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## Merdeka

(Independence)

Written by Terence Koh

*Logline: Struggling under the yoke of colonialists, Shin Kok, a dock worker, rises to become a trade unionist and an elected congressman as he forms a political party with Barry, an ambitious lawyer, and Paul, an Economics Professor, to fight for their country's independence from Britain. As the British and other covert interest groups exert their influence seeking to control the destiny of the country, a violent power struggle breaks out as everyone fights to get their hands on oil, land and power.*

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His gaze stops at the melee around Groundskeeper Lau.

3. EXT. PALACE COURTYARD (LANFANG REPUBLIC). DAY

Holding Xiao Ming against the wall, Groundskeeper Lau winds back his hand to him when a hand grabs hold of his. It's the President. Lau immediately steps back.

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
Why are you two being punished?

XIAO MING(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
Young Master...Young Master told  
us to steal some sweet potatoes  
for him so that he can give  
them to the First Lady...

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
Lau, go get Young Master now.

GROUNDSKEEPER LAU(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
I'll go at once, Sir.

As the two kids shift uneasily under the watchful eye of the President, we hear the muted voice of Young Master from a distance followed by the impatient patter of his feet as he appears before the President.

YOUNG MASTER (IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
You looking for me, Dad?

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
Son, did you tell these boys to  
steal sweet potatoes for you?

YOUNG MASTER (IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)  
I did, Dad, but this was just a  
test I devised to test their  
loyalty. If they got caught and  
didn't rat me out, then I'll  
know they are stand-up boys. Of  
course, my little scheme is  
also a great litmus test on  
palace security, which was  
almost outsmarted by your nine-  
year kid, Dad.

The President raises his hands towards his son, who flinches, but he rubs his son's hair instead. A smile

escapes from the President's lips but it disappears just as soon as he turns to Lau and the two kids.

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Lau!

GROUNDSKEEPER LAU(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Yes, Mr President.

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Withhold solid food from these two boys as punishment for not completing their tasks!

GROUNDSKEEPER LAU(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Yes, Mr President!

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

And Lau... For this security lapse, you'll receive no wages for one week, you hear me?

GROUNDSKEEPER LAU(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Yes, Mr President. I'll make sure to improve the security of the palace stores, sir.

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Ok. You can go about your business.

Groundkeeper Lau pulls the two kids by the collar and takes them away. The President pats his son on the shoulders.

PRESIDENT(IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Son, you showed courage under fire just now. Well done! Remember, we are a royal family. Always demonstrate your power over the people. You're next in line for the Presidency. You must commit your entire life to preserving our empire. You have great intelligence and the ability to adapt & overcome your surroundings. No matter what everyone says, always believe in your God-given abilities! Accentuate your

strengths, conquer your peers.  
Remember, always take the upper  
hand. Do unto others before  
they do unto you!

YOUNG MASTER (IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

Yes, Dad!

4. EXT. COAST OF BORNEO/LANFANG REPUBLIC. NIGHT

Off the coast of Borneo, battalions of Dutch ships are sailing towards Lanfang republic. Inside a Dutch ship, soldiers are prepping the cannons as the first mate descends from the deck to talk to the captain.

FIRST MATE

Captain, we're just a mile away  
from Lanfang Republic!

CAPTAIN

Battle stations! And prepare  
the boarding party!

FIRST MATE

Aye, aye captain!

Dutch sailors start loading gunpowder and cannon balls into the tubes of the cannons. The canons fire in unison.

From the air, we see countless Dutch warships in the sea firing their canons as landing boats row towards the island. Explosions dot the island as it is rocked by canon fire.

5. EXT. STREETS OF LANFANG REPUBLIC. NIGHT.

The top floor of a shophouse explodes, hit by canon fire. Chinese workers fleeing a plantation scream in agony as Dutch soldiers shoot them from behind. The side wing of the Presidential mansion explodes as canon fire hits it.

6. EXT. COAST OF BORNEO/LANFANG REPUBLIC. NIGHT

From the sea, bright orange balls of fire light up the island like blinking Christmas lights. Through the smoke on the water from the vantage point of a boat, we see the Presidential Palace exploding. Groundskeeper Lau and the President's wife and family are in the boat. Lau's arms are around Young Master who's crying as he looks back at the island, his hands holding the flag of the family crest.

## 7. EXT. PIERSIDE CANTEEN/WAREHOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY

Closeup of a hand stirring a teaspoon in a cup of coffee. We see the face of a young man, Lim Shin Kok, drinking coffee. Looking at his watch Shin Kok finishes his coffee and motions to Siew Meng to leave as both of them walk out of the canteen to go back to work.

SIEW MENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Eh, Ah Kok, you have a degree, why didn't you go get a better job?

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

You can't fill your stomach with a piece of paper. Times like these, you only get ahead if you're Caucasian. And you know there's not much difference in pay between a blue or white-collar job. We won't have a good life as long as the British are in charge. We have to win our independence then we'll have a better life.

Siew Meng nods in agreement. Overhead, as they walk across the pier towards the warehouse, a crane is lifting a net full of sacks onto a ship. The crane operator, Boon, waves to Shin Kok and Siew Meng, who wave back. Boon yanks hard on the controls and curses as the crane struggles to turn. The rope net holding the sacks is frayed from the tension exerted by the cargo.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Can't get the gears to catch again, huh?

Boon nods. Shin Kok looks on in dismay at the crane but he continues walking to the equipment area, as he knows he can do nothing.

4 YEARS AGO - CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND, 1950

## 8. EXT. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND. DAY

The camera trails a man in a cardigan cycling swiftly along the pathways of a wide-open square. Stone and brick buildings adorn the perimeter of the impeccably landscaped

campus as students walk through the square, some in discussions, others rushing to class. Approaching a stone building, the man gets off and deposits his bike at the entrance. Adorned on a heavy wooden door, is a logo of a circle with a lightning bolt right in the middle etched in stone. Underneath the logo in carved metal are the words: British Fascist Society. The man walks through the door.

9. INT. BRITISH FASCIST SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS (ENGLAND). DAY

The man walks across the hall's mahogany and heads upstairs to the second floor towards the second door on his right. As he enters, we see a lecturer holding a talk. He silently walks in as the speaker continues to speak.

FASCIST SPEAKER

Only with a strong state can  
the people flourish. Look  
around you. Countries  
everywhere are weak today...

As he walks past the middle row, we see a striking young man seated, listening intently. This young man is Barry Yao.

FASCIST SPEAKER

...because their economies  
function on the random and  
chaotic choices of corrupt  
bourgeois, competing to exploit  
the workers in the street.

Barry listens intently with an enigmatic concentration.

FASCIST SPEAKER

In our strong state, the  
industries of the country will  
be controlled by a new  
managerial elite, led by the  
brightest engineers educated by  
the State and captains of  
industry cultivated by the  
State.

Barry listens intently with an enigmatic concentration.

FASCIST SPEAKER

These elite will be part of the  
backbone of our party.  
Dedicated to our vision of the

future, we will stamp out parasitic capitalism; develop all sectors of the economy in service of the Party's vision for the country.

Barry remains in his seat as deafening applause engulfs the room. We can't tell if he's intrigued or disgusted.

10. EXT. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND. DAY

A black Rolls Royce with small union jack flags drives along the roadway of the university. Students flank both sides of the thoroughfare - some waving British flags, some carrying "Get out Attlee" signs. As the car approaches the front of the administration building, we see Asian students protesting in front of a very large "Independence for Sinosia" banner. Standing in front of these students is Barry Yao. He shouts out a slogan.

BARRY YAO  
Independence for Sinosia!

ASIAN STUDENTS  
Independence for Sinosia!

BARRY YAO  
Free the people of Sinosia from  
British oppression!

ASIAN STUDENTS  
Free the people of Sinosia from  
British oppression!

The car door opens and a posse of secret service agents escorts the British PM into the building.

As Barry continues shouting his slogans, Paul Ho, a PhD student, looks on in the foreground at Barry and the demonstrators with interest.

11. EXT. ROTARY CLUB. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, ENGLAND. DAY

Close-up of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century black and white photo of a Caucasian dressed in suit shaking hands with the last Lanfang Republic President seen earlier. As the camera pans out, we see Paul Ho looking at the framed picture hung on the wall. Barry Yao approaches the framed photo with a drink in hand. Paul strikes up a conversation.



PAUL HO

The Caucasian on the right is Thomas Cruyff. He was instrumental in the Dutch invasion of the Lanfang Republic. Made most of his fortune there. The guy he's shaking hands with is the last President of the Lanfang Republic. Cruyff was one of the Rotary Club's most illustrious Presidents and donated most of his wealth to Cambridge and the Rotary Club when he died, that's why you see so many of his photos up on the wall.

BARRY YAO

Ah, I see.

PAUL HO

You know, you made quite an impression the other day at the PM's visit.

BARRY YAO

Ha...ha... I was hoping nobody would recognize me! Hope I haven't caused any trouble for the rotary club. Independence for my country is a cause close to my heart. I saw a chance to do my bit and I seized it. (Paul smiles) I'm sorry. I haven't introduced myself. I'm Barry Yao, final year student in law.

PAUL HO

Nice to meet you, Barry. I'm Paul Ho, I'm doing my PhD in...

BARRY YAO (INTERJECTING)

Economics. Ha...ha... I've read your papers, Mr Ho. A close friend of mine is in your economics class. I found out you were in the Rotary Club too and I came today hoping to meet

your acquaintance.

PAUL HO

Ha...ha... I'm surprised anyone's read my research! It's a pleasure to meet you Barry!

BARRY YAO

Your paper on the future economic development of Sinosia is the one of the most illuminating papers I've ever read. When I found out you were Sinosian, I just had to meet you. Your economic models for Sinosia will be extremely valuable when Sinosia becomes independent.

The two of them continue talking as they walk slowly around the room.

PAUL HO

Actually I'm just happy to see so many passionate Sinosians fighting for the good of the country. I'll be heading back to Sinosia after this semester. We should keep in touch if you're heading back home after graduation.

BARRY YAO

I am. A bunch of us are all heading back to Sinosia after we pass the bar. We're all committed to fighting for Sinosia's independence. My friends would really like to meet you if you're free.

PAUL HO

It would be my pleasure.

12. EXT. INNER CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

We trail behind a huge stack of newspapers tied to a bicycle travelling down a bustling street. We see a newspaper boy's head bobbing up and down in front of the

newspapers. As he rides, we see Chinese, Malay and Indian hawkers pottering about in their roadside stalls selling their wares. There are roadside stalls selling food to Chinese women in samfus and men in singlets and kaki shorts. Well-dressed British men are getting their shoes polished by shoe-shine men in their 40s. A loud horn goes off. The bike veers to the left side of the road as a black Studebaker passes by with a Malay driver chauffeuring a well-dressed British man and his wife. Veering back to the middle of the street as the car goes by, we see a young British man berating an older Chinese man in shirt and slacks, the Chinese man with his head bowed, apologizing profusely to the British man.

13. EXT. NEWSPAPER STAND (SINOSIA). DAY

The boy's bike approaches a roadside newspaper stand next to a large industrial building. The marquee on the building reads "Port of Sinosia Authority". As the large stack of newspapers on the bicycle is removed, we see the face of Ah Meng as he carries the papers to a roadside newsstand.

AH MENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Boss! The papers are here!

BOSS (IN HOKKIEN)

Oh, thanks!

As Ah Meng turns to go, he is blindsided by a punch. Lying on the road, he's pummelled by punches from two sets of hands as a foot is planted on his chest.

AH MENG(IN HOKKIEN)

Uncle Kun, please give us a few days more! I promise my brother and I will have the dough to pay you back.

UNCLE KUN(IN HOKKIEN)

Your bro? If your bro had money, I would've tracked him down and gotten my money already. Don't give me that shit! You're one week overdue. I'm going to beat the crap out of you if you don't give me what I want today.

AH MENG(IN HOKKIEN)

Please Uncle Kun, I beg you! My

bro is working overtime at the docks. When he's back tonight, I'll get him to repay you the money. Please, Uncle Kun. Just one or two days more, I promise we'll get the money to you!

UNCLE KUN(IN HOKKIEN)  
Ok, don't say I'm heartless, ah? I'll give you three goddamn days. If you still don't pay up, I'll tear your house apart.

AH MENG(IN HOKKIEN)  
Thank you so much Uncle Kun!  
We'll definitely get the money to you in three days.

Uncle Kun gives him a parting kick in the stomach before motioning his two lackeys to leave with him.

A Caucasian in a suit takes a paper off the newsstand and pays. On the front page of the paper, we see the date "15 Sep 1954" and the headline: "Guthrie exploring cheaper options in Asia". We follow the man as he tugs the newspaper under his arm and disappears into the Port of Sinosia Authority building.

14. INT. PORT WAREHOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY

Workers are operating stack movers and trolleys as they move port cargo goods into the warehouse. Some of them are yawning. Everyone looks tired.

The Caucasian man at the newsstand walks across the warehouse floor towards a glass panelled office. As he sits down in his office, a male port worker signals to Siew Meng, who signals to Shin Kok. Shin Kok proceeds towards the office.

15. INT. WAREHOUSE OFFICE (SINOSIA). DAY

Shin Kok walks in on a conversation between the Caucasian man & Tan, the middle-aged Chinese foreman.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Tan, could you please ask the manager when we're getting our salaries? It's a week overdue

already and we have bills to pay, man. Appreciate it.

TAN

Mr Guthrie, the workers are wondering when they'll receive their salary? It's been a week and they need the cash to pay their bills.

GUTHERIE

Can't keep their pants on, can they? It's only been a week. What do they think we are? A fly-by-night operation? They should be grateful they still have jobs!

TAN(PUTTING A HAND ON SHIN KOK'S CHEST)

I'm sorry, Mr Guthrie. That's not what they meant.

SHIN KOK

When do we get our money?

TAN (IN HOKKIEN)

Shin Kok. Don't be anxious. Relax, Let me do the asking.

GUTHERIE (AGITATED NOW)

What are you trying to do? Get out, you arse! Get out of my office now!

Shin Kok is ushered out hurriedly by Tan, who rushes back in. Walking back to his station, Shin Kok looks back at the office and sees Tan apologizing and bowing to Guthrie.

16. INT. WAREHOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY

As Shin Kok approaches his station, a loud grinding noise erupts from outside the warehouse followed by a loud bang and a blood-curdling scream. Shin Kok immediately rushes out of the factory to the source of the noise.

17. EXT. PIER LOADING AREA (SINOSIA). DAY

Running out of the warehouse, Shin Kok sees a toppled mini mover and a driver with his legs pinned under it. On top of

them are sacks of rice and a broken rope net torn from the crane overhead. Shin Kok sprints to the mover and starts to remove the sacks of rice. Other colleagues start helping too. Soon most of the workers are helping at the scene.

Shin Kok runs to the equipment area & comes back in a mini load-carrier buggy with a colleague. Everyone helps the injured man out from under the vehicle and onto the buggy.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Quick! Send him to the hospital!

18. EXT. PIERSIDE OUTSIDE THE WAREHOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY

As Shin Kok watches his colleague being driven away, Gutherie stalks out from his office in the background with Tan behind him as they approach the loading area.

GUTHERIE  
What in blazers is going on?!  
Why have you stopped work?!

Tan rushes past Gutherie and puts himself between Gutherie and Shin Kok and the workers.

GUTHERIE  
Get back to work, all of you!  
Goddamn it! Who told you to  
leave your stations?

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Tan, look, the crane's so old,  
even the rope winch has broken.  
Lucky the cargo was rice. If it  
had been iron containers, Ah  
Siew would be dead already.  
I've already asked the guys to  
send him to hospital.

The rest of the warehouse staff are now gathered at the accident site next to Shin Kok, looking incensed.

AH HUA (IN HOKKIEN)  
How can you let our workers get  
so seriously injured? You  
better give us a good answer  
today!

CROWD (IN HOKKIEN)

Give us a satisfactory answer!  
Or else we're going to wipe the  
floor with you!

AH MENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Two successive nights of  
overtime, how can anyone allow  
this?!

MEI (IN HOKKIEN)

You still owe us last month's  
salary! Pay up!

Seeing the workers up in arms, Tan raises his hands to calm  
them as he turns to Gutherie.

TAN

Mr Gutherie, the rope winch  
broke and cargo landed on one  
of the workers. He's been sent  
to hospital. The men are upset  
because they've been pulling  
double shifts since last night.

GUTHERIE

Accidents happen. The important  
thing is we don't let it affect  
our shipping schedule. Now, all  
of you get back to work! You  
won't be getting your wages if  
I don't see all of you back at  
your stations now! Tan, get  
them back to work at once!

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Tan, tell him to pay us our  
overtime pay. No adequate  
workmen safety and they're  
still delinquent on last  
month's pay?! If there's no pay  
today, we're going on strike.

EVERYONE (IN HOKKIEN)

Yeah! Yeah! Give us our pay!  
Give us our pay!

GUTHERIE

What are you doing, Tan? Get

them back to work!

TAN

Mr Guthrie, the workers would like to be paid their wages by today, then they'll get back to work.

GUTHERIE

What is this?! They'll get their wages when the accounts come through. Do you want to get fired! I'll fire the lot of you if you don't get back to work!

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Hah? Fire? You're gonna put us out of work? Damn foreigners! You stiff us on our pay and you still want us to continue working? Everyone, do you think this is right?

EVERYONE (IN HOKKIEN)

It's not right! It's not right!  
Pay us! Pay us!

The entire crew erupts into massive chanting as they wave their fists in the air, led by Shin Kok's fist. On seeing the sight, Guthrie tries to wave the workers back to work but nobody is moving. Angry, he stalks to the entrance of the warehouse and makes a phone call. Within moments, security guards appear on the scene with shields and batons. They lock up the warehouse and proceed to force everyone out of the pier complex as fighting breaks out.

Initially outnumbered by the port workers, the Port's security forces are reinforced by British troops and police. Using batons and shields, they force the workers to the perimeter of the pier's compound and lock them out.

19. EXT. PIER GATE (SINOSIA). DAY

Pulling on the metal gates protecting the entrance of the pier, Shin Kok and the pier workers continue to shout abuse at being locked out.

20. EXT. STREET CAFÉ (SINOSIA). DAY



Caucasians are seated beneath parasols enjoying their morning breakfast at an alfresco café. Paul Ho is seated at a table talking to a Caucasian man, Weston. In between them is an ornate box carved in wood. Paul opens the box, revealing an intricately carved smoking pipe.

WESTON

As you can see, it's a late 19<sup>th</sup> century masterpiece with a pewter bowl, stem and inlaid with wood in the centre section. Its uniquely Chinese inspired bowl is one of its kind among western pipes.

PAUL HO

Yes, that's exactly why I'm so keen on this piece. Just name your price, Weston.

WESTON

Tell you what, I'll just write down the figure that's in my head on a piece of paper.

Weston writes a figure on a small slip of paper & passes it to Paul. Paul reads it & laughs.

PAUL HO

Ha...ha... Wow... Really? That much?

WESTON

Trust me. You're the second man today who's asked about it. This pipe has had more than a few courtiers over the past few months since I acquired it off a fellow trader who was moving back to England from Hong Kong. It's absolutely one of a kind and I personally guarantee it'll make any personal collection double its value.

PAUL HO

That's all I needed to hear, my good man! You've sold me!

Paul writes a cheque and passes it to Weston. Smiling,

Weston shakes Paul's hands and passes the box to him.

PAUL HO

Thank you so much! You've made  
me a very happy man!

WESTON

I hope it brings you as much  
joy as it did me!

PAUL HO (SMILES)

I know it will.

The two shake hands again and Weston goes on his way. Paul takes another look at the pipe and closes the case. As he looks at his watch, Walter Brooke, an associate of Paul's comes in off the streets and sits down.

WALTER BROOKE

We've received the fund  
transfer from the Netherlands.  
The agreement will be finalized  
after the recommendation has  
been accepted.

PAUL HO

Good.

Paul hands the box over to Walter.

PAUL HO

Send this out with a nice note  
to his office at the United  
Nations. I'm sure we'll get our  
reply when he receives the  
package. I'll wire the money  
myself when he calls me back.

WALTER BROOKE

Sure (smiles). Oh, I just  
received word that the governor  
of Hong Kong took a private  
meeting at the Peninsula with  
Thomas Guthrie last week.

PAUL HO

Guthrie is firming up plans to  
move out of the region. Set up  
the meetings for next week.

Looks like we have to put  
everything in motion now.

Walter nods. A car drives past the two of them on the street. It drives past the crowded streets and into an exclusive tree-lined street. It drives through a tall iron gate with a freemason logo of a compass & setsquare.

21. INT. FREEMASON LODGE (SINOSIA). DAY

We see the car drive into the compound through a window in a three-storey mason building. As the camera pulls back, we see the back view of a British man looking out the window. As he turns around, we see a dapper looking man with a poker face. His name is Damien Magnus. Seated opposite him at a conference table are three British gentlemen, all greying but distinguished. The one seated nearest the window speaks to Damien.

MONTY

It's the perfect size,  
politically and economically  
for our trials.

STEVE

So the education and  
socialisation packages have  
been finalized then?

DAMIEN

Yes. With extensive levels of  
social controls for complete  
self-protective indoctrination

ARCHIBALD

Have we got our man yet,  
Damien?

DAMIEN (WITH A GLINT IN HIS EYE)

Holster's our man. I wouldn't  
trust him with a penny but  
that's exactly why I love him.  
He's too much like me!

The three Brits laugh.

STEVE

What about the Yanks?

DAMIEN

What about them? We'll just  
toss them a commie and watch  
them go all stir crazy.  
Herbert's got a good handle on  
how much tension to create.

MONTY

So Holster's going to take care  
of the restless natives, then?

DAMIEN

Yup. He'll even raise a king  
for them to worship.

ARCHIBALD

Brilliant! And is the second  
phase on track?

DAMIEN

I'm taking care of it myself  
with Holster's help. The  
economic models are ready.  
It'll be plug and play.  
Completely replicable  
worldwide.

MONTY

Brilliant!

