

Chao Chien and said: 'I have drawn up a secret plan for Your Lordship.' Chao Chien said: 'What is it?' (He said): 'Western Chou hates Eastern Chou very much. It has ~~always~~ wanted Eastern Chou to be on bad terms with Ch'u. Western Chou is sure to send assassins to murder Your Lordship and then publish abroad that it was done by Eastern Chou so as to make it hated by the King.' Chao Chien said: 'Good. I also was afraid that Eastern Chou might get me murdered, but I made light of the possibility that Western Chou might make it hated by Ch'u.' He speedily made reconciliation with Eastern Chou.

23)

Yen-Shih committed a murder and Yang Shu was a party to it. He went to Chou. The Prince of Chou detained him for forty days and then sent him away in a carriage drawn by four horses. Han sent an envoy to remonstrate with Chou. The prince of Chou was troubled about it. A visitor spoke to the Prince of Chou and said: "Speak straight to him and say: 'I knew that Yen-Shih had committed a murder and that Yang Shu was a party to it. So I detained him for forty days to await your commands. My little State could not tolerate a murderer. An envoy from Your Highness also did not arrive. That is why I sent him away.' "

WESTERN CHOU

1)

The Duke of Hsieh used Ch'i ^{with} on behalf of Han and Wei to attack Ch'u. He also joined with Han and Wei to attack Ch'in, and borrowed troops and asked for provisions from Western Chou. Han Ch'ing spoke on behalf of Western Chou to the Duke of Hsieh and said: "Your Highness has used Ch'i on behalf of Han and Wei to attack Ch'u, and in nine years you have taken Wan and She and the lands to the north ~~to~~ strengthen Han and Wei. Now you are also attacking Ch'in ~~to~~ increase them. If Han and Wei on the south have no anxiety from Ch'u and on the west have no danger from Ch'in, their territory will be extensive and they will be increasingly important. Ch'i will certainly be of slight importance. Root and branch flourish in turn. Emptiness and fulness have their seasons. I ~~venture on behalf of~~ Your Highness to regard the position as dangerous. The best plan for Your Highness is to get our unworthy ~~to~~ to make a secret agreement with Ch'in, and for Your Highness not to attack, also not to borrow troops or ask for provisions. Let Your Highness threaten Hsien-ku but make no attack and get our unworthy ~~to~~ to speak about Your Highness's circumstances to the King of Ch'in and say: 'The Duke of Hsieh will certainly not break up Ch'in to extend Han and Wei. The reason he is advancing his troops is that he wishes Your Majesty to get Ch'u to cut off Tung-kuo and give it to Ch'i.' If the King of Ch'in releases the King of Ch'u and so makes peace, if Your Highness gets our unworthy ~~to~~ in this way to do a favour to Ch'in, and Ch'in avoids being broken up but saves itself by means of Tung-kuo belonging to Ch'u, it is sure to desire it. The King of Ch'u is sure to be grateful to Ch'i for his release. Ch'i will get Tung-kuo and become increasingly powerful. And Hsieh will have no trouble for generations. Ch'in will not be greatly weakened, and as it is situated to the west of the three Chin the three Chin are sure to give weight to Ch'i."

The Duke of Hsieh said: 'Good,' and in consequence got Han Ch'ing to go to Ch'in and caused the three states not to attack Ch'in, and caused them not to borrow troops or ask for provisions from Western Chou.

