

YSW指正《白衣人》

14/10/09

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(新加坡文献馆评译)

此次容少华 (Yoong Siew Wah 音译) 在部落格上为自己喊冤, 这对新加坡社会而言是有着非常的政治意义。首先, 指责李光耀犯错是极为罕见的‘不要命’行为, 除了那些迫上梁山的好汉之外, 鲜有人胆敢如此妄为。其二, 指责李光耀犯错并非来自反对党人士而是已经高龄的前高级官僚。这是否就是来自即得利益集团本身的内部抗议之声? 从这篇抗议书以及近年来网络上批判言论来看, 这事件是否也反映了社会对人民行动党又或者李光耀不再容忍? 又或者说人民对一个与社会脱节的执政党再无宽恕之心? 在金融风暴过后贫富愈为显现的新大时代环境下, 来自边缘社会的反扑潮浪是否已见雏形?

《白衣人》为的是要让李光耀的政治决策合理化, 利用李光耀传世英名为后李光耀时代的人民行动党建筑一个更稳固的政治权力基础。然而, 事与愿违, 看来故事书内蒙受不白之冤的人士为了自己一世英名也为了顾及自己下一代的颜面和感受, 会毅然出来为自己辩护, 若是如此, 那么, 容少华应该不是唯一或者是最后一名抗告者。始料不及的是《白衣人》已经在无意之中捅破了马蜂窝; 弄巧反拙与欲盖弥彰往往会抖出更多机密事。

译文:

一个无良知的冤枉

偶尔, 来自并非不可意料之处会突如其来缺德的去攻击一个毫无防范者的名誉。

坦白的说, 我不理解这本大事吹嘘的政治著作《白衣人》的几个兴致勃勃的作者有何居心, 为何要把我描绘的如此不堪入目。据说这本书是要客观的讲述人民行动党的奋斗历史, 但是我不明白为何我会和这起党内斗争事件有所关系。总之, 在书内第 441 页, 这几名具有野心的作者在一节名为‘另外一只外来的手’内用未经证实而且具轻蔑毁谤意识的文字描绘我: ‘但是在 1971 年, 在警方搜查他 (萧添寿) 的女朋友的寓所后, 他使用他的影响力和他与当时贪污调查局局长容少华的友情, 把那 4 名进行搜查的警察开除。总检查长陈文德为此事进行平反让 4 名警察复职。之后, 萧添寿提出呈辞以避免调查, 因为他在司法界有不错的成就。容少华也被要求辞去职务。

09 年 9 月 28 日我写信给新加坡报业集团的首席执行员, 向他指出这段轻蔑与毁谤我的文字, 并要求他在报章上作出澄清。我解释说贪污调查局有职务上的责任对所有的正式投诉进行调查。萧添寿提出正式投诉于是贪污调查局进行调查。调查报告提交给副警察总监, 他作出开除探员的决定。对探员的指控是有其表面证据的依据。要求我辞职之事根本是子虚乌有。在贪污调查局之后, 我转任内政部的局长。

我的信转交到林耀辉的手上, 他是 3 名作者之一。林先生在 10 月 1 日回信指出那段毁谤文字的有关资料来自当年总理李光耀在律师业修正法令听证会上的说话, 这段说话刊登在 1986 年 10 月 10 日的海峡时报, 回信附有其影印一份。

我对此不感到惊讶因为好些人把当年的总理李光耀当作神明, 他对别人名誉的诋毁都毫无疑问的被看成是正确。他之所以会说这些对我的毁谤言论, 是在他和冷静沉着的萧添寿在听证会上进行剧烈辩驳时因为火气上头而没有顾及到是否正确, 不能排除这一个可能性。他激怒时的异常举止和恶毒言词行为并不是外界一无所知之事。他显然是受不了萧添寿先生尖锐辛辣的奚落, 以致他在正常情况下神志清醒的头脑, 忽略了我并不是被踢出贪污调查局而是转任内政部部长。

随后，向他指出了这回事，但是谦逊并不是他的特长，他不会因为做错事而道歉。林耀辉先生，其中的一名作者，向我保证在下一回的版本中，在书中有关我被要求辞职的文字后另加说明我在事实上是受委派出任内政部部长，以还我清白。

据报告所说，是因为检查总长陈文德的干预而使到 4 名探员复职。对他而言这是英勇的表现。他必定曾翻阅贪污调查局的报告，不会忽略到不知道开除 4 名探员的决定是来自副警察总监。为何当年的总理李光耀会认为是我非法的开除那 4 名探员，我要追究这件事情的真相。

萧添寿在我任贪污调查局局长时是当年的副检查总长。他对所有由贪污调查局送交的报告书做出的最终裁决有全面管辖权力。我和萧添寿之间有良好的关系是人与人之间交往的本能。对当年的总理李光耀以及检查总长陈文德而言，把这种关系影射为邪恶意图会让批评者认为思想有了问题。为什么我和萧添寿之间的友好关系会被看成是不适当的呢？

此刻李光耀资政理应做的最合宜事情是消取我所遭受到的伤害以及恢复我的名声。但是，他会这样做吗？

以下是其中一些读者的回应：

<https://www.blogger.com/comment.g?blogID=6176905114532816372&postID=8488932474742028454>

Blogger Palmer October 10, 2009 2:58 AM: 谢谢你和公众分享这件事。

Blogger Alan Wong October 10, 2009 8:37 AM: 我是这样想，他本身也是一个恶毒的人，冤枉过许多其他的人。对这些含冤者和他们的亲人，他就是令人憎恨的恶魔。有那么多的好人被关了那么多的年头，另外许多人他们的一生和事业都毫无道理的被毁坏掉了。地狱等待着他。