22. EXT. TAN MANSION. NIGHT

European cars line a sloping road leading up to a majestic  
colonial mansion. The mansion sparkles in the glow of  
bright chandeliers.

23. INT. TAN MANSION. NIGHT

From the upstairs veranda of the Mansion, well-dressed  
socialites are hobnobbing with champagne glasses in hand in  
the main ballroom. We overlook the shoulder of Tan Choon  
Neo (in a resplendent white cheongsam with gold trimming)  
as she makes her way down the main staircase of the mansion  
towards a stocky rich man in the middle of the room. He's  
talking to a Caucasian man facing away from the camera.

As Choon Neo parts the crowded room with her presence,  
there's a glint and smile in the stocky man's eye as he  
motions the Caucasian man to Choon Neo's arrival.

TAN BOCK YAM

Damien, let me introduce you to my daughter, Choon Neo. Choon Neo, this is Damien Magnus.

CHOON NEO

It's a pleasure to finally meet you, Damien.

DAMIEN

The pleasure is mine, Choon Neo. Your father has been telling me about the exciting plans you have in mind for the Group.

CHOON NEO

(smiles) Ah... then he must have also told you just how important you are to the continued prosperity of the country and the wider Asian Region.

DAMIEN

You're both too kind. The prosperity of Asia depends on groundbreaking entrepreneurs like the Tan family. Your bank is the bedrock of Sinosia's economy. Your stewardship of the Overseas Asian Bank Group is instrumental to the continued prosperity of England's interests in Asia. I look forward to working more closely with the both of you.

A Caucasian man walks up to Damien and whispers something into Damien's ear. Damien nods and the man walks away.

DAMIEN

I'm sorry Bock Yam, Choon Neo. There are some important matters that require my immediate attention. I'm afraid I have to take my leave now. Thank you so much for your hospitality (extends handshake).

TAN BOCK YAM

Oh, no problem, Damien.

DAMIEN

It was a pleasure meeting you,  
Choon Neo. I'm sure we'll be  
having more meetings in future.

CHOON NEO

I hope so too.

As Damien departs, Bock Yam's smile fades, as father and  
daughter both turn business-like once more.

CHOON NEO

You think it's him?

BOCK YAM

He's one of the few that's in  
position to influence policy  
outcomes. You really believe  
that husband of yours is up to  
the challenge?

CHOON NEO (SHOOTS HIM AN ANNOYED LOOK)

You have to ask? You know why  
you despise him, right?

BOCK YAM

Ha... how could I not? How's the  
progress on the negotiations?

CHOON NEO

I've provided the Dutch with a  
detailed proposal, including  
projected schedules and  
shipping turnover. As soon as  
we have the deed, we'll be able  
to set everything in motion.

BOCK YAM

Good. Be careful. If it's  
really Damien, he'll have a lot  
of eyes and ears on the ground.

CHOON NEO

Don't worry, Pa. I have my ways  
too.

BOCK YAM

Have we made any progress with the land sales in the central districts?

CHOON NEO

Most of the individual owners have signed agreement with Tat Chuan land. Their rates are 20% better than ours.

BOCK YAM

That bastard! Have we got anything on him yet?!

CHOON NEO

We're working on it, pa. Don't worry. I promise you, when everything is in place, you won't be able to walk from the port to the city without hearing your name.

Bock Yam smiles as Choon Neo toasts him and takes a sip of her martini.

24. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

We see and hear the loud chugging of traffic at a road junction where traffic has stopped; blocked by workers protesting on the road with banners. At the forefront of the workers is Shin Kok, his fists pumping in the air.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Say no to British corruption!

PROTEST MOB

Say no to British corruption!

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Say no to British repression of the people!

PROTEST MOB (IN HOKKIEN)

Say no to British repression of the people!

25. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

From behind wooden street barricades lined up horizontally

across a cross junction, we see a column of British riot troops. Standing at the front row of the troops, we can see a moving mass of protesting workers on the opposite side of a block-long cross-junction. As they steadily walk forward, shouting their slogans, traffic and bystanders watch on in anticipation.

26. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

Shin Kok leads the protesting workers steadily forward.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Say no to British corruption!

PROTEST MOB (IN HOKKIEN)  
Say no to British corruption!

As he walks, he notices a striking young man, standing in the second row of bystanders diagonally across the street. It's Barry Yao. Shin Kok, finding his face familiar, holds his gaze for a second but continues the protest. Barry observes the scene as a man in grey overalls behind him stares angrily at the police and starts to move toward the direction of the police.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Say no to British repression of  
the people!

Shin Kok and the workers soon close to within a metre of the barricade.

PROTEST MOB (IN HOKKIEN)  
Say no to British corruption!

27. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

Barry observes the protest behind the wooden street barricades with the crowd. We see the angry man in grey overalls making his way through the crowd towards the edge closest to the police.

28. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

As Shin Kok leads the protesting workers steadily forward. The troops execute their first command.

TROOPER  
Shields at the ready! Brace for  
action!



The sound of boots stamping in unison fills the air as the troops raise their shields to the brace position.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Say no to British repression of  
the people!

The protesting workers, their anger on a razor's edge, fists clenched, hold their ground, barely, as they repeat after Shin Kok.

PROTEST MOB (IN HOKKIEN)  
Say no to British repres...

The angry man in overalls in the bystanding crowd echoes Shin Kok's slogan, his hand raising a glass bottle to the side of his head in a throwing motion.

PROTEST MOB (IN HOKKIEN)  
... sion of the people!

As the slogan is shouted out, a glass bottle hits a trooper on the side of the head, as his face is drenched in blood.

RIOT TROOP COMMANDER  
Forward march!

Sounds of boots stomping in unison fill the air as the British troops start to advance. The barricades are pushed down as the protesters surge forward. Shin Kok is overrun by protesters rushing pass him towards the British troops.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Stop! Everyone! We're not here  
to riot!

Shin Kok's shouts falls on deaf ears as the protest degenerates into a free for all. The British troops push back the protesters with their shields, felling the workers with their swift baton blows. Others pin the workers on the ground, smashing the baton until the workers lose consciousness. Shin Kok lunges at a trooper as he unbalances the trooper enough to prevent him from hitting a worker. As the trooper slashes forward with his baton, Shin Kok grabs the baton and manages to pry the baton away. Launching a flying kick at the trooper's shield, he fends off the trooper but gets clubbed in the back from another trooper. Spinning around, he sweeps the trooper's feet. The trooper falls. Shin Kok manages to get hold of the

trooper's shield, using it to protect the workers against the troopers. Together, they start to push back the troopers slightly.

29. INT. SUBORDINATE COURT LOBBY(SINOSIA). DAY

The lobby outside Subordinate Court One is filled with people as afternoon court sessions get underway. Standing in front of a barrister is a British couple in their late 50s. As we walk closer, we see that the lawyer wearing the British law wig is Barry Yao.

RICHARD DORSETT

Barrister Yao, you must get James out of this mess. We know he can be quite a handful at times but he's got his whole life in front of him. We don't want his future jeopardised because of a stupid incident with a native on a far-flung island.

BARRY YAO

Don't worry, Richard. This isn't Scotland Yard. I promise you this will be over very quickly.

RICHARD DORSETT

I'm glad to hear that, Barry. You come very highly recommended. I hope you perform up to the considerable standards we're paying you for.

BARRY YAO

Don't worry, Richard. I can assure you, this will be a bargain on hindsight.

MRS DORSETT

We'll hold you to that, young man (shakes his hand).

BARRY YAO

As well you should, Mrs Dorsett.

30. INT. SUBORDINATE COURT ONE(SINOSIA). DAY

The gallery is full of the family and outraged friends of the victim. Barry is questioning the victim, Ding, an Asian male in his 30s, who was physically assaulted by the accused, James Dorsett, 24, an executive at English Petroleum.

BARRY YAO

Mr Ding, you claim that you were responding to cries for help coming from the car of the accused on the night of 24 April, 1957, 9pm and that you were attacked when you tried to rescue an Asian female, Miss Gan Siew Ting, from being raped by the accused, Mr James Dorsett, is that correct?

DING

Yes.

BARRY YAO

Mr Ding, are you currently employed?

DING (IN HOKKIEN)

I'm currently unemployed.

BARRY YAO

Mr Ding, isn't it true that when you saw the accused, Mr James Dorsett, being intimate with his girlfriend in his car, you tried to rob my client as you realized this was an easy opportunity to get money; and that you only got injured because my client was able to defend himself and protect Ms Gan from your vicious attack?!

DING(IN HOKKIEN)

No! No! He was raping the girl! I heard her screaming for help, that's why I rushed to help her! I didn't rob him! I didn't!

JUDGE (BANGING HIS GRAVEL)  
Order! Order!

Another witness is in the witness chair as Barry carries out his cross-examination.

BARRY YAO  
Constable Lim, did you personally witness my client Mr James Dorsett attacking Miss Gan?

CONSTABLE LIM (IN HOKKIEN)  
No. When I arrived on the scene, I just saw the accused beating on the victim Ding Lai Huat.

BARRY YAO  
Constable Lim, did it not occur to you that my client, Mr James Dorsett, was punching Mr Ding because he was trying to protect his girlfriend Miss Gan from Mr Ding, who was trying to rob them?

CONSTABLE LIM (IN HOKKIEN)  
No. All I saw was Miss Gan in the car, her clothing dishevelled. She was speechless, in shock. Ding Lai Huat kept screaming that the accused had attacked Miss Gan. People on the street all said Ding was just passing by trying to help.

BARRY YAO  
But those witnesses have not stepped forward to offer their statements, have they, Constable Lim?

CONSTABLE LIM (IN HOKKIEN)  
No, nobody did.

BARRY YAO  
So, Constable Lim, with no other witnesses present, is it

possible that you arrived just as my client Mr James Dorsett had overpowered Mr Ding Lai Huat and stopped him from robbing Miss Gan and himself?

CONSTABLE LIM (IN HOKKIEN)  
Why would anyone be crazy enough to rob a Caucasian?

BARRY YAO  
Please answer the question, Constable Lim. Is it possible that you arrived just as James Dorsett had overpowered Mr Ding Lai Huat and stopped him from robbing Miss Gan and himself?

CONSTABLE LIM (IN HOKKIEN)  
It's possible.

BARRY YAO  
Your honour, I have no more questions for the witness.

MONTAGE:

*We see Barry Yao speaking forcefully in court, trading arguments with the opposing prosecutor. We see Barry speaking confidently in his closing argument and the members of the jury nodding their heads in agreement, Barry smiling as he closes his case.*

END OF MONTAGE

The court is awash in chatter. The law clerk hands the verdict to the judge who opens the paper and peruses it.

JUDGE (BANGING HIS GRAVEL)  
Order! Order! In the case of the commonwealth versus Mr James Dorsett, who's accused of committing unlawful assault on Miss Gan Siu Ting and Mr Ding Lai Huat, the jury find the accused not guilty. Mr James Dorsett, you're free to go.

Pandemonium breaks out in the gallery as the Chinese crowd

and Miss Gan's family shout at the judge, jury and lawyers.

AUDIENCE

Damn whitey! The government is  
corrupt! You stinking' lawyer!  
Are you Chinese or not?!  
Colluding with foreign  
Caucasians to bully Chinese  
people?!

As the crowd clears, James Dorsett, Richard Dorsett and his wife come forward to shake Barry's hands.

MRS DORSETT

Thank you so much, Barry.

RICHARD DORSETT

We owe you a great debt, Barry.  
If you need any help at all in  
future, don't hesitate to give  
us a call. James!

JAMES DORSETT

Thank you, Barrister Yao. You  
really came through for me  
today. Like father said,  
whenever you're in need, just  
give us a call. We'll do our  
very best.

BARRY YAO

You're too kind, Richard,  
James, Mrs Dorsett. I'll  
certainly keep all of your kind  
words in my thoughts. Feel free  
to call me if there's anything  
else I can help you with.

Richard and James give Barry their name cards as Barry shakes their hands. Barry looks at the namecards. The designation on Richard's card reads "Senior Vice-President, Oil Acquisitions and Production, English Petroleum."

31. EXT/INT. BUS UNION HEADQUARTERS (SINOSIA). EVENING

An empty bus pulls into a bus terminus. A Malay bus driver steps out of the bus and walks towards the terminus building - a single-storey building with food stalls at one end and an empty hall with offices on the other. He waves

to his Malay colleague in the hall.

Inside the building, we see Chinese and Indian drivers in the canteen. All the Malay drivers are gathered in the hall where a small stage has been erected. As the Malay driver walks to join his friends, we hear the tapping of a microphone. The sound attracts the attention of some of the Chinese drivers and Xu Wei Xiong, a Chinese bus manager standing at the corner chatting.

LIM (IN HOKKIEN)

Eh, what the fuck is happening over there?

SENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Dunno. Let's take a look.

A few Chinese drivers and Xu Wei Xiong walk to the side of the crowd.

We see senior bus operations manager, Muhammad Adam on the tiny stage where there is a small microphone to address the small crowd of 50.

ADAM (IN MALAY)

Brothers, thank you for staying back after your shift. I have gathered all of you here today because Allah has been kind to us. We've found a lawyer kind enough to volunteer his service to help us talk to management about flexible shift changes for us Muslim drivers during the month of Ramadan. Brothers, please give a round of applause to welcome Mr Barry Yao.

Barry walks on stage. He shakes Adam's hand as Adam concedes to podium to Barry.

BARRY YAO (IN MALAY)

Thank you, Adam, for your kind words. First off, I would like to thank all of you for trusting me with such an important matter. As a Straits-born Chinese and a practicing lawyer, I've always taken pride

in standing up for my fellow man, taking up pro bono cases whenever I can. I'm truly honoured to be called upon to help you fight for what you deserve. We all know life has been hard after the war and Sinosians have struggled under the British. But I hope with all of us working together, we can help each other to achieve even more in life!

LIM (IN HOKKIEN)

Eh, you so smart, why don't you be our union rep?

SENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Yah lor. Be our union rep lah!

Flustered, Barry is suddenly at a loss for words as he's totally not conversant in hokkien. He tries to answer as best he can by using the only hokkien phrase he knows.

BARRY (IN ENGLISH ACCENTED HOKKIEN)

Thank you!

Noticing the stares and unease of the Malay drivers from their intrusion, Xu Wei Xiong approaches the Chinese drivers and brings them aside. Seeing them move aside, Barry tries to wrap up his speech.

BARRY YAO (IN MALAY)

Thank you Adam for inviting me today. I hope to talk to all of you more afterwards about your problems regarding your shift duties during Ramadan.

ADAM (IN MALAY)

Thank you, Barry. All right, whoever has time, please stick around and tell Barry about what you've gone through. Barry will then consolidate his findings and help us negotiate with the company.

As Barry steps off the stage, the Malay drivers step up to



him. We see a small crowd of drivers surrounding Barry, remonstrating with him. Barry writes everything down in his legal pad.

As the Malay driver crowd thins out, Xu Wei Xiong and a crowd of Chinese drivers approach Barry.

WEI XIONG (IN HOKKIEN)  
 Barrister Yao, please excuse us  
 just now, we're trying to hire  
 a union representative to fight  
 for our rights. Are you  
 interested to join us as our  
 union rep?

Barry is ashen. He looks from right to left at the expectant group of drivers gathered around him. He tries to speak but his mouth cannot form the words in his mind.

BARRY YAO (AT A LOSS IN HALTING HOKKIEN)  
 Ah... Paiseh... I really don't...I  
 don't really know how to speak  
 hokkien very well, I am Baba...  
 Sorry... (in Malay) I really want  
 to help you...paiseh.

WEI XIONG (IN HOKKIEN)  
 Ha...ha...ha... No wonder lah. One  
 chicken, one duck, cannot  
 communicate - don't sweat it.  
 No worries, Thanks for helping  
 our Malay colleagues anyway.

Barry smiles awkwardly and waves Wei Xiong and the Chinese drivers goodbye. He sees a hall full of Chinese drivers all listening to his speech and clapping loudly. He raises his hand to acknowledge the crowd but the illusion of the crowd fades from view. As he lowers his hand, he looks crushed, knowing he can never amass any influence over Sinosians as long as his language skills remain poor. Rubbing his ring, he takes a last look at the hall and departs.

MONTAGE

32. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

*Flanked by shophouses and tall buildings, throngs of people are demonstrating in the capital city streets of Medonia. On the road, we see people with placards everywhere. The*

word "Merdeka" is spelt out on great number of placards.

33. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

Smoke and volleys of tear gas fill the air as British riot police attempt to break up a demonstration. People in the streets throw rocks and Molotov cocktails at the police as riot police use their shield and batons to strike down protesters.

34. EXT. CITY HALL (MEDONIA). DAY

Medonian independence leader Abdul Kadir stands at a podium addressing the public in an independence rally. In the foreground are thousands of people listening to his rally, cheering.

ABDUL KADIR (MALAY)

It is time for us to take  
control of our fates and run  
this country with our own  
hands. God willing, we will get  
our independence. Merdeka!  
(raises his fist)

CROWD

Merdeka! Merdeka! Merdeka!

35. INT. MEETING ROOM. CITY HALL (MEDONIA). DAY

British officials, Abdul Kadir and his colleagues are lined up on two sides of a long conference table at an independence negotiation. We see rigorous finger pointing and reference to papers laid on the table from both sides.

36. EXT. CITY HALL STEPS (MEDONIA). DAY

On the top of the steps of City Hall, British officials, Abdul Kadir and his party colleagues are seated at a long table in a public press conference. The governor of Medonia and Abdul Kadir each sign a document as reporters and Medonia citizens look on amid camera flashes...

A scroll is handed from the governor to Abdul Kadir as they both smile and pose for the cameras as the scene turns into a scratchy black and white footage.

The words: Medonia granted independence is flashed across the screen in white lettering as a narrator reports the independence of Medonia for a news programme.

## NARRATOR

*After months of demonstrations and rioting in Medonia, the British government has finally signed the document granting Medonia its independence as a free nation.*

END OF MONTAGE

37. INT. MEETING ROOM. CITY HALL (MEDONIA). DAY

Medonia party members are seated around a long conference table as Abdul Kadir chairs a meeting of the party's top CEC members.

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

In the handouts given to you, you can see that our local enterprises make up only a small percentage of our economy. Of these few, many are in the hands of a few rich minorities, the rest are co-owned by private British companies. With the British pulling out, the management of state monopolies like the seaport will now fall to us. The challenge we have in front of us is getting these assets up and running in the fastest possible time.

The party officials around the table nod in agreement. Abdul Kadir continues.

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

But I fear even with the best men in charge of our state run enterprises, there'll be a transition period where there'll be a drastic drop in economic output, which might plunge our newly independent nation into economic insolvency if we're not careful. To prevent this and to ensure we continue on a good trajectory

of growth, I've drafted a proposal to enter into an official merger with the neighbouring colonies around us that are rich in resources.

There is loud muttering and unrest among all the party officials as they party officials mutter their queries openly.

AHMAD WARAM(IN MALAY)

Merger?

HOSNI(IN MALAY)

Wouldn't that lead to a dilution of our power?

Abdul Kadir holds up his hand to silence his doubting colleagues.

ABDUL KADIR(IN MALAY)

If we could have access to the oil fields of Ulai, the lumber and agriculture of Borneo or the entrepot trade of Sinosia, we would be able to harness the growth of this entire region within our newly created union of states, ensuring our country's prosperity for the next 50 years at least.

NAJIB(IN MALAY)

Oil...

MISBUN(IN MALAY)

Lumber and agriculture.

RASHID(IN MALAY)

Wah...guaranteed growth...

Slightly more than half of the party officials seem receptive to Abdul Kadir's suggestion as they wonder about the potential riches they could inherit. Others are apprehensive at how everything will work. Muhammad Hosni, a member of the party's youth wing, is unconvinced.

MUHAMMAD HOSNI(IN MALAY)

This all sounds good on paper

but how will the union be governed in practice? Will we cede 50% of our power to these colonies? If we're merged politically, since these colonies have an abundance of resources, they'll also look to extend their influence over our economy and people. When that happens, the local people of Medonia will be displaced in the economy. There will be a disproportionate sway of power to these new colony states.

ABDUL KADIR(IN MALAY)

Hosni, I share your concerns. That's why I've proposed for power to reside with us in our capital city, as the Federal government. The other colonies will just be member states of our new federation. As you know, Ulai, Sulah and Borneo are not as well-populated as us, so we'll have good reason to convince them that it's only proper the seat of power remains where most of the population resides – on the peninsula with us.

NAJIB(IN MALAY)

Hosni, I think we all know these concerns well. I'm sure none of us are eager to give up our responsibilities to our people. To me, if we could have access to oil, I think there are no problems we can't solve.

RASHID(IN MALAY)

Yes, Hosni. I too think that the proposal is worth considering if it means guaranteed stability to our economy.

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

So we are more or less agreeable then. By a show of hands, let's vote on whether to pursue the possibilities of my merger proposal.

Two thirds of the party officials raise their hands in favour of the vote. Abdul Kadir smiles and shakes the hands of the party officials who are excited by the potential wealth coming their way. Hosni observes quietly at his chair. His face deep in thought of what he should do next.

38. EXT. TEA HOUSE (SINOSIA). NIGHT

Shin Kok walks with his work colleagues to a roadside tea stall. A huge crowd of workers is already gathered at the stall. As Shin Kok approaches the stall, there are greetings all around for him and Siew Meng walks up to him.

SIEW MENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Shin Kok, I've brought the Nanyang Siang Pau reporters. Our colleagues are all here too but I haven't had any news from Tan yet.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Don't worry. There are so many ships stuck at the harbour. The British will have their hands full just counting how much fines they must pay for not unloading the cargo on time. There'll definitely be news from them soon.

Shin Kok waves his hands to all his colleagues to get their attention. Siew Meng gets a nearby wooden crate and puts in on the ground for Shin Kok to stand on.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Dear colleagues, firstly I want to apologise to all of you. British oppression is not a recent occurrence. I should've known the British would play dirty, call in the troops and refuse to pay us. But I, Lim

Shin Kok, can make a solemn promise here to all of you. If all of you unite behind me, if you stand up and be counted, I promise you, within three days, because of the huge amount of fines they'll rack up for not loading and unloading the cargo for all the international shipping lines on time, they'll have no choice but to call us back to work. Do you guys believe me?

