



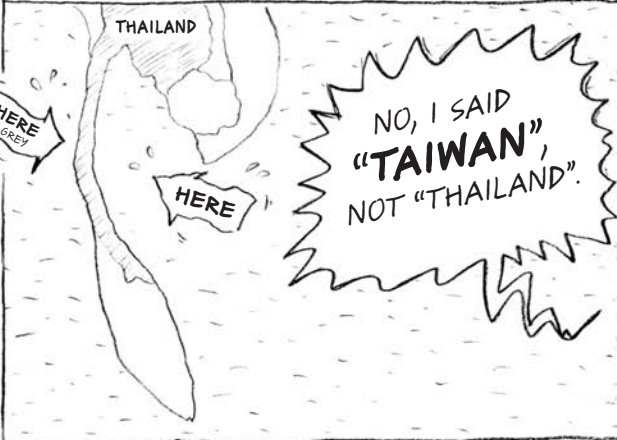
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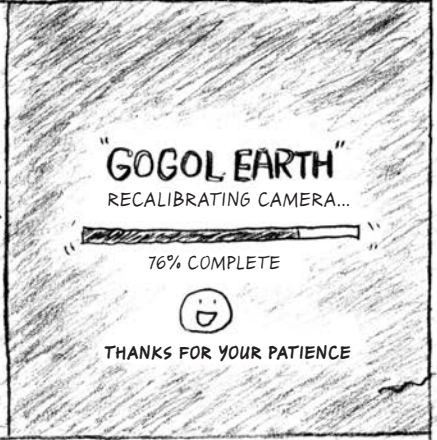
Çà et Là



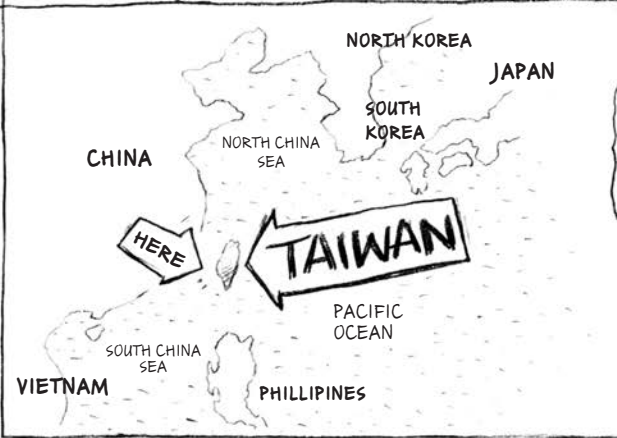
1973. HERGÉ VISITED
TAIWAN IN SEPTEMBER.
A FEW MONTHS LATER,
I WAS BORN THERE.



NO, I SAID
"TAIWAN",
NOT "THAILAND".

