

During the Second World War, from the end of December 1941 until August 1945, the Japanese Imperial Army occupied Hong Kong. As an ally of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, Japan attacked British interests across Asia. They also dragged the United States into the war by bombing Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Some countries, like Portugal (which included Macau), were neutral. Citizens of these countries were known as “Third Nationals”. They were permitted to live freely in Hong Kong, whereas the British and their allies were put into prison camps in Stanley, Sham Shui Po and elsewhere. Whilst Japan had invaded parts of mainland China, particularly along the east coast and in Manchuria, the Chinese inhabitants of Hong Kong were not imprisoned.

It was a confusing and difficult time. For ordinary people, the main concern was just to survive and to protect their families. Some decided to work for the Japanese, even believing that they were liberating Asia from “White Imperialism”. George Wong, who worked in a garage on Nathan Road, was one of these people. Others, including some of Wong’s friends, decided to work undercover for the British, because they were allied with Nationalist China. As the war continued, life got harder and harder for ordinary citizens, mainly because there was not enough to eat. Also, the Japanese became more brutal in their attempts to keep control and in their constant search for spies. Then in August 1945, the United States dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima

第二次世界大戰期間，即1941年12月底到1945年8月，日本皇軍佔據香港。作為納粹德國和法西斯意大利的盟友，日本侵略英國在亞洲的領地。他們襲擊位於夏威夷的珍珠港，把美國也扯進戰事之中。有些國家是中立的，例如葡萄牙（包括澳門）。這些中立國的人民叫做「第三國民」。他們可以在香港自由地生活，但英國人和其盟友就被監禁在赤柱、深水埗和其他地方的監獄營裡。日本雖然入侵了中國大陸部分地方，尤其是東岸和滿洲國，但他們沒有監禁在港的中國人。

那是個混亂而艱難的時代。對普羅大眾來說，最重要的是活下去和保護自己的家人。有些人決定替日本人工作，甚至相信這樣可以把亞洲中從「白人的帝國主義」中解放出來。在彌敦道一車房工作的黃佐治就是這樣的一個人。另外有些人，就像黃的朋友一樣，決定替英國做臥底工作，因為英國是中華民國的盟友。戰事持續下去，普通人的生活愈來愈困難，主要因為糧食不足。再者，日本人為了加強控制和抓捕間諜而變得愈來愈殘暴。然後，在1945年8月，美國在廣島和長崎投下原子彈，長期戰事突然結束。日本無條件投降，就如德國在之前的5月一樣。

and Nagasaki, bringing the long war to a sudden end. The Japanese surrendered unconditionally, just as the Germans had done the previous May.

After some complicated negotiations and many disagreements, the British navy sailed into Hong Kong at the end of August 1945. At first, there was chaos, with shortages of food and other essential supplies, but gradually life improved as the British re-established order. Then in February 1946, there began a series of treason trials of people accused of collaborating with the Japanese and, in particular, of being involved in the arrest, torture and murder of ordinary Hongkongers. George Wong's case was the first to be tried in front of a military court. More than 30 people gave evidence against him. He was inevitably found guilty and hanged on 10th July 1946.

But was his trial fair and was the sentence just? The following play leaves you the audience to decide.

Peter Jordan

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經過複雜的談判和很多爭論之後，英國海軍在1945年8月底登陸香港。起初有點混亂，糧食和必需品短缺；但英國人重新建立秩序，生活慢慢改善了。然後，1946年2月，一系列叛國案件審理開始，一些人被控與日本合作，尤其是協助日本抓捕、虐待和謀殺香港平民。黃佐治是首宗在軍事法庭處理的案件，多於30名證人提供對他不利的證據。他必然地被判有罪，並於1946年7月10日問吊。

但他的案件審理過程公正嗎？判刑又是否公平？這個劇本就讓觀眾們自行決定吧。

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THE
GEORGE
WONG
CASE
叛國奇案