2)

Ch'in attacked the army of Wei's general Hsi Wu at I-ch'ueh, and advanced its troops to attack Chou. Someone spoke on behalf of Chou Chu to Li Tui and said: 'The best plan for Your Highness is to ~~forbid~~ Ch'in's attack on Chou. As for Chao's best policy there is nothing like getting Ch'in and Wei to wage war again. If now Ch'in attacks Chou and gets it, many of its people will be wounded. Ch'in, wishing to maintain its possession of Chou, will be sure not to attack Wei. If Ch'in attacks Chou and does not get it, there will be at first the achievement of a victory over Wei and later the defeat in an attack on Chou. Again it will be sure not to attack Wei. If now Your Highness ~~forbids~~ (the attack on Chou) while Ch'in has not yet come to terms with Wei and Chao in its integrity commands it to stop, it will certainly not dare to disobey. Thus Your Highness will make Ch'in retreat and will give settlement to Chou. If Ch'in goes away from Chou, it is sure to attack Wei again. If Wei is unable to resist, it is sure to avail itself of Your Highness to make terms. Then Your Highness will have great influence. If Wei does not make terms but resists energetically, it will be Your Highness who has preserved Chou and set Ch'in and Wei at war. The weight of influence will again be all in Chao.'

3)

Ch'in ordered Ch'u-li Chi to enter Chou with a hundred carriages. The Prince of Chou received him with troops in a very respectful manner. The King of Ch'u was angry and remonstrated with Chou for having honoured a visitor from Ch'in. Yu T'eng spoke to the King of Ch'u and said: 'Formerly, when Chih Po wished to attack Ch'iu-yu, he sent thither a large bear. It was loaded on to a broad waggon, with the result that he entered in its train with soldiers. Ch'iu-yu in the end was destroyed because it was unprepared. When Duke Huan attacked Ts'ai the announcement said that the attack was against Ch'u, whereas it was really a surprise attack upon Ts'ai. Now Ch'in is a State with the disposition of a tiger or a wolf. It has moreover the intention of swallowing up Chou. It sent Ch'u-li Chi into Chou with a hundred carriages. The Prince of Chou was afraid and, warned by the examples of Ts'ai and Ch'iu-yu, sent spearmen in front and strong bowmen behind, nominally as a bodyguard, but really to hold him prisoner. Could the Prince of Chou do other than care for his State? He was afraid that one day he might ruin his State and so cause sorrow to Your Majesty.' So the King of Ch'u was pleased.

4)

In the expedition against Yung-shih, Han levied armour and grain from Chou. The Prince of Chou was troubled about it, and informed Su Tai. Su Tai said: 'Why be troubled? I can on behalf of Your Highness get Han not to levy armour and grain from Chou and I can also obtain Kao-tai for Your Highness.' The prince of Chou was very pleased and said: 'If, sir, you can do this, I will ask that I may listen to you in all the affairs of the State.'

Su Tai thereupon went and had an interview with Kung Chung, the Counsellor of Han and said: 'Has Your Lordship not heard of Ch'u's plan? Chao Ying has spoken to the King of Ch'u and said: 'The House of Han is

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exhausted with military operations. Its granaries are empty. It has no means of holding the city. If we take it by means of famine, in not more than a month we are sure to capture it.' Now it has besieged Yung-shih for five months without being able to take it. It is Ch'u which is wearied. The King of Ch'u is beginning not to believe in Chao Ying's plan. And now Your Lordship is levying armour and grain from Chou. That is telling Ch'u that you are worn out. When Chao Ying hears of it, he is sure to urge on the King of Ch'u to add to the soldiers who are investing Yung-shih. Yung-shih will certainly be taken.. " Kung Chung said: 'Good. But my messenger has already gone.' Tai said: 'Why does not Your Lordship give Kao-tu to Chou?' Kung Chung was angry and said: 'That I am not levying armour and grain from Chou is already much. Why give Kao-tu?' Tai said: 'If you give it Kao-tu, Chou will certainly decide to come in with Han. When Ch'in hears of it, it is sure to be very angry, burn Chou's credentials, and refuse admission to its envoys. In that case Your Lordship by means of insignificant Kao-tu will obtain the whole of Chou. Why not give it?' Kung Chung said: 'Good! He did not levy armour and grain from Chou and gave it Kao-tu. Ch'u in the end did not take Yung-shih and went away.