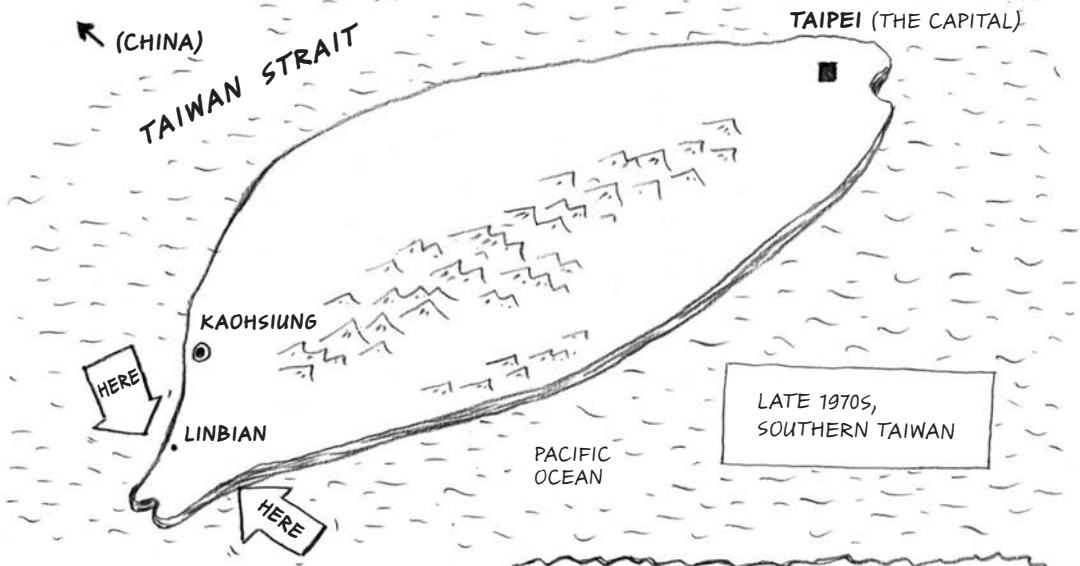


"GOGOL EARTH"
RECALIBRATING CAMERA...
76% COMPLETE
😊
THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE



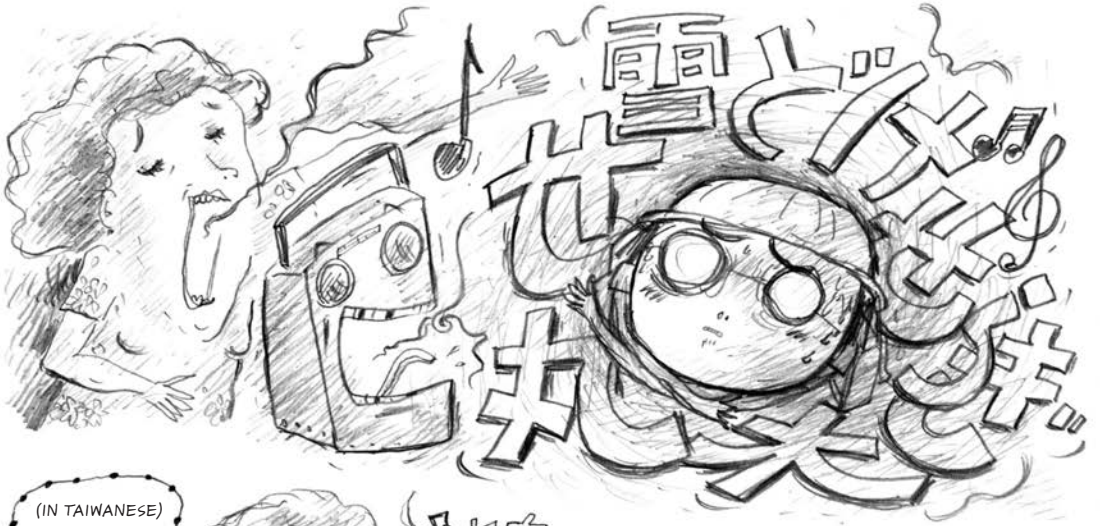
THERE. THAT'S BETTER.
THANKS FOR CORRECTING
THAT. NOW I CAN BEGIN
MY STORY AT LAST...

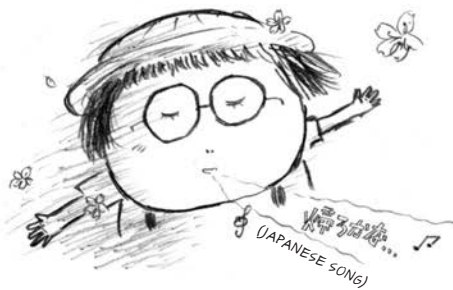




I LIVED IN A HOUSE IN TOWN, WITH MY PARENTS AND MY PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS.









NO! YOUR COUNTRY INVADED CHINA FOR EIGHT YEARS. THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR MAY BE OVER, BUT YOU JAPANESE PEOPLE ARE STILL OUR ENEMIES!

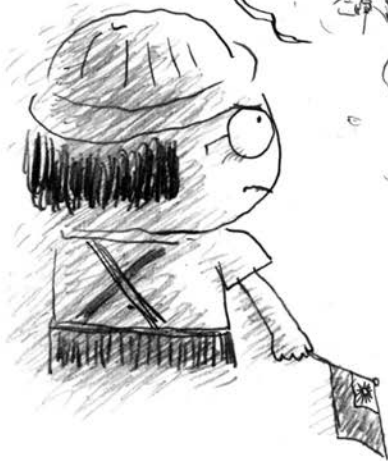


YOUNG LADY, YOU ARE **TAIWANESE...**



I'M A CITIZEN OF THE **RDC** (REPUBLIC OF CHINA)! AFTER DEFEATING THE CHINESE EMPIRE, JAPAN COLONIZED TAIWAN FOR HALF A CENTURY. YOU'RE BAD GUYS!

TERRIBLY SORRY... I'M AGAINST COLONIZATION AND WAR. I'M A PACIFIST SINGER. COULD WE BE FRIENDS?



THINGS BETWEEN TAIWAN, JAPAN, AND CHINA ARE COMPLICATED. YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND...