Blogger teo October 10, 2009 5:00 PM: 你的文笔很好，为何不把你担任内政部部长时的经验写出来？这有助那些长期遭囚禁者洗清他们的名誉。

萧添寿 October 10, 2009 7:30 PM: 谢谢你的电邮。它讲述的事件是公正与正确的。你似乎忽略了一件事-在贪污调查局进行调查后，我相信那 4 名警员还受到纪律程序的调查，调查后的建议是提交副警察总监，并且是由他执行这些建议。如果我的记忆是对的，惹耶勒南是那 4 名警员的辩护律师。他过后向陈文德呈情，陈文德利用这个机会翻旧帐...。如有新发展请让我知道。附录：Willie 近来的日子过的如何？

An Unconscionable Injustice

Friday, October 9, 2009

Occasionally, there can happen to an unsuspecting person an underbelly attack on his reputation from not entirely unexpected quarter.

Quite frankly, I am baffled by the motive of the ebullient authors of the overhyped political book “Men in White” in giving me unflattering mention in it. Whilst it is purported to give an objective history of the PAP struggle I wonder what have I got to do with the intra-party struggle. Anyway, in page 441 of the book the ambitious authors made the following unverified disparaging statement about me under the sub heading “Another Foreign Hand” : “But in 1971, after a police raid on his (Francis Seow’s) woman friend’s apartment, he used his influence and friendship with the then director of the Corrupt Practices Investigations Bureau, Yoong Siew Wah, to have the four officers who had conducted the raid sacked. The attorney-general Tan Boon Teik intervened to reinstate the four officers. Seow was allowed to resign rather than have his actions investigated because of his track record in the Legal Service. Yoong was also asked to quit.”

On 28-9-09 I wrote to the Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore Press Holdings drawing his attention to this disparaging statement about me and requesting that a correction be made in his newspaper. I explained that the CPIB was duty-bound to investigate all formal complaints. Mr. Francis Seow made a formal complaint and CPIB carried out investigations of the four detectives. The investigation papers were sent to the Deputy Commissioner of Police who made the decision to dismiss the detectives. There was a prima facie case against the detectives. There was no question that I was asked to quit. I was appointed Director of Internal Security Department following my CPIB stint.

My letter was passed to Mr. Richard Lim, one of the three authors of the book. Mr. Lim replied on 1 October that the material for the disparaging statement was taken from a speech made by the then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew at the Select Committee Hearing of the Legal Profession (Amendment) Bill which was published in the Straits Times on 10 October 1986 of which a copy was attached.

It did not come as a surprise to me as the then PM Lee Kuan Yew was like a god to some people and the accuracy of his denigration of a person's reputation was invariably taken at its face value. That he made the disparaging statement about me in the heat of the moment without regard to its accuracy in his heated exchange with a cool-headed eloquent Francis Seow at the Select Committee Hearing could not be ruled out. He is not unknown to have behaved erratically with venom in his speech when highly agitated. He was obviously so infuriated by Mr. Francis Seow's biting taunts that it escaped his normally lucid mind that I was not boarded out but appointed Director ISD after my CPIB stint. It was subsequently pointed out to him but humility is not his forte and he has not been known as one to apologise for his mistakes. Mr. Richard Lim, one of the authors, has assured me that he would add a line after the sentence that I was also asked to quit to indicate that I was actually appointed Director ISD after my CPIB stint in his next and future editions of the book in order to be fair to me.

It was reported that the then attorney-general Mr. Tan Boon Teik intervened to have the four detectives reinstated. Very gallant of him. He must have read the CPIB file on the investigations and could not have missed that the dismissal of the four detectives was made by the Deputy Commissioner of Police. How the then PM Lee Kuan Yew was given the impression that I had the four detectives unlawfully dismissed is something I would like to get to the bottom of.

Mr. Francis Seow was the solicitor-general at the time when I was director CPIB. He had overall supervision of CPIB investigation files sent to his department for final direction. That I should have had a cordial relation with Mr. Francis Seow was natural in human relationship development. For the then PM Lee Kuan Yew or for that matter the attorney-general Mr. Tan Boon Teik to give a sinister connotation to such a relationship seemed to raise doubt as to the soundness of the detractors' mind. Why should the affinity between Mr. Francis Seow and me be seen as something unwholesome?

The most decent thing for the Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew to do now is to undo the harm he has caused me and to restore my reputation. But will he?

Posted by Singapore Recalcitrant at 7:29 AM

Blogger Palmer said October 10, 2009 2:58 AM...
Thank you for sharing this with the public.

Blogger Alan Wong said... October 10, 2009 8:37 AM

In my own mind, he was spiteful and did a lot of injustices to many other people as well. To these people and their close ones, he must have been a much hated evil man.

There were so many good men locked away for a good number of years and so many others with their lives and careers destroyed for no apparent good reason.

There could only be hell waiting for him.

Blogger teo said... October 10, 2009 5:00 PM

Since you write so well, how about you writing about your experience when you were director of ISD? It would be good to clear the names of those detained for decades.

Francis Seow. October 10, 2009 7:30 PM

Thank you for the email. It sets out the facts fairly and accurately. One thing you seemed to have overlooked — and that is, after the CPIB investigations, I believe the four police officers were the subject of disciplinary proceedings whose recommendations were made to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, who then took the disciplinary action(s) alleged.

If my memory serves me right, J.B. Jeyaretnam represented those police officers in the proceedings. And he later made representations to TBT, who used the opportunity to even out old scores. I, however, stray

Keep me informed if there are further developments.

Best.

Francis Seow.

P.S. What is Willie doing these days?

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