

b). i)

The career of Zhu De is a long and endless amount of achievements surround it. Zhu was the military commander of the CCP between 1934 - 1949, and played a vital role in the eventual success of the CCP in 1949. Despite his eventful career Zhu's main accomplishments were between the years of 1920 and 1949. Here Zhu was able to lead a army to victory, inspire many and a good example of courage to the Chinese people.

In the 1916, Zhu's wife passes away, and so too does his mentor Cai-E of which he met at the Yunnan Military academy some 8 years prior. With both these events happening in space of 6 months, Zhu's life came crumbling down. Zhu became addicted to opium and lived his life as a warlord in Sichuan until 1921 when he decides to kick his addiction and live again.

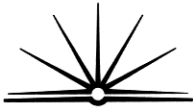
1920 - 1921 is the year in which Zhu De becomes interested in the politics and the workings of China. Having an overwhelming interest he joins the GMD, only to be rejected. Upon this bad news Zhu decides to travel to Europe, inspired by the revolution in Russia of 1917 by the Bolsheviks. In the early months of 1922 Zhu travels to Berlin, Germany.

Whilst in Berlin, Zhu is attracted to the idea of Communism

and becomes heavily involved in the Communist Party in Germany staging many demonstrations and writing persuasive articles in local newspapers. Shortly after being arrested on public nuisance charges Zhu is extradited to Moscow. Here Zhu learns more about Communism and the revolution of 1917. He is inspired by the reforms achieved by Lenin and wished to make a difference of the same magnitude in China. Zhu felt that if something this significant could happen in Russia, a similar event could happen in China.

Zhu returns to China in 1926, and takes part in the Northern Expedition. He attributes his inspiration to Comintern and the Bolsheviks. He witnesses the Hunan trouble brews at the Nanchang Uprising and the Shanghai Massacre in which the Nationalists slaughter countless Communists. Zhu lucky to escape goes into hiding near the Jiangxi-Hunan Border where he met Mao Zedong. A friendship that would last the ages.

While in Jiangxi, both Mao & Zhu establish a Soviet and using his highly developed military knowledge, the Red Army. A new kind of army that is highly disciplined and well trained. The Red Army now face the challenge of the encirclement campaigns against them. Zhu, using guerrilla warfare, as taught to him

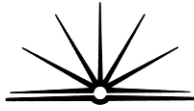


by Cai E manages to escape the bottled areas and take part in the Long March.

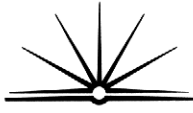
Whilst on the Long March, conflict between Mao and Zhang Guotao over the direction of the Army in which they take the decisions to either Zhu or Zhang. Mao leaves them behind with the 4th Route Army. The three parties meet some 15 months later and unify as one for the fight in the second united front - Sino Japanese War.

Here Zhu shows tremendous leadership and knowledge of guerrilla warfare as shown in the "100 Regiments Offensive" in which Zhu planned and managed 400,000 men to attack the Japanese. The mission was a success severely hampering the Japanese war efforts. However this attack was done without the approval of Mao. Was Zhu trying to achieve power for himself? Maybe. Regardless Zhu was not reprimanded and continued fighting the Japanese until 1945 at their surrender.

During the Civil War of 1946 - 1949 Zhu played an active role in fighting Chiang Kai Shek's nationalist forces. He successfully took over Beijing, Shanghai & Nanjing within a month and consolidated his position as supreme military commander.



Zhu played a decisive role between 1920 - 1949 in achieving success for the CCP. Without Zhu De's superior guerrilla warfare tactics, his highly disciplined Red Army and a constant source of inspiration for his men, the CCP would not have succeeded.



ii). Arguably Zhu De's greatest achievement was the creation and the success of the Red Army. This is not questioned. His superior skills as a fighter, tactics of guerrilla and his courage and bravery inspired his men. It is between the years of 1934 - the creation of the Red Army to the eventual success of the CCP in 1949 where Zhu is most acclaimed.

At the Jiangxi Soviet of 1934, Zhu and his newly founded Red Army fought the Nationalists in the encirclement campaigns of October 1934. In doing so, Zhu's guerrilla tactics worked havoc for the Nationalist forces while at the same time allowed the many supporters in the Jiangxi Soviet to escape, including Mao Zedong his partner in the Chinese Communist Party.

Whilst on the long March Zhu and his Red Army overcame resistance of the Xian and the crossing of the River Yangtze. In these times of conflict Zhu and his men fought long and hard to more often than not came out victorious. Without Zhu's superior military knowledge the Long March would not have proceeded and would have finished short of the desired destination of Yunnan. His courage and bravery according to Shen Kui Kuang 'were a constant source of

inspiration for his men.

After the Long March Zhu contributed to the CCP causes by actively taking part in support building exercises in which the Red Army would help the Chinese peasants farm and land a hand for other agricultural needs. However this changed in 1937 at the start of the Sino Japanese War.

Zhu led his men into battle knowing full well they had had adequate training and the necessary skills to defeat the Japanese. This is shown in the "100 Regiments Offensive" in which Zhu led 400,000 men into battle with the Japanese. Success was the aim and victory is what they achieved. By using Zhu's guerrilla warfare tactics the Japanese were helpless to stop the onslaught by the CCP forces. They severely hampered the Japanese ability to communicate and move around the Chinese countryside. This mission however was done without the approval of Mao Zedong. A point of controversy surrounds the fact that Zhu did not get rewarded or rewarded. Zhu joined his commanders and continued fighting.

Upon the Japanese surrender of 1945, Zhu personally oversaw the surrender of land and goods back to the Chinese people

This defied the GMD and Chiang Kai shek's nationalist government at the time. Civil War was on the horizon and Zhu and his men were ready to fight.

Poorly equipped, the GMD forces were no match for Zhu's highly trained, highly disciplined and vastly superior army. As such, in January of 1949, Mao and Zhu stood in Beijing claiming to recognise the People's Republic of China. Without the war many battles were fought and cities captured of which Shanghai, Beijing and Nanjing were all captured in a month, thanks largely to Zhu and his knowledge.

Zhu De contributed a vast amount to the Communist forces between the years of 1934 - 1949. He proved great leadership, superior guerrilla tactics, a highly trained army that worked for the people. He inspired his troops with zeal and became a national hero. Without Zhu De's extensive military knowledge, the Communist Forces would not have succeeded in 1949.