WORKERS (IN HOKKIEN)

Yes, we do!

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

We will definitely get back all the monies the damn whities owe us!

As the workers raise their hands, shouting, we see Tan walking towards the tea stall. Two men near Shin Kok notice Tan's arrival too. Siew Meng rushes to Tan's side as Tan whispers into his ear. He rushes Tan to Shin Kok's side. Shin Kok listens intently as Tan whispers into his ear. He shakes Tan's hands to thank him as Tan leave. Some of the workers murmur among themselves at the sight of Tan.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

My friends, my colleagues, I just received news from Uncle Tan, the bloody whities have agreed to pay us our money! From tomorrow morning, we'll be able to return to work! We'll be paid OT for pulling night shifts and we'll be getting our previous month's pay as well!

Shin Kok winks at Siew Meng and smiles as the workers shout deliriously with joy. They break into a chant as they carry Shin Kok on their shoulders.

WORKERS (IN HOKKIEN)

Shin Kok! Shin Kok! Shin Kok!

39. EXT. TEA STALL (SINOSIA). NIGHT

As Shin Kok manages to get himself back on the ground, he is approached by the two men in the crowd. They had been watching the proceedings with interest all night.

WEI XIONG (IN HOKKIEN)  
Mr Lim, how are you? I'm Xu Wei Xiong, from the Sinosia Bus Driver Union (hands over namecard to Shin Kok).

MINGZHAN (IN HOKKIEN)  
I'm Lu Mingzhan, I'm from the Sinosia Southern Bus Driver Union (hands over namecard).

WEI XIONG (IN HOKKIEN)  
We're interested in hiring you as a union strategist and representative for the Sinosia Bus Driver Union and the Sinosia Southern Bus Driver Union, to improve the welfare of our workers across both our companies.

Shin Kok is surprised and overwhelmed for a moment but recovers and shakes both their hands.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Thank you! Of course I'm interested! (some workers grab Shin Kok to celebrate) Paiseh! Can I drop by your offices tomorrow?

WEI XIONG & MING ZHAN  
Sure, sure.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
Let's meet up tomorrow then!

WEI XIONG & MING ZHAN (IN HOKKIEN)  
See you tomorrow!

As the crowd starts to push Shin Kok along for a drink, we see Ah Meng breaking out of the crowd towards Shin Kok.

AH MENG (IN HOKKIEN)  
Second Brother, are you ok?



SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Meng, I'm ok. Don't worry; I  
have the money for Uncle Kun  
tomorrow. Rest easy.

Shin Kok puts his arm around Ah Meng, who's visibly  
consoled. Smiling, Shin Kok and his brother are pulled  
along in celebration as the crowd moves towards the street  
market in search of food and drink to celebrate.

MONTAGE

40. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

*Shin Kok leads a throng of marching bus drivers on the city  
streets of Sinosia as empty buses line the streets. On the  
roads are throngs of people with placards in their hands.  
The words "Fair wages", "British oppressing the people" are  
spelt out on a great number of placards.*

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

*Give us fair wages!*

WORKERS (IN HOKKIEN)

*Give us fair wages!*

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

*Down with the British  
government colluding with  
corrupt companies to oppress  
the people!*

WORKERS (IN HOKKIEN)

*Down with the British  
government colluding with  
corrupt companies to oppress  
the people!*

41. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

*Smoke and volleys of tear gas fill the air as British riot  
police attempt to break up a demonstration. Wearing  
handkerchiefs around their nose and mouths, Shin Kok leads  
the bus drivers in the streets as they push back against  
the police and riot troops with rubbish bin lids while the  
troops use their shield and batons to strike down  
protesters.*

42. EXT. CITY STREETS (SINOSIA). DAY

*Throngs of people are gathered around a makeshift stage, their hands in the air. Standing on the stage is Shin Kok. The crowd is chanting his name.*

CROWD (CHANTING)

*Lim Shin Kok for Prime Minister!*

*Lim Shin Kok for Prime Minister!*

*Shin Kok raises his hand to acknowledge the crowd as they chant his name repeatedly. He's overwhelmed by the support.*

END OF MONTAGE

43. INT. CITY HALL (SINOSIA). DAY.

A clenched fist strikes down on a wood panelled table. We see a burly British man striding behind an ornate wood-panelled office. He is Thomas Rutherford, the British Governor of Sinosia. Seated in the foreground are two men with their backs to the camera.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD

Who do the fuck do they think they are?! Bloody union bastards! 10 strikes in as many months. Do they think we'll let them get away with it? Have we got a hold on who's the chinky bastard leading them? Damien?

DAMIEN

It's Lim Shin Kok, labour organizer, aged 29, former harbour worker, now full time labour union agitator. You might remember him from the harbour strike. He was the one who got the port authority to pay him and his colleagues on time.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD (POUNDS THE DESK)

Harbour strike?! Fucking wanker! Do you know how much money that fucking chink has cost me? Why haven't we arrested him?

CHARLES

Sir, he's been smart enough to stay within the limits of a legal strike and managed to evade us a couple of times because of his colleagues. We've arrested them a bunch of times but beyond a misdemeanour for disturbing the peace, we really couldn't hold them for too long.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD

Misdemeanour?! Is that the best we can do Charles? These chinkies all think they can have a go at it. It's a can of worms now. We've got to nip this in the bud before it turns into Sudan all over again!

DAMIEN

Our hands are tied, Thomas. With Medonia now independent, I'm afraid the natives will continue to exert their thirst for self-rule. The most important thing now is keeping our port operations in ship-shape condition. After that harbour strike, we've kept our troops and police mostly concentrated on keeping the city centre and our shipping business going.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD

That's not good enough, Damien. You and Charles draft up a Public Security Act that'll give us teeth to arrest organisations that propagate social unrest. I want to see how these chinkies organize themselves after we outlaw and de-register their societies and unions. Get Marshall and his guys to push the act through in parliament. Westminster might

not have the financial muscle anymore but we've got to make sure we've got our own guy in place when we hand over everything. Whoever it is, I'm telling you now that it will not be this Shin Kok fellow!

DAMIEN

Charles and I will get working on that immediately. We'll also be having a chat with Marshall soon on what we want to retain beyond self-rule. Beyond Marshall, we're also sounding out his deputy, Seng Quee. Of course, there's always a chance there'll be changes in the upcoming elections.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD

We're going to make sure that whoever's incoming in the upcoming elections have their interests aligned with us. Damien, do you know if the local banking guys are interested in fielding a candidate?

DAMIEN

There have been a few feelers sent out but nothing concrete yet.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD

Ok...keep me in the loop if anything comes up. We'll throw a dinner at the mansion when the time comes.

DAMIEN

Sure, Thomas.

44. EXT. ROADSIDE CAFÉ IN RURAL ULAI. DAY

A long dirt track leads up to a roadside café in a small clearing in a wooded area. Over the tall trees in the background we see a big clearing and an oil refinery. Local

workers are eating with their hard hats on the table. At another table is a man in a straw hat wearing the same uniform, except his is clean. As he pushes back his hat, we see that it's Damien. Seated beside him is Suha, a lean Malay man wearing very modest, ethnic Malay clothes.

DAMIEN

Have you been keeping touch with the events in the region? The trade unions in Sinosia are causing a lot of problems for the British. They've managed to rouse awareness in the people with their demonstrations. I think they could be a powerful ally to have when the time comes.

SUHA

Hm... That might be useful. But I don't have many links on the ground in Sinosia.

DAMIEN

Don't worry. I might be able to connect you with one of their key people Lim Shin Kok. With the unions' support, you might be able to win more popular support to exert more regional pressure on the Sultan. The British will definitely leave and if the unionists come to power in Sinosia, it'll be very useful to have the support of Sinosia behind you.

45. INT. PAUL HO'S OFFICE. DAY

The cityscape of Sinosia beckons outside the large glass windows of an office in a high-rise. On the edge of the window is a hand holding a newspaper. On the front page of the paper is a picture of Shin Kok. As the camera pulls back and the man turns around, we see it's Barry Yao. He jabs his finger at Shin Kok's photo in the newspaper he's holding and speaks to Paul Ho, who's seated at his desk.

BARRY YAO

Have you been keeping up with

the news? I've seen the strikes in the streets and this guy definitely has the pulse of the people. He is also a fiery speaker in hokkien. With him on board, we'll be able to fast track the plan by a couple of years at least. He's perfect for us.

PAUL HO

You think so too? Ha...ha... I was about to propose the very same thing. With his ties to labour, we'll be able to build a stronger platform that'll enable us to push through more reforms in the future.

BARRY YAO

I still have some contacts at the bus union. When are you free? We'll grab Kim Chuan and set up a meeting.

PAUL HO

How's your language lessons going? Ha...ha...

BARRY YAO (SMILING)

They're going fine. (in hokkien) *Such a small matter, no problem lah!*

PAUL HO

No Problem, then Kim Chuan and I don't need to go, right?

BARRY YAO

Eh, I'm confident but there's no harm having two good backups on hand just in case, right?

PAUL HO (SMILING)

Right. Focused with a confident solution but armed with multiple alternatives.

Barry points his index finger like a gun to Paul.

BARRY YAO

I'll set up the meeting for  
next week.

46. EXT. SINOSIA STREETS. DAY

A tugboat full of travellers approaches the pier located at the heart of the city. Among the last to step off the boat onto the pier is a lean man in a straw hat. When he lifts up the front rim of his hat, we see that it is Suha.

47. EXT. SINOSIA BUS COMPANY UNION OFFICE HQ (SINOSIA). DAY

We see a row of pre-war shophouses. Four men walk along the five-footway and into the labour union office of the Sinosia bus company. Among them is Suha.

48. INT. SINOSIA BUS COMPANY UNION OFFICE HQ (SINOSIA). DAY

Shin Kok is seated at his desk, writing. His secretary opens the door, enters and whispers something in his ear. Moments later, the four men are ushered into the room with Suha. Suha takes off his hat as he enters. One of the men walks ahead and whispers into Shin Kok's ear. Shin Kok nods and smiles. The other three men flank either side of Suha as Suha walks forward and extends a handshake to Shin Kok.

SUHA

Mr Lim, it's a pleasure to meet  
you. I am Suha Raizal.

SHIN KOK

Just call me Shin Kok, Mr Suha.  
Welcome to Sinosia.

Suha nods to the three men around him and the three of them exit the room, leaving Shin Kok with Suha to talk.

SUHA

Thank you for seeing me, Shin  
Kok. As you know, the Ulai  
Sultan rules over the people  
under a British governor. Ulai  
citizens have suffered under  
the Sultan who has continually  
signed away Ulai's precious oil  
fields to the British in  
exchange for an unchanged life  
of luxury. The Ulai Liberation

Front has been successful in raising the consciousness of the people. Our people have risen together to fight for independence from the British. As leader of the Ulai Liberation Front, I'd like to request for your endorsement and support as allies of the Ulai people against the British government.

SHIN KOK

Sinosians share your hate of the British government. But what do you have in mind as endorsement?

SUHA

In the event that the Ulai Liberation Front come to power and secure Ulai's independence, we hope you'll endorse us as your ally in Ulai and recognize us as your partners in your fight for independence for Sinosia as well.

Shin Kok looks at Suha. Pondering for a moment, he decides.

SHIN KOK

You have my support. The people of Sinosia stands together with the people of Ulai in our fight for freedom.

Suha shakes Shin Kok's hand gratefully.

SUHA

The people of Ulai are grateful for your support. Together we shall achieve independence for our people. Thank you for your time and help, Shin Kok. I'll take my leave now.

SHIN KOK

Have a safe journey.



SUHA

Thank you. If you're ever in  
need, feel free to contact me,  
brother.

As Suha leaves the room, Shin Kok sits back down. Looking  
at the door, he wonders if he has done the right thing.

49. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

The busy flow of traffic and people continue unabated in  
front of a busy stretch of shophouses in downtown Medonia.  
We see well-dressed white-collar workers sitting and  
chatting at a café.

50. INT. CAFÉ (MEDONIA). DAY

Hosni is seated at a table chatting with two of his party  
colleagues after a meal, each of them nursing a coffee.

WAHID (IN MALAY)

We already waited two years!  
Now when we're finally in  
position to lead the youth  
wing, they pull this merger  
bullshit!

HOSNI (IN MALAY)

Nobody can withstand the allure  
of oil and timber. Abdul Kadir  
knows what buttons to push. We  
can't fight off the power of  
greed.

Deep in thought, Hosni looks out onto the street as we hear  
a sudden loud commotion. Several men are beating up a man  
in front of a shop along the five-foot way. Hosni's eyes  
light up as he notices that the men attacking are Malay  
while the victim is Chinese. As his friends look around at  
what he's staring at, we see a spark in Hosni's eye.

HOSNI (IN MALAY)

But maybe, we don't have to.

51. EXT. CRICKET CLUB. DAY

Shin Kok walks into the cricket club café with Wei Xiong  
conversing as they walk. Kim Chuan, Paul Ho, Anthony Samy  
and Barry Yao greet them. Barry shakes Wei Xiong's hand as

Wei Xiong turns to Barry.

WEI XIONG (IN HOKKIEN)  
 Shin Kok, let me introduce you.  
 This is famous local lawyer  
 Barry Yao, and respected  
 economist, Dr Paul Ho.

PAUL HO (IN HOKKIEN)  
 (shakes Shin Kok's hands) It's  
 a pleasure to meet you. Ever  
 since you started helping our  
 workers in labour we've really  
 been hoping to make your  
 acquaintance.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
 The pleasure is all mine. I'm  
 happy to be able to meet so  
 many like-minded friends.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)  
 (shakes Shin Kok's hands) Shin  
 Kok, really happy to meet you  
 today. These are my good  
 friends Kim Chuan & Anthony Samy.

KIM CHUAN (IN HOKKIEN)  
 (shakes Shin Kok's hands) We're  
 all great admirers of your  
 contribution to the labour  
 movement! Really honoured to  
 make your acquaintance today.

ANTHONY SAMY  
 (shakes Shin Kok's hands) It's  
 an honour to finally meet you,  
 Shin Kok.

SHIN KOK  
 Thank you.

WEI XIONG (IN HOKKIEN)  
 Since everyone is acquainted,  
 it's time for me to take my  
 leave!

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)  
 Thanks so much for your help!

Treat you to lunch one of these days!

Wei Xiong shakes hands with everyone, waves goodbye and leaves, leaving the rest to sit down and chat.

PAUL HO (IN HOKKIEN)

Shin Kok, all of us are great admirers of the work you've done for Sinosia's welfare. We've been very impressed with your insightful political views, your oratorical skills and your grasp of the people's mindset and concerns. All of us used to organise pro-independence protest rallies for Sinosia in Britain but we weren't able to make much headway. We've specially invited you today to ask you if you'll be interested to join us in starting a political party of our own, to join hands in fighting for the independence of Sinosia.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

I'm starting a political party because there are none in Sinosia that represent normal folks like me. I volunteered my services because I want to fight for our country's independence. I want to fight for equality for everyone, the people's rights to prosperity and political freedom. I need to know where you stand before I make any decision.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)

*Shin Kok, our ambitions are the same as yours. When we were all in England .....(forgets the correct word) we were all socialists when we were students in the UK. Our vision for the party and Sinosia is to establish an egalitarian*

society...(looks at Shin Kok to check if he understands)

SHIN KOK

I understand English... I just don't speak it well...please continue...

BARRY YAO

Paiseh... Anthonysamy and myself, we both volunteer our services for unions. Our vision is for Sinosia and our party to be members of the Socialist International when Sinosia becomes independent. With Paul's background in economics, my background in law, your expertise in trade unions and labour relations, Kim Chuan's background in media relations, our party will be able to unite all the workers of Sinosia and build a productive, cohesive society where the rights of all Sinosians are protected, where everyone has the equal opportunity for happiness, prosperity, justice and progress. Shin Kok, we believe if we could team up with you, work together for the good of the people, we'll be able to achieve independence for Sinosia. What do you think?

PAUL HO

Join us and we'll build a democratic society, a party that fights for democracy for the people of Sinosia!

Paul puts out his palm facing down. Barry puts his palm on Paul's. Shin Kok looks at Paul and Barry and Anthonysamy. He puts his palm on theirs and speaks.

SHIN KOK

Count me in! Let's create Sinosia's only People's

Democratic Party! What do you  
guys think!

BARRY YAO

All right!

PAUL HO AND KIM CHUAN

All right!

ANTHONY SAMY

Hao!

They all laugh as they pump their palms up and down with excitement as Paul exchanges glances with Barry.

52. EXT. SINOSIA STREETS. DAY

We hear distant muffled sounds of a voice over a loudspeaker and applause as a teenager hands out flyers on a busy street to a couple. We see a picture of Lim Shin Kok with a logo and name of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) on the flyer. As the couple walks and turn the corner, we see a large crowd watching an election rally with Lim Shin Kok on stage giving a speech.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Brothers and sisters, when the Japanese invaded Sinosia during WWII, all of you saw for yourselves: when it came to the crunch, we could only depend on our own citizens to fight and die for us. The British, no matter how brave they are, were only loyal to their Queen. They won't sacrifice themselves for us. My brothers and sisters, we stand here today, having fought off these foreign invaders but everyday we're still bullied by foreigners, we're still slaving for whitey. The reality is our war hasn't ended. The people who invaded our country, they're still here. Everyday we have to fight against whitey, against the British for our lives and our liberty. Because if we don't fight them, we will

be oppressed, we'll go hungry  
 and we won't be able to feed  
 our families. Today, I, Lim  
 Shin Kok, stand in front of you  
 with a promise: I will dedicate  
 my life to protecting the  
 freedom of Sinosia. If you vote  
 for me, allow me to represent  
 you, I will lead us in our  
 fight against the British, I'll  
 fight to the death for  
 Sinosia's freedom, for our  
 independence! I'll fight for  
 every worker's rights, for  
 equality, for our freedom!

The crowd goes wild with cheers.

MONTAGE:

53. EXT. SINOSIA STREETS. DAY

*Barry Yao is on stage giving an election rally speech in English.*

BARRY YAO

*You have seen for yourselves  
 the oppressive policies that  
 the Labour and British  
 governments have enacted. They  
 arrest our brothers and our  
 young for speaking their minds,  
 for fighting for our freedom.  
 It is time, my fellow brothers  
 and sisters, to stand up and be  
 counted; it is time for us to  
 fight for them now, to repay  
 their sacrifice, to continue  
 their fight for our liberty.  
 Let me join the fight on your  
 behalf and I promise you: I  
 will lead us to the promised  
 land of freedom and  
 independence. Merdeka!*

*The crowd cheers.*

54. EXT. SINOSIA STREETS. DAY

*Paul Ho is on stage giving an election rally speech.*

*PAUL HO (IN HOKKIEN)*

*Buses to ride on when you go  
out, jobs aplenty when you  
leave home, food to eat when  
you come home, no oppression  
anywhere with prosperity  
everywhere. These are the  
things that all Sinosians can  
be realized immediately but  
today, I pledge you my life, if  
you vote for me, I will fight  
to the death for you to get you  
what all prosperous Sinosians  
should have in life!*

*The crowd cheers.*

END OF MONTAGE

55. EXT. PARLIAMENT HOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY

Shin Kok, Paul and Barry walk up the pathway to the porch of Parliament House where all MPs are gathered for a group photo. Shin Kok, Paul & Barry shake hands with other members of parliament. The group poses for the photo.

56. INT. PARLIAMENT CHAMBER (SINOSIA). DAY

Close-up of a gavel pounding on the wooden block by the speaker of the house as he speaks.

SPEAKER

On the proposed Public Security Act, to be voted on today for permanent inclusion into Section 15 of the Public Gazette, the house will now recognize the Member of Parliament for Knowlton Hill, Mr Barry Yao.

Barry rises from his backbencher seat and speaks.

BARRY YAO

Mr Speaker sir, I stand up here today on behalf of the concerned citizens of Knowlton

Hill on the dangers of passing the Public Security Act permanently into law. It's a loosely worded legislation, which yields dangerous and wide-ranging powers to the government for the potential oppression of the people of Sinosia.

As Barry speaks, we see montages of the bustling city streets and harbour of Sinosia

We are one of the leading nations in Asia. Our brethren across the largest continent in the world look to us as beacons of free trade and democracy.

Images of demonstrations and protests along the streets of Sinosia.

Our pride of place comes directly from our beliefs in freedom. The freedom to trade and the freedom for democracy to flourish. For us to keep our standing in the world, for democracy to flourish here in Sinosia,

We see riot police arresting protesters, bludgeoning protesters with batons, escorting arrested protesters into police vans.

We must say categorically, without any qualification, that there should never be any restraint of any democratic process in our country, other than by the ordinary law of the land. For democracy to reign in our country, we must believe in it unconditionally.

In a spartan prison interrogation rooms we see protesters interrogated by police with phone books strapped to their chests as kicks are delivered to the phone book.



If you believe that men should be free, then, they should have the right of free association, of free speech, of free publication. No law should be allowed to render these democratic processes powerless, and no excuse, certainly not of security, should be used to allow a government to be deterred from doing what it knows to be right, and what it must know to be right...

Police charge into the office of newspaper publications, arresting editors and reporters.

To arrest and detain a man, when you cannot charge him with any offence against any written law - that is the action of a totalitarian and Fascist state. For us to survive as a free democracy, we must be prepared, in principle, to give to our enemies - even if we do not agree with their views - the same constitutional rights that we enjoy ourselves.

Agents ambush at street corners. When a man walks past, they arrest the man, pinning him to the ground. Lawyers at a police station talk to the police but they are turned back. Police storm into a shophouse to arrest several men in an office. Teachers in schools are arrested while in their classrooms. We see a man seated in a dark room, stripped bare-chested with a light shone on his face and a thick phone book on the table.