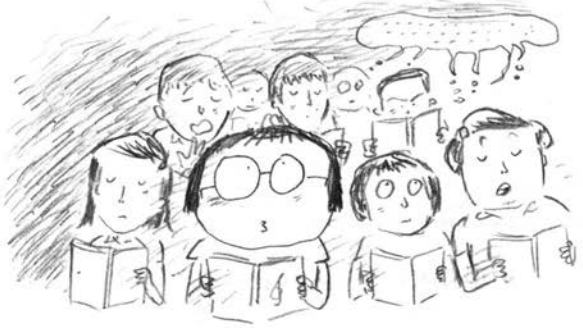
ONE, TWO, THREE!

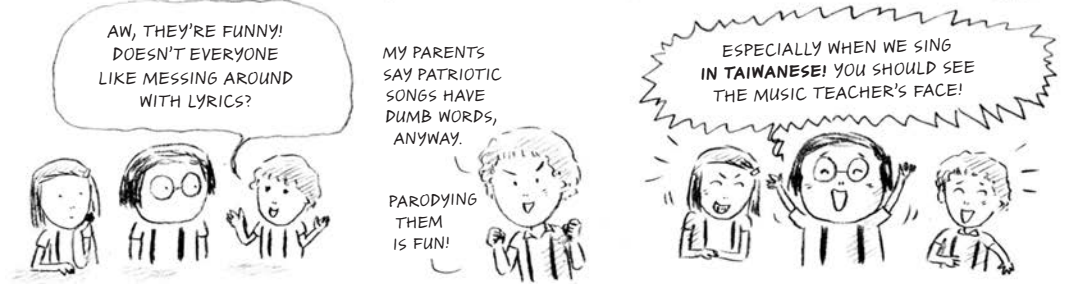




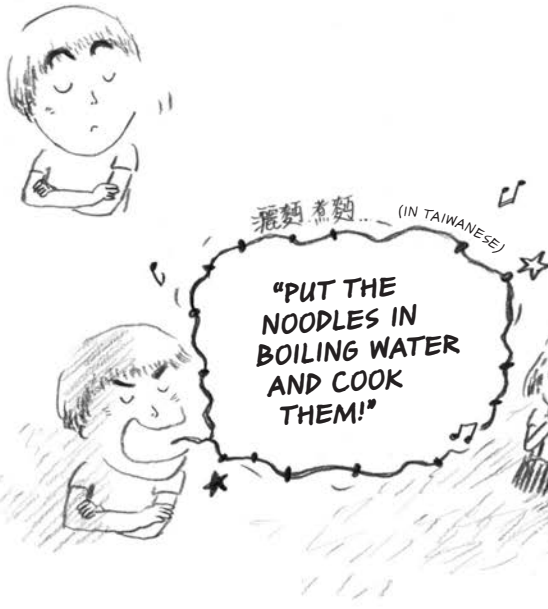
WE PRETENDED TO MARCH LIKE SOLDIERS IN A PATRIOTIC SONG.





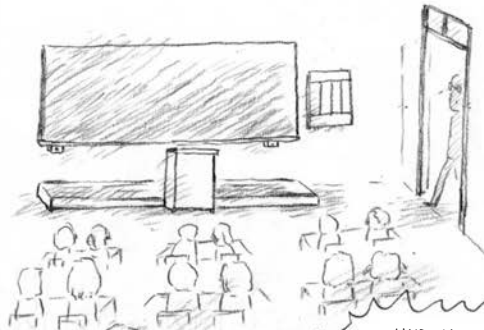


* (IN TAIWANESE)



