

〈新加坡工艺学院中文协会公开声明〉一九七六年九月

一九七六年九月六日，内政部发表文告指本会遭受共产党外围组织人员的渗透。在隔天的电视台的自白访谈中，两位本会老会员王昌辉与洪文辉（他们已脱离本会一年以上，且岁都已不是会员）分别提示在本会的一些活动问题。由于内政部的文告及两位人士的“自白”访谈及公开声明中，有许多与事实不符的地方，为免公众人士被混淆，本会将此发表公开声明。

本会是扎根于工艺学院内的一个学生团体，成立的十多年来，在同学们的积极支持与爱护下，会务蒸蒸日上，参加的人数日愈增多。在活动方面，康乐、文娱、学术等都为同学们提供了有益身心的活动。从七一年至七四年，眼看着灰黄文化的大肆泛滥，不少青少年遭受到不良文化的侵蚀，于是本着发扬健康文化，打击灰黄文化的宗旨，本会曾经作了四次公开演出，也曾为筹募中华医院建院基金举行义演。这几次的演出，门票都被抢售一空，观众也提了许多宝贵的意见。这都说明我们的活动是得到各阶层民众的热爱与拥护。作为家长，相仪都不希望自己的子女受到这社会的不良风气的影响而变为流氓，整天吃、喝、玩、乐，上酒吧、抽烟吸毒等。难道发扬健康文化，鼓励同学多学些好的东西，做些对人民大众有益的事也会有错吗？

在出版方面，本会曾于七〇年底出版“新时代”双月刊及七六年初出版的综合性刊物“光芒”，在灰黄书报充塞市场，引入向上的健康读物极端缺乏的情况下，这两份刊物的出版都受到了很大的欢迎。“光芒”着重于真实地报导本地学生动态与分析时事，鼓励文艺创作，介绍各行各业工友生活等。从每期的销售量约达一万份来看，它是极受学生、工友及在职青年所欢迎的，这事实就很好的驳斥了那些毫无根据，张口开河的无理指责。

在康乐活动方面，本会每年假期都有组织作日营，让同学们能调剂紧张，繁重的学院生活。在集体生活中，我们鼓励同学们要热爱集体，要发扬互相关心，互相爱护，互相帮助的三互精神。在营内，我们也通过各种活泼的形式让同学吸收更多有益的课外知识。（如国际时事等）加强他们的社会责任感，这些不是校长及政府部长们时常鼓励学生所应有的活动吗？

本会放映过有关反映工友生活的幻灯片。这片段的内容是同学们利用假期时间到工厂工作，访问工友时，工友们谈出的工作感受及遭遇到的难题，照实的反映出来。据声明的说法，这是反政府。难道我们要昧着良心说工友受到优厚的待遇，这才是不折不扣的捏造事实！

除了以上的活动外，我们还举办功课班，帮忙同学搞好功课，照顾同学福利的各种各式的活动，这些都在同学们集体努力下蓬勃开展，我们没有专家指导，我们要做的是希望能为广大民众、为我们的社会贡献我们的一份力量。

令我们震惊的是，同学们的许多努力的成绩都被歪曲的理解，以下只是一小部份被歪曲了的事实的真相：

一)九月六日内政部文告宣称王昌辉是本会的前执委,这根本是一个大谎言,王昌辉同学只是本会文娱股属下戏剧小组的成员,并于七五年中离开戏剧小组,且早已不是本会会员,他从来就没有当过本会的执委或戏剧组组长的职位。本会是一个公开的注册团体,每年的执委的名单都需呈交社团注册官,而社团注册局是附属于内政部的一个机构,所以内政部连这样一个简单的事实都故意歪曲,这就不能不令我们对文告的其他内容有所怀疑了。宣称王昌辉是本会的前执委是否有意地要制造这样一个错误的印象:本会遭到所谓的“渗透”。

二)九月七日在电视台的访谈中,王昌辉宣称他指示本会副秘书长谢燕燕(目前尚被扣留中)设法控制本会刊物“艺讯”,在他被捕前尚在计划之中,其实本会这份对内刊物“艺讯”已于今年一月停刊,所以所谓控制之说,根本是无稽之谈。从这亦可看出所谓“自白书”的可靠性是达到什么程度了,另一方面,本会对外刊物“光芒”是由出版秘书李折身负责,李文发同学只是本会过去的出版秘书,目前已毕业离校,在国民服役,这种“接通门路”,不知从何说起?