Repression is a habit that grows. It's like cheating at cards. The first time there may be pangs of conscience, a sense of guilt. But once you discover you can get away with it, you get more and more brazen in the attack. All you need to do is dissolve organizations and societies, banish and detain

their key political workers and everything becomes miraculously tranquil on the surface. Couple that with a government controlled press, radio and media that regularly sing your praises, and slowly people are made to forget the evil things that have already been done. And even when these evil deeds are referred to again, they're conveniently distorted and distorted with impunity, because there will be no opposition to contradict. Mr Speaker sir, my fellow members of parliament, I beseech you to reconsider setting aside this proposal to sign the Public Security Act permanently into law.

We see the gavel being pounded on the wooden block as the speaker speaks again.

SPEAKER

Parliament will now vote on the permanent enactment of the Public Security Act under Section 15 of the Public Gazette.

The parliamentary secretary polls each member of parliament who responds with an "aye" or "neigh" as the votes are tabulated. The secretary passes the result to the speaker. Barry and Shin Kok look at each other. Shin Kok's hands grip the sides of the wooden chair, his knuckles turning white with anger.

SPEAKER

The ayes have it, 65 to 10. The Public Security Act is hereby passed into law. Parliament is now adjourned for recess.

The parliamentary hall is a hive of activity as members of parliament vacate their seats and head for lunch.

57. EXT. PARLIAMENT HOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY

At the foyer, Barry stands at a corner looking at a small piece of paper that a well-dressed moustachioed Malay man has handed him. They are conversing but we can't hear anything. Barry shakes the man's hands as they both smile. As the man departs, Shin Kok appears out of the chambers with Paul. They walk out of Parliament House and disappear into Paul's car.

58. EXT. CHINESE HIGH SCHOOL (SINOASIA). DAY

A black car drives into the compound and gates of Chinese High School. It drives up the slope towards the porch of the school where school children have gathered.

59. INT. CHINESE HIGH SCHOOL PORCH. SINOSIA. DAY

The car door opens and out steps Barry Yao. He's greeted by the Principal, a few prefects and reporters taking pictures. A reporter stops Barry for a short interview.

REPORTER

Hi Mr Yao. Congratulations on your victory in the elections. Could you tell us more about the purpose of your visit to the school today?

BARRY YAO

Thank you. As the newly elected MP of Knowlton Hill, I was specially invited by Principal Ngiam as a guest of honour to present some prizes to Chinese High students.

REPORTER

Thanks for your time, Mr Yao.

BARRY YAO

You're welcome.

As the reporter departs, Barry notices a group of reporters talking among themselves at the side of the porch. As a car pulls into the porch, the reporters rush forward. Barry sees a man in his fifties exit the car to continuous camera flashes. He is Tan Kok Keong, a distinguished Sinosian business leader and the philanthropist behind educational institutions such as Chinese High School. He is inundated with questions. Barry walks towards the scene.

REPORTER (IN HOKKIEN)

Uncle Tan, Chinese High School was started by you. As a guest of honour today, what are your views on the student protests within Sinosia now? Do you have anything to say to the students?

TAN KOK KEONG (IN HOKKIEN)

It's a good thing for students to have views, interest and ambitions on the security and development of the country. I have the highest confidence in Chinese High students. Their passion for Sinosia comes from the heart. They love Sinosia. They hope to see everyone in society enjoying equal rights. I believe our future lies in the hands of our youth.

REPORTER TWO (IN HOKKIEN)

Uncle Tan, what are your plans for the land that Tat Chuan just acquired?

TAN KOK KEONG (IN HOKKIEN)

We don't have fixed plans yet but the land will be used for commercial development.

REPORTER THREE (IN HOKKIEN)

Uncle Tan, you're one of the most important people in Sinosia's educational sector. Could you tell us more about your newly established scholarship programme?

TAN KOK KEONG (IN HOKKIEN)

Ah. With this scholarship, Chinese High students from poor and disadvantaged families who have done well in school will be able to attend university without financial worry, go on to great jobs and be able to help their families break out

of the poverty cycle.

REPORTER THREE (IN HOKKIEN)

Thank you Uncle Tan.

Tan Kok Keong acknowledges the reporter with a nod as a minder helps clear the way. Observing Kok Keong with a poker face, Barry heads over to introduce himself.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)

Uncle Tan, how are you? I am..

TAN KOK KEONG (IN HOKKIEN)

Councillor Yao, it's a pleasure to meet you here.

REPORTER (IN HOKKIEN)

Councillor Yao, Uncle Tan, could I take a photo of both of you together?

Barry and Kok Keong shake hands for the camera as the reporter takes a photo.

REPORTER

Thank you Uncle Tan, Councillor Yao.

Barry and Kok Keong smile and walk on but we can faintly detect a cold look of disdain in Barry's eyes.

60. INT. TAN MANSION. NIGHT

Tan Bock Yam is seated at the veranda of his mansion nursing a brandy with a man in his 50s, bespectacled.

TAN BOCK YAM

You really should try some of this brandy, Seng Quee. My daughter brought it in from London. It's really quite exquisite.

Seng Quee smiles reluctantly and takes the glass of brandy from Bock Yam.

TAN BOCK YAM

If you agree to help us, I think the loans that Soon Hock Shipping has with us, an

extension of six months of preferential interest rates should be doable.

SENG QUEE

Thank you so much Bock Yam! Whatever you need me to do for you and your family, consider it done.

TAN BOCK YAM

Ah...Don't worry about it. Our families have been friends for so long. If you're still worried about the long-term servicing of the loan, we actually have an upcoming project that might be able to provide Soon Hock with good revenue streams for years to come.

SENG QUEE

Thank you so much Bock Yam! We are forever in your debt!

Choon Neo walks in from the living room onto the patio and approaches Bock Yam.

TAN BOCK YAM

Ah, Choon Neo. You're just in time. Why don't you tell Seng Quee here about the port service contracts?

Choon Neo sits down and starts talking to Seng Quee.

61. INT. PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY PARTY HQ (SINOSIA). DAY

Barry, Paul and Shin Kok stand in the foyer of PDP headquarters, waiting for someone's arrival.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Do you know the Prime Minister of Medonia? How come he wants to meet with us?

PAUL HO (IN HOKKIEN)

We'll find out soon enough.

Paul turns around as he hears the sound of footsteps. He sees a group of Malay men with Abdul Kadir walking into the PDP headquarters. Barry steps forward immediately with his palm extended as Abdul Kadir does the same, smiling widely.

ABDUL KADIR

It's a pleasure to see you, Barry! Thank you for meeting us. And this must be Mr Paul Ho.

PAUL HO

(shakes Kadir's hands) It's an honour to meet you, Prime Minister.

ABDUL KADIR

Please, call me Kadir...Ah... Mr Lim Shin Kok. (shaking hands) After reading so much about your leadership in the labour movement, it is great to finally meet you in person.

SHIN KOK

We are honoured to meet you, Mr Prime Minister.

ABDUL KADIR

Please, call me Kadir.

SHIN KOK

It is our pleasure to meet you, Kadir.

BARRY YAO

Come, let us show you to our conference room so we can sit down and talk.

Abdul Kadir signals to his entourage to stay as he proceeds with Barry, Paul and Shin Kok to the conference room upstairs. In the conference room, Abdul Kadir speaks.

ABDUL KADIR

Paul, Barry, Shin Kok. I want to thank all of you again for taking the time to meet me.

BARRY, PAUL, SHIN KOK  
Don't mention it, Kadir.

ABDUL KADIR  
As you all know, like most colonies, the British valued Medonia mainly for our natural resources & monopolistic access to our economy. Our two countries were ruled as one economic entity with Sinosia serving as the trading and finance hub for Medonia. Now that Medonia is independent, our government must build up a trading port and finance sector almost entirely from scratch while trying to sustain our economy. We also have to jumpstart the development of our people to run our economy. These aren't impossible tasks but I think there's a better solution. I'm here today to propose a merger between Sinosia and Medonia. With a merger, Sinosia would be able to gain independence from Britain through us. You'll be able to tap into our resources for your development while we can continue using Sinosia as the financial and shipping hub for Medonia. It would be an economic and political union that would make both countries even more prosperous. A merger of Medonia, Sinosia and Ulai will create an economic powerhouse in the region with natural resources, oil and entrepot trade ensuring our economic prosperity for the next 50 years. What do you think, gentlemen? Shin Kok?

SHIN KOK  
Wow. It sounds good. I don't know about the politics though...



BARRY YAO

Guys, I think a new merged federation of Medonia, Sinosia and Ulai, a Medonisia, with the letters "S" "I" inserted for Sinosia, will be an incredible future for all! Even without considering the precious oil and natural resources we'll all have access to, a united Medonia, Ulai and Sinosia will be able to pursue import-substitution. By substituting foreign imports with our own local products for our large domestic market, we'll be self-reliant and be able to achieve tremendous economic growth as a larger industrialised nation.

PAUL HO

I'm just worried about the political balance of all three colonies. The cultural impact of such a merger is something we need to be careful with.

SHIN KOK

Paul is right. Politically, there might be some problems. But Sinosia and Medonia have always been brotherly states. We've always been intertwined, whether its geography, family ties or culture.

ABDUL KADIR

Exactly. When Barry talked to me about the idea, both of us were so excited at the tremendous domestic market we'll possess. With plenty of natural resources to fuel the growth of our economy and with an import substitution industrialization, we'll be able to achieve developed nation status within one generation!

Shin Kok is suddenly pensive as he processes Abdul Kadir's revelation about his prior discussions with Barry. But he remains silent. His body language is mirrored by Paul.

PAUL HO

On paper, or at least economically, it sounds like a good plan...

BARRY YAO

It is a good plan. We do have to go through all political and cultural factors carefully, but guys, you should remember that Medonia has already attained its independence. By proposing a merger with Medonia, I'm sure it'll be easier for us to attain our independence from the British. With Medonia's natural resources and our strategic port, our economy will grow even faster upon our independence. Independence through merger with Medonia is literally a proposition with no downsides. Our economy will be even better than it is today!

PAUL HO

It sounds like you two are in agreement. I'm not opposed to it. We just have to be careful about how we proceed. Cross all the t's and dot all the i's.

BARRY YAO

I'm sure we'll continue to examine all the implications of but we all think this merger is a great idea. Thank you for taking the time to talk to us personally. We'll discuss this further internally and then set up another meeting with you. But on paper, we are on board.

ABDUL KADIR

Thank you for all your time

gentlemen! I'm really happy that we share the same vision. I'll be contacting Ulai and the other colonies in Borneo in the days ahead. We will arrange for a meeting again in the near future. Thank you gentlemen!

Abdul Kadir stands up and shakes the hands of Paul, Shin Kok and Barry. Barry escorts Kadir out as Paul and Shin Kok walk behind them, both of them clearly less enthusiastic than Barry. As Shin Kok stands outside the party headquarters with Paul, we see a plane fly by in the sky.

62. INT. HEATHROW AIRPORT. LONDON. DAY

A commercial plane lands. As the camera tracks backwards, we see the busy crowd of travellers filing along the viewing gallery at Heathrow Airport. We follow the shoulder of a reporter as he jostles to the front of an area cordoned off by a camera crew. He sees a television crew setting up lights and a film camera. Seated down is a British television news reporter who's interviewing Marshall Benjamin, the Chief Minister of Sinosia.

NEWS REPORTER

The delegation of legislative representatives from Sinosia led by Chief Minister Marshall Benjamin has just touched down at Heathrow Airport. Chief Minister Benjamin, could you tell us more about your delegation from Sinosia and your main aim in your constitutional talks with the Secretary of Colonies in London?

MARSHALL BENJAMIN

Well, we're here today for our first round of talks with a 13-member delegation comprised of the elected members of the Sinosian legislative council like myself, my Deputy Chief minister Seng Quee and members of the opposition. We are setting an agenda for the talks

next spring. We're seeking complete self-government and a fully elected legislature without any appointees by the governor in the entire machinery of government except external defence and foreign affairs.

The reporter gets jostled out of the front row. From amid the crowd, we see Lim Shin Kok, Barry Yao and Paul Ho walk by with their luggage.

63. EXT. 10 DOWNING STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON. DAY

Reporters with cameras snap away with their flashes as the Sinosian delegation enter the entrance of 10 Downing Street, Westminster, London for their talks with the Secretary of Colonies.

64. INT. CONFERENCE ROOM, 10 DOWNING STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON. DAY

Seated in the middle of a long conference table alongside Barry, Shin Kok and Paul, Chief Minister Marshall Benjamin states Sinosia's case for self-government.

MARSHALL BENJAMIN

As the second leading economy in Asia, the people of Sinosia have proven themselves worthy of self-government. These strikes and domestic unrest we're witnessing aren't weaknesses of our local law enforcement. Our people have matured politically. They can no longer tolerate the wanton unfair treatment accorded to them by the remaining vestiges of the colonial government like the Port Authority of Sinosia run directly by appointees of the governor. These port workers might have behaved riotously but they were merely demanding decent overtime wage and to be paid on time.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

Are you actually defending these communist elements? This problem of unrest is very severe. Just the fact that that man (pointing to Lim Shin Kok) is seated here on this conference table is proof of the severity of the problem.

PAUL HO

With all due respect, sir...

LIM SHIN KOK

(putting his palm out to stop Paul) I'm a labour unionist. I fight on behalf of Sinosian workers. I fight for their rights, to prevent them from being exploited. I'm here today as an elected member of the Sinosia legislature because the people have elected me to represent them in parliament, to help them get independence for themselves, to...

BARRY YAO

(interrupting Shin Kok) Mr Secretary Sir, the 13 of us seated here today are all elected representatives of the people of Sinosia. We bring with us the mandate of the Sinosian people, their concerns for their welfare, and their God given right to elect a government representative of themselves that will have the necessary power to make good decisions on their behalf without the interference of appointees from a foreign government, whose best interest has often times run counter to that of the Sinosian people.

MARSHALL BENJAMIN

Mr Secretary, sir, please

forgive my colleagues for their outspokenness. I assure you that all of us here are but fiercely loyal servants to our constituents and not communists and leftist elements smuggled into positions of power. As for our competence in law enforcement in Sinosia, I'm positive that these unrests are directly symptomatic of our people's disenchantment with colonial rule and unfair treatment. I am confident that when our people see their interests well represented by men of their own ilk, their propensity for violence will decrease and everything will return to normal.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

So the problem will go away as soon as we're out? That's a circular argument, Mr Benjamin, if ever I saw one. Respect for the law is the basic requirement for a civilized society. If you can't even make your citizens respect laws enacted in their own country for their very own protection, then how can you expect us to entrust you completely with independent self-rule of the country? Your arrogance will undo all the good work the English government has done in Sinosia for more than a century, transforming Sinosia from a sleepy fishing village to one of the most cosmopolitan city-states in Asia. Our responsibility for the welfare of the Sinosian people simply will not allow us to abdicate our duty until you can prove unreservedly that your government is up to the task of

governing Sinosia capably.

Closeup on the gripped fist of Marshall Benjamin as we see veins pop on his forehead as anguish washes over his face.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

I think we'll adjourn for  
lunch. Gentlemen, I think  
you'll find the lunch spread  
more than lovely.

The Secretary of Colonies leaves the table. Still seated, Shin Kok is visibly peeved.

65. INT. AIRPLANE CABIN. DAY

A plane trolley carrying drinks rolls by a seat. As it passes, we see Barry and Paul seated by the window. Behind both of them is Shin Kok. Barry is deep in thought, his hands clasped in front of his mouth, his fingers slowly turning the ring on his hand.

66. EXT. MEDONIA UNIFIED PARTY YOUTH HQ (MEDONIA). DAY

Walter Brooke enters a building emblazoned with the logo for the Medonia Unified Party.

67. INT. MEDONIA UNIFIED PARTY YOUTH HQ (MEDONIA). DAY

We follow a waiter carrying drinks as he enters a ballroom. There are several tables with models of small community development buildings as MUP Youth Wing leaders canvass businessmen for donations to the MUP Youth Wing. Walter Brooke is looking at the small models. Wahid finishes shaking hands with another businessman. He notices Brooke and walks over.

WAHID

Hi, I'm Abdul Wahid, I'm the  
Assistant Head of the MUP Youth  
Wing. And you are...(extends his  
hand)

WALTER BROOKE

(shakes hand) I'm Walter Brooke  
from Tristan Trading. We're an  
expanding trading company and  
we're looking to establish more  
links with the local community.

WAHID

Ah, Mr Brooke, you've come to the right place. The MUP Youth Wing has just announced plans to build more community resource centres for indigenous Malays in Sinosia through our new branch there. Besides tuition classes for poor Malay children, our centres organize religious classes to improve the cultural awareness of Malays in Medonia and Sinosia, who make up more 70% of the population of both countries. To raise funds, we're actively looking for partners from the private sector.

WALTER BROOKE

Ah. It sounds like a worthy cause indeed. As our company is currently expanding our foothold in Sinosia, we are very interested in assisting you in your drive to raise the profile of MUP's community efforts in Sinosia. And we would love to contribute to the MUP Youth Wing as well. Perhaps you could introduce me to your representatives from Sinosia.

WAHID

Thank so you much, Mr Brooke. Maybe we discuss further about your contributions. Later I'll introduce you to Gazpar, the head of our Sinosia operations.

Wahid ushers Walter Brooke to a table for a talk.

68. EXT. BARRY YAO'S RESIDENCE. (SINOSIA). DAY

A black car arrives at the porch of Barry's house. Barry emerges from his front door to greet the occupant of the car. As the passenger door of the car opens, we see that it is Mahmud, the aide to the Sultan of Ulai.



69. INT. PARLIAMENT HOUSE. DAY

Speaking to the House, Barry lambasts Marshall Benjamin.

BARRY YAO

Chief Minister Benjamin should remember he is not representing only himself in the discussions. The entire future of Sinosia is in his hands. We must take a longer view on the speed of progress that Sinosia achieves self-governance. Instead of insisting outright on holding our ground without compromise, it would have been far more useful for us to gain a foothold first from the British. Mr Benjamin did not care for such compromises. He does not see that we can only incrementally improve our situation when we have self-governance. To reject out of hand our only chance of getting self-governance is cavalier...

MONTAGE:

70. INT. SHIN KOK'S RESIDENCE (SINOSIA). DAY

*Ah Meng is listening to the news report on radio which is broadcasting Barry's parliamentary speech:*

(BARRY YAO) RADIO BROADCAST

*...and irresponsible. It is my opinion that he should provide some accountability for his failure in London.*

NEWSCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

*And that concludes the broadcast of Councillor Barry Yao's speech in parliament. Today at 10am, Chief Minister Marshall Benjamin will hold a press conference at the Chief Minister's Office. Chief Minister Marshall Benjamin...*

## 71. INT. COFFEESHOP (SINOSIA). DAY

*In a crowded coffeeshop, the boss, its employees and the customers are all waiting beside the radio listening intently to the radio broadcast.*

## RADIO BROADCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

*...had already made a promise to the nation before he left for the Independence Summit in London in March that he would resign should he fail to secure self rule for Sinosia. Here is the broadcast of Chief Minister Marshall Benjamin's press conference live from the Chief Minister's office:*

END OF MONTAGE

## 72. INT. CHIEF MINISTER'S OFFICE. DAY

Chief Minister David Marshall, seated at a table, speaks into a microphone in front of a horde of reporters as incessant camera flashes go off in his face.

## MARSHALL BENJAMIN

It's been my pleasure to be able to serve all Sinosians these past three years. When I took office, I pledged to achieve self-governance for Sinosia. However, the British are determined to retain control over the Public Security Act, which lets them detain Sinosia citizens without trial. As a loyal Sinosian, I simply cannot sacrifice your liberty for my own political gain. Having failed to garner self-governance for Sinosia in the Independence Talks in London, I am hereby stepping down as Chief Minister. I will continue to serve my constituents as a member of parliament. Deputy Chief Minister Lim Seng Quee will

take over from me as Chief  
Minister, effective today.

Standing at the side of the press conference table, we see Lim Seng Quee approaching the podium as Marshall Benjamin ushers him to speak to the reporters. He hugs Benjamin as he takes the mic amidst a smorgasbord of camera flashes. We see the room of reporters from Seng Quee's point of view. At the back of the room, behind all the reporters, is the man seen earlier cycling to the British Fascist Society meeting in Cambridge University.

SENG QUEE

It is with great sadness that I  
accept this nomination as  
Sinoshia's new Chief Minister.  
As one of the founders of the  
Labour Party, Marshall  
Benjamin's contributions to the  
independence of Sinoshia will  
never be forgotten...

We see a closeup of the Cambridge cycling man in the audience, giving Seng Quee a nod. Seng Quee, looking in the direction of the Cambridge cycling man, acknowledges with a nod back.

...I will strive to carry on  
Marshall's legacy to fight for  
Sinoshia's self-governance and  
to lead our people to  
independence. Thank you.

As Seng Quee exits the stage, he walks over to the police commissioner (in uniform and peak hat) and whispers into his ear. The police commissioner nods.

73. INT. COFFEESHOP (SINOSHIA). DAY

In the crowded coffeeshop, the boss is listening to the radio broadcast in between bites of a piece of bread as the customers listen intently to the broadcast.

RADIO NEWS BROADCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

Since Chief Minister Lim Seng  
Quee's announcement yesterday  
that the Sinoshia Bus Union has  
been gazetted as an unlawful  
society, there has been a

dearth of buses on the roads.  
 We have been informed by calls  
 from the public that there has  
 been an incident at the bus  
 depot, resulting in the lack of  
 buses plying Sinosian streets...

COFFEESHOP WAITER (IN HOKKIEN)  
 That's crazy! Like that, how do  
 people get to work?

74. EXT. SINOSIA BUS COMPANY BUS DEPOT (SINOSIA). DAY

Throngs of people are gathered outside the exit of a bus depot, their arms all linked in chains. Looking over the shoulder of a man walking into the crowd, we see Lim Shin Kok on a makeshift stage talking to the crowd over a megaphone. Midshot of Lim Shin Kok as he speaks to the crowd. At the perimeter of the crowd are groups of policemen who are policing the rally.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)  
 Friends, Sinosia bus employees,  
 we are standing here today not  
 to cause damage or create  
 trouble. We are here today to  
 fight for a decent living wage  
 and better working conditions.

The crowd roars. We see the crowd over Shin Kok's shoulders. At the back of the crowd we see the Cambridge cycling man walking through the crowd but Shin Kok does not notice him.

