

ASIAN STUDENT VOICE

Asian Student Union, SFSU, volume 4 ~ No.1, September 1976



The Pro-China Movement

This year, the Asian Student Union is again actively participating in the celebration of October 1st, the anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Our organization, along with other progressive groups and individuals in the Chinatown Committee to Celebrate October 1st, have united together for the 5th consecutive year around the following principles of unity:

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China & US: normalization of relations

This October 1st, as in past celebrations, groups and individuals in the Chinatown Committee to Celebrate October 1st have united around the principle "Demand the normalization of relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China, and the immediate implementation of the Shanghai Communiqué." Normalization of relations would mean the establishment of state to state relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

Our ASU, as part of the Chinatown Committee, recognizes China's role in the world as being correct and just and supports normalization. Socialist China has friends and supporters all over the world. This is because China has played a leading role in the struggles of all working and oppressed people against imperialist domination and aggression.

China's active support for the revolutionary struggles of the Third World for national liberation has always been consistent, e.g. China's aid and support to the countries of Tanzania and Zambia in building the great Tan-Zam Railway. Along with China's interest free loan for building the Tan-Zam Railway, Chinese workers labored side by side with the African workers in the actual construction of the Railway. This is one example

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Editorial



Editorial

One of the most important tasks of the Asian Student Union is to explain our views on key issues which effect the organizing of Asian students and students in general.

For students to understand our views the ASU must be able to clearly explain correct positions on the issues which intensify the struggle against the oppression of Asian people. In other words, we seek to explain our principles in order that students will take them up as their own, and put them into action.

Our newsletter, the Asian Student Voice, is an instrument for organizing Asian students. With the newsletter we lay bare our position on the crucial issues facing Asians in this society today. Most of our articles will cover issues that we are directly involved in, whether it be on campus or in the communities. We will strive to put out what we feel are correct perspectives, we as students should take in supporting other struggles, and in contributing to the revolutionary and progressive movement in this country.

Asian people in American society are oppressed and imperialism is the source of this oppression.

Past articles of the Asian Student Voice have shown students the many ways in which Asian people have attacked this oppression. The strike of the Mandarin Restaurant workers, the resistance to eviction by the SF Japanese community led by the Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction (CANE), the pilgrimage to Tule Lake to learn from the Japanese experience in the concentration camps of WW2, and the ASU-sponsored tour of Angel Island to learn about Chinese immigration under imperialism, are all events which the ASU has either organized or been involved in.

With the aid of the Asian Student Voice as an organizing instrument we in the ASU will explain our interpretation of the events and activities previously mentioned, as well as those things that are effecting our lives now.

Articles in this issue of the Asian Student Voice include: articles on the history of the Pro-China movement in the US and ASU's participation, Why we demand normalization of relations between the US and the People's Republic of China, and an article explaining our views on student organizing, and the purpose of the ASU. As an example of the result of our past organizing activities, we also have a brief article on the recent efforts by the administration to evict us from our office and our position on the recent budget controversies which have focused attention on various student organizations including our own.

In conclusion, we hope that all students who read the Asian Student Voice will develop a better understanding of the ASU's principles, and also participate in the struggle to end the oppression of Asian people, rooted in imperialism, and contribute to the transformation of our society.

With the Asian Student Voice as an organizing instrument, we call upon all students to unite with the ASU and all progressive forces in order to fight the oppression of Asian people! All comments on this and other issues of Asian Student Voice are welcome, as well as contributions and your actual help with writing, layout, and distribution!



Demand Normalization...

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of China's assistance in helping developing countries consolidate their political and economic independence. These acts of revolutionary support by China is in direct opposition to the hegemonic and aggressive schemes of the two superpowers, US imperialism and Soviet Social imperialism.

Recognizing that China's deeds are a threat to its ability to exploit and oppress the world's peoples, the US imperialists have always tried to block normalization of relations with Socialist China. However, the pressure of the masses of people in the U.S. and the world have brought about a demand that the US government formally recognize the People's Republic of China as the legitimate government of the Chinese people.

In 1972 the United States government and the People's Republic of China agreed to normalize relations and signed the historic Shanghai Communique. The Shanghai Communique includes the "Five Points of Peaceful Co-existence"; the basis upon which China establishes formal state to state relations with other countries. They are: 1) Respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty; 2) Non-aggression; 3) Non-interference in the internal affairs of other states; 4) Equality and mutual benefit; and 5) Peaceful co-existence.

China's views on relations with other states is clearly reflected in these five principles. As China states; "All nations, big or small, should be equal; big nations should not bully the small and strong nations should not bully the weak. China will never become a superpower and opposes hegemony and power politics of any kind".

