

Guang-Ming Pao: **An Investigation Based on Political Archives** **and Oral Historical Records**

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ABSTRACT

Guang-Ming Pao (《光明報》) was an underground newspaper issued by the Taiwan Province Working Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in 1948. Published irregularly, this one-page newspaper was mimeographed on a steel plate, with a print run of five or six hundred copies, and only twenty-one issues in total.

In September 1949, uniformed personnel stormed into the campus of Keelung Middle School, cracked down on the clandestine newspaper printing and arrested several staff members involved. The accidental exposure of *Guang-Ming Pao* precluded the disintegration of the Taiwan Province Working Committee. Intelligence gathered led to the capture of the top cadres, including Cai Xiao-Qian, Chen Zhe-Min, Hong You-Qiao, and Zhang Zhi-Zhong, a fatal blow to the CCP in Taiwan. The *Guang-Ming Pao* Incident can be regarded as a major turning point in the history of White Terror in the 1950s.

With the archives of the case sealed for several decades, false information has widely spread. This article takes the Wikipedia entry as a starting point, cross-examining recently released political archives and oral interview records. Moreover, organization of the press, division of labor, content and sources, as well as distribution channels were explored in order to unravel the mystery of the rise and demise of this underground newspaper.

Keywords: *Guang-Ming Pao*, Underground Newspaper, CCP Taiwan Province Working Committee, White Terror in the 1950s, Wikipedia Entry