CUT TO:

75. INT. POLICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. DAY

The police commissioner is seated at his desk, phone in his hand.

POLICE COMMISSIONER  
 At the slightest provocation,  
 move in and break up the crowd.  
 I want the riot corps activated  
 only at my command.

CUT TO:

76. EXT. SINOSIA BUS CO. BUS DEPOT SINOSIA). DAY.

As Shin Kok looks out into the crowd, he sees students from various Chinese language schools who are part of the Sinosia Chinese School Association who are in the crowd protesting on behalf of the bus drivers. He waves to them.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Today, although we are protesting on behalf of Sinosia Bus drivers, but in reality, all Sinosian employees in are oppressed. Our monthly salaries are not enough to feed our families. That's why there're so many students here from all the Chinese schools in Sinosia. They're here because they're patriots! Can all of you please give these students, Sinosia's hope for the future, a great big round of applause?

The crowd gives off a rousing cheer. We see a hand holding a glass bottle. Closeup of the Cambridge cycling man in the crowd as he nods to three groups of men at various sides of the crowd near the policemen. The men nod back.

Closeup of a police sergeant gripping his baton with a uniformed colleague beside him.

POLICE SERGEANT (IN HOKKIEN)

If you spot anyone making the slightest move, you take action immediately. Or else we'll all be in big trouble.

Shin Kok continues to speak to the crowd.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Yesterday, without reason, the government revoked our license as a union. Immediately, the bus companies reneged on labour terms signed earlier for our bus drivers. The Sinosian Bus Company would rather get rid of all its drivers than to consider giving them a 20% rise in salary. By standing here today, we are telling them we

are no pushovers! We are all here because of our families' livelihoods, for three square meals a day. We are here to tell them: You cannot take away our right to organise; you cannot let someone else take our jobs, drive our buses and take away our livelihoods!

CAMBRIDGE CYCLING MAN HENCHMEN 1

We can't let them bastards take away our jobs!

Riding on the rousing feelings of the crowd, the various henchmen under the orders of the Cambridge cycling man start to throw objects at the police guarding the rally, attacking the police. The police sergeant and his colleague unleash the baton and start to move into the crowd, as do all the police at the perimeter.

Seeing the policemen beating down on participants, the crowd loses their calm and starts to attack the police. Standing at his mic, Shin Kok tries to calm the crowd.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Put down your arms! Stop fighting! We are all patriotic Sinosians!

Seeing that his words are falling on deaf ears, Shin Kok abandons his mic and moves into the crowd, trying to break up the fight. He uses his hands to ward off a student from hitting a policeman but gets clubbed from behind by a policeman. A hand grabs him off the ground. It's Siew Meng.

SIEW MENG

Shin Kok! There are too many people! We can't stop them! Run!

Siew Meng forcibly removes Shin Kok from the bus depot.

Rioters club and tear at the police. Slow motion shot of a policeman being clubbed by a stick as he falls backwards, another policeman and his partner, their uniforms torn, are pummelled continuously by several henchmen of the Cambridge cycling man. One of the henchmen has a scar on his cheek.

DISSOLVE TO:

Overhead shot of the bus depot from the top. Rubbish is strewn everywhere. Three policemen lie on the ground, their uniforms torn, faces bruised, blood all around. One is lying next to a straw basket. The other two are bunched up into a foetal state, beaten till dead.

77. INT. COFFEESHOP (SINOSIA). DAY

In a crowded coffeeshop, we see customers and employees gathered around the radio listening to the news broadcast.

RAIOD NEWS BROADCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

Police Commissioner Wong Wan Seng confirmed in a press conference yesterday the deaths of three police officers that took part in the strike suppression operation at Tanglin Bus Depot. The deceased officers are Tan You Jin, aged 21, Yew Hongsheng, aged 38 and Goh Jin Swee, aged 29...

CUT TO:

78. INT. LIN SHIN KOK'S RESIDENCE (SINOSIA). DAY

Ah Meng, Siew Meng and Shin Kok are seated in the living room listening to the radio news broadcast.

RADIO NEWS BROADCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

The police have identified the civil organisations responsible for the strikes and riots. This morning, Chief Minister Lim Seng Quee revealed to the press that the Sinosian Chinese School Association, the Sinosia Women's Association and the Sinosia Chinese Music Association will be gazetted as illegal organisations with immediate effect.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

The only reason Lim Seng Quee is doing this is to agitate the students, to bait them into starting an illegal protest.

SIEW MENG (IN HOKKIEN)

You also know its on purpose so it's best that you don't take part in any of the student protests. Lim Seng Quee and the labour government are out to get you. They're trying to bait you, to throw you in jail. Don't you fall for it.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Even though it's a trap, I still have to be there for the students. As a leader, we have to sacrifice for the people. Or else, who in their right mind would follow you?

SIEW MENG (IN HOKKIEN)

Eh, don't you...

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Don't worry. I'm mentally prepared for anything. Ok. Let's not dwell on this anymore

79. INT. OVERSEAS ASIAN BANK: LEGAL DEPARTMENT(SINOSIA).DAY

A Chinese secretary with a folder knocks on a frosted glass door labelled – Chief Legal Adviser, Overseas Asian Bank. As she opens the door, we see Choon Neo seated at a table on the phone. She walks in and puts the file on the table.

CHOON NEO

Yes, dear. I'll call him now and arrange for dinner tomorrow night at home.

Putting her finger on the cradle of the phone, Choon Neo waits for her secretary to exit the room before dialling the phone again. The call goes through.

CHOON NEO (SPEAKING ON PHONE)

Hi, Seng Quee? Yes, this is Choon Neo. My husband would like to have you over at our place for dinner tomorrow night. Is 7 o'clock ok with you? Yes. Just you alone. Ok.



We'll see you then.

Choon Neo puts down the phone slowly on the phone cradle.

80. INT. TAN MANSION. NIGHT

Lim Seng Quee is leaning forward on veranda, cigarette in hand, staring into the night. Behind him, hidden from view, is another man, younger. The camera is locked in this view for the whole scene. Blocked by Seng Quee, we can only see the hands of the other man, one of which has a ring on it.

VOICE

So do we have a deal?

LIM SENG QUEE

You also want to bar detainees  
who have been arrested on  
suspicion of communist  
activities from contesting the  
election?

VOICE

Yes.

Lim Seng Quee, still like a statue, continues to stare out into the night. He takes a long inhalation of his cigarette, holds it for an eternity and blows out the smoke through his mouth.

SENG QUEE (RESIGNATION IN HIS VOICE)

Yeah, you have a deal.

VOICE

Great.

We see the man's arm and hands go over Seng Quee's shoulder in an attempt to give Seng Quee a shoulder squeeze. Seng Quee immediately removes the man's hands, his face suddenly betraying disgust. He inhales deeply on his cigarette as the man turns and walk away. We see only the man's back.

MONTAGE

81. EXT. SHOPHOUSE/CHINESE HIGH (SINOSIA). DAY

Over a voiceover of a news announcement on the radio,

RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)

After the orders by Chief

*Minister Lim Seng Quee, the police initiated a series of crackdowns on demonstrations, arresting 13 suspects and leaders involved in communist activities. Among them are six student leaders from Chinese High School and Zhong Zheng High School and seven members of the communist party leadership.*

*The camera tracks up the stairs of a shophouse as policemen arrest a young uniformed secondary school student. Several policemen walk into a classroom to arrest a student. Tracking shot of policemen chasing two young men on a street corridor, tackling them down & arresting them.*

*CUT TO:*

*As the radio announcement continues,*

*RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)*

*After a series of anti-demonstration operations, the police anti-riot unit was sent to Chinese High School and student protesters gathered at Chinese High were given three days to evacuate the premises.*

*We see masses of Chinese students standing with placards on the open quadrangle of Chinese High School, protesting the arrest of students led by student leaders with megaphones on makeshift stages. As the camera track backwards away from the students, we see policemen with riot gear and riot trucks outside the gates of the school.*

*CUT TO:*

*As the radio announcement continues,*

*RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)*

*Police also pointed out that students secretly sneaked out of the School to attend the Lim Shin Kok protest at Sinosia Park and returned to Chinese High to spread Lim's*

*instigations to riot against  
the police.*

*We see the Chinese High students tightly policed at all the gates of the school – front, back and side gates – locked out if they leave, not allowed to return.*

CUT TO:

82. EXT. SINOSIA PARK. EVENING

*We then see a crowded city park filled with Sinosian citizens listening and watching someone giving a speech on a stage erected at the centre of the park. We hear the voice of Lim Shin Kok coming from the stage as the camera cuts to a close-up of Shin Kok at the podium.*

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

*Friends, brothers and sisters,  
Lim Seng Quee is jailing  
students and citizens without  
reason. He is accusing pro-  
independence activists of being  
communists, he's gazetted the  
Sinosian Chinese School,  
Chinese Music Association and  
Women's Association as illegal  
organisations – we cannot let  
him carry on & do nothing! We  
have to stand up for ourselves,  
unite behind the youth of our  
country and fight for Sinosia's  
independence!*

*The crowd roars thunderously. At the side of Shin Kok on the stage, we see Barry Yao, Anthony Samy and Paul Ho. Barry and Paul look on edge. Shin Kok looks out into the crowd and we see police and riot troops surrounding the entire circumference of the rally in the park. From an overhead view of the park, we see policemen and riot troops encircling the people. The police and riot troops are armed with rattan shields and gas masks. He points to the policemen surrounding them.*

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

*Brothers and sisters, look at  
the policemen around you. They  
are not here to beat up on us.  
They are like us, employees on*

someone's payroll. Today, they are with us in our protest against Lim Seng Quee! You know, some people, because they hate the government, when they see policemen shutting down street hawkers, they shout "Fight the police". That is wrong! We must invite all of our police brothers to join us to shout "Merdeka"! To listen to our hearts and join our independence movement!

The crowd roars thunderously.

As the radio announcement continues,

RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)

According to witnesses, riots broke out at the park near Chinese High School, because of inflammatory remarks by Lim Shin Kok's telling protesters to take up arms against the police.

At the edge of the crowd, we see Cambridge cycling man. On the stage, Barry nods his head at Cambridge cycling man, who acknowledges. We suddenly see some men in the crowd shoving and insulting the police. Cambridge cycling man is pushing and egging his men on as one of them tries to snatch the policeman's shield. The policeman wails his baton across the man's face, leaving him bleeding. There is a loud shout from the edge of the crowd.

CAMBRIDGE CYCLING MAN

Hey, the fucking cops are beating up on us!

There is pandemonium as the crowd clashes with the police. The riot corps police start to dispense tear gas into the crowd as the police start to move in with their shields. Shin Kok shouts into the mic.

SHIN KOK

Everybody, please do not hurt the police! Please stop fighting!

*Shin Kok tries to speak further but starts to cough as he is overcome by the tear gas. Barry pulls Paul and Anthonyamy off the stage.*

CUT TO:

83. EXT. CHINESE HIGH (SINOSIA). DAY

*The radio announcement continues:*

RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)

*After the expiration of the three-day deadline, the police stormed Chinese High School as they entered the premises to arrest the 300 students who had been engaging in leftist and communist activities.*

*Flanked by riot policemen, we see a large pair of metal shears cutting off the metal chains of the school gate of Chinese high. Behind the gates are screaming students, waving their placards. As the metal chains are cut, we see tear gas canisters being thrown into the student crowd. As the students struggle to cover their noses with the tear gas permeating the crowd, the riot police, wearing gas masks, push through the metal gates and start trying to arrest the students.*

*As the radio announcement continues,*

RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)

*Although the police have arrested close to 50 students, the rest of the student rioters have escaped to the downtown area. For public safety, the police are encouraging members of the public to stay away from the downtown area.*

*We see students in the city streets of sinosia as a riot police bus has its windows completely broken by a huge bunch of students throwing rocks. Surrounding one side of the bus, they rock the bus as it slowly tumbles sideways and collapses on its side. The streets are littered with Molotov cocktails and tear gas canisters as students throw rocks and projectiles at the riot police corp.*

CUT TO:

84. EXT. PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY HQ. DAY

As the radio announcement continues,

RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)

*This morning, police arrested Knowlton Hill MP Lim Shin Kok at the headquarters of the People's Democratic Party. Addressing the media, the Chief Minister confirmed Lim Shin Kok's collusion with communists and his detention without trial under the Public Security Act, as a safeguard for the public's safety. The Chief Minister's Office also confirmed that Councillor Lim Shin Kok will not be attending the upcoming Independence Summit in London. Councillor Barry Yao and Dr Paul Ho will be attending on behalf of the People's Democratic Party.*

*We see cuffs being put on a pair of hands. Midshot of Lim Shin Kok as he's arrested by a group of plainclothes and uniformed policemen. Handcuffs are also placed on Siew Meng as he's arrested alongside Shin Kok. The pair walk towards the camera with camera flashes illuminating them as they're led down the stairs of the shophouse and into the street where they are ushered into a police van.*

CUT TO:

85. EXT. COFFEESHOP (SINOSIA). DAY

*Close-up of a radio playing as the boss, employees and customers of the coffeeshop listen intently to the radio.*

RADIO NEWSREADER (IN HOKKIEN)

*And that is the news for today. I am Ong Tow. Coming up next: The exciting ninth episode of Louis Cha's Heavenly Sword and Dragon Sabre.*

*The loud Chinese clarinet tune of the radio drama serial plays as the coffeeshop employee lowers the radio's volume.*

COFFEESHOP EMPLOYEE (IN HOKKIEN)

*This time, Lim Shin Kok is dead  
meat...*

BOSS (IN HOKKIEN) (福建話)

*What do you mean, dead meat?!  
Just pour your coffee, lah, you!*

COFFEESHOP EMPLOYEE (IN HOKKIEN)

*Orh!*

*Wideshot of the coffeeshop employee picking up a cup of coffee, walking towards a table and puts the cup down.*

END OF MONTAGE

86. INT. HEATHROW AIRPORT. LONDON. DAY

Through the viewing gallery at Heathrow airport, we see a commercial plane land at the Heathrow airport. As the camera tracks backwards, we see Lim Seng Quee, Barry Yao and Paul Ho walking rapidly through the arrival hall, protected by British bodyguards holding off a horde of reporters who are hounding their every step with cameras flashing and microphones pointed at them, questions lobbed in rapidfire fashion at the three of them while the trio continue walking briskly toward the exit of the airport.

BBC REPORTER

Chief Minister Lim, what do you think of the chances of clinching self-government this time around?

PRESS REPORTER

Barry, the vice-chairman of your party has been arrested for inciting a communist riot, how will that impact the talks?

The three men walk through the gates and are about to be ushered into separate cars as a reporter sticks the mic into their faces one last time.

BBC REPORTER

Chief minister Lim, a comment,

please!

LIM SENG QUEE

We're confident we'll be able to reach an agreement. Thank you gentlemen.

The doors of the two cars slam shut as they wiz off into the long highway out of the airport leaving behind the groan of a whole gaggle of reporters.

87. INT. CONFERENCE ROOM, 10 DOWNING STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON. DAY

Seated at a long conference table, the Secretary of Colonies looks positively smug leaning backward in his chair as he address Chief Minister Lim Seng Quee who is seated at the opposite end of the table. Barry and Paul Ho are seated at the far end of the conference table next to Lim Seng Quee.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

I see you've finally made some progress, Lim. Well, I can't say I'm surprised by the actions of that commie Shin Kok fellow. Putting him under detention is a good start. Why, having him voted into parliament and vice-chairman of your party, Barry - I'm shocked you were able to get as far as you did the last time around. So I gather Sinosia will be agreeable to Britain retaining the discretionary power of the Public Security Act over any subversive communist elements that might appear in Sinosia within the next 10 years?

LIM SENG QUEE

Barry, Paul, do you have any objections?

BARRY YAO

The PDP are fully aware of the need for the Public Security Act. We are agreeable to the



British retaining its discretionary powers under the Act. It can only increase the future stability of the Sinosia.

LIM SENG QUEE

In addition to the arrest of Lim Shin Kok, we are also proposing barring a detainee suspected of communist activity from contesting in an election.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

That's great. It makes no sense for them to be able to win a seat if they're already under arrest.

LIM SENG QUEE

The execution of the powers of the Public Security Act, however, should be restricted to the perimeters stated in Sinosia's constitution. No amendment must be made to extend the discretionary powers of the Act under the current provisions. As the sovereign authority, the Sinosian government must be able to act as a final arbiter and maintain surveillance and purveyance over the execution of the Act. As long as the British government is agreeable to this, we accede to your request to retain control of the powers as stated in the Act.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

Are you doubting the honour of the British, Lim? We wrote the law! We know its provisions better than you do!

LIM SENG QUEE

We understand, your honour. But we still feel it prudent to

study the implications closer  
before agreeing to anything.

The Secretary of Colonies clenches his fist. Looking across the table, Paul Ho nods to the Secretary of Colonies. The secretary nods back.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

I think all of you need to discuss just what you want to compromise on before we can decide on anything. Let's have a recess before we get into things again.

The members of the British contingent exit the room as the main doors of the conference room swing open. As most of the room empties, Barry approaches the Secretary.

BARRY YAO

Mr Secretary sir, as you know, Sinosia's elections are coming soon. Due to the massive student arrests ordered by Chief Minister Lim Seng Quee, it is highly unlikely that he can hold on to his seat. With Lim Shin Kok under detention, the people will be even more supportive of the PDP. We are in strong position to be installed as the next government of Sinosia. If Britain is willing to indulge and support me, when I am elected the new Prime Minister, I will accede to all your demands. Just legislate for voting to be compulsory and I will eliminate all your worries about Lim Shin Kok. You will then have a strong deal with an agreeable leader of a friendly state. The British will be welcomed to stay for as long as you like, armed forces and all.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

Well, you turn rather quickly,

Mr Yao. Your proposal is very attractive indeed. If you can secure the position, there is no reason why we can't continue to work with a strong ally such as the PDP.

BARRY YAO (SHAKING HANDS)  
Thank you, Mr Secretary sir.

88. EXT. SUPREME COURT STEPS (SINOSIA). DAY

Barry stands on a rally stage erected at the top of the Supreme Court steps. A huge crowd of followers are cheering every punctuation of his speech.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)  
The Labour Party should be fighting for the rights of all workers and citizens. But why is the labour government recklessly capturing the man on the street? All members of our People's Democratic Party are patriots!

The crowd cheers.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)  
The People's Democratic Party will always be on the side of the people and democracy. Without even a single shred of evidence, Lim Seng Quee has arrested our party members. That is entirely unconstitutional! The labour government needs to release all our party members now! We won't stop fighting until all our members are set free!

The crowd roars wildly, fists pumping the air.

MONTAGE:

*Barry Yao speaks at various rallies, talking passionately, the crowd cheering. Each time, the number of cameras and reporters increase and the followers in the audience*

*increase.*

*Barry leads PDP members and the people on marches through the streets of Sinosia demanding for the release of PDP members.*

*Barry speaks at rallies as supporters carry Chinese signs of "Set Lim Shin Kok free", logos of the PDP and occasionally signs of "Barry Yao for Prime Minister". The supporters are mainly poorer Chinese families which make up a large proportion of Sinosia.*

*We see Lim Seng Quee speaking at rallies but the crowd is not enthusiastic and the rallies are poorly attended. The people are booing and throwing things at him.*

*Voters line up at schools and street corners to register to vote. We see voters entering booths covered with cloths, putting their votes into the ballot boxes.*

*Barry, Anthonymsamy, Paul Ho and PDP party members drive through the streets on lorries, speaking on megaphones, waving to the crowds.*

END OF MONTAGE

89. EXT. CITY STREETS OF SINOSIA. NIGHT

A huge crowd is gathered around a stage where PDP chairman Barry Yao is set to acknowledge his election results. Every few minutes the crowd cheers as the announcer on stage declares yet another winner for PDP in the polls. In the crowd, some people are holding transistor radios to their ears. We hear the voice of the radio announcer on the radio as a man listens intently to his transistor radio.

RADIO NEWSCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

After the latest tally, the results of the 1959 elections are out. By capturing 43 seats out of a possible 51, the People's Democratic Party has been elected the new government of Sinosia by more than two-thirds majority. The new Prime Minister of Sinosia will be the PDP's Barry Yao Quee Lang!

The entire crowd roars in delight with loud cheers coming

from the stage as well. On stage, Barry Yao is being held aloft by his party mates. Finally put down on his feet, he is garlanded by various party members as he finally makes his way to the podium.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)

Friends, comrades, fellow  
Sinosian citizens, I want to  
really thank you for your  
support. It is only through  
your tireless support that I  
can be here before you, so I  
thank you from the bottom of my  
heart. Today is a special day  
because from this day onwards,  
we are rid of the oppressive  
policies of the Labour  
government as we strive towards  
a new, brighter future for  
Sinosia. I promise all of you,  
I will dedicate every once of  
my energy to freeing Lim Shin  
Kok and our fellow party  
members from detention. I will  
dedicate myself to fighting the  
British government for the  
independence of Sinosia!  
Merdeka! (crowd repeats)  
Mederka! (crowd repeats)  
Merdeka! (crowd repeats)

90. EXT. OIL FIELDS (ULAI). NIGHT

Inside a dark tropical forest, we ride on a bicycle through the trees and approach the edge of a clearing where huge oil extractors are extracting oil out of the ground. Out of the dark, we see a bunch of men walking through the brush towards the rider. One of them is clutching a long newspaper wrapped package and two of them have fuel cans. They are all wearing hard hats. As they crouch down to discuss, we see that the man riding the bicycle is Suha.

SUHA

We sneak in through the fence.  
The Sultan is having a meeting  
tonight with the British in the  
refining office. This is our  
best chance so make it count.

In front of the crouching men about a hundred metres out, is an oil refinery protected by a metal fence. A medium-sized office building several stories tall is located at the front of the refining complex. The men run up to the fenced up area, directed by hand signals. A pair of hands uses the metal cutters to cut open the fence as the men slip through one by one. Once through, they stand upright and walk non-chalantly towards the building. With their hard-hats on, they look like any other refinery worker.