5)

The Prince of Chou went to Ch'in. A visitor spoke to Chou Chü and said: 'The best plan is to praise the King of Ch'in's filial piety and accordingly give the lands of Ying for the support of the Queen Mother.' The King of Ch'in and the Queen Mother are sure to be pleased. In that case Your Lordship will have the support of Ch'in. If relations are good, the prince of Chou is sure to regard that as Your Lordship's achievement. If relations are bad, he who urged the Prince of Chou to enter Ch'in is sure to be regarded as an offender.'

6)

Su Li spoke to the Prince of Chou and said: 'It is Pai Ch'i who has defeated Han and Wei, slain Hsi Wu, attacked Chao, and taken Lin, Li-shih, and Ch'i. He has done all this because he is skilful in the use of troops and because he has the decree of Heaven. Now he is attacking Liang. Liang is sure to be broken up. When it has been broken up Chou will be in danger. Your Highness had better stop him.' He spoke to Pai Ch'i and said: 'There was a certain Yang Yu-chi in Ch'u who was a good archer. From a distance of a hundred paces he shot at a leaf of a willow tree, hitting it each time in a hundred shots. Those about him all said: 'Good'. There was a man passing by who said: 'Well shot! I can teach you ~~how~~ to shoot.' Yang Yu-chi said: 'Everyone says 'Good', but you say that you can teach me to shoot. Why, sir, not shoot instead of me?' The visitor said: 'I cannot teach you, sir, to stretch out the left arm and to bend back the right arm. But he who shoots at a willow leaf, hitting it in a hundred successive shots, and does not cease in good time, will gradually grow weary, his bow will be stretched and his arrow bent. If once he shoots and does not hit, all his former achievements are at an end.' Now Your Lordship has broken up Han and Wei, slain Hsi Wu; and in the north it is Your Lordship who has attacked Chao and taken Lin, Li-shih, and Ch'i. Your Lordship's achievements are very many. Now Your Lordship is also going beyond the frontiers with the soldiers of Ch'in, traversing the two Chou and trampling upon Han, in order to attack Liang. If once you attack but do not

succeed, your former achievements will be completely destroyed. Your Lordship's best plan is to plead ill-health and not go forth.

7)
The army of Ch'u was south of the mountain. Wu Tê on behalf of the King of Ch'u was about to implicate Chou in his wrath. Someone spoke to the Prince of Chou and said: "Your best plan is to order the heir-apparent to take the commander-in-chief and meet Wu Tê at the frontier, and for Your Highness yourself to meet him at the suburbs, so that all the world may know that Your Highness is honouring Wu Tê. Then let it leak out in Ch'u 'That with which the Prince of Chou is honouring Wu Tê is the vessel called so-and-so.' The King of Ch'u is sure to ask for it and, if Wu Tê does not present it, the King is sure to regard him as an offender."

8)
Ch'u asked for a passage through the two Chou in order to threaten Han and Wei. The prince of Chou was troubled about it. Su Ch'in spoke to the prince of Chou and said: "If (Ch'u) opens up a passage to the Ho, Han and Wei are sure to resent it. Ch'i and Ch'in, fearing that Ch'u will take the nine tripods, are sure to come to the rescue of Han and Wei and attack Ch'u. If Ch'u cannot protect what lies beyond Fang-ch'eng, how can it pass through the two Chou? If the four States are not on bad terms with it, although Your Highness does not wish to give (the passage), Ch'u will be sure to take it for itself."