In contrast to China's principled conduct in foreign relations, the US imperialists have not lived up to their part of the agreement. Normal relations between the US and the People's Republic of China have yet to be established. The main obstacle preventing normalization is the US government's refusal to withdraw its military and financial backing from Taiwan. As stated in the Shanghai Communique, Taiwan has always been a part of China and the resolution of the Taiwan question is strictly an internal affair of the Chinese people.

The US imperialists, however, continue to provide military and financial backing to the reactionary Chiang Clique on Taiwan. The Chiang Clique, overthrown by the Chinese people and forced out of the mainland in 1949, has never represented the interests of the masses in Taiwan, but rather exploits and oppresses them.

Why does the US government refuse to pull out of Taiwan, even with more and more countries recognizing the People's Republic of China, which has even resulted in the restoration of China's lawful seat in the United Nations? The support of the reactionary KMT is a reflection of its exploitation and domination of Third World countries all over the world. Taiwan is important to the US not only because of its markets, cheap labor and natural resources, but also because of its strategic military locations for US imperialism in Asia.

Formal normalization would have particular significance for all Chinese people in the U.S. The Chinatown Committee recognizes that the reactionary KMT in Chinatown represents the interests of the Chiang Clique in Taiwan. Both of the latter are backed up by the US ruling class who serve to exploit and control the Chinese people. The masses in Chinatown have always struggled against these exploiting enemies. The demand for normalization is part of this ongoing struggle and will ultimately weaken the reactionary KMT in the United States, particularly in Chinatown.

We in the ASU feel it is important for progressive students and all American people to demand normalization and show support for the People's Republic of China.

Demanding normalization is a concrete expression of friendship and unity with the Chinese people and it is a blow to the US government's policy of isolating Socialist China and her achievements. The Chinese and American people have much in common, having the same interests in wanting to eliminate exploitation in society and struggling against oppression and injustice. With normalization, we can further learn from China, a society ruled by and for the working masses. These lessons hold important meaning for the American people who, along with the Chinese people, desire a society without exploitation and oppression; a society ruled for, and by, the overwhelming majority of laboring people. ★

Pro-China Movement

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- 1) Education About Socialist China;
a-Learn from the laboring masses of China in building socialist society
b-Learn from China's correct role in the world
- 2) Demand the normalization of relations between the United States & the People's Republic of China and the immediate implementation of the Shanghai Communique.
- 3) Advance the friendship between the masses of American & Chinese peoples.

The many events planned this year to celebrate October 1st and build support for the People's Republic of China shows the growing Pro-China movement in this country. This is also reflected in the formation of the Joint Committee to Celebrate October 1st in the Bay Area, uniting broad sectors of people around similar principles of unity. Our ASU sees itself as a part of this Pro-China movement, and hope to deepen our understanding of Socialist China through our participation.

Why is it that China has such respect and friends all over the world? Within the US and around the world, China's liberation and the following decades of struggle to build socialism has been of interest and inspiration to all oppressed and working peoples. China herself as a 3rd world country stands out to all 3rd world countries fighting for national liberation as an example of how a backward, semi-feudal, semi-colonial country threw off foreign domi-

nation and built a prosperous, self-reliant country ruled by the working masses. Her active support for these struggles have been correct and just positions. Within China, the socialist construction is also of interest to us, in understanding the achievements of the Chinese people and how socialism has met the needs and interests of the laboring masses in China. This is why we support China, and do Pro-China work - we see China through her words and deeds as representing the interests of oppressed people all over the world.

The Pro-China movement has always met the harassment and attacks of the US government who wish to slander and distort the victories of the Chinese people and the nature of socialism in China. As with all progressive movements, the Pro-China movement has had to consistently struggle to celebrate October 1st and to bring the truth about China to the masses of American people. In spite of these attempts of the US ruling class and the reactionary KMT (Kuomintang) in the Chinese communities, the American people have always expressed their militant friendship, solidarity & unity with the Chinese people. For example, in 1971, the American people waged mass demonstrations to demand China's rightful seat in the United Nations and the ouster of the Chiang Clique. As a result of this tremendous support both in the US and internationally, the People's Republic of China was reseated in the UN as the sole legitimate government of the Chinese people.