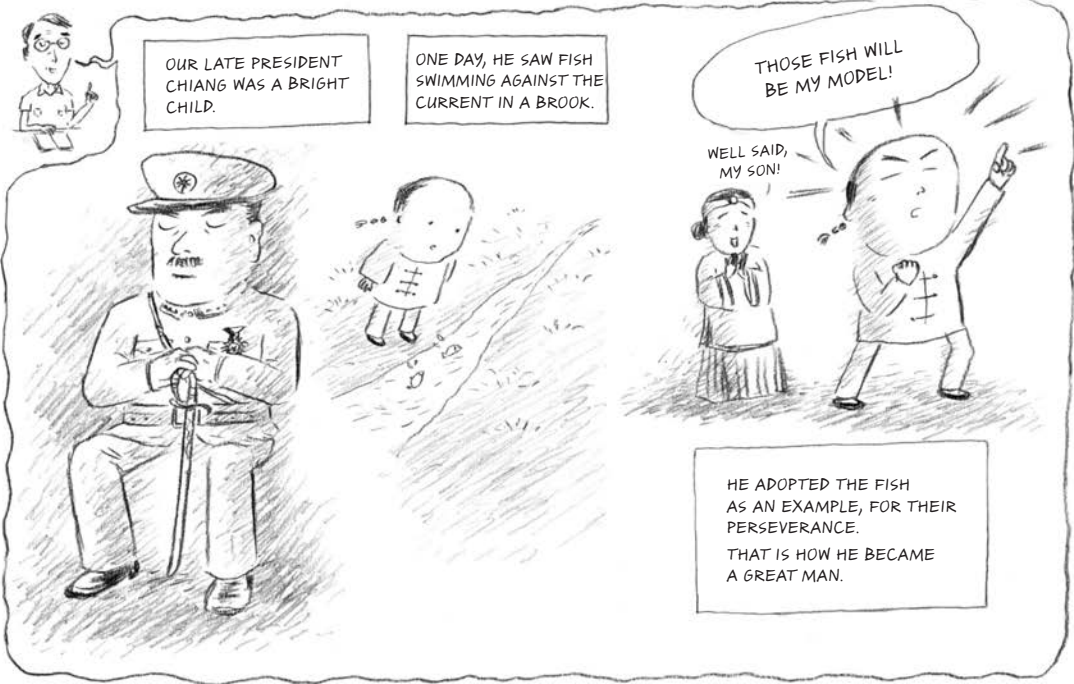


SHOW SOME RESPECT!



HURRY UP! TEACHER'S COMING!







I'VE HEARD OF SALMON SWIMMING UPSTREAM...
ARE THERE SALMON IN CHINA, THEN?



SO THAT'S WHAT A GREAT MAN IS: BRIGHT AND BRILLIANT FROM BIRTH!



HOW DID THE AUTHOR LESSON FIND OUT ALL ABOUT PRESIDENT CHIANG'S CHILDHOOD?



IF I WERE HIM, I'D HAVE GRABBED MY FISHING ROD!

BUT NOT ALL STORIES ABOUT PRESIDENT CHIANG SET A GOOD EXAMPLE.



PRESIDENT CHIANG WAS A BRAVE AND CURIOUS CHILD.



ONE DAY, HE STUCK A RULER DOWN HIS THROAT TO MEASURE ITS DEPTH.



LOOK! DOESN'T HURT AT ALL!



NO! I DON'T BUY IT! SOMEONE MUST'VE MADE IT UP!



TEACHERS AND PARENTS DON'T AGREE ABOUT CHIANG. WHOM SHOULD I TRUST?



OUR LATE PRESIDENT CHIANG (KAI-SHEK) WAS GOOD FOR OUR COUNTRY. BUT SOME TAIWANESE BEHAVE POORLY TOWARD HIM AND HIS PARTY.

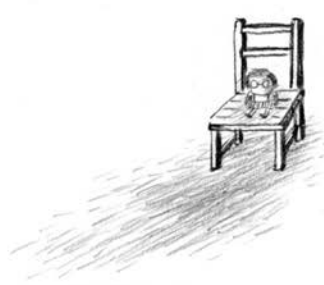
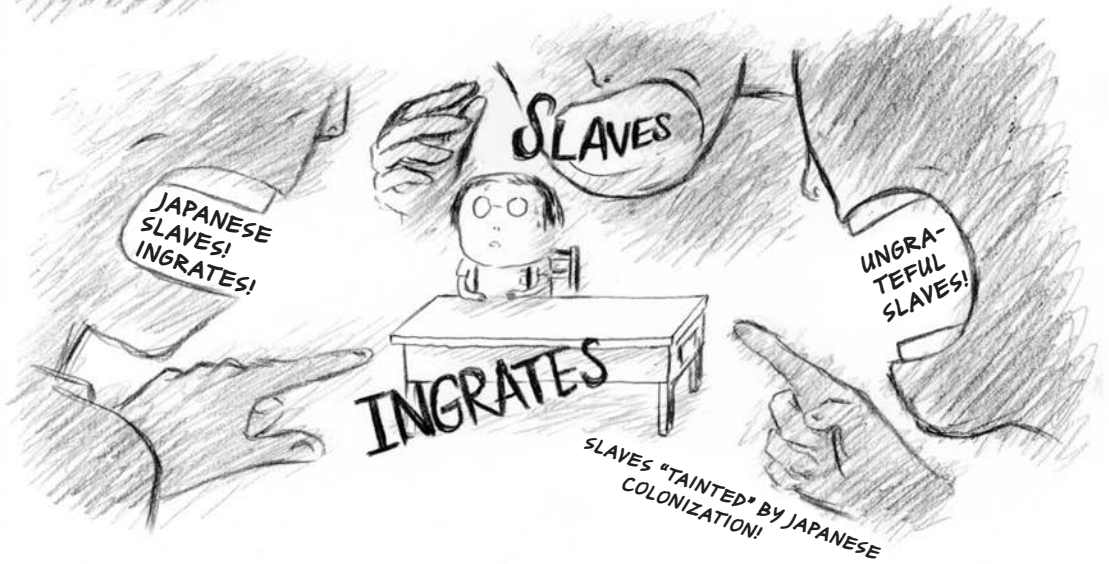