三)九月八日报章所发表的王昌辉的公开声明中,许多本会会员的名字都被提及,并说他们已被“培养”加入“新青盟”的组织,这种毫无事实根据的说法更加难令人信服,因为王昌辉已于七五年中离开本会,与上述同学也没有丝毫的联系,“培养”到底是怎么回事呢?此外,本会副主席根本没有一位叫“亚群”的朋友,而本会的活动也非一两位负责同学独作全权决定的,所以“亚群”的吸收本会副主席之说更是荒谬之极,所谓“自白书”中列出一些同学的名字,其目的很明显的是要使本会在工院内受到孤立,同学们不敢参与本会的活动,而让本会自行瓦解,这比直接的镇压手法是高明得多了。

在九月七日的内政部文告中,完全没有提到于七月廿九日同时被捕的本会前主席黎冲同学,而在王昌辉的“公开声明”中提到的许多同学却没有被扣留,这其中是否有其他的目的或暗示着进一步的行动呢?

总之,从过去南大学生会的被解散到最近新大学生会的被改组,以及今年来电视台上的“自白”悔过”事件的频频出现,更为了配合人民行动党被驱逐出社会主义国统而制造各种舆论作为辩护,这次的“自白书”已是意料中事,而且相信这只是对工院所带来一连串活动的开始。

但是,我们做的是正正当当的,光明正大的。我们是想为人民群众做真事,但还做得很不足。本会的活动是鼓励同学去关心发生在周围的事情,改善人民的生活,我们没收偷也没有抢,却遭到当局的无理迫害,对于当局这种污蔑,本会提示强烈的抗议,我们要求当局摆事实,讲道理,我们不在任何虚无空洞,胡乱编造的故事。

同时,我们要求当局能早日公开审讯,否则就应无条件释放本会同学。因此,我们呼吁所有具有正义感及一路来给予我们热烈支持的公众人士继续关注此事件的发展,并把事实的真相公开,从而给予本会大力的支援!

SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC CHINESE LANGUAGE SOCIETY OPEN LETTER

In a statement issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the 6th Sept. 1976, it was alleged that the Singapore Polytechnic Chinese Language Society (SPCLS) has been infiltrated by a Communist underground satellite organisation, and in the 'confession' appearing on T.V. the following day, two former ^{members} of the SPCLS mentioned something about the activities of the SPCLS. What had been mentioned or said in the statement and the T.V. interview about the SPCLS were far from being factual and were of utmost misleading. As such, we would like to bring out the following:

(1) that the SPCLS is one of the registered student bodies in the Singapore Polytechnic. For the past 10 years, through the hardwork and support of her fellow members, she has made great achievements. Her membership increases many times, and her activities become more diversified. Cultural, recreational and academic activities are among those that receive overwhelming response from the student mass.

(2) In the period between '71 to '74, we had successfully staged four variety concerts, either at the National Theatre or at the Victoria Theatre. Among these, there was one that was staged to raise fund for the Chung Hwa Free Clinic. During this period, the flooding filthy and unhealthy culture had plagued the morale of our youngsters. Why do these culture poisons exist unchecked? Under the guidance of the Society's objective to promote healthy cultural activities, we stepped forward to organise these cultural activities. The overwhelming support from the members and public encourage us to advance along this course. The early sold-out of tickets and piles of letters of comments and encouragement we received after the concerts expressed one fact that what we are doing are absolutely meaningful and we have the support of the public at large.