So we can see that the Pro-China movement has had a history of struggle. This struggle has also taken place within our own ranks, between differing views on how to

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OCTOBER 1st CELEBRATIONS

PARADE & PROGRAM

★ BY: THE CT. COMM. TO CELEB. OCT. 1st.
SAT. OCT. 2, 12:00 P.M. PORTSMOUTH SQ.
(Washington & Kearny)

EVENING PROGRAM

★ BY: THE BAY AREA JT. COMM. TO CELEB. OCT. 1st.
SAT. OCT. 2, 7:30 P.M. LONGSHOREMEN'S HALL
(400 northpoint)

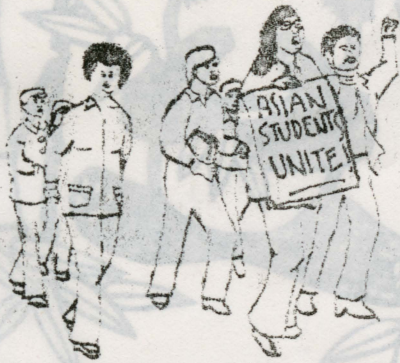
J-TOWN EVENT

★ BY: THE J-TOWN COMM. TO CELEB. OCT. 1st.
FRI. OCT. 8, 7:30 P.M. YWCA
(1830 sutter)

OUTDOOR FAIR

★ BY: THE BAY AREA JT. COMM. TO CELEB. OCT. 1st.
SAT. OCT. 9, all day, Everett Jr. High
(18th st. & Guerro)

Oppose Office Eviction



This fall, the ASU is facing eviction with the possibility of no longer having an office. Organizations at San Francisco State College can have offices only on a yearly basis, which places organizations in a weak position, not knowing whether they will continue to have office space each year. Historically, the ASU has fought for the right to have office space. We fought to remain in the old modulexes which served as gang offices. In that case we never knew they were available to us until we accidentally discovered them when we needed a working place to do posters for an ASU event. When the Student Union Building was completed, we were told we could apply for office space.

In 1975, we were "given" office space along with the other Third World student organizations. The first office offered to us were rat holes and along with the other Third World students organizations, we told the administration that the spaces were too small.

We needed more adequate space so after much discussion and struggle with the Student Council, the administration met our demands. Finally we won our present office space.

So why does the ASU need office space? To any student organization like the ASU, the necessity to have a physical location on campus in which to do organizing work and to have meetings are vital for our outreach among students. A permanent location where students can come to get information on our organization is absolutely important. Because of the constant threat of losing our office space or being relocated, you question if the Student Council really

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**ASU Office is located in
the SU. basement- room 137**

present China to the American people, and how to celebrate October 1st. For example, one dominant view held in the past was that the masses of American people are too "backwards" to understand socialist ideas and would be "turned off" if we talked about China as a socialist country. This view saw talking about China only in terms of acupuncture, martial arts, cultural aspects, and etc. This view would ultimately lead to hiding the truth about China, and separating her socialist society apart from her advances in various fields. We recognize that we must combat such views, for it would hold back the Pro-China movement and our ability to advance the people's understanding and consciousness of Socialist China.

We in the ASU are proud of our participation in the Pro-China movement. We see learning from China as an ongoing thing. For example, we are always trying to learn from China through studying her revolutionary writings. In particular, we have paid attention to understanding the role Chinese youth have played in changing Chinese society to understand our tasks here. Also, we have learned much about China's struggle against male supremacy and how women have been actively involved in all spheres of life. These are just examples of the lessons we have drawn from China and the celebration of October 1st. We would encourage all students who support the principles of the Chinatown Committee to Celebrate October 1st, to help in the work to build the event by leafletting, posterage, etc. Throughout the semester, the ASU hopes to continue to do Pro-China work through film showings, short discussions etc that will reach students here at SFSU. Your support is welcome! Stop by the ASU office for more info-SU Bldg, Basement 137. ★



asu views

Purpose & Goals

The ASU is actively striving to organize students to take up the struggle against the oppression of Asian people. We not only have a common history of oppression, but also a great history of struggle for full equality and freedom. The experiences we have faced as a people in this society, is the basis on which we should unite. For all progressive Asian students, it is important that we find the correct solution to free Asian and other Third World people, and actively take part in changing society.

National Oppression

The ASU recognizes that the inequalities facing Asians in US society is due to national oppression, perpetuated by the imperialist system. Imperialism is an economic, political system which extracts superprofits from our exploitation, profits above and beyond what is gained from the exploitation of white workers. For example, the US ruling class makes superprofits from the wages of Asian workers, who are concentrated in the lowest-paying, non-unionized industries. (i.e. garment & service industries). Asian people are still excluded today from certain industries & professions.

Super-exploitation affects every aspect of our lives. This is clearly seen in the sub-standard living conditions in many Third World communities, the inadequate social services available, the lack of decent medical care, etc.. The capitalists enforce political & social restrictions on Asian people to maintain their rule & ability to carry out superexploitation. In the past, Asians have been denied the right to own land, to testify against white people in courts, to vote, to bring families to this country, etc. Today we are still denied the right to develop our own languages & cultures, learn our true history, etc. Added to this



of course, ^{is} the long history of violence & racist hysteria perpetuated against Asian people.

