

INFORMATIC **CONFIDENTIAL**

25X1A
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

FLD
925

COUNTRY China
SUBJECT Conditions in Tibet

DATE DISTR. 14 September 1948

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A
[REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF I [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
REPORT NO. CIA LIBRARY

1. The present population of Tibet is about 2,000,000. Of these 2,000,000, only about ten percent are pro-American and the majority of these are from the aristocratic, wealthy and religious classes. The other ninety percent are friends or potential friends of the Mongolian People's Republic (MPR) and hope for Soviet aid for the liberation and independence of Tibet.

25X1X

2. The ruler of Tibet is the young 14th Dalai Lama who was born in Chinghai Province and shows pro-Chinese tendencies. However, the Tibetan Government is no longer subject to the wishes of the ruler. Conditions in Tibet are no longer as they were formerly when the Dalai Lama held absolute dictatorial power in Tibet.

25X1A

Comment. The following are various published articles of interest regarding the political situation in Tibet: "England, China and Tibet - A Study of Their Relations", a series of three articles appearing in the 5, 12 and 19 June issues of the China Weekly Review which were written by LIU Shen-chi, who lived in Tibet for many years and for a time served as the Secretary of the Mongolian-Tibetan Affairs Commission, stationed at Lhasa. "11-Year-Old Spiritual Ruler of Tibet Awaits Conclusion of Exile", an article in the 15 April 1948 issue of the China Press, Shanghai. "Tibetan Panshan Kanpu Council Inaugurated in Silingtz'u, Chinghai Province," an article in the Shanghai English-language Shen Paq. The Nanking Ho Ping Jih Pao of 3 January 1948 reported that "According to the Mongolian-Tibetan Affairs Commission, there is no newspaper in Tibet and the Government has the idea of establishing there a newspaper in the Tibetan language to keep the Tibetans informed of current events.")

25X1X

3. In Lhasa there is a Chinese Government Office. The Tibetans are generally contemptuous of the Chinese and often carry out open anti-Chinese demonstrations in front of this office. However, there have been no recent anti-British demonstrations in Tibet. 25X1A

Comment. See "Power Plant for Lhasa, To Go