THE TAIWANESE ACT LIKE SLAVES!

MR. CHIANG AND HIS ARMY SACRIFICED MUCH TO FIGHT THE JAPANESE AND DEFEND THE ISLAND AGAINST COMMUNISTS. AND NOW, SOME TAIWANESE ARE NOSTALGIC FOR THE ERA OF JAPANESE COLONIZATION. THEY THINK THINGS WERE BETTER THEN.

UNACCEPTABLE!

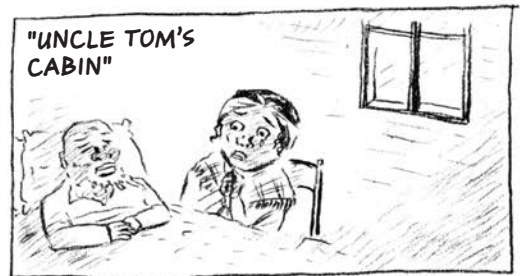
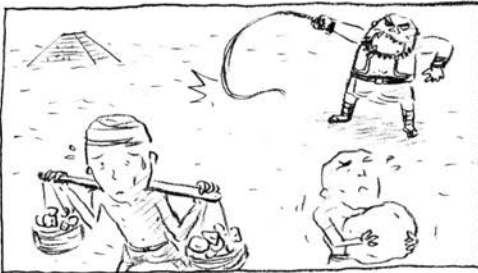


I WAS STILL TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND WHAT "COLONIZATION" MEANT...

BUT "SLAVES"? I KNEW THAT WAS SOMETHING HUMILIATING.



WHEN I HEARD "SLAVES," I THOUGHT OF...



THE CHINESE EMPIRE CEDED TAIWAN TO JAPAN AFTER LOSING THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR IN 1894. THE TAIWANESE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO BECOME JAPANESE.

AFTER 50 YEARS OF COLONIZATION, GRANDPA AND GRANDMA STILL LIKED THEIR COLONIZERS' CULTURE...

I WAS ASHAMED.
SO ASHAMED.

THIS SHAME HAUNTED ME FOR A LONG TIME.

BACK THEN, ALL I KNEW WAS THE OFFICIAL HISTORY, WHICH HAD ACTUALLY DISTORTED REALITY. THE CHINESE NATIONALISTS USED THIS DISCOURSE TO LEGITIMIZE THEIR COLONIZATION OF THE ISLAND OF FORMOSA.



SINCE THE TAIWANESE HAD BEEN BRAINWASHED BY JAPAN, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS THE CHINESE WHO'D COME TO THE ISLAND.

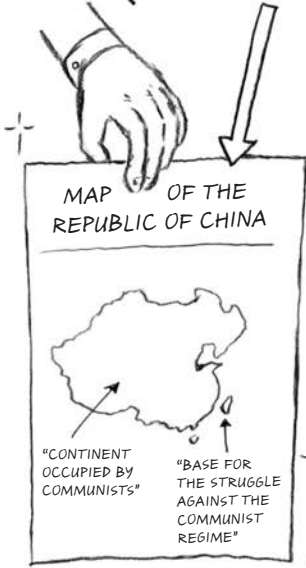
MASSACRE OF FEBRUARY 28 1947 - THE WHITE TERROR OF THE 1950S - ELIMINATION OF THE ELITES



AND THAT IS HOW I WAS TAUGHT, LITTLE BY LITTLE, TO BECOME CHINESE.

GEOGRAPHY:

THE KUOMINTANG (KMT) GOVERNMENT IMPOSED ITS VISION OF THE WORLD, BUT IT WAS A FALSE ONE.



HISTORY/CULTURE

