi Provincial democratic group. Not one man representing the League of Democratic Parties, not to mention the powerful Communist Party, has been brought into the Government.

There is no change of policy whatsoever. The dictatorship of the Kuomintang is being altered. There is not a man or a policy indicating that the government will allow free speech, press and assembly, or take the first step toward the formation of a democratic government such as the broad masses of the Chinese people are demanding.

Judging the "reorganization," it is doubtful if we can expect the blockade against the Communists to be lifted, or national unity established. Yet the Japanese are advancing on Chungking and there is no reason to doubt their ability to cut it off from the south, north and west, and throttle it to death. It looks as if the ruling Kuomintang prefers to risk going down before the Japanese, rather than yield an inch to the Chinese people.

Hon. Jap Wields an Mean Pen

By CAPT. EARL J. WILSON
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Distributed by United Press

PELELIU, Palau Islands—(Delayed).—A Jap plane slipped in over this island last night in an effort to drop supplies to the Japanese troops still holding out in caves on Bloody Nose Ridge. Marine fighters drove him off, but the following propaganda leaflet, floated down out of the night after him.

"Poor reckless Yankee Doodle. Do you know about the naval battle done by the American 58th Fleet at the sea near Taiwan (Formosa) and Philippine Japanese powerful air force had sank their 14 aeroplane carriers, 4 battle ships, 10 several destroyers and cruisers along with sending 1261 ship aeroplanes into the sea. From this result, we think that you can imagine what shall happen next around Palau upon you.

"The fraud Roosevelt, hanging the President election under his nose and from his policy ambition, working not only poor Nimitz (Adm. Nimitz) but also Maccasir (Gen. MacArthur) like a robot. Like this what a pity it must be sacrifice you pay.

"Thanks for your advice notes of surrender but we haven't any reason to surrender to those who are fated to be totally destroyed in a few days later.

"Add to you, against the manner of your attack paying no heed to humanity your God shall make Japanese force to add retaliative attack upon you.

"Saying again, against the attack paying no heed to humanity contrary to the mutual military spirit you shall get an very stern attack. We man an cruel attack Japan military."