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On 20 JUNE '87, the Internal Security Department arrested six persons in a follow-up security operation against those involved in the Marxist conspiracy in which Tan Wah Piow played a pivotal role. Investigations have confirmed that the six were involved in the conspiracy in varying degrees.

Tang Fong Har, a 31-year-old lawyer, was actively involved with the Marxist conspirators. Tang was indoctrinated with Marxist ideology during her Singapore University days by Teresa Lim Li Kok. In late 1984, Tan Wah Piow's emissary Paul Joseph Lim asked Tang and Teo Soh Lung to turn the Law Society into a pressure group to further the cause of the Marxist conspirators. According to Tang, they both subsequently played an important role in influencing the Law Society into opposing the proposed amendments to the Newspapers and Printing Presses Act and the Legal Profession (Amendment) Bill in 1986. Teo Soh Lung had not referred to this in her statement. When questioned on Tang Fong Har's statements, Teo Soh Lung corroborated them. She said that she did not remember this when she made her original statement. Tang was also involved with other Marxist conspirators in making use of the drama group Third Stage and the Workers' Party.

Chew Kheng Chuan, a 29-year-old businessman, was a member of Tan Wah Piow's secret study group. Chew was close to Tan Wah Piow and was one of his trusted contacts in Singapore. In mid-1982, Chew played an active role in the campaign spearheaded by Tan Wah Piow and FUEMSSO to save CPM cadre Tan Chay Wa from the gallows after Tan Chay Wa was sentenced to death in Malaysia. After his return to Singapore in 1982, Chew was involved with other FUEMSSO returnees and local activists in the formation of Third Stage and in making use of the Workers' Party in furtherance of the Marxist conspiracy. Chew worked behind the scenes and anonymously prepared political leaflets, including political cartoons, which were purveyed through the WP. Chew who said that he was once Marxist-inclined admitted that he had continued to be involved with the other conspirators even though he knew of the danger that he might be helping to advance a subversive cause.

Although, after the earlier arrests of their collaborators on 21 May, Tang and Chew had destroyed documents implicating them and had mentally prepared themselves for interrogations, they eventually cooperated in the investigations.

Chng Suan Tze, a 38-year-old lecturer with the Singapore Polytechnic, was actively involved with Vincent Cheng in the pro-communist activities of the Student Christian Movement of Singapore in the 1970s. She associated closely with Tan Wah Piow when she was studying in the UK in 1981-1983. She wrote and edited several articles for FUEMSSO's publication "Fijar" which was used by Tan as a tool to influence readers against the existing political systems in Singapore and Malaysia. Chng was also influenced by Tan into using drama as a propaganda tool. On Tan's suggestion, Chng joined the Third Stage on her return to Singapore in 1983 and became its Secretary in 1984.

Subsequently she played a major role in writing the scripts and directing the group's productions. Her aim was to use drama to arouse disaffection with the existing social and political system. At the time of her arrest, she was President of the Third Stage.

All the three (Tang, Chng and Chew) were forthcoming during the investigations but they have to be rehabilitated to ensure that they do not revert to their old activities.

To prevent Tang, Chng and Chew from acting in any manner prejudicial to the security of Singapore, the Minister for Home Affairs has on 19 July '87 issued Detention Orders for a period of one year under the Internal Security Act against them. However, if before the expiry of the Detention Orders, the Government is satisfied that a detainee is unlikely to resume subversive activities and no longer poses a security threat, he or she will be released forthwith.

Nur Effendi Sahid, Ronnie Ng Soon Hiang and Fan Wang Peng, the three activists in the Singapore Polytechnic Students' Union (SPSU), formed part of the succession line of radicals developed by Vincent Cheng and his group of ex-SPSU activists. Under the guidance of Vincent Cheng, Ng Bee Leng and Mah Lee Lin, they had actively instigated other SPSU activists to agitate against the Polytechnic Administration and to emulate former radical students like Tan Wah Piow. After the arrest of their mentors on 21 May '87, they and a few other SPSU radicals sought assistance from Fr Edgar D'Souza who was then still the Associate Editor of the "Catholic News". He helped them to edit an open letter demanding unconditional release or open trial of the 16 Marxist conspirators. The letter was subsequently issued by Fan to the press on 6 June '87 in the name of the SPSU Council.

The three SPSU radicals were not deeply involved in the Marxist conspiracy. The Government is also satisfied that they are unlikely to revert to subversive activities and pose a security threat. They were released on Restriction Orders on 19 July '87.

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