

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT: Activities of LAM Ching-tak

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1. LAM Ching-tak (LIN Ching-te), a leader of the overseas Chinese Community in Medan, Sumatra, during World War II, organized the Overseas Chinese Self-Defense Corps to protect the lives and property of the Overseas Chinese in Sumatra. He became commander of the Corps; his Vice Commander was LI Mao (李茂). They worked closely together during the war.
2. Following the war, however, LI Mao began to spread Communist ideas among members of the Self-Defense Corps, with the intention of using the Corps as a pro-Communist instrument. In this he was opposed by LAM, who later disbanded the Corps because it was no longer needed to maintain law and order and because he wished to prevent its utilization by the Communists. As a result of his stand, LAM earned the enmity of the Communists. In 1947, LAM was wounded by an attack on his home by Communists with sub-machine guns led by LI Mao.
3. In June 1949, the staff and students of the Eastern Sumatra Middle School in Medan were debating which Chinese flag should be raised at the school. A vote was taken which resulted in 85 percent in favor of the Nationalist flag as opposed to 15 percent for the Communist flag. Following the decision, pro-Communist students and teachers started a free-for-all fight. At a meeting of the Board of Directors called to settle the matter, LAM, a board member, led a successful fight to oust from the faculty and student body pro-Communist teachers and students.

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