The National Struggles are Revolutionary

We see the struggle against national oppression as a struggle against the imperialist system. The ASU has always held that the source of national oppression lies in the criminal imperialist system. To think that Asian people can win full equality under this society is an illusion-something that the US ruling class would like us to believe. We do not see the election of a few Asian faces in government, etc., as true solutions to our problems. These "solutions" will never eliminate the exploitation & oppression of Asian people. We as students should learn the roots of our oppression, study the imperialist society we live under, draw lessons from other oppressed peoples around the world, and participate in the movement to change society. This is the only way to end national oppression.

Contributions by Students

The ASU has always felt that ongoing student organizing work on the campuses is an important part of the struggle against national oppression. Students have readily taken up new ideas and fought to

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change the injustices caused by US imperialism. Our role in the anti-war movement and the struggles for Ethnic Studies are testimony to the important role we can play in changing society. Our actions in these struggles have oftentimes encouraged other sectors of society to become involved in the struggle against imperialism.

In the brief history of the ASU, we have done labor and community support work. Besides supporting workers' struggles in our communities we have also supported the Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction (CANE) to fight the destruction of Japan Town by the S.F. Redevelopment Agency. We have also built consistent unity with progressive people in the Chinese community to celebrate October 1st and bring out the truth about the People's Republic of China. (see other articles in this issue).

On campus we have initiated various programs that spoke to the oppression of Asian people, our historic resistance, and the tasks we need to take up to combat it today. Some examples are; lunar new year celebrations which focused on community issues, a forum on the concentration camps that imprisoned Japanese in America during WWII (followed by a pilgrimage to Tule Lake concentration camp in California), with other Asian student & community groups), International Women's Day programs, etc..

Consistent with our views on the importance of the national struggles as part of the revolutionary movement, we have done organizing work with other groups such as the

Coalition for Angolan Self-Determination. This coalition, composed of many groups from the Bay Area worked for months to plan a forum in support of the Angolan's peoples struggle for self-determination against US and Soviet Social Imperialism.

Our strength as a student organization on campus comes from the support and participation of students who sincerely wish to combat

the national oppression of Asian people. As this semester begins we hope many students come forward to work with us. Through your participation, we hope to improve student participation and support work in community struggles and campus organizing.

ASU Principles of Unity

1. To promote the commitment of students to transform society.
2. To build unity among Asian students in light of our common oppression.
 - a) To fight racism and inequalities which are inherent in the American political & economic system.
 - b) To build the Asian Student Movement as an integral part of the Asian and Progressive Movements.

ASU ORIENTATION

EVERYONE'S INVITED ★ 12:00 ★ conf. rm 117
★ weds. sept 15 ★ thurs. sept 16

Budget Position

Money is always important in running an organization, but it is not the most important thing. The most important thing is the organization. Some people get so caught up in the money trip, that they lose sight of the direction of the organization.

The ASU feels that the money received through the school is important to the running of the organization. But without the students in ASU, we would have no organization. We feel if we didn't receive any money, there would still be an ASU and students who oppose the oppression of Asian people.

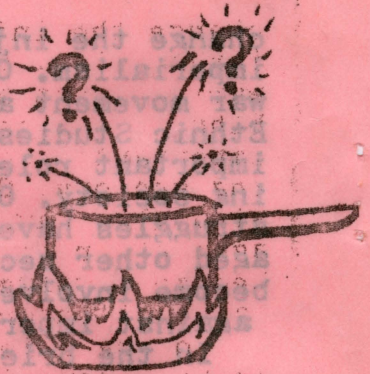
At the same time, we oppose the recent unjustified cutbacks of the student organizations' budgets. These substantial deductions in many submitted budgets do not surprise us-for since when has the Administration respected or upheld the interests of students? We see these cutbacks as an attack on our organization. Furthermore, we have seen clearly the true colors of the student government, who serves as a buffer between students and the Administration itself. This struggle for adequate funding has shown how much they care about student needs.

Therefore, we see raising money through our fund-raising events and strive to become as self-reliant as possible. ★



COME TO ASU'S POTLUCK ON SEPT. 25

Please contact members
for further info.
Office-SU Bldg. rm.137



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cares about the needs of Asian students, especially when our budget was also cut last year.

The ASU has always been one of the most active organizations on and off campus. We maintain that all student organizations like ours deserve office space. We say this because the administration has always attempted to stifle and repress the organizing of students and Third World students in particular.

The current eviction attempt by the administration being made against the ASU as an Asian student organization, along with the budget cuts made against us last year, illustrate the fact that whenever Asian students attempt to organize to oppose the source of the oppression of Asian people, imperialism, we meet with resistance. This is because the administration acts in opposition to the interests of Asian students and Third World students as a group. In view of the administration's attempt to evict us, we have to fight for our office in order to continue effective organizing of Asian students. ★