9)
Pu, the Minister of Crime, spoke on behalf of Chou Chu to the prince of Chou and said: "Your Highness is sending a messenger to announce to the King of Ch'i that Chou Chu is unwilling to become heir-apparent. That is not what your servant would have chosen for Your Highness. A member of the Han-yeh Family bought a fine sword for Duke T'ai of Ch'i. The Duke, not knowing how good it was, returned the sword and demanded the money. A man of Yueh asked to buy it for a thousand (pieces of) silver, but that was not enough and he did not sell. When he was about to die he enjoined his son saying: 'You must have no knowledge which is yours alone.' Now Your Highness's appointment of Chou Chu as heir-apparent is an agreement known to yourself alone. There is no one in the world who believes it. Your servant is afraid that the King of Ch'i will say that Your Highness is really appointing Kuo but that you are making a pretence of appointing Chu so as to deceive Ch'i. Your Highness practices many arts. Chu practices many deceptions. Why does not Your Highness sell goods of which the worth is believed in? Let there be no niggardliness in the provision you make for Chu so that all the world may see it."

10)
Ch'in summoned the Prince of Chou. The Prince of Chou felt difficulty about going. Someone spoke on behalf of the Prince of Chou to the King of Wei and said: "Ch'in has summoned the Prince of Chou. It is going to make use of him to attack Wei's Nan-yang. Why does not Your Majesty go forth towards Ho-nan? When the Prince of Chou hears of it, he will make it an excuse to Ch'in and not go thither. If the Prince of Chou does not enter Ch'in, Ch'in will certainly not dare to attack Nan-yang."

11)
Hsi Wu was defeated at I-ch'ueh. The Prince of Chou went to Wei to ask for succour. The King of Wei declined because of the urgent situation at Shangtang. The Prince of Chou on his return saw the park at Liang and was delighted with it. Ch'i Wu-ku'ei spoke to the Prince of Chou and said: "The park at Wen is not inferior to this and moreover it is nearer."

Your servant can get it for Your Highness.' He went back and had an interview with the King of Wei. The king said: 'Does the Prince of Chou feel resentment against me?' He replied: 'If he is not resentful, who is? Your servant is troubled on Your Majesty's account. The Prince of Chou is the lord of policy and he sets up his State as a protection for Your Majesty against Ch'in. And yet Your Majesty does not act as a protection for him. Your servant sees that he will certainly use his State in the service of Ch'in. If Ch'in assembles the troops beyond the barrier and unites with the host of Chou to attack Nan-yang, the two Shang-tangs will be cut off.' The King of Wei said: 'Then what is to be done?' Ch'i Wu-k'uei said: 'The Prince of Chou's condition is such that he cannot take pleasure in small gains. If he serves Ch'in he will be able to take pleasure in small gains. If now Your Majesty promises a garrison of thirty thousand men together with the park at Wen, the Prince of Chou will obtain wherewith to excuse himself to his fathers and brethren and the hundred families, and, gaining the park at Wen, will make it his delight. He will be sure not to make an agreement with Ch'in. Your servant has heard that the profit from the park at Wen is eighty (pounds of) silver a year. If the Prince of Chou gets the park at Wen, that with which he will serve Your Majesty will be one hundred and twenty (pounds of) silver a year. In that case Shang-tang will be free from danger and you will make a profit of forty (pounds of) silver.'

The king of Wei accordingly sent Meng Mao to present the park at Wen to the Prince of Chou and to promise him a garrison.

12)

Han and Wei were exchanging lands. Western Chou considered the exchange as disadvantageous to itself. Fan Yu spoke to the King of Ch'u and said: 'Chou will certainly be ruined. In the exchange of lands by Han and Wei, Han will get two counties and Wei will lose two counties. The reason (Wei) does it is that it will completely envelope the two Chou which are more than two counties; and the nine tripods are preserved there. Moreover if Wei has Nan-yang, the lands of Cheng, and San-ch'uan, and envelopes the two Chou, the territory of Ch'u outside of Fang-ch'erg will be in danger. If Han annexes the two Shang-tangs and so threatens Chao, Yang-ch'ang and above belonging to Chao will be in danger. Therefore on the day the exchange is completed Ch'u and Chao will both be of little importance.'

The king of Ch'u was afraid and by means of Chao stopped the exchange.