They walk separately in pairs to reduce suspicion. Suha walks ahead. As he approaches the office, there's a stretch Mercedes Benz parked at the foot of the building. A burly guard in a suit stands guard at the staircase leading up to the complex. Suha steps forward and tries to enter the office building but is stopped by the guard. Pressing a palm to Suha's chest, the guard tries to turn Suha away. Smiling, Suha slides his palmed hand across the guard's neck. We see the guard clutching his neck as blood gushes out and wets the front of his shirt. Using the knife inside his palm Suha stabs him twice more in the chest as he collapses. Suha reaches inside the guard's jacket and takes out the guard's gun. The rest of the men rush forward and carry the guard's body out of the way into a dark corner.

Uncovering the newspaper package, a clutch of long parang knives are revealed and each worker given one. Suha and his men enter the office complex.

91. INT. OIL REFINERY OFFICE (ULAI). NIGHT

Showy, bright yellow stars are encased on an ornate epaulet. As camera moves back, we see the epaulets on the shoulder of the Sultan of Ulai, a regal moustachioed man seated at one end of a conference table. Seated across from him is the representative from English Petroleum, Richard Dorsett. He is talking, with a series of notes and agreement documents in front of him on the table. As he talks, the Sultan looks through the documents on the table.

RICHARD DORSETT

English Petroleum will continue  
to honour the current oil  
rights prices set between the  
state of Ulai and English  
Petroleum, with a price  
restructure scheduled to kick  
in 20 years from now.

SULTAN OF ULAI (LOOKS UP AT DORSETT)  
Stop, stop, stop. That's not  
the deal I struck with your  
Prime Minister.

RICHARD DORSETT  
I'm sorry, your highness...

SULTAN OF ULAI (GETTING ANNOYED)  
I said those are not the  
numbers I heard in Westminster  
last week. Your Prime Minister  
signed off on a revised rate  
pegged at 150% of our current  
prices with a price restructure  
scheduled to kick in in 5 years  
time, not 20.

RICHARD DORSETT  
Our PM...yes, your highness. I  
understand there was an  
approach from Westminster about  
potential new price restructure  
terms. We've taken those  
discussions under advisement  
and have included them in our  
evaluation for the terms we're  
presenting you today.

SULTAN OF ULAI  
Under advisement? (Bangs  
table). Get me your PM on the  
phone at once! (gets to his  
feet) Nobody takes me for a  
fool!

A loud gunshot rings out. A bullet flies slow motion through the air as it barrels forward into the shoulder of the Sultan just as he rises to his feet. The Sultan immediately falls backward clutching his arm. On the ground we see kerosene leaking out into the room. The Sultan's right shoulder is bleeding. British bodyguards standing at each side of the table immediately rush forward. They bundle the Sultan out of the room as shots continue to ring out. Suha's men rush forward with parangs and start slashing. The Sultan's bodyguards draw their handguns. They hit one of Suha's men but the slashing parangs get the better of them. The room starts to burn as Suha's men light the kerosene they've splashed on the room. In the midst of

the flames and smoke, the Sultan escapes with the British bodyguards.

The bodyguards bundle the Sultan out of the building and into a car parked at the building. They slam the door and drive off into the night.

Gathering his remaining three men, Suha escapes the room as they retreat back out of the compound through the same stairway they came from and go after the Sultan. When they get downstairs, they find themselves pinned down by British militia who have already arrived at the scene. Covered by his men, Suha manages to escape to the fence with only one other survivor as they find their way to the fence and make their way into the jungle. Running to the clearing, they cycle like mad men as we hear men shouting and running after them.

92. EXT. OIL REFINERY COMPOUND/FOREST (ULAI). NIGHT

Touch lights and the barking of hound dogs fill the air as we hear and see men rustling through the forest in search of Suha and his men. Familiar with the woods, Suha and his friend soon approach a coast. In the dark, we see the reflection of the water as a boat rests on the shore. A man is already stationed there. Suha and company hurriedly get into the single motor sampan as they sail swiftly away just as the British militia break through the clearing a short distance away from the coast.

93. EXT. ULAI COUNTRY ROAD. NIGHT

In the car with one of his bodyguards and two British bodyguards, the Sultan is fuming. He shouts unintelligible curse words in Malay.

94. EXT. ULAI PALACE. NIGHT

The car carrying the Sultan drives into the grounds of the palace and into the car porch of the main palace building. The Sultan gets off with his bodyguard as they hurriedly enter the palace.

95. INT. ULAI PALACE. NIGHT

Inside the palace, a doctor and two nurses are tending to the Sultan's wound. As they clean his wound with antiseptic and cotton wool, the Sultan is shouting orders to his men.



SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)  
 Mahmud, mobilise the republican  
 guard! I want those bastards  
 dead by tonight!

MAHMUD (IN MALAY)  
 Your highness, the republican  
 guard have already been  
 mobilized to city hall.

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)  
 What?!

MAHMUD (IN MALAY)  
 Your highness, at 7.30pm  
 tonight, while you were at your  
 meeting, riots and unrest broke  
 out downtown in several  
 government buildings and the  
 city centre.

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)  
 Were British troops mobilized  
 to put down the unrest?

MAHMUD (IN MALAY)  
 Yes, your highness. General  
 McCallum called to inform us  
 they were mobilising their  
 troops. I took the liberty of  
 agreeing to their response.

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)  
 Good work, Mahmud! Fucking  
 bastards! This was a  
 coordinated attack by the  
 rebels. They're getting bolder  
 and bolder. Bring me the phone!

The Sultan waves away the nurses and dials the telephone.

96. EXT. CITY CENTRE (ULAI). NIGHT

Crowds of people are demonstrating in the streets outside the parliamentary building located in the city centre of downtown Ulai. Waving placards of "Down with corruption", "Independence for the people", bottles and rocks are thrown at the police and republican guards of Ulai in riot gear, assembled behind police barricades at the front of the

building.

Elsewhere at the British embassy downtown, throngs of people are demonstrating as well, waving placards, demanding the "Withdrawal of the British from Ulai". Behind barricades fronting the building, English Petroleum (EP) security forces and General McCallum's British troops are lined up in formation. As they lift the barricades and march towards the demonstrators, the people start to retreat as an open fight breaks out.

97. INT. ULAI PALACE. NIGHT

The Sultan of Ulai is talking on the phone.

SULTAN OF ULAI

General McCallum! Jeffrey ah.  
Thank you so much for your  
swift action. Oh, coordinated  
between English Petroleum's  
security force and your troops.  
Ah, I see. Please relay my  
gratitude to them also... Yes...

As he puts down the phone, he realizes that the assistance of the British has weakened his bargaining position.

98. EXT. COAST OF BORNEO. NIGHT

A motorized sampan cruises along in the moonlight along the coast of Borneo. Suha and his man are in the boat, looking out for the bigger boat they are supposed to board. As the boat turns along the river, we see a larger barge anchored in the water, illuminated by a lamp. Several beaten up men are resting on the deck of the barge. Suha's features lighten when he sees the barge. Suha steers the sampan next to the barge. Boarding the barge, he is greeted with hugs from his rebel mates on the deck. The sampan is stowed near the tail end of the barge as the barge sails into the open sea towards Kalimantan, Indonesia. In the pale moonlight, Suha is seated on the deck as we hear the long drawl of the chugging motorboat ringing over the quiet water.

99. INT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SINOSIA). DAY

Barry is seated at his table, talking to Anthony'samy.

BARRY YAO

Anthony, how many unionists can

you rustle up who will put  
their support behind you?

ANTHONY SAMY

Off hand, there's Beng Huat,  
Raja, Gopal and a few others,  
probably about 10 people.

BARRY YAO

Ok. That'll do for now. Our  
first act as the new government  
is to set up a new national  
trade union. I want you to head  
up the union. I'll get the  
labour and finance ministry to  
set things up. Start looking  
around for a good office. I  
want our Sinosian trade union  
to be registered and up and  
running as soon as possible.

ANTHONY SAMY

Sure thing, Barry. I'll get on  
it right now.

100. EXT. SINOSIAN TRADE UNION OFFICE HQ (SINOSIA). DAY

A group of reporters are gathered in front of a building where eleven people including Anthony Samy and Barry Yao are gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony. At the top of the entrance are the words Sinosian Trade Union (STU). As they pose for the cameras, they cut the ribbon for the opening of STU as the cameras flash and reporters take photos.

101. EXT. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SINOSIA). DAY

Outside a grand looking mason building, a large crowd of Chinese Sinosians have gathered. A black car pulls up to the curb of the building. The doorknob of the building twists, and the door slowly opens. Close-up of an ashen looking Lim Shin Kok as he opens the door to shouts and cheers and continuous camera flashes and questions. A group of men hurriedly get out of the car. One of them is Siew Meng. They try to buffer Shin Kok from the crowd and reporters as they try to bundle him into the car. But Shin Kok sees trade unionists. He is moved. He uses his hands to stop his minders. Raising both of his hands into the air, he tries to get the crowd to quieten down as he speaks.

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Dear comrades, friends, I'm very thankful for all your support. Thank you for your kind thoughts, for taking precious time out to be here for me. I promise you, as long as I have your support, I will continue to fight for an independent Sinosia! Thank you all! Thank you!

Shin Kok gets into the car; the car door shuts as the car drives away.

102. EXT. KALIMANTAN. DAY

A jeep drives up a sloping forest road towards a remote camp in a clearing. In the front seat is Damien. As the jeep rounds up the slope, a man steps out of a wooden house, hands waving hello. It is Suha. Damien stops the jeep in front of the house and steps out of the jeep. Upon seeing Damien, Suha walks towards the jeep and hugs him.

SUHA

Thank you for sending the boat my friend! Without your precautions and help, I never would've been able to escape!

DAMIEN

It was nothing Suha. The Sultan has his eyes and ears close to the ground so you can never be too careful. How are things so far?

SUHA

I'm more or less settled now. I've been trying to get out more. Trying to meet more Ulai citizens here.

SUHA

Thank you so much, Damien. You've been an invaluable help to all of us! Ulai will not forget you when we're finally free of the Sultan!

DAMIEN

A free Ulai benefits all, Suha.  
I have some friends in  
Kalimantan who you should meet.  
But for now, I look forward to  
your hospitality!

SUHA

Come in, we are going to have a  
feast tonight!

They both laugh and head into the hut.

103. EXT. SINOSIA AIRPORT. DAY

A plane flies in, touches down on the tarmac and taxis into  
the airport.

104. INT. ARRIVAL HALL. SINOSIA AIRPORT. DAY

Paul Ho is standing with a few men at the crowded airport  
arrival lounge. As the gate opens, a man in his 40s walks  
towards Paul. Paul walks towards the tall, bespectacled  
Caucasian man with a handshake and a smile.

PAUL HO

Louis! Welcome to Sinosia!

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

Thank you, Paul! You look well,  
my friend.

PAUL HO

As do you, Louis, as do you.  
Come, let my men get your  
luggage. We'll send you to your  
hotel to freshen up first  
before meeting Barry.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

Sure. That would be splendid.

As the two men following Paul take Professor Cruyff's  
luggage, the two men talk as they walk towards the exit of  
the airport.

105. EXT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (SINOSIA). DAY

A black car drives into the gates of the Prime Minister's  
office building.

106. INT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (SINOSIA). DAY

Barry is seated at his desk. As a knock is heard, Barry gets up and walks towards the door. The door opens and Paul ushers in Professor Cruyff as Barry extends his hand for a handshake.

BARRY YAO (SHAKING PROF CRUYFF'S HANDS)

How are you, Professor Cruyff?  
It's my pleasure to welcome you  
to Sinosia. How was your flight  
from New York?

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

Oh, please, just call me Louis.  
It was a little delayed but my  
flight was good. It's good to  
see you again after our meeting  
at the UN.

BARRY YAO (SHOWS CRUYFF TO HIS SEAT)

Thank you, it is our pleasure  
to be able to invite you here.  
Please, have a seat. So, what  
are your impressions of Sinosia  
so far?

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

The airport was ok. Along the  
way, I passed through the city  
and it is very vibrant. It's  
even better than my last visit  
here.

BARRY YAO

I'm so glad to hear that,  
Louis. Paul has briefed me on  
your thoughts on the economic  
development plans Sinosia could  
potentially embark on. I think  
a visit of our existing  
industrial areas and our port  
would be a good way to see what  
you could work with in your  
development plan for us.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

Sure...sure... That sounds good.

Professor Cruyff reaches into his inner jacket pocket and fishes out a pipe.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF  
I'm sorry. Do you mind if I  
smoke my pipe?

BARRY YAO  
No...no...please, go head.

Close-up of Professor Cruyff's hands as he takes out his tobacco pouch and starts to put the tobacco into the bowl of his pipe. It is one-piece smoking pipe with intricate carvings on the stem with a pewter bowl shaped and inspired by Chinese opium pipes.

BARRY YAO  
That's a very unique and  
beautiful pipe that you have  
there. Very oriental looking.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF  
Ah, yes, it is. It is a gift.  
It's a one of a kind piece,  
actually. The bowl of the pipe  
is inspired by the Chinese  
opium pipe.

Professor Cruyff takes a puff of his pipe and continues.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF  
I hear from Paul that you have  
been thinking of pursuing an  
import substitution strategy.  
But the size of Sinosia's...

BARRY YAO (INTERRUPTING PROF CRUYFF)  
We have plans to merge with  
Medonia and Ulai, which will  
vastly increase our production  
capabilities and the size of  
our domestic market.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF  
Ah... then that might work. I  
know most newly independent  
nations value self-  
sustainability but the import  
substitution strategy is still

essentially protectionist. If you can indulge me, I have a suggestion that can fast track the growth of Sinosia immensely within a span of a decade.

Barry's eyes widen with surprise as he exchanges looks of disbelief with Paul. Barry gestures with his hand for Prof Cruyff to continue.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

Sinosia's economy is currently dominated by its entrepot trade with the world. In order to fully exploit its economic potential, we need to transform Sinosia into an efficient, high volume centre of manufacturing and industrialization. The key to achieving this is to attract foreign investment from multinational companies looking to set up cheaper bases of production overseas. This will create lots of jobs for locals and valuable transfers of technology from these MNCs. Coupled with detailed planning and development of large scale public housing and a 10-year development plan, Sinosia will be able to leap ahead of other economies espousing the import substitution strategy.

Barry ponders quietly on what he just heard as we see the excitement on his face disappear, replaced by caution.

BARRY YAO

That sounds great on paper and it'll undoubtedly bring immense growth in the short run but I worry if the influx of foreign manufacturers might eventually stunt the growth of our local industries, our local entrepreneurs. At the core, this strategy competes on price; and when the costs of



production here outstrips the cost of production in another third world country, the MNCs will leave, leaving our economy completely exposed. What do you think, Paul?

PAUL HO

Well, you've made a very valid point. Although I think our value as a manufacturing base has to be tied in to our strategic location as one of the leading ports in the world. The efficiency of our workforce, political stability, those are key factors too. The plan can also be sustained by moving up the value chain of industries – from primary to tertiary – that will also allow us to improve the base of our economy as well.

BARRY YAO

Those are good points. But I think the idea is moot. We're in advance negotiations to merge with Medonia and Ulai. With a vast domestic market and natural resources within our reach, import substitution will enable us to grow our own local industries from the start. But we are very interested in your thoughts on developing an efficient, large-scale housing plan for Sinosia, Professor Cruyff. That is one of the prime concerns we have to solve as soon as possible.

PROFESSOR CRUYFF

Great. We'll go over your population and land use charts and start working out housing plans are the best and most efficient for Sinosia.

Barry smiles as he looks at Paul. Paul smiles as he exchanges glances with Professor Cryuff.

107. INT. KALIMANTAN GOVERNMENT HOUSE (KALIMANTAN). DAY

An ornate painting hangs on the wall of a study. Gazali, a Malay man in an ornate traditional Malay suit, is seated at a desk, listening to Suha, who is seated, holding the hand of a beautiful Malay girl.

SUHA (IN MALAY)

Gazali, I hope you can give us your support in our fight for Ulai's independence.

GAZALI (IN MALAY)

That is not my fight, Suha. You know that. You might have the heart of my little sister but that only makes us family, not allies.

SUHA (IN MALAY)

Gazali, I am not asking you for any armed troops or anything. Just for protection against any Ulai incursions into Kalimantan for me or my men. We're on sovereign Kalimantan soil and humbly, I'm hoping that you'll help me to keep your sister safe. I can lose my life but I cannot lose her. The people of Ulai are on my side, Gazali. If we succeed, we will finally be able to wrest back the oil rights from the British bastards and the Sultan. Rights that can be then be granted to local companies or even Kalimantan companies.

GAZALI (IN MALAY)

For the sake of my sister's safety and the sovereign right of Kalimantan, I will command our troops to repel any Ulai incursions here. You have my word on that. As for the oil

rights, we can discuss that further another day.

SUHA (IN MALAY)

That is all we need, Gazali.  
Thank you so much for your kindness.

Gazali extends his hand for his sister to kiss as he ponders in his head the money to be made from the oil rights.

108. EXT. ULAI ROYAL PALACE. DAY

A black car enters the gates of the palace, heading towards the main entrance of the palace. As the black car pull up at the porch of the palace, we see a red carpet and two lines of guards forming a welcoming line flanking the carpet. At the top of the flight of stairs at the porch entrance of the palace is the Sultan of Ulai, flanked by his secretary of state. As the door of the car swings open and we see it is Abdul Kadir and his entourage. Abdul Kadir steps up the red carpet and shakes the Sultan's hands. Together they head into the palace.

109. INT. PALACE STUDY. (ULAI). DAY

The Sultan and Abdul Kadir are seated across from each other in individual armchairs centred at either flank of a coffee table. The two of them have obviously been talking for a while as evidenced by the half eaten snacks on the table and the half empty jug of fruit juice.

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

With the inclusion of Ulai into our merger with Sinasia, the newly formed Medonesia will be transformed overnight into one of the biggest economies in Asia. Politically, we'll hold more sway on the international stage and new Medonisian citizens will enjoy a better standard of living through our import substitution industrialization programme, which will propel grow our local companies and help us achieve developed nation status

within one generation.

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)

I am sure with the combined natural resources of Ulai and Medonia and the entrepot trade of Sinosia, your vision might come true but you are wasting your breath if you think I'll get into bed with my enemies.

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

Enemies? What are you talking about, your highness? Medonia and Ulai have always been like brothers.

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)

Our Muslim brethren in Medonia are like brothers, yes. But you are getting into bed with people like Lim Shin Kok. Has he told you what he has in mind for Ulai?

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

Shin Kok? He and I have never spoken about Ulai at all...

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)

He is a sly one Kadir. He keeps his cards close to his chest. In the past few years, rebels opposing the royal family have joined hands with foreign elements. This Lim Shin Kok is an ally of my enemies in Ulai. There's been a coup attempt in Ulai, widespread violence in the city and even an attempt on my life. The man responsible for all this is a scumbag named Suha. Calling himself a "liberator", he managed to escape to Kalimantan. Even though Barry has delivered on his promise to get Lim Shin Kok arrested, Shin Kok is now free and is still part of the

People's Democratic Party. Suha has not only signed a pact with Lim Shin Kok to recognize his leadership status, now, he also has the backing of the Kalimantan forces against my Ulai agents! Why should I join hands with you and let these weasels back into the country to kill me? If not for my bodyguards, I will not be alive to talk to you today. (Stands up in anger) And even if I can forget your ties with men who have harmed my soldiers and my people, can you promise me that Kalimantan will stand by and do nothing if I were to join hands with you, when they have probably been promised the riches of my kingdom from the forces who are trying to overthrow my sultanate?

ABDUL KADIR (IN MALAY)

Your highness, I humbly apologise for any offense you might have felt by my proposal. I assure you, I am totally in the dark about Lim Shin Kok and his dealings. I can assure you that everyone in Medonia and Sinosia bear no ill will towards the royal family of Ulai. I'm sure we can resolve any misunderstanding between the leaders of Sinosia and you. The person leading the process in Sinosia is Prime Minister Barry Yao. If you're unhappy with Lim Shin Kok, I am sure we can get rid of him...

SULTAN OF ULAI (IN MALAY)

Thank you for visiting me, Kadir but Ulai is not interested in a merger with Medonia and Sinosia. Even if you can promise me the head of

Lim Shin Kok, we both know you have no power over the dealings of Kalimantan and their armed forces. Stay for dinner and enjoy our hospitality but there will be no more talk on your merger proposal.

Abdul Kadir is stunned into silence for an eternity. Slowly, he answers the Sultan.

ABDUL KADIR (STILL IN SHOCK)

Thank you for taking the time to talk to me and your hospitality, your highness. I'm afraid I'll have to rush back to inform my colleagues about our talk. I will visit you again, your highness. Thank you.

Abdul Kadir shakes the hand of the Sultan and turns to exit the room, anguish written all over his face.

110. INT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. DAY

A fist pounds on the desk of the Prime Minister. Barry is standing with his fists on his desk, angry.

BARRY YAO

What do you mean, Ulai is not interested?! We came through with Shin Kok! That's not enough?

PAUL HO

Kadir just called me. There's been a failed coup in Ulai and word is Kalimantan has given the rebels refuge. So the Sultan is not sure if Kalimantan would send troops to interfere with Ulai should there be a merger. He's not willing to take a chance at upsetting Kalimantan. And he doesn't want anything to do with anyone who is connected to Lim Shin Kok.

BARRY YAO (SITS BACK DOWN)

We can't do anything about Kalimantan.(pauses) The British have their prize now... Regardless, Sulah, Medonia and the rest of Borneo plus Sinosia is still a super proposition. I'm sure Kadir realizes that too. We go ahead with merger.

111. INT. COFFEESHOP (SINOSIA). DAY

Inside a crowded coffeeshop, the customers are eating breakfast. Waiters are busy serving coffee. As one of the waiters is serving coffee, the radio news broadcasts this piece of news.

RADIO BROADCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

The British government yesterday night formally granted Sinosia the right to self-government. According to the Sinosia Prime Minister's Office, the British government will continue to take charge of Sinosia's defence and foreign affairs. The British government will also continue to have full jurisdiction over the use of the Public Security Act.

