

X - 78 - 80. Typewritten Statement of May, 1944. Concerning the League of Democratic Parties. 2 pages.

May, 1944. League of Democratic Parties issued a manifesto regarding the present situation. Its main points are:

1. The immediate formation of a democratic system. It argues:

"A country is not democratic if its people are not allowed freely to express responsible opinions and viewpoints, and reasonably to criticize political measures and persons, and if its newspapers are prevented ~~from~~ from exposing shortcomings and restricted only to praise. A country is ~~more~~ even more undemocratic if the legal existence or organization of political parties other than the one in power is denied and if those parties are not only prohibited from political activity but also discriminated against in social pursuits and other lawful occupations. Finally, a country is not only undemocratic but a counter-democratic state if there are no guarantees of the freedom of person of its people, if they are subject to illegal arrest, detention and execution by secret irresponsible organizations so that often NOBODY KNOWS WHERE THEY ARE DETAINED, WHEN THEY ARE EXECUTED, THEIR FAMILIES CANNOT HAVE CONTACT WITH THEM, AND THEIR FRIENDS ARE UNABLE TO HELP THEM."

Budgets:

"There is not yet in China's Government a formal organ representing the will of the people. The only organ similar to this is the People's Political Council. But the scantiness and feebleness of its powers is pitiful. Actually its powers can hardly compare with the relatively progressive colonies of Great Britain and America, such as India and the Philippines. . . . The members of this Council must be increased in accordance with the proportion fixed when the Council was first established in Hankow. Such members should be chosen by the various parties and groups directly instead of being appointed by the Kuomintang. Even if not allowed to pass the BUDGET, it should at least have a part, together with the Legislative Yuan, in the making of the budget."

THE WORLD TIDE IS THAT OF DEMOCRACY AND THERE CAN BE NO EXCEPTION IN ANY COUNTRY OR WITH ANY PARTIES OR GROUPS WITHIN CHINA.

Various preparations are being made by the KMT toward democracy, and the League of Democratic Groups was formed to help realize democracy.

"The danger today is the failure to use ability. If men of ability are discriminated against or not made good use of, we destroy our own strength.

The Northeast is the birthplace of the world war. The war will end there.

If there is unity, ~~then~~ between the KMT and CP, and democracy is introduced, 1,000,000 extra troops could be sent against the Japs.

Demands: Removal FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THOSE WHO ARE INCOMPETENT AND REJECTED BY PUBLIC OPINION THUS REFRESHING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE AND INCREASING THEIR FAITH IN THE GOVERNMENT. PEOPLE FOUND TO HAVE PRACTICED BRIBERY OR INDULGED IN ILLEGAL SELF*

League of Democratic Parties, in coordination with the Constitutional
Promotion Assn., one of its branches.
Mass meeting, ~~Chungking~~, Nov. 3, 1944. *Held on Sept. 24 - Chungking.*

Chang Lan.

Feng Yu-hsiang.

Dr. Tan Tseng, vice-president of the ^{Judicial} Examination Yuan.

Mr. Li Wang, of the PPC.

Mr. Tso Sun-sen.

Mr. Shen Kung-jiu, of National Salvation Assn.

Mr. Chang Pai-chuen, an official.

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General Feng Yu-hsiang spoke, saying Honan campaign failed because our
armies made themselves enemies of the people. "Unless we make
far-reaching reforms now we will very soon see the disintegration
of our country."

Tan Tseng, vice-president of the ^{Judicial} Examination Yuan said: "After 33 years of
the Chinese Republic, we still talk about an early realization of
democracy. (*Tan is one of founders of KMT*)

^(Li Wang)
Li Wang, of the PPC, demanded: freedom of speech and press and freedom
from unjustified arrest and freedom to assemble without molestation.
Censorship of military news only.

Tso Sun-sen called for an end to "illegal arrests and secret trials."

^(Leader of Youth Party)
Chang Pai-chuen demanded a coalition government of all political parties.

^(Leader of 3rd Party)
He challenged a statement by Dr. H. H. Kung in the USA who said
the People's Political Council is equivalent to the U.S. Congress.
"That is nonsense", he declared.

Shen ~~Chung~~-jiu said: "If the Government really means to make reform, it
can do it in five minutes." He proposed the Government release
all political prisoners.

~~Tung Pi-wei, C.P. leader.~~

~~Hsiao Li-tye, former Amb. to Soviet Russia.~~

~~Li Huang, Leader of~~

Chan Lan, former Governor of Szechuen & Pres. of
Chungking Univ. Pres. of Democ. Federation

Huang Yao-pek, Professional educational leader of Shanghai
Chang Sheng-fu, Prof. of Philosophy, Tsinghua Univ.