唐生智與國民革命軍第八軍的建立

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摘要

民國 15 年的國民革命軍北伐是中國現代史上一次南北統一的努力,而且獲得初步成效。直到國民政府進行北伐前夕,國民革命軍共成立八個軍,由唐生智一手組建的第八軍無疑地對北伐時機來臨與軍事進展過程中俱發揮著關鍵性的作用。

唐生智出身保定軍官學校,回湘後由一位見習軍官逐漸嶄露頭角,成為 湘軍第四師師長,在其努力組訓經營下,第四師成為湘軍中實力最強的一支隊 伍,又憑藉其軍事實力,成為湖南最高軍政長官。到了北伐前夕,他與南方的 國民政府聯繫,結果促成國民政府北伐,第四師也改編成國民革命軍第八軍, 為國民政府北伐戰役中的一支生力軍。

第八軍源自於唐生智從民國初年以來在湖南所編練組訓的基本部隊,也 成為其日後的實力憑藉。隨著其軍力的擴充,唐生智在湖南政局的角色日益受 到矚目。由一位湘軍基層將官出身,不斷超越同輩,最後且對久掌軍政大權的 老長官趙恆惕形成威脅;在北伐前夕的動向,同時為北方的吳佩孚和南方的兩 廣政府之關注,均欲爭取其歸附,其態度動關大局。

本文擬以唐生智從民初至北伐前夕的軍政活動為中心,分別就保定軍校教育、回湘發展、譚趙戰爭、驅趙、唐葉戰爭等五個階段,分別討論唐生智如何在政爭時起,政權更迭頻繁的局勢中掌握時機,發展實力?在掌握湖南軍政大權後,為何投向南方國民政府?造成什麼影響?並藉著第八軍的建立,討論地方軍力投入國家統一工作中的阻力與助力,對北伐後中央與地方紛歧複雜的關係或能有所釐清。

關鍵詞:唐生智、保定系、第四師、第八軍、譚趙戰爭、 唐葉戰爭。

Tang Sheng-zhi & the 8th Army of the Nationalist Revolutionary Forces

Hui-feng Ye

Abstract

The northern expedition of the Nationalist Revolutionary Forces in 1926 is the first effort to the national unification in the history of modern China and it is a success. Prior to the eve of the northern expedition, there are eight units of army in the Nationalist Revolutionary Forces. But the 8th army, established by Tang Sheng-zhi alone plays a critical role in deciding when the northern military action takes place.

Tang Sheng-zhi, who graduated from BaoDing Military Institute, turns out to be the commander of the 4th military corps when he returns to Hu-nan province. The 4th military corps eventually becomes the most powerful military units in Hu-nan province. Tang soon becomes the topmost military general in Hu-nan. Just before the northern military expedition, he gets in touch with the Nationalist Government in the South and helps to bring about the actual military expediton. Since the 4th army is incorporated into the 8th army of the Nationalist Revolutionary Forces, it is the newly-born army for the northern forces.

The 8th army originates from the basic military units, which are trained and disciplined by Tang Sheng-zhi in Hu-nan since 1910's and thus becomes the greatest support of Tang's strength. As Tang continues to expand his military power, he deserves more prominent role in the political ecology in Hu -nan. Though born as a low-level military officer. Tang keeps running over all the other colleagues, and makes a threat to his superior Zhao Heng-xi, who long graspes the greatest power in military and politics. As Tang Sheng-zhi receives greater attention from Wu Pei-fu in the north as well as Guang- dong and Guang-xi governments in the south, his attitudes exert extremely great influence on the political balance.

This paper mainly discusses the military activities by Tang Sheng-zhi from the establishment of the Republic of China to the northern military expedition. Five stages are included in the discussion: Education in BaoDing Military Institute, Development in Hu-nan, Tan-Zhao Battle, War Against Zhao and War Between Tang and Ye. My discussion covers the following questions: how does Tang Sheng-zhi manage to rise in chaos? How can he take hold of good tuning to develop his military strength when the political power changes hands constantly? Why does Tang Sheng-zhi decide to work for the Nationalist Government in the South when he takes the greatest political and military power in Hu-nan? What is the consequence of this decision? Do the local military forces make an obstacle or assistance when they join the job of national unification? It is my sincerest hope that these discussions will clarify the complicated relationship between the local and central governments after the northern military expedition.

Keywords: Tang Sheng-zhi, BaoDing System, the 4th Military Corps, the 8th Army, Tan-Zhao Battle, Tang-Ye Battle.