The patrons in the coffeeshop break into cheers.

112. INT. PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARY HQ (SINOSIA). DAY

Lim Shin Kok is shouting at Barry Yao. Overcome with anger, he has to be held back by Siew Meng while Paul Ho is standing next to Barry.

LIM SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

You promised the stinking whiteys the continued use of the Public Security Act, that's just helping them to jail more students! You've sold out the Sinosian people! How are you different from a bloody traitor?!

BARRY YAO

To cook an omelette, you have to break a few eggs. If you or Marshall Benjamin understood that, Sinasia would've gotten self-rule a long time ago!

LIM SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

So what if you have self-government? You give a tyrant self-government, let him jail whomever he wants, how is that a life of freedom for the people? How is that different from living as a eunuch? Marshall didn't give in to that becos he loved the people, he had dignity and principles!

BARRY YAO

Dignity, principles? Can you live on principles, alone? You can't make your own rules when you're not the master of the game! We are at the mercy of the British. Politics is compromise. I got our foot in the door. It was my compromise that got us self-rule. In a few years, we'll have independence. Tell me where would we be now if I didn't give them that? Tell me!

LIM SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

If we had held on for a few months more, I don't believe the British wouldn't have backed down. You...

BARRY YAO (INTERRUPTING)

Me? They were never going to make a deal with you! I got us where we needed to be. I...

LIM SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

You betrayed us! You betrayed me, didn't you?



BARRY YAO

I don't know what you are talking about. Man, they must have done a number on you in prison to make you so paranoid.

LIM SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

Yao Quee Lang, you listen up! We are finished! You can keep the name People's Democratic Party. I will set up a new party. I want to see whether the people will support me in the next elections or a traitor like you!

Lim Shin Kok and Siew Meng stare indignantly at Barry Yao. Barry and Paul leave the premises hurriedly.

MONTAGE:

*113. EXT. COMMUNITY CENTRE (SINOSIA). DAY*

*In front of a two storey building, a reporter is reporting a news event.*

REPORTER

*I am standing now in front of the opening of Sinosia's first "Neighbourhood Centre". Build especially for Sinosia residents, these Neighbourhood Centres will soon be found in every estate in Sinosia, providing Sinosian residents with sports facilities like basketball courts and study centres, residents can also approach their local PDP grassroots leaders for monthly consults.*

*Barry Yao, grassroots leaders and members of the press are lined up in front of a red ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Sinosia's first "Neighbourhood Centre". The cameras flash when Barry and the grassroots cut the ribbon.*

*Members of the public happily explore the basketball courts and reading rooms, as well as cooking class demonstrations.*

*A PDP Member of Parliament is also on hand to shake hands with the people.*

*CUT TO:*

*114. EXT. PUP/PDP PARTY HEADQUARTERS. DAY*

*A large throng of people are standing in front of what used to be the People's Democratic Party Headquarters. A reporter is standing in front of the building reporting on the event.*

*REPORTER (IN HOKKIEN)*

*We are here today to witness a shedding of the past as the former headquarters of the People's Democratic Party is officially unveiled as the new headquarters of the People's United Party.*

*A worker is removing the PDP logo and initials from the headmast in front of the building. The logo and initials are tossed from the top of the entrance and the new logo of the People's United Party is affixed to the headquarter's entrance as the people cheer. Looking proudly in front of the people is Lim Shin Kok and Siew Meng as the crowd cheers loudly.*

*CUT TO:*

*115. INT. NATIONAL THEATRE (SINOSIA). DAY*

*Barry Yao standing on stage at a podium giving a speech to a room full of government servants.*

*BARRY YAO*

*With the launching of the SAF Scholarship and the Public Service Scholarship, we will be able to recruit the best minds into the government to serve all Sinosians.*

*CUT TO:*

*116. INT. PARLIAMENT HOUSE (SINOSIA). DAY*

*Shin Kok speaking passionately in parliament, arguing with Barry in Parliament. We see Barry leading Paul and*

*Anthony'samy in raising their hands for a vote with close to half the assembly not raising their hands. Shin Kok and the rest of the opposition raise their hands as the parliamentary clerk counts the number of votes against and its 23 to 25 written on a white board with Barry and the PDP just edging out Shin Kok and the PUP by two votes.*

CUT TO:

117. EXT. SINOSIAN STREETS. DAY

*Shin Kok speaking passionately at a workers rally and Barry doing the same thing at an STU workers rally.*

END OF MONTAGE

CUT TO:

118. EXT. HARBOUR/DOWNTOWN (SINOSIA). DAY

Paul Ho and Barry Yao are strolling along the outskirts of downtown, just outside the gated harbour of Sinosia, looking out at the shophouse dominant cityscape opposite the boundaries of the Sinosian dry docks. A few metres behind the duo are a small detail of secret service agents with earpieces in their right ear. Gesturing to the cityscape, Barry speaks.

BARRY YAO

What do you see, Paul?

PAUL HO

Unfulfilled potential. Instead of shophouses, gleaming skyscrapers housing leading global financial institutions, a vibrant financial sector, shipping companies, lucrative commercial real estate, all connected by a world class transportation network.

BARRY YAO

Exactly. We're in position to make that happen, Paul. We've got to.

PAUL HO

Well, we'll need to build up our trade and industry ministry

to attract real estate developers from the west but it'll be very tough given how underdeveloped our current infrastructure is. There needs to be a lot more in place to lure in the investment we're looking for. But if we do it ourselves, we'll need to vastly improve our reserves just to buy out all these landowners and we haven't even factored in the development costs. That might set our national reserves into the red for years. Both are hard challenges, slow processes but they're safe (starts to bait Barry). I mean the alternative would be far more expeditious but so much more perilous politically.

BARRY YAO (LOOKS KNOWINGLY AT PAUL)

You know we've conquered tougher odds, Paul. We're not going to sell ourselves out to the capitalists of the world. Sinosian assets must always remain in the hands of the government, only then can we have full control of our destiny. We'll pass a National Development Act, draw up the redevelopment plans in advance to justify the nominal compensation.

PAUL HO

We can set up a government investment fund that will show the public the land is being held in trust and developed by the government. Then we can bring in Sinosia's leading local entrepreneurs and jointly develop Sinosia with foreign investors.

BARRY YAO

All the developed land will only be leased, Paul. Nothing must be sold in perpetuity.

As they walk on, Paul raises another query as he sees worry creeping into Barry's face.

PAUL HO

We only have a two-vote majority in Parliament. I'm worried about the excessive scrutiny. With Shin Kok still stirring up more union support...

BARRY YAO

We can't have the bill going through extensive debate in parliament - that will allow them to set off too many red flags. It would set Sinosia's development back a decade if we don't get this passed. It's time to get the British involved again.

119. EXT/INT. CITY HALL (SINOSIA). DAY

Establishing shot of city hall building. Inside, Barry, Paul, Anthony Samy, Thomas Rutherford and Damien are seated at a conference table discussing a new initiative.

PAUL HO

Our security services are being stretched to the limit with this upswing in union and communist activities.

BARRY YAO

With his links to communists, the PUP and Lim Shin Kok are a menace to Sinosia. They are only two votes away from being the majority in parliament. If we let this communist influence take over the country, we are finished. Sinosia will fall to the communists. There will be a domino effect across the region

with communism taking root from across the whole of Asia. Operation Cold Sweep will end this communist scourge once and for all in one massive sweep across both Sinosia and Medonia.

THOMAS RUTHERFORD

Our men haven't picked up any warning signals about PUP yet but we'll support any operation that'll cripple the communists. The communists have to be stopped now before any dominos fall.

BARRY YAO

Great (shakes Thomas' hands).  
Let's get to work.

MONTAGE

120. EXT. PUP HQ (SINOSIA). DAY

*The police break into the entrance of the PUP and arrest party members.*

121. EXT SIEW MENG'S RESIDENCE (SINOSIA) DAY

*Siew Meng's door is broken down as police rush in and pin him on the ground, putting cuffs on his hands.*

122. EXT. SHIN KOK'S RESIDENCE (SINOSIA). DAY

*The door of Shin Kok's living room is broken down. The police rush in and Shin Kok is pinned, then cuffed and taken away.*

123. EXT. TAN KOK KEONG'S OFFICE (SINOSIA). DAY

*Police rush into Tan Kok Keong's office and arrest him. Stepping out of his office block in cuffs, with reporters snapping his photo, he turns to the reporters and shouts.*

TAN KOK KEONG

*I am not a communist! I am not a communist!*

124. EXT. MEDONIA VILLAGE. DAY

*British intelligence and Medonian troops move in as they move into a wooden hut in a village. As gunfire breakout, we see men running out the hut, exchanging fire with the police. They are shot down.*

125. INT. PARLIAMENT HOUSE. DAY

*In a show of hands, a whittled down parliament passes the merger bill unanimously as well as the National Development Act on land development in Sinosia.*

126. EXT. PARADE FIELD (SINOSIA). DAY

*Barry Yao, Paul Ho, Anthony Samy hold hands with Abdul Kadir, and several members of Sulah and Borneo and raising their arms aloft on a stage in front of thousands of Sinosians on a large stage at one end of a large field as the people cheer. Emblazoned on a huge banner across the entire stage are the words "Medonisia Forever".*

END OF MONTAGE

127. EXT/INT. FREEMASON LODGE (SINOSIA). DAY

Establishing shot of the Freemason lodge. Midshot of Damien seated at his desk. In the foreground we see a shoulder of the person he's talking to.

DAMIEN

So Barry is also backed by  
Langley?

CAMBRIDGE CYCLING MAN (AMERICAN ACCENT)

He's the only credible asset  
Langley has in the area. Of  
course, we know what he has to  
gain from working with us but  
based on just what he's willing  
to do, he's without doubt the  
staunchest commie killer we  
have in Asia.

Damien stands up, turns around, walks to the nearby window, opens the curtains and looks out. He turns around to look at Cambridge cycling man, the sunlight catching his face as he speaks.

DAMIEN

Personally, he's far too

temperamental and spoiled for my taste. Holster's a much better bet but Barry is his choice and he prefers to keep a lower profile. I don't see too much resistance in Yao's path but I can tell you this: The British won't be happy about being patsies, especially with the likes of Yao using them for political gain. He's going to have to earn this for himself. Keep me informed of his plans.

Damien turns his torso around and looks out the window again. Over his shoulder we see the bright, vibrant streets below. In the sky a plane roars by.

128. EXT. 10 DOWNING STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON. DAY

An aeroplane flies by in the sky above 10 Downing Street. The camera tracks through the street leading to the front of 10 Downing Street, through the window, down the corridor, through the wall and into the private study where Barry Yao is seated across from the Secretary of Colonies.

BARRY YAO

Lyndon, with the merger bill signed, what remains now is Sinosia's last elections as a self-ruled nation before we officially join Medonesia as an independent nation. To ensure nothing goes wrong, we would appreciate if we could tell the public that my government requested the release of those arrested under the Public Security Act but that your office insisted on holding Lim Shin Kok. This way we use the release of Shin Kok as an election promise, then you can release him after the elections.

SECRETARY OF COLONIES

That would be splendid, wouldn't it? The thing is, MI6



has just passed me some very pertinent information about Lim Shin Kok after months of intense investigation. Turns out all the man is guilty of is being a royal pain-in-the-arse unionist. There's actually no concrete proof of his links to the Medonian Communist Party at all. The British government is fully appreciative of all the good work the Sinosian security team has done in concert with British special forces but I'm afraid our Royal duties stop short of being colluders in a third world power grab. Based on the new evidence we've gathered, we will be releasing Lim Shin Kok from Public Security Detention. You can do with him what you like on your own time. Now, if there's nothing else you'll like to discuss, I'm going to have my tea now. You're welcomed to join me, of course.

The Secretary of Colonies steps out of the room.

MONTAGE

*129. INT. INSIDE AN AEROPLANE. DAY*

*Barry Yao sitting in the plane, twirling his ring, contemplating what he should do.*

*CUT TO:*

*130. EXT. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SINOSIA). DAY*

*Outside a grand looking mason building, with a large crowd of Chinese Sinosians gathered around the door, Lim Shin Kok emerges from the door of the Ministry and raises his arms to the crowd to shouts, cheers and continuous camera flashes and questions.*

*CUT TO:*

## 131. EXT. PUP ELECTION RALLY (SINOSIA). DAY

*Lim Shin Kok is standing at a podium speaking to a huge crowd of followers in an election rally.*

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

*When Yao Quee Lang and the People's Democratic Party discussed the merger with Medonia, they totally ignored the issue of political equality between the Medonia and Sinosia. Even though Barry Yao got us self-government, the British are still arresting Sinosian citizens left and right. What kind of self-governance is this? I, Lim Shin Kok, promise you, if the People's United Party is elected as government, we will get all of you the freedom that all Sinosians deserve!*

*The crowd goes wild with cheers.*

## 132. EXT. PDP ELECTION RALLY (SINOSIA). DAY

*Barry Yao is standing at a podium speaking to a huge crowd of followers at an election rally.*

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)

*Dear friends, in the last elections, I stood here and promised you I will obtain self-governance from the British government and free all the PDP members imprisoned by the British government. I have delivered on all my promises! Today, as I stand before you again, I promise you, if we join with Medonia in a merger, all of us will be prosperous and we will never go hungry again! Medonia has such a large domestic market and a large population, Sinosia's economy will surely grow from strength to strength in the future!*

CUT TO:

133. EXT. SINOSIA STREETS. EVENING

*In the streets of Sinosia, we see citizens carrying PUP flags and placards carrying Shin Kok's face.*

CUT TO:

134. EXT. POLLING BOOTHS (SINOSIA) IN A SCHOOL. EVENING

*We see two snaking long queues of people lining up in a school, registering to vote as they enter a voting booth.*

CUT TO:

135. EXT. PUBLIC SCHOOL QUADRANGLE (SINOSIA). NIGHT

*A large crowd of people are standing in the quadrangle of a school looking up at the second floor corridor of the school where a microphone has been set up. In front of the crowd, metal railings have been set up to control the crowd. This is one of the polling stations where results will be announced. As we peer over the crowd to the officials standing behind the railings in front of the crowd, we can see PDP officials in white milling around as well as PUP officials in blue milling around. The PUP officials are smiling and patting themselves on the back while the PDP officials look worried. At the foreground of the crowd, we see a radio reporter talking to a colleague, receiving a sheet of paper. The reporter then turns on her microphone and reports the latest news about the election.*

RADIO NEWS BROADCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

*Hello everyone, I have just received the latest updates on the elections. As of 7.30pm today, all electoral polls at all major electoral districts show a 60 to 40 percentile lead for the People's United Party. Barring any large changes in the voting patterns, the People's United Party is on track for a landslide victory over the incumbent PDP with PUP chairman Lim Shin Kok being elected Sinosia's first Prime Minister in our new era in*

*Medonisia.*

END OF MONTAGE

136. EXT/INT. PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE. EVENING

Establishing shot of the Prime Minister's Office building. Inside the office is a messy room full of PDP party members, election flags and photos all around, and a big blackboard with all the votes and polling results of the Sinosian election. Everyone looks worried. Anthonysamy enters the room with a sheet of paper and we follow him as he opens the door and we see Barry Yao and his wife seated in a sofa in a room. Barry is on tenterhooks; worry overcast on his face, holding Choon Neo's hand as she sits beside him offering him silent support.

ANTHONY SAMY

Sir, I have the latest poll results...the PUP is still leading in most...

BARRY YAO

Just leave the results on the table. I need some time alone.

ANTHONY SAMY

Yes, sir.

Anthonysamy exits the room and closes the door. As the door shuts, we see the expression on Barry's face soften from his usual fierce demeanour to a tender, worried face. He leans his head ever so slightly on Choon Neo's shoulder.

BARRY YAO

I was so confident, Choon. I really thought I'd done enough to get the people's support. Just once, I really wanted to beat him "mano a mano" and show everyone once and for all I'm the better man...

CHOON NEO

There is no one else but you, dear. You know Lim Shin Kok is not in your league. All he has is a flair for the populist. If all anyone needed to be a

leader was to have the people's welfare at heart, every Tom, Dick and Harry can do the job. To be able to get full control of Overseas Asian Bank, you have to deliver total control of Sinosia. There is no other way. The game's not afoot yet. You know there is still time. Just remember you're doing this for the good of Sinosia. It's not for you. It's for the good of the nation, for the future of Sinosia.

BARRY YAO

You are right, dear. (squeezes her hand).

Barry puts his "game face" back on and makes a phone call.

137. INT. NONDESCRIPT ROOM (SINOSIA). NIGHT

Wearing an unzipped overall, Cambridge cycling man is looking into a mirror, combing his hair when the phone rings. He answers it, nods a few times and whispers some answers we can't hear. Pressing the cradle of the phone, he dials another number.

CAMBRIDGE CYCLING MAN (SPEAKING ON PHONE)

It's on.

Putting the phone down, he zips up his public utilities overall. He picks up a repair box and exits to the door.

138. INT/EXT. WAREHOUSE (SINOSIA). NIGHT

Inside a dim lit warehouse with tall ceilings, we see rows of metal ballot boxes. On a table are seated six men, all wearing the same blue uniform, talking among themselves. We see a man with a scar on his cheek answering a phone. He is one of Cambridge cycling man's henchmen who instigated the riot at Lim Shin Kok's rally. Scarface nods, whispers something short and puts down the phone. As he turns to signal the men with his hands, we see an election official badge on his shirt. The men all get up and carry two ballot boxes each out of the warehouse.

Scarface and his men walk towards a navy blue truck that looks like an unmarked postal truck.

MONTAGE:

139. EXT/INT. POLLING STATION. NIGHT

*We see the same navy blue unmarked postal truck in the parking lot of a school serving as a polling station. The driver of the truck is just putting his cigarette.*

*Near the polling booth, the election officials are locking the ballot boxes. Taking the ballot box from the two polling stations, they carry the four boxes towards the truck in the car park.*

*The officials load the truck with the ballot boxes as the driver gets into the truck and drives out of the compound.*

140. EXT. POLLING STATION. NIGHT

*Another ballot box truck drives out of a polling station. We see the driver is wearing the same uniform as Scarface.*

141. EXT. POLLING STATION. NIGHT

*A ballot box truck drives out of the polling station. The driver is wearing the same uniform as Scarface.*

142. EXT. ROAD (SINOSIA). NIGHT

*A truck drives along a winding road. A few metres behind is an identical truck from another polling station. Another truck turns into the same road just ahead, making it three trucks. Turning into the same road, we see Scarface in the front seat of a fourth truck tailing the three trucks before them.*

143. EXT. ELECTRIC SUBSTATION NEAR POLLING STATION (SINOSIA). NIGHT

*A man wearing Public Utilities overalls approaches the gate of an electric substation with a fence. From the mid-shot of him opening the lock of the gate, we can see his face in the moonlight. He is Cambridge cycling man. He opens the door to the substation and enters.*

*Inside the substation is a dizzying array of switches, switchboxes and cables labelled according to streets & buildings. Cycling man takes out a small note, looks at it,*

*proceeds to look at which switchbox matches the info.*

144. EXT/INT. CHIEF VOTE COUNTING STATION (SINOSIA). NIGHT

*Establishing shot of the vote counting station, a non-descript mason building.*

*Inside one of the halls of the building, we see wood panelled floors with drop down ceiling lights as rows tables and votes are being sorted out according to districts. Along the side of the room is a huge board detailing up to the minute vote counts as election officials and a member of each party are there as witnesses.*

145. INT. ELECTRIC SUBSTATION NEAR COUNTING STATION (SINOSIA). NIGHT

*Close-up of Cambridge cycling man. He looks at his watch as one of his hands holds a pair of cutters poised to cut four wires. As the minute hand of his watch hits 8.45pm, he cuts the wires.*

146. EXT. STREET OUTSIDE COUNTING STATION. NIGHT

*From the air looking over the one block radius of the polling station, the whole block suddenly goes dark as all the lights in the vicinity goes out.*

147. EXT. ENTRANCE OF COUNTING STATION. NIGHT.

*As the lights cut out at the station, the three trucks start to roll into the compound of the counting station.*

148. INT. VOTE COUNTING STATION. NIGHT

*Inside the counting station, there is white noise from voices in the dark as everyone realizes there's been a blackout.*

*Along the dark corridors of the vote counting station, we see only the feet of numerous men in election officials' uniform walking swiftly forward, carrying ballot boxes.*

*We see two rows of ballot boxes. We see feet of men approach one row of the boxes. They deposit the boxes next to each box and take the existing box. They leave as swiftly as they came. The two rows of boxes look identical as before except the rows are slightly wider apart.*

149. EXT. PUBLIC SCHOOL QUADRANGLE (SINOSIA). NIGHT

*A reporter reports in front of one of the polling stations where PUP officials and party members have gathered. Standing in front of supporters and the public, the reporter speaks into a mic.*

RADIO NEWSCASTER (IN HOKKIEN)

*I have just received the latest news. There has been a massive blackout in Sinosia's District 11. Because the main electoral counting centre is in this district, there will be a delay in the vote counting process. The Sinosia electoral board has already sent out kerosene lamps to the vote counting centre. The police are investigating the cause of the blackout, whether it's a mechanical or human fault or sabotage.*

END OF MONTAGE

150. EXT/INT. PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE. EVENING

*Establishing shot of Prime Minister's Office. Inside the PM's office, Barry's office is now awash with activity with Paul and Anthonyamy in the room with Choon Neo and Barry.*

BARRY YAO

*(looking knowingly at Paul)  
It's sabotage by the communists. This time the PUP has gone too far. Anthony, mobilise the Public Security Force. I want Lim Shin Kok and all his communist collaborators under arrest now.*

ANTHONYAMY

*Yes, sir!*

*Anthonyamy leaves. Paul looks at Choon Neo reaching out to Barry, now looking very confident and back to his imperious self. Barry squeezes Choon Neo's hands & smiles.*

151. EXT. POLLING STATION. NIGHT



Still awaiting news of the blackout being fixed, a worried Shin Kok fears the worst as Siew Meng, Shin Kok and the rest of the PUP party members wait behind the metal railings. Before them is a huge crowd of PUP supporters who are equally restless and angry. They are chanting.

