

Communists May Turn To Infiltration, Subversion To Take Over Singapore

Editor's Note: The Communists have not relaxed their aims in Southeast Asia—they have merely replaced the threat of immediate open military aggression with infiltration and subversion. Earnest Hobericht, U.P. vice-president and general manager for Asia, tells in the following dispatch what is happening in Singapore and Malaya. Hobericht has just returned to Tokyo from Singapore, where he attended an investigation into the murder of U.P. correspondent Gene Symonds by a leftist mob.

By EARNEST HOBERICHT
United Press Correspondent
Tokyo — (U.P.)—The Communists, who have failed to take over Singapore and Malaya by military force, may be able to accomplish their goal by using infiltration and subversion.

Some officials and private citizens there fear that the Reds will be in full control in Singapore and Malaya within three or four years if adequate measures are not taken to counter the present infiltration and subversive activities.

Many British and law-abiding Asian residents suddenly have realized that the hour is late and that fighting Communist subversion is not at all like beating back an armed attack.

In Kuala Lumpur, the capital of the Federation of Malayan States on the mainland north of Singapore, British High Commissioner Sir Donald MacGillivray spotlighted the problem last week.

He said the shadow of subversion was darker than the shadow cast by Communist gunmen in the jungle.

Authorities Concerned
He admitted the authorities were concerned and admitted they did not have the same experience in the "war of subversion" as they have in the shooting war.

"We must now bend our resources and our minds to the forging of new weapons and the development of new techniques to meet the new threat," Sir Donald said in a speech.

But the question on the minds of many is this: Is it too late to plan the counter-attack?

Some local observers in Singapore believe the dangers of subversion have been underestimated, although "subversion" was taken up at the initial meeting of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization in Manila last year and was again studied and worried over by the SEATO ministers in Bangkok, Thailand, this spring.

It is not known whether the SEATO powers have taken up the question of subversion in Singapore and Malaya or whether they have a program for meeting it.

The murderous riots and large scale strikes in Singapore have made many persons there realize how successful the Communists have been in hitting their targets.

Their targets, according to officials, are the schools, the student movements, the press, the trade unions and the political parties.

In Singapore and Malaya the

Communists have gone to work in a field of many races and religions. They have made important use of certain local elements in the big Chinese population.

Of Singapore's 1,191,000 population, 910,866 are Chinese. The 6,000,000 population of Malaya includes 2,251,000 Chinese.

Following the familiar Communist pattern subversive agents have devoted a great deal of attention to the Chinese students. As a result, Chinese students are found in the middle of almost any dispute and have been a great source of trouble in Singapore.

Witnesses, fearing for their safety, are afraid to identify Chinese students who violate the law.

Communists agents in Singapore and Malaya have found the Chinese there far more important than the Chinese living in Hong Kong.

In Hong Kong, where you once could see hundreds of Chinese Communist flags, you now see almost none. About the only Red flag flying there is on the Chinese Communist bank.

The Chinese in Hong Kong are close to their Communist-controlled homeland. They know what conditions are like in China. Their enthusiasm for the Reds has faded.

Better Results
In Singapore, however, the propaganda of Peiping gets better results. The Chinese there are proud of the Chinese Communist military and political

successes and impressed by the number of nations—including Britain—which recognize the Chinese Communist government.

The Communists also are pushing the Malaysians, urging them to demand full and complete independence immediately. They have infiltrated the labor unions and the political parties and are promoting unrest wherever they can.

Talks by this correspondent with both Asians and Europeans in Singapore sooner or later brought out a statement like this from the worried residents:

"The situation here has deteriorated quickly—much more quickly than we would have expected possible. Something must be done or this whole area is lost."

Friday, June 17, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

Car Leaves Highway; Overtakes in Ditch

A car registered to Carl Fehige, 260 Orange Ave., Ashland, went out of control and into the left-hand ditch off Highway 99 near Footh Creek at about midnight Wednesday, according to state police.

The driver had left the scene of the accident when an officer arrived. The wrecked car was

towing a hotrod to race at Roseburg, and the driver reportedly continued his trip with another contestant, according to the police report.

United States population has

doubled since 1900 and the number of persons over 65 have

quadrupled in the same period.

Uranium has been found in coal. The atomic age mineral was discovered recently in the low-grade coal, or lignite beds, of northwestern South Dakota.

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National Guard Chief Inspects Trainees

Fort Lewis, Wash. —(U.P.)—Maj. Gen. Edgar C. Erickson, chief of the National Guard bureau, and a party of officers spent yesterday in the field observing training of the 41st Infantry division, Oregon and Washington National Guard.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Rilea, Oregon adjutant general, was in the field with him.

Gen. Erickson's party will go to Astoria tomorrow to inspect the anti-aircraft units training there and return here for the annual division parade Saturday.

The parade is the traditional review for the governors of Oregon and Washington. Gov. Paul Patterson of Oregon will be represented by Gen. Rilea while Gov. Arthur B. Langlie of Washington will attend.

The 41st division is in the first week of its annual two-week encampment. There are 8,200 men here, more than ever before.

Log Falls From Truck; Eugene Driver Killed

Florence, Ore. —(U.P.)—Newell Sherman, 49-year-old logging truck driver from Eugene, was killed Wednesday by a log that rolled off his vehicle.

The accident happened at about 8 a.m. some five miles northeast of here on the north fork of the Siumlaw river. Sherman was attempting to secure his load when a crooked log rolled down on him.

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