

VI - 73 D - 51. "Agnes Smedley Tells of Work of Guerrillas"
Massachusetts State College, Amherst, October 7, ----.

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AMHERST, Oct. 7 — Speaking at convocation exercises at Massachusetts State College this morning, Miss Agnes Smedley, war correspondent and author, related her experiences during the 12 years she spent in China.

The lecturer described the medical training school in which she spent much time working with the Red Cross. Hospitals in the war zone were constructed of bamboo and mud by the doctors and nurses. Referring to the first demonstrational lecture given to the medical students in that particular division of the Chinese Army, with a dead Japanese soldier as subject and Dr. Chang, 27-years-old woman doctor as demonstrator, Miss Smedley commented, "It was an historic moment in Chinese history . . ."

The war correspondent gave a firsthand account of the work done by guerrillas, especially women. In one instance, she said some Japanese prisoners were "tortured" by Old Mother Tsai, 87-years-old guerrilla leader and powerful member of the Women's National Salvation Association. The form of torture was inflicted by words. After inquiring of the prisoners about their wives and children, Mother Tsai would burst into a tirade on women's rights, she said.

Miss Smedley repeated to the audience the questions asked of her by many educated soldiers, especially Maj. Gen. Chung Yi, who was recently killed in action. "Do you think that America, England, France and Holland want us to be completely victorious? Do they not want both China and Japan to exhaust themselves and each other so that the Far East may be more easily exploited? You call yourself our friend—why?" When Miss Smedley told of the work being done in the United States for China War Relief, the Red Cross, and a fund of \$1,000,000 for the afflicted war areas, she was asked, "And did you ever reach the goal of \$1,000,000?"