13)

Ch'in wished to attack Chou. Chou Chu spoke to the King of Ch'in and said: 'The policy for Your Majesty's State is not to attack Chou. An attack on Chou cannot really be profitable for your State, and the tidings of it will make all the states afraid. If the states because of these tidings are afraid of Ch'in, they will be sure to make an agreement in the east with Ch'i. If your soldiers are worn out in Chou and you have driven the states into an agreement with Ch'i, Ch'in will be isolated and will not exercise royal sway. It is because the States wish to exhaust Ch'in that they encourage Your Majesty to attack Chou. When Ch'in and the other states are all exhausted their commands will not be able to spread over into Chou.'

14)

Kung T'o spoke to the Prince of Chou and said: 'Wan relied on Ch'in and made light of Chin. There was a famine in Ch'in and Wan was ruined. Cheng relied on Wei and made light of Han. Wei attacked Ch'in and Cheng was ruined. Chu and Ch'u were ruined by Ch'i. Ch'ên and Ts'ai were ruined by Ch'u. These all relied on other States to deliver them and made light of nearby foes. Now Your Highness relies on Han and Wei and makes light of Ch'in. The State, it is to be feared, will suffer injury. The best plan for Your Highness is to send Chou Ch'u to make a secret agreement with Chao as a precaution against Ch'in. Then you will not be destroyed.'

15)

(Someone) spoke to the king of Ch'i and said: 'Why not with a gift of lands advance Chou Ch'u to be heir-apparent?' The King of Ch'i sent Ssu-ma Han with bribes to advance Chou Ch'u in Chou. Tso Shang spoke to Ssu-ma Han and said: 'If Chou pays no heed, Your Lordship's sagacity will be embarrassed and relations with Chou will be broken off. The best plan for Your Lordship is to speak to the Prince of Chou and say: 'Whom do you wish to appoint? Let someone tell me privately. Allow me to get the King to advance him with a gift of lands.' " By this means Tso Shang got employment.

16)

The three States were returning from an attack on Ch'in. Western Chou was afraid that Wei would borrow a way through. (Someone) spoke on behalf of Western Chou to the King of Wei and said: 'Ch'u and Sung do not regard it as profitable to themselves that Ch'in has shown favour to the three States. They are going to attack Your Majesty's villages for the benefit of Ch'in.' The King of Wei was afraid and ordered his army after one night's delay to hasten to the east.

17)

When Hsi Wu was defeated, Chou ordered Chou Tsu to go to Ch'in. Someone spoke to Chou Tsu and said: 'Why not speak to the Prince of Chou and say: 'If your servant goes to Ch'in in the relations between Ch'in and Chou are sure to be bad. Your Highness's servant, whom moreover Ch'in honours and wishes to be made Counsellor, also speaks evil of me to Ch'in. And so I cannot perform the mission. Your servant wishes to resign my office and go away.' His Highness will in consequence make him Counsellor. When he gets to be Counsellor he will not make Chou disliked by Ch'in. His Highness is honouring Ch'in and so is sending his Counsellor thither. For you to decline the mission when you have been sent is to treat Ch'in lightly. Your Lordship must not resign. If Your Lordship speaks thus and yet goes, suppose relations with Ch'in are good, it will be because Your Lordship's service has been accomplished; suppose relations with Ch'in are bad, he who is not on good terms with Your Lordship will be punished.'

CH'IN I

cf. Ssu-ma Han The Book of Han 31-32

1)

Uei Yang fled from Wei and entered Ch'in. Duke Hsiao made him Counsellor and gave him the fief of Shang with the title Prince of Shang. When the Prince of Shang was governing Ch'in, the laws were obeyed far and wide, justice was administered without partiality, the powerful and great were not screened from punishment, and rewards were not bestowed with partiality upon favourites. The law reached even to the heir-apparent, his tutor was branded on the face and his nose was cut off. At the end of a