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Dancing on the Tip of a Knife: The Existence of the Base Areas in a Weak Balance Condition

..... *Huang Daoxuan* (4)

After the War of Resistance entered the protracted period, facing the Japanese armies' "cleaning up" operations, the Chinese Communist Party's backstage base areas were hard to survive. The CCP took all-round political, social and economic resistances and struggled with Japanese troops. Against the background of military disadvantage, the CCP got a balance that seemed to be shaky but factually stable, i. e. a weak balance. Except the endeavors of the CCP, this weak balance was also supported by many factors, including the international character and the existence of extensive rear areas, and the key factor was the CCP's flexible struggle tactics. To survive in rear areas, the CCP had to keep fighting. Meanwhile, because the CCP was weak at the time, it had to maintain the principle of beneficence and could not endanger its own existence. The result of the CCP's tenacious persistence was that the Party sailed through the exam and accumulated precious experiences and human resources of total war.

The Office of Chamberlains in the Modern Chinese History *Zhang Ruide* (23)

In January 1933, due to military needs, Chiang Kai-shek established the Office of Chamberlains as his personal staff office. It was also a core organization to Chiang Kai-shek to promote the Kuomintang and state apparatus. The main duties of the Office are as follows: evaluating and selecting large sum of information and data for references of Chiang and related institutions; helping Chiang to make decisions and carrying out some confidential tasks; enhancing links with the Party, political and military institutions and other circles in order to help the smooth running of the Kuomintang and state apparatus; examining and selecting talented people for the Party and state. However, in the operation process the Office also created some negative functions: destroying normal operations of the system and producing sense of alienation of subordinates. Chiang Kai-shek placed high expectations to the Office and hoped to enlarge its duties for several times but was refused politely by Chen Bulei. For a time Chiang considered to establish Chief Staff Meeting to replace the Office. In 1949 Chiang built the President's Office, and the organization structure, system and even culture of it mainly inherited the Office of Chamberlains, showing that the latter indeed had inevitable important status in the history of Republican China.

Neglected Aggression—Initial Scandinavian Responses to Reports of Japanese Atrocities Committed in China in 1937 – 1938 *Peter Harmsen* (33)

“The Elites Harmed the Country”: A Commentary on Japan's Army Military Education System in Modern Times *Ma Xiaojuan* (43)

Internationalism and Subjectivity: The Sino-Japanese Conflication and the Origin of the Commission of the League of Nations *Chen Haiyi, Guo Zhaozhao* (58)

After the outbreak of the September Eighteenth Incident, China appealed it to international arena, expecting the League of Nations to serve justice. As a result, the League of Nations decided to build a commission to investigate the Sino-Japanese conflict in the Far East. The past studies have put the Commission in a framework of post September Eighteenth Incident narratives, and paid more attentions to investigation process and the final report, lacking total researches to the Commission's origination process. In fact China and Japan disputed for 3 months on the problem in the League of Nations, and also strongly appealed the Britain, the USA and other countries to support its building, and clashes between different countries were unusually frequent. Taking the three stages of the 65th regular meeting of the Executive of the League of

Nations as narrative line and the disputes over the dispatch of the Commission between China and Japan as narrative context, this article systematically discloses the origination process of the Commission. This can highlight the “internationalism” of the Sino-Japanese conflict and the “subjectivity” of the Commission of the League of Nations.

Emerged at the Right Moment: A Re-study of the Post-station Transportation in Northwest Area during China’s War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression *Li Jiajia* (75)

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The Game of Local Interests and the Difficulty of Grass-roots Governance of the Nationalist Government—A Study of the Incident of Changing the Three Gorges Experimentation Area to a County *Xie Jian* (130)

In March 1940 Sichuan province took the lead to implement new county system and adjusted the boundaries of counties in the province. The chief of the Three Gorges Experimentation Area Lu Ziyang took the chance to ask the provincial government to line out some towns and villages to him and separately establish a county. Because of objections of Jiangbei, Ba, Bishan, Hechuan and other counties, the plan failed and the Experimentation Area was in the end reorganized as Beibei Administration Bureau. In the subsequent handover process, Jiangbei county, Ba county and Bishan county were involved in disputes with Beibei Administration Bureau over the ownership of public schools, and an armed confrontation, which was called the Incident Striving for Chengjiang River, occurred between Bishan county and Beibei Administration Bureau. Though the Incident was temporarily subsided, the struggles of the two parties over public schools lasted until the end of the War of Resistance. Local forces were indeed the obstructive factors for the Nationalist government to carry out policies in grass-root society in Sichuan province, but the interest games between local regimes should also not be neglected. After the political unity of Sichuan province, the Nationalist government tried to control Sichuan, but the interest conflicts between local regimes made it difficult to press ahead the central government’s policies to grass-root administration. In a sense, this dilemma also shows the failure of the Nationalist government to control the Sichuan grass-root society.

The “Turn” of Japanese Socialists after the September Eighteenth Incident and the Responses in Chinese Intellectual Circles *Liu Qinglin* (144)

Akamastu Kastumaro, Sano Manabu and Yamakawa Hitoshi were important figures in the history of Japanese socialism development. Their thoughts and works also affected the spread process of socialism. After the September Eighteenth Incident, with the enlargement of Japanese militarism forces and enhancement of the government’s control to domestic thinking, their thoughts and actions successively occurred “direction turn,” and their opinions about China also changed. The “direction turn” of Japanese socialists was not only important events in Japanese academic circles, it also created a big stir in the Chinese intellectual circles, and affected the exchanges of socialist thoughts between China and Japan.

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