

SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS' UNION PRESS RELEASE

Early Morning Raid

Early this morning, 29th July 1976, at about 1.30 am. about 15 Internal Security Agents raided the Union House of the Singapore Polytechnic Students' Union (SPSU)

Student Leaders Arrested

The President of SPSU, Foo Chin Yen, was arrested with another student, Foo Heng Fatt (Chairman of Council) and a recent graduate, Chai Chong. The ISD men did not produce any search warrant upon the request of Foo Chin Yen and prevented the students from calling their lawyer. The arrested students were manhandled and handcuffed and led away from the rest of the students in the Union House, who were awakened and herded to one corner of the Secretariat where their particulars were recorded.

Search

The SPSU Union House was cordoned off and the Secretariat doors blocked. The ISD agents broke open drawer locks and search the whole Union House, seizing files and photographs on the pretext of looking for drugs.

The incident lasted four hours.

It was later discovered that the home of SPSU President, Foo Chin Yen was also raided and Lim Tiow Hui, Assistant Financial Secretary of SPSU was arrested in his house around the same time this morning.

Whereabouts Unconfirmed

Up to now, the whereabouts of our student leaders are still unconfirmed. No charges were stated or reasons given for their brutal arrests.

Motive for the Arrests

The raid was well-timed on the dawn of the SPSU nomination day. The three student leaders arrested are eligible to stand for the coming council elections. To arrest the Singaporean students and probably deporting the other two Malaysian students will serve to remove these student activists from further working in the Union. Moreover, the raid generates fear among the student body and discourage participation in the coming Council elections. The ultimate outcome is to deter students from involvement in the Union.

Our Union is basically a students' organisation catering for the welfare of the students. In the last three years, the Union even strives to broaden students' scope of social awareness. The arrested student leaders have shown dedication towards this direction.

We question the rationality of the authorities for taking such harsh and hysterical action on our leaders. The Administration has already been asked to look into this matter and ensure the security of all students within the campus.

To Date

After the raid, an emergency Council meeting was held. A mass rally will be held at Ayer Rajah Campus at 3-5 pm to call for student solidarity against such repression on students and demand for the immediate unconditional release of all our student leaders. We appeal to the public to GIVE THEIR SUPPORT AGAINST SUCH VIOLENCE AND INJUSTICE.

After reading, Please pass it over to your friends and neighbours.

《新加坡工艺学院学生会声明》

凌晨的搜查行动:

1976年7月29日凌晨一美半,大约十五个内政部人员闯入工艺学院学生楼,进行搜查。

学生领袖被逮捕:

学生会会长胡振渊(星加坡籍)被逮捕,同时遭受逮捕的学生还有学生理事会主席胡荣发(马来亚籍)及另一位刚毕业的学生蔡冲。当时,会长胡振渊曾要求内政部人员出示搜查证,并要求与律师接洽,但都被拒绝,打着,上述学生被扣上手铐,哄离现场,当时,其他在场学生亦被抄下身份证及拉到办公室的角落。

搜查过程:

整个学生楼被封锁,每个进出口都有人把守,内政部人员以搜查毒品为藉口,破坏办公室的锁头,带走了一些文件及相机,整个搜查过程历时达四个钟头。

过后,学生们获知会长胡振渊的家也被搜过,与此同时,另两位学生领袖林兆辉(马来亚籍)及黄训辉亦在寓中逮捕。

逮捕的目的:

五个学生领袖的被逮捕,我们感到非常惊奇,这些逮捕行动恰好发生在学生理事会改选的提名日凌晨(下层学生理事会的大选将在8月中旬举行),在时间上显然是有计划的。被捕的五位同学中有三位在籍同学都将被提名,逮捕新加坡籍学生或将马来亚籍学生驱逐出境,当然也就终止了这几位同学继续在学生会的工作,同时,搜查与逮捕行动也将使其他同学产生恐惧而不敢参加学生理事会的竞选和投票。总的未说,他们最终的目的是要阻止学生们参与学生会的工作,从而扼杀整个学生会,使她不能再进行关心社会、照顾同学福利的工作。

内政部的文告:

野蛮的逮捕事件过后,内政部在29日晚上发表文告指出有十多位不同行业的人士因牵涉参与马来亚共产党的地下卫星组织活动而被逮捕,其中包括工艺学院学生。对这个罪名,文告并没有指出任何事实的根据。这个一向被加于反对者头上的罪名,今天竟然被套在学生领袖的身上。这很明显的是当局企图利用这个罪名来打击工院学生会的活动,因为星大学生会已经在修正法案下变成傀儡,而工院学生会是唯一能独立自主而又能关心社会、照顾学生福利的团体。我们要求当局提出事实根据并公开审讯,否则这种“莫须有”的罪名是不能令人接受的,它只能被当成是用来压制学生会的卑鄙手段!

校方反应

在七月三十日，校長发表了一封給全体同学的公开信，信中謂内政部向他保証工院学生的被捕，並不是因為參與学生会的活动。这是校方企图模糊視线的伎倆。因為被捕学生領袖都是学生会活动的积极参与者，校方把逮捕說成个别事件，想使大家看不到这事件是当局压制学生会的的一个卑劣手段，校長在信中還鼓勵同学参与活动，但是在这样高压，野蛮的手段下，学生们还有什么参与活动的自由與权力呢？

学生会做了什么？

工院学生会是一个為全学謀求福利的学生团体，近三年来，学生会还盡力為加強学生们对社会的認識而工作，从反对巴士車費加价，直加拉水災救濟运动，关心打昔為打拉木屋居民，至参与裁員調查中心工作，这些工作，都得到同学们的拥护和支持，更得到广大民众的声慰支援，另一方面，学生会每年都為第一年不及格的学生向校方爭取，以便更多学生去繼續求學。為了学生的福利，在学生樓也設立了学生服务中心，售賣廉价的文具用品，在迎新工作中，舉辦了几項学生任务的座談和討論会，同时也搞了个工作營，讓同学了解底层人民的生活，甚至和他们一起勞作。我们要說的是：学生会不断对自己要求做好这些工作，而被捕的学生領袖都是為这个目标而奋斗：

我们的要求

由于这次野蛮的，強暴的逮捕行动是根本違反了人類的基本人权，因此我們強烈譴責有关的行动，並要求：

- ① 无条件釋放所有被逮捕的人士因為當局無法証实他們的罪狀。
- ② 立即在一個独立的司法团体之前公平地公开審訊所有被拘留的人士，該司法团体应由各界中立人士組成。
- ③ 公佈被拘留者的罪狀，並提出充分証据與事实來証实。
- ④ 允許被逮捕者发表不受檢查刪改的答辯。必須証每位新加坡公民了解事情的真相以做出公正的審判。
- ⑤ 保証所有学生的安全以及不受到一切的威質和陷害。

我們呼吁負責这次逮捕行动的部長和政府內閣尊重政府所贊成的联合国宪章的民主原則。

我們呼吁所有学生及有正义心的公众人士支持我們反对一切暴力和不合理的行动。

閱讀後，請傳給你的隣居或朋友