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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

Full file

DATE DISR 15 SEPT 51

SUBJECT: Friction Within the Rangoon Chinese Community

NO. OF PAGES 2

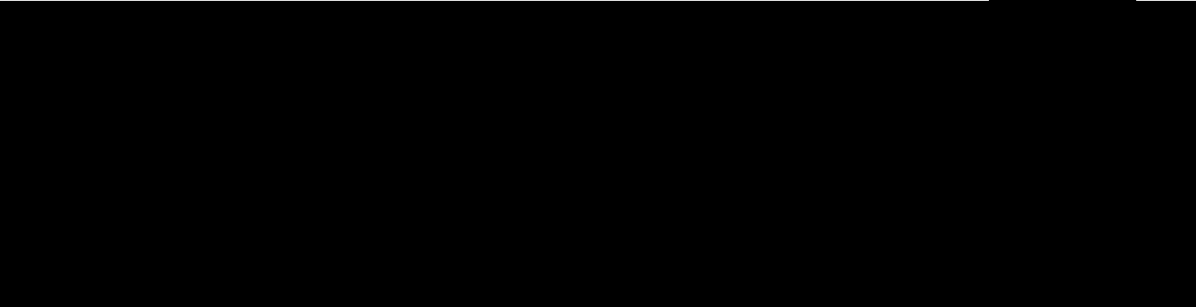
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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO. 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1A



1. A recent report referred to an intensive propaganda campaign instituted by subsidiary organizations of the China Democratic League (Burma) (CDL(B)) to secure the exclusive use in local Chinese schools of text books approved by the New China Government.¹ At the end of May this campaign was concentrated primarily against the Chung Ching Chinese Girls School, of which one HSIA Yen is headmistress.
2. An attempt was made by HSIA Yen to reopen the school on 28 May but she was unable to do so because the building was picketed by a number of pro-CDL students. At the same time some of the staff who had gone over to the CDL with the support of a section of the students, opened an establishment in the name of the Chung Ching School in another part of Rangoon. With the feeling on both sides approaching a dangerous pitch, the Burmese authorities stepped in on 5 June and sealed both premises.
3. On 6 June, CHAN Soon-siok, Adviser to the CDL(B), President of the KMT Revolutionary Committee (Burma), and also Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Chung Ching School, who had been opposed to HSIA Yen's insistence on using Nationalist sponsored school books, was murdered in the street. The crime was immediately attributed by CDL(B) circles to the local KMT. At this stage the question of which text books should be used became a minor one and the CDL (B), supported by its subordinate organizations and by the Chinese Embassy, led a campaign demanding the arrest of the murderer and the suppression of reactionary KMT elements in Burma.² Leaders of Burmese opposition parties, in particular the Burma Workers' and Peasants' Party (BWP), were freely quoted in the CDL press as accusing the KMT of the murder and interpreting any failure of the Burmese Government to arrest the criminal as liable to be detrimental to Sino-Burmese relations. CHAN Soon-siok was depicted as a martyr and his funeral on 12 June, at which his coffin was draped with the flag of the Peoples Government of China, was made the occasion of a major demonstration, denouncing the crime as the work of agents of CHIANG Kai-shek's "SS bandit clique". Support was also forthcoming from Peiping, telegrams of condolence being sent by LI Chai-sum, Chairman of the KMT Revolutionary Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Peoples Republic of China, and HO Hsiang-ning, Chairman of the Commission of Overseas Chinese Affairs.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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4. The murder has become the main theme of CDE(B) anti-KMT propaganda and district branches have been instructed to develop the theme.

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1. ^{See} [REDACTED]
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2. [REDACTED] Comment. In making representations to the Burmese Government, the Chinese Embassy has not only pressed for urgent steps to apprehend the murderer but has gone to the length of demanding the arrest of certain KMT leaders, regardless of the fact that there is no evidence to connect them with the crime. The Chinese attitude has annoyed the Burmese authorities, whom an official has recently described as thoroughly "fed up" with the Chinese Embassy.

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