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The Internal Security Department detained HO KWON PING, former ex-correspondent for the Far Eastern Economic Review (FEER) on March 12, 1977.

He has now given a full account of how he became a Marxist, his pro-communist activities in the US and in Singapore, and how he made use of the FEER as a vehicle to promote his pro-communist ideas.

HO KOWN PING was imbued with Marxist ideologies since 1971 whilst he was a student at the Stanford University, USA. He was influenced by Dr. JOHN GURLEY, a lecturer in Economics at the University, who HO KWON PING assessed to be a Marxist. His Marxist beliefs were further enhanced by his participation in militant activities conducted by several pro-communist organisations in the USA. These included:

(i) The Stanford Rehabilitation Movement (SRM), and alliance of student political groups ranging from liberals to communists;

(ii) The Venceremos Organisation, a militant Marxist-Leninist organisation composed of Third World and white revolutionaries whose avowed goal was to build up a Communist Front against US imperialism through armed struggle.

(iii) Pacific Studies ...2/-

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(iii) Pacific Studies Centre (PSC), a Marxist research institute which conducted enquiry into US involvement in Asia;

(iv) The Third World Liberation Front, a Communist Front organisation for non-white Stanford students.

HO KWON PING's participation in these organisations also brought him into close contact with several radical Marxists, in particular HELEN CHAUNCEY, an American graduate student at Stanford and a member of the Venceremos Organisation.

While in Stanford University, HO KWON PING took part in a classroom disruption organised by the Third World Liberation Front which he said was a Communist Front organisation for non-white Stanford students. The disruption was against WILLIAM SHOCKLEY, a professor in Stanford who, according to HO, believed in the genetic inferiority of black people and advocated their sterilisation. As a result he was suspended for two years. He returned to Singapore in 1972 but maintained contact with the radicals and pro-communists in USA.

In September 1974, HELLEN CHAUNCEY suggested to HO to organise "Singapore or some other community for revolution in its own sake". In response to her advice to develop understanding of Marxism-Leninism, HO also set up a study group in Singapore to develop a greater understanding of Marxist and Leninist principles and apply them to situation in Malaysia and Singapore.

To further his pro-communist activities, HO recognised that in the absence of exploitable issues in Singapore, it was

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necessary to create such issues. He saw the FEER as a vehicle through which he could create issues and propagate his pro-communist ideas. While in the US he had known that leftists and pro-communist groups used information contained in FEER for their articles supporting the anti-Vietnam War cause.

He successfully manoeuvred himself into the FEER and wrote articles in line with his pro-communist thinking. He admitted using "techniques of innuendo, distortion of facts, the highlighting of unfounded rumours and the disclosure of classified defence information" to discredit the Singapore Government internationally and to portray the Singapore Government "as elitist, racialist, fascist, oppressive and dictatorial".

While he was FEER's second correspondent in Singapore, he was contacted in February 1976 by LAP CHOO LIN who had returned to Singapore briefly. It will be recalled that LAP CHOO LIN was the one who fed the Dutch Labour Party with falsehood and half-truths about conditions in Singapore. She told HO of the communist plans to expel the PAP from Socialist International, and he agreed to give publicity to support the communist effort. This was two months before the Singapore Government exposed this move. To this end, he deliberately slanted two articles in the FEER to support the Dutch Labour Party's charges against the PAP:

(i) "Union Chief Sides with the State"
(FEER, April 29, 1976);

(ii) "Countering the Communist Sinister Conspiracy"
(FEER, May 14, 1976).

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HO also travelled to Malaysia and Tokyo. Whilst in Malaysia he talked to leaders of the Democratic Action Party (DAP) and the Partai Socialis Rakyat to sound them on their stand regarding the SI's move to expel the Peoples' Action Party (PAP). In Tokyo he spoke to someone on the Japan Socialist Party's (JSP) stance on the SI move. Subsequently, he reported to LAP CHOO LIN the various stances of the three Asian socialist parties.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
April 16, 1977.