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SOURCE   USSR national who has been an outstanding scholar of the language and culture of Mongolia and other areas of the eastern USSR. He has been an observer of the Soviet scene over a period of many years and displays an interpretive understanding of the Soviet mind at work. He has traveled extensively in the areas mentioned and has a wide acquaintance among Soviet scholars and scientists. He is now in the US in refugee status.

1. The ethnic groups in Chinese Central Asia (Sinkiang and Kansu) belonging to the Turkish family are the Kazakhs, Uigurs, and Kashgarins. All are Moslem, and speak with a dialect closely related to one another. Their main occupation is cattle breeding, agriculture, and trade. Another group, also Moslem but of Chinese origin and speaking with a Chinese dialect, are the Doungans. In Zoongaria, North-west Sinkiang, are located the Mongols, who are Buddhists and speak with a Mongolian dialect. These Mongols are nomads.

2. In Chinese Central Asia live many Chinese who are newcomers to the area. These people confess religions prevalent in China (Confucianism, Taoism, Mohammedanism, Buddhism, and Christianity), and refuse to be identified with the Doungans. They are hated by the Doungans and all other Moslems.

3. Friction between Moslems and the Chinese is strong, and many minor uprisings by Moslems have occurred recently. This hatred is of religious origin, and as religion and nationality are usually confused, such friction becomes ethnic and national in scope. Moslems of Turkish origin are known for their dislike of Communism which is regarded as a Chinese phenomenon.

4. The Mongols of Chinese Central Asia do not participate in any inter-tribal struggles. They are left alone by other tribes because of the indifference of Buddhists, their own religious tolerance, and because of their lack of interest in any matter concerning present life. Life on earth to them is a preparation for life after death. Culturally and socially they are on a very low level.

5. The significance of the religious and national struggle between the Moslems and Chinese must not be exaggerated, since the Moslems form less than one-half the entire population of the provinces concerned. New rebellions are unlikely to develop as they will be suppressed by both the Chinese Communists and the Soviet Government. It is probable that the Chinese Communists, after taking possession of all of China, will grant each national minority a sort of autonomy, and attempt to eliminate the causes for ethnic hatred. Before this is accomplished the ethnic frictions in Chinese Central Asia can be used to cause much trouble for the Communists during the transition period.

17 Jun 49