CROWD (IN HOKKIEN)

Yao Quee Lang cheated! Yao Quee  
Lang cheated!

The boots of riot troops marching in time fill the screen as they march towards the entrance of the polling station. Rushing through the crowd in two columns, the riot police penetrate through the crowd and over the railing. Taking out their cuffs, the police start arresting the PUP party members at the station. Cuffs are put on hands and members pinned to the ground. Cuffs are put on Siew Meng and Shin Kok. They are led away as the crowds are kept at bay. The PUP members are led into the police truck and taken away.

152. EXT/INT. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS INTERROGATION ROOM (SINOSIA). NIGHT

Establishing shot of Ministry of Home Affairs as the riot police truck pull into the compound.

In a dark room, we see a ray of light from a table lamp pointed straight at the face of Shin Kok, who's seated with his hands cuffed behind a wooden chair. An interrogator flings a file folder on Shin Kok onto the table.

INTERROGATOR

Confess now! Who are saboteurs  
who caused the blackout?

INTERCUT WITH:

153. INT. CORRIDORS OF MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS INTERROGATION ROOM (SINOSIA). NIGHT

We see a pair of well-heeled shoes walking a dark corridor alongside a pair of boots. The boots stop as the door opens while the well-heeled shoes are ushered past an iron door.

INTERCUT BACK TO:

154. INT. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS INTERROGATION ROOM (SINOSIA). NIGHT

The door behind Shin Kok opens. A figure walks in. The

figure signals the interrogator to exit the room. The interrogator nods, exits the room and closes the door behind him. The figure walks around slowly around Shin Kok. We can't see exactly who has entered but an unmistakable voice breaks the silence.

BARRY YAO

Did you really think you could  
beat me?

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

I should've known you would  
fight. Needless to say, all  
those shenanigans in the last  
elections was also done by you?

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)

What do you think?

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

For Sinosia to have such a  
gutless man like you in charge,  
the people will definitely  
suffer! You're not fit to be  
Prime Minister!

BARRY YAO

(in hokkien) I'm not fit? And  
you think you are? You were  
never going to be allowed to be  
the leader of Sinosia. You're  
the last person on Earth the  
British would trust with the  
future of Sinosia! Even if I  
was not there to take your  
place, they would just find  
someone like Lim Seng Quee to  
be Prime Minister. You went out  
of your way to embarrass the  
British. Why would anyone give  
you the hand of their daughter  
in marriage when you've gone  
out of your way to tell them  
you hate their guts?

SHIN KOK (IN HOKKIEN)

I'm not like you. I'm not  
someone's lackey. Everything I

do, I do for the good of the people of Sinosia.

BARRY YAO (IN HOKKIEN)

*Right. You do it for the people.* But power has never resided in the hands of the people. The world is ruled by evil men with power and they oversee the running of the entire globe. The game of politics has always been about POWER and MONEY. Each begets the other. You seriously think you should be the one to lead Sinosia? You can't even deal with a low level politician like me! You think I'm evil? I am a saint compared to everyone out there! What makes you think you can fend off all the bigger countries surrounding Sinosia? Could you have dealt with the CIA, paranoid as they are about any communist threat? Can you stop special interest groups from swallowing up Sinosia's economy for themselves without bankrupting us? Do you know how to make friends with strong states like America and not piss off opposing enemy states like China, Russia or Kalimantan? You can't even convince everybody you're not communist! No, no, let me tell you. There is only one fit ruler of Sinosia in this room and that's me! And I believe in Sinosia too much to let ignorant voters stop me from fulfilling my vision for Sinosia! I've already fixed the elections. Tonight, the PDP will be re-elected as the government and tomorrow, we'll begin the hard work of transforming our little island into the most powerful state in

Medonesia. And you. You have to be satisfied with being the person who helped me bridge the communication gap with the people. Because that's the furthest you can go.

Shin Kok looks at Barry, looks at the room. He looks at himself. There's a long pause and then he lets out a resigned chuckle, sniffing as a tear runs down his face.

SHIN KOK (LONG PAUSE, IN HOKKIEN)

Ha...ha...You know what? You might be right. I'm not as cunning as you. I only wanted to do something for the people. Maybe what Sinasia needs is someone who can deal with the evil forces of the world, fight fire with fire, win by any means necessary. That's definitely out of my wheelhouse. Maybe I'm not cut out for the dirty world of politics after all.

BARRY YAO

Don't even think about it (in hokkien). But I'll say one thing for you. At least you're honest with yourself. Not everyone has that courage. (takes out a piece of paper from a file) Just sign the confession, give up politics and I promise you, (in mandarin) you won't need 18 years, you can be a new man in a few weeks.

Barry leaves the room. As the iron door slams shut, we see Shin Kok in his chair. We hear loud cheers.

155. EXT. MEDONISIA SUPREME COURT STEPS. DAY

We hear loud cheers. Barry Yao, Abdul Kadir, Lyndon (the Secretary of Colonies) and the Chief Minister of Sulah and Borneo are standing at the top of the steps of Medonesia's Supreme Court with a giant banner "Medonesia Forever" behind them. The men join hands and raise their hands to the sky as the huge crowd gathered at the steps cheer.

As the cameras flash, the band starts the anthem of Medonisia and the men stand to attention as the flag of Medonisia is raised for the very first time in front of the Supreme Court in Medonisia.

156. INT. ULAI ROYAL PALACE. DAY

In the hall of the Sultan's palace, we see the Sultan seated at a long table for a press conference and public accord signing ceremony. Seated just next to him is the CEO of English Petroleum. The announcer of the event speaks.

ANNOUNCER

Members of the press, honoured members of the Ulai Royal family, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, we are honoured to have you here today at the Ulai Royal Palace to witness the signing of a new 10-year oil rights agreement between the people of Ulai, represented by his Royal Highness the Sultan of Ulai and English Petroleum of Britain, represented by EP CEO, Mr Godfrey Roberts. Your Highness, Mr Roberts...

The Sultan of Ulai signs the document as does Roberts. They are inundated by camera flashes. They exchange the two folders and sign again. Camera flashes continue as they shake hands and hold the agreement between them.

As the palace starts serving snacks and tea in an extended tea and chat session, we see Mr Roberts leading the Sultan to meet someone off camera. With Roberts standing in the centre, we see him approach a man in a tuxedo with his back turned away. As Roberts speaks (to the Sultan left of screen), the man in the tux turns around.

ROBERTS

Your highness, please let me introduce one of English Petroleum's chief shareholders, Mr Damien Magnus.

DAMIEN

It is my honour to finally meet

you at last, your highness.

Damien smiles as he shakes the Sultan's hand.

157. INT. BARRY YAO RESIDENCE/STUDY. DAY

Close-up of a framed black and white a photo of the last President of the Lanfang Republic in an elaborate general's suit (as seen in the photo at the Rotary Club) and Young Master, his son. At the lower right hand corner of the frame is the wrinkled thumb of an old man. As his thumb slowly caresses over the image of the Lanfang President, the camera pulls out and we over the shoulder of a 69-year old man looking at the photo, seated in a chair. A hand is placed on the shoulder of the man. It is Barry Yao. The old man reaches back to touch Barry's hand. Barry pumps the old man's shoulder emotionally.

OLD MAN (IN HAKKA LANGUAGE)

If your grandfather were still  
alive, he'd be very proud of  
you...

158. INT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (MEDONIA). DAY

Barry is staring out the window in his office, standing. On his table in the foreground is a map of Medonisia. Paul and Anthonyamy are seated at his desk. Barry turns and speaks.

BARRY YAO

We have to ensure that there is  
equality for all races in  
Medonisia. That is the only way  
that Sinosia will continue to  
prosper in Medonisia. We have  
to have a voice in the federal  
government.

ANTHONYAMY

What about the agreement with  
Abdul Kadir not to interfere in  
each other's domestic  
elections?

BARRY YAO

Since the MUP has seen fit to  
set up branches in Sinosia and  
contested our elections, I  
think it's fair game. (Perches

map) A Medonesia for all  
Medonisians – that will be the  
focus of our election campaign.

MONTAGE:

159. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

A large truck carrying Barry Yao, Paul Ho and Anthony Samy is slowly driving through town with a party members shouting out election messages through a bull horn. Adorned on the side of the truck are pasted photos of Barry Yao and the logo of PDP.

160. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

In front of a banner reading "A Medonesia for all Medonisians and the PDP logo, Barry Yao is standing at a podium giving an election rally speech to a predominantly Chinese crowd. As he makes his point with his fist pumping, the people cheer.

161. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

Abdul Kadir and the MUP party members walk through the streets shaking everyone's hands. A man with pamphlets start handing out pamphlets to everyone. A MUP party member takes one, looks at it and hands it immediately to Abdul Kadir. Kadir takes one look at it – it is a PDP election rally leaflet with Barry Yao's face on it and the slogan "A Medonesia for all Medonisians". Kadir crushes the leaflet angrily and throws it away.

162. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

Abdul Kadir stands at a podium giving an election rally speech, raising his fist in the air as the people cheer.

163. EXT. POLLING STATION (MEDONIA). DAY

Amidst loud cheers and chants of "PDP", we see Barry Yao standing at the second floor of a school building addressing the crowd of supporters who've just learnt the result of the election. PDP has won a seat in the federal government elections.

BARRY YAO (IN MALAY)  
Thank you, my fellow citizens!  
I want to thank all of you for

*selecting PDP as your  
representative in the federal  
elections! I promise all of you  
that the PDP will strive to  
achieve our goal of creating a  
Medonesia for all Medonians,  
regardless of race, language or  
religion!*

*There are rabid cheers all round as Barry and the PDP  
members wave to their riotous supporters.*

END OF MONTAGE

164. EXT. CAFÉ (MEDONIA). EVENING

Walter Brooke is seated at a café talking with Muhammad Hosni. We do not hear what they say but Walter Brooke is smiling as he shakes Hosni's hands.

165. EXT/INT. MEDONIA UNIFIED PARTY YOUTH WING HQ  
(MEDONIA). DAY

Establishing shot of Medonia Unified Party Youth Wing headquarters. Inside Hosni's office, Hosni is talking to Wahid and a few of his loyal men.

HOSNI (IN MALAY)

My brothers, by now, all of you have seen how much sway Abdul Kadir has over the MUP now. The merger has strengthened Kadir's position further. And this Barry Yao, he is an ambitious snake. I look at him and I see his ambition to rule over the whole of Medonesia.

WAHID (IN MALAY)

Yeah. Just look at what he has done to Lim Shin Kok. He's already grabbed one seat in Medonesia for his party. We mustn't allow him to spread his poison here!

HOSNI (IN MALAY)

All of you know that after the merger with Sinasia, the



proportion of Chinese people in Medonesia has increased by at least 30%. These Sinosians are all lusting after our money. To wrestle back control over the MUP, to rectify all the mistakes that Kadir has made, we have to carve out a leadership position among the majority of the voters in Medonesia. By putting everything behind the merger, Kadir has forgotten about the poor Malay folk in our city struggling against the high cost of living. They are paid low wages by their Chinese bosses. And this has only become worse after the merger. We must take back our country, my brothers! We have to stand up for our Malay brethren. We have to organize them into a social force, so that we can lead them to a better life. This is something that Kadir can never do and it is the only way we can change Medonesia for the better. Are you with me, brothers?

Wahid and the rest of his followers in the room all shout and raise their fists affirmatively. Hosni holds up both his hands to quieten them down. He then turns to Gazpar and talks directly to him.

HOSNI (IN MALAY)

Gazpar, I did not forget about our brethren in Sinosia. We know that our Malay brothers in Sinosia are overwhelmed by the Chinese government under Barry Yao. Just like our Malay brothers in Medonia, our Malay brothers in Sinosia need special rights, so that their livelihood won't be threatened by the Chinese and other ethnic groups. In concert with

the Prophet Mohammad's  
 birthday, we will help you  
 organize a march to press for  
 special rights for our Sinosian  
 brothers!

Everyone pats Gazpar on the back as Gazpar hugs Hosni.

MONTAGE

166. EXT. MEDONIA STREETS. DAY

*Well-to-do Sinosians shopping at roadside stalls helmed by ethnic Medonians, flashing the cash, buying up stuff.*

CUT TO:

*Chinese gangsters preying on Malay stallholders along the streets of Medonia and Sinosia.*

CUT TO:

167. EXT. MEDONIA UNIFIED PARTY YOUTH WING (MEDONISIA) DAY

*Within the compound of the Medonia Unified Party Youth Wing, a large number of poor ethnic Malay Medonia citizens have have gathered. The MUP have set up free food stalls and grocery collection stalls in the car park of the compound. At one corner of the premises is a stage where Hosni is now speaking to the crowd.*

HOSNI (IN MALAY)

*Brothers and sisters, we are  
 the original people of Medonia.  
 Our ancestors were born here.  
 For centuries, we've had a good  
 life living off Allah's gifts  
 to us like the fish in the sea,  
 agriculture, tin, rubber and  
 even oil. But now, I see all of  
 us struggling to make ends meet  
 in our own land. We're being  
 displaced by outsiders, Chinese  
 Sinosians who've moved across  
 to Medonia and have stolen our  
 livelihood! They band together,  
 undercut our businessmen, form  
 gangs to steal from us,  
 underpay our brothers and*

sisters. I tell you, this has got to stop! We cannot let this madness go on! We must fight back for what is ours! Are you with me brothers and sisters?

CUT TO:

168. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

A group of Malay folk march out of a mosque as they carry picket signs over unfair treatment by their bosses. Some are carrying "Sinosaurs out" signs. As they march along the streets, some of them are throwing bricks into shops.

CUT TO:

169. EXT/INT. MUP HEADQUARTERS (SINOSIA). DAY

Gazpar is leading a group of MUP Party members out of the headquarters. As they file out into the street, they are joined by a hundreds of Malay followers. Some of them are carrying picket signs reading "Special rights for Malays".

CUT TO:

170. EXT. CITY STREETS (MEDONIA). DAY

Some Chinese gangsters collecting protection fees from Malay folk. The mob of MUP members chance upon the men and yell at them. They rush towards the men and a fight breaks out.

CUT TO:

171. EXT/INT. MUP HEADQUARTERS (SINOSIA). DAY

Gazpar and hundreds of Malay followers are fighting in the streets with Chinese people we see broken Chinese provision shop windows and shopfronts. The police try to stop the fighting. They fire tear gas pallets and shoot water from fire hoses as they try to break up the riot.

END OF MONTAGE

172. INT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SINOSIA). DAY

Barry Yao is slumped in his chair, wordlessly staring at the table facing Paul Ho, as the radio blares out the news.

## RADIO ANNOUNCER

After three days of sectarian violence between the Chinese and Malays across Medonesia in the states of Sinosia and Peninsular Medonesia, the police and authorities have been able to temporarily put a stop to the unrest by declaring a curfew..

Barry turns off the radio on his desk as he speaks to Paul.

## BARRY YAO

Paul, I need you to go take a trip to the capital. We need talk to Abdul Kadir, try to resolve all our differences, or this union of ours might not survive. I'm counting on you, Paul. The future of Sinosia rests in your hands.

## PAUL HO

Don't worry, Barry. I won't return until we've worked something out with Kadir.

## BARRY YAO

Bring us good news.

Paul nods.

173. EXT/INT. PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE. DAY

Paul leans forward in his chair as Abdul Kadir speaks to him from across the table.

## ABDUL KADIR

Malays make up 70% of the Medonesia, Paul. You and I both know that with 70% of the population lagging behind the rest of the nation, we need to enact policies that'll help give them a leg up so that there's social & economic parity across the entire nation. Unless this is done,

there can be no sustainable prosperity in Medonesia.

PAUL HO

That's not in dispute, Kadir, but there are many roads to Rome. I don't think policies that privilege any race or demographic are the correct solution. For one, such policies will blunt the motivation of the demographic given the advantage. We believe its better to establish high standards for everyone but implement social and educational aids for those in need. Of course, there might be initial years of disparity but if we implement our aid policies well, the entire population will advance and we would have established an egalitarian system from the start.

ABDUL KADIR

All that is good on paper, Paul, but you have to remember that you're dealing with the overwhelming majority. They will look at the rich minority and feel immense resentment for being left behind... You might think having affirmative action policies for more than 70% of the population is reverse discrimination... But the reality is - these policies prevent the minority from being lynched for taking an over-proportionate piece of the pie. The entire country will be painted red with blood if nothing changes.

PAUL HO

Kadir, I know we haven't reached a consensus on our social policies but these

disagreements can be smoothed out in time. I'm just going to be brutally honest here. Are you unhappy with us taking part in the federal elections?

ABDUL KADIR

That's part of it, yes. I won't lie to you. We made the deal in good faith & now it looks like we have invited a houseguest who's eyeing the house for himself.

PAUL HO

Kadir, thank you for being so frank. Look, we both know what kind of person Barry is. He's ambitious and he always will be. You let him have a peek at the possibilities around him and he'll try his darneest to go for the jugular. That's the essence of the man but it's also why PDP is so successful.

ABDUL KADIR

But that's not the only thing. I've bet my career on the success of the merger and my opponents know my position is now vulnerable. They're exploiting the people's insecurities, radicalizing them to create a new leadership platform for themselves. A rot has now set in and if I don't cut off this rotting limb, I'll be gone in a matter of months. None of us will get out of this alive if this drags on. The violence, the power struggle, everything will only escalate.

Paul pauses & sighs. There's a glint of happiness in his eyes but he recollects himself and speaks again.

PAUL HO

I have no immediate solutions

for you, Kadir. We want to be in Medonesia but if Medonesia and your position are being threatened by us, then the union won't last much longer anyway if you're not there to fight for it. Either way, we'll be staring at a separation sooner or later.

ABDUL KADIR

I'm afraid it looks that way, Paul.

PAUL HO

So it's agreed then. I'll go back and relay the news to Barry.

ABDUL KADIR

Thank you Paul, for understanding.

PAUL HO

It's the least I can do, Kadir. Our two countries will always be connected. We'll just have to be neighbours instead of family.

Paul shakes Abdul Kadir's hands. As he turns to go, a hint of a smile spreads across his face.

174. INT. PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. DAY

Barry slumps into his chair. He is dumbfounded. Standing opposite him in front of his desk is Paul Ho, who has just told him the news.

MONTAGE

175. INT. LIVING ROOM OF A PRIVATE APARTMENT. DAY

*In the crowded living room of an apartment, several families have gathered together in the living room around the TV to watch a broadcast.*

ABDUL KADIR

*My fellow citizens... Good*

*afternoon. Today, I am  
addressing you with a heavy  
heart...*

*CUT TO:*

*176. EXT. COMMUNITY CENTRE (SINOSIA). DAY*

*A huge crowd of people are crowded in front of the TV in the community centre, watching a live broadcast of Prime Minister Abdul Kadir.*

*ABDUL KADIR*

*There have been differences  
between the central government  
and the leaders of the Sinosian  
state government. These  
differences are so divisive and  
myriad that it has not been  
possible to resolve them. And  
so we have decided that we must  
part company. From today, the  
state of Sinosia will separate  
from Medonesia and become an  
independent nation on its own...*

*CUT TO:*

*177. INT. TELEVISION STUDIOS (SINOSIA). DAY*

*Barry Yao, Paul Ho, Anthonysamy and the rest of the Sinosian cabinet ministers are addressing the Sinosian public on the separation of Sinosia from Medonesia*

*BARRY YAO*

*Every time we look back on this  
moment, when we sign this  
agreement to sever Sinosia from  
Medonesia...*

*178. EXT. COMMUNITY CENTRE (SINOSIA). DAY*

*We see a close-up of Barry Yao on TV in the community centre. Surrounding the TV in the foreground is a huge crowd of Sinosian citizens in the community centre.*

*BARRY YAO*

*...it will be a moment of  
anguish. I mean for me...*



179. INT. TELEVISION STUDIOS (SINOSIA). DAY

*Closeup of Barry Yao seated in the studio, his eyes are looking at his hands. He is clutching his ring, rubbing the face of the ring.*

BARRY YAO  
*it is a moment of anguish  
 because all my life...(breaks  
 down)...*

*As his tears fall, we see Barry looking at the face of the ring which is inside his palm and we see his Lanfang Republic family crest is on the face of the ring.*

BARRY YAO  
*you see the whole of my adult  
 life...(breaks down)*

*Flashback of Barry talking to his father, pointing to the map of Medonia which is on the Lanfang Republic flag bearing the family crest.*

*I have believed in merger and  
 the unity of these two  
 territories... you know it's a  
 people connected by geography,  
 economics, and ties of kinship.*

*Barry breaks down as he chokes on his tears and wipes his face with a handkerchief.*

180. EXT. COMMUNITY CENTRE (SINOSIA). DAY

*Some of the people in the community centre have their hands covering their mouth. Some of them are tearing up.*

181. INT. LIVING ROOM OF A PRIVATE APARTMENT. DAY

*The families watch the TV are distraught. Some of the women are sobbing with their heads on their husbands or boyfriend's shoulder.*

182. INT. TELEVISION STUDIOS (SINOSIA). DAY

*Barry struggles to fight back his tears as he wipes his face with a handkerchief. He makes a tearful plea.*

BARRY YAO  
*(choking back tears) Would you*

mind if we stop for a while...

*We see Barry's palm, his hand rubbing his family crest.*

END OF MONTAGE

183. EXT/INT. FREEMASON LODGE (SINOSIA). DAY

We see the ornate carved wood and framed pictures of ex-presidents inside a café located in the freemason lodge. From the back of a leather armchair, we see only the back of the head of a man seated in the café. Damien walks into the room and sits down at the chair opposite the man. On the table is a bottle of champagne on ice and two flutes.

DAMIEN

Holster! I see you've finally delivered on our man. Now when can you move in for the kill and tender out all outstanding land for development with our companies?

Paul laughs.

PAUL HO

Soon, my friend. With Sinosia independent, there's no choice but to proceed with Cruyff's development plan. Then, all I need to do is to set up a land holding subsidiary for Tristan Trading, and it'll be open season for everyone.

Damien and Paul laugh as they pour the champagne and toast each other.