

~~SECRET~~

NSC BRIEFING

1 April 1959

TIBET

- I. The Dalai Lama, who fled southward from Lhasa on 17 March, is expected ~~to~~ ^{to} reach Indian border. *[unders interlined]*
 - A. He is probably headed toward the large lamasery at Tawang, which is located in Indian-controlled territory in Assam, claimed by both India and Communist China.
 - B. Nehru wants Dalai Lama in the New Delhi area where the two can be in closer touch.
 - ~~C. Should the Dalai Lama succeed in reaching India, Peiping probably will demand his return.~~

II.

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- ~~A. New Delhi may attempt to ease diplomatic problem with Peiping by limiting its support of resistance movement and making a show of restricting Tibetan refugee activities to nonpolitical affairs.~~

III. Peiping is clearly irritated with publicity given the Tibetan revolt by Indian statements.

- A. China "welcomed" Nehru's statements of non-intervention, but implied further discussion of Tibet in the Indian parliament would be "impolite and improper," and charged Kalimpong is center of rebellion. *(Great Uthra inter)*

IV. Dalai Lama is spiritual head of Lamaistic ^{Buddhists in} branch of Bhuddism, and receives allegiance from ^A Nepal, Bhutan, parts of North India, northwest China and Mongolia.

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Secret Vehicle (wheel) *Salvation through faith* *works*

- A. Non-Lamaistic ~~Buddhists~~ in Burma, India, Ceylon, Thailand and Japan will also be stirred by the fate of co-religionists in Tibet.
- B. Strongest reaction outside India so far has come from ^{CHINATS AND} Foreign Minister of Malaya who condemned Chinese use of force. Similar reactions have come from the press in ~~Nationalist China~~, Burma, Japan, Philippines, Pakistan and the UAR.
- V. In Tibet, Chicoms have imposed military rule in major cities and communication points.
- A. Rebel forces--which Peiping claims number "only about 20,000"--continue to occupy parts of southern Tibet and other remote areas of Tibet and west China.
1. ~~Actual strength of rebels probably exceeds Peiping's claim.~~
- B. No serious fighting has been reported since Chinese Communist forces drove the rebels out of Lhasa on 22 March.
- VI. Peiping's recent statements indicate that the Chinese Communist regime has abandoned its cautious policy in Tibet in favor force to assimilate the Tibetans.
- A. Peiping has replaced the Dalai Lama "during the time" he is held under "duress" by the rebels with its puppet, the Panchen Lama. (In SHIGATSE - now in LHASA)

9th incarnation - Subjugated by Chinese since 1713

~~TOP SECRET~~