(3) The SPCLS has published a bi-monthly magazine 'The Modern Trend' in the end of 1970, and had continued doing so for 6 successive issues. This year, starting from March, we are publishing a new magazine 'Radiance'. Both of these magazine aim to promote analytical reading attitude for readers. These publications are of special significance in view of the flooding reading materials that advocate unhealthy culture in the market, deteriorating the minds of our younger generation. 'Radiance' has its emphasis on local student affairs, world current affairs and articles on the people from all walks of life. The overwhelming support from the readers proves that 'Radiance' is a worthy magazine. The circulation of 'Radiance' for instances, has reached a record of 10,000 copies per issue. Isn't this a solid proof of what we have done and are doing are to the interest of the public?

(4) SPCLS use to organise holiday camps during the Polytechnic Vacation. In these camps, the participants are encouraged to cultivate the good qualities of mutual understanding, to care for and help one another. The activities also aim to create a sense of responsibility towards society, to build up the spirit of collective living. These activities are also helpful in providing a more lively and diversified Poly life. Aren't these activities too are advocate by our Administration and our Ministers? According to the statement of the Ministry, it seems to mean that the slides we had screened, which revealed the life of the workers, were anti-government. During the long vacations, our members had visited factories and workers to find out for ourselves the plight of the workers. Our findings were what we saw and heard. We just cannot say otherwise or it would mean distortion of facts. How does this so-called 'anti-government' arise? Besides, the Society also encourages her members to help each other in studies, members' welfare etc.

In short, in the course of her development, the Society receives no expertise help whatsoever. We rely on our own effort, we rely on our own determination to strive for the welfare of the members, to contribute our bits to the well being of the people.

We were utmost shocked that the painstaking effort of the students, and the achievements through such effort are being venomously distorted. We like to point out the following:

(1) In the 6th September statement of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Wong Sang Hwee was said to be a former ex-co of the SPCLS. This is a blatant lie. Wong was only a member of the Drama group of the Society and had left the group since the middle of 1975. He had never been elected into the ex-co of the Society nor was he ever the group leader of the drama group.

In fact, ~~ever since~~ he had left the group, he had ceased to be a member of the Society. The SPCLS is a registered Society, submitting the lists of the names of her ex-co-members to the Registrar of Societies every year. The Registrar of Societies is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs. This very evidence that a trivial fact was also being distorted leads us to be highly suspicious of the genuineness of the statement. By portraying that Wong was an official of the Society is to try to mislead the public to believe that SPCLS has long been 'infiltrated'.

(2) In the T.V. interview, Wong revealed that he 'directed' Chia Yei Yei (still under detention since 29/7/76) to try to gain control over the Society's publication "Yi Xun". However, facts remain as facts. This internal circulation "Yi Xun" has ceased publication since January 1976. This story of 'gaining control' is an out and out fabrication. Again, we cannot withhold our doubts about the "truth" in the "confession". Besides, the publication of "Radiance" is under the direct charge of the Publication Secretary of the Society. Lee Boon Huat was only the ex-Publication Secretary and had left Poly after his graduation. To say that Lee has found his way to help in the publication is a groundless allegation.

(3) In his 'confessions' that was published on 8th Sept., Wong 'revealed' that he had successfully absorbed into or cultivated for the MNDYL a number of the Society's active members. This is again totally unconvincing. As pointed out earlier, ever since he left the Society, Wong had never appeared again. Those named students, who are still left untouched by the police, had never had any contact with Wong since then. Therefore, what are these 'cultivation', 'absorption'? The ulterior motive of such 'naming' of active members of the Society is obviously to isolate the Society in the Poly technic; to bar the students from further taking part in the Society's activities, thus hoping that the Society would collapse by herself. This appeared to be a better way to dissolve the Society.

One point to take note of is: the statement mentioned nothing about Chai Chong, the detained ex-chairman of SPCLS, and many of those "named" students are still "untouched" by the police. Does this imply that another even more vicious story is yet to be heard?

From the successive repression on student activities and the series of T.V. confession in the past, we are not at all surprised by this current confession. In fact, we envisage this as only a start in the series of repressive measures to be taken against Poly students. We are determined to carry on what we are doing, because we know that what we have done are meaningful and correct and we will strive for greater success.

We urge the authorities to conduct open trials or else the detainees be released unconditionally. We call upon all just loving people to be concerned over this matter and help to reveal the truth to the others!!!