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## The Conflict over the Chinese Eastern Railway and the Chinese Communist Party

by Hisako HONJŌ

In July, 1929, the Manchurian Government of China attempted a military takeover of the Chinese Eastern Railway, which had been under joint Sino-Soviet administration since 1924. Fightings developed between the Chinese and the Soviet armies, but by the end of November the Manchurian Government, faced by a Soviet offensive with overwhelmingly superior power, had to admit defeat, and the railway reverted to the previous condition in January, 1930.

The Comintern interpreted this incident as an open attempt by Chiang Kai-shek, acting at the instigation of the world imperialism, at triggering a war on the Soviet Union. The Chinese Communist Party, which shared the same view, launched a campaign with the slogan "Armed support for the Soviet Union!", but the movement failed to gain momentum, and fizzled out after only scattered demonstrations and rallies. Ch'en Tu-hsiu was critical of this policy of the party leadership, which he termed putschism, and pointed out that the slogan was not stirring enough to mobilize large masses. The leadership rejected his criticism, expelled him from the party, and went even further leftist.

After the conflict was solved, the Comintern hailed what it regarded as a victory for the world revolution over the world imperialism. Li Li-san, leader of the CCP, quite contrarily saw danger of an imminent imperialist military intervention in the Soviet Union, thought that it was the time for putting "Armed support for the Soviet Union!" into practice, and issued detailed instructions for preparing for an armed uprising. Moreover, he predicted that a military intervention in the Soviet Union would inevitably result in a great explosion of the world revolution, and expected this world revolution to produce a condition favorable to the Chinese revolution.

The Li Li-san line, which reached its zenith in June, 1930, is found in its embryonic stage already in December, 1929. While Li's leftist inclination was without doubt closely related to the same tendency at the Comintern, his overly simplistic concept of the world revolution was uniquely his own. It appears to have been his perception of the danger of a war on the Soviet Union as a real one at the time of the Chinese Eastern Railway crisis, that prompted him to develop his view of the world revolution into actual military tactics. In this sense, the conflict over the Chinese Eastern Railway can be said to have greatly affected the CCP, the birth of its Li Li-san line in particular.

### Changes and Characteristics of Provincial Administration in the Wu and Southern T'ang Kingdoms

by Azuma KIYOKOBA

In the earlier half of the Wu Kingdom's rule, which lasted from 902 to 937, the king would allow provincial chiefs to occupy their positions for a long time, leaving to them right to appoint and control their staff officers and prefectural magistrates. Thus, with their control of the military and the civilian little interfered with, the provincial chiefs often developed themselves into locally powerful warlords with strong tendency for independence. In the latter half of the kingdom's reign, however, the central government gradually switched to directly despatching the staff officers and prefectural magistrates.....a policy which was enforced more thoroughly in the Southern T'ang Kingdom that took over the Wu power. Also the Wu would move provincial chiefs to other stations after three or four years at the post and appoint military supervisors and assistant magistrates to their retinue with the purpose of limiting their power and tightening control of military and civilian administration. Thus the provincial administration was in the earlier Wu period characterized by independence of provinces and instability of politics, while that in the Southern T'ang period showed increased stability resulting from a strengthened centralized control. More broadly, historic significance of the Wu and the Southern T'ang was in instituting and developing an orderly provincial administration in Kiangsu-Anhwei, a region that had been ravaged by civil wars among local warlords toward the end of the T'ang period, and laying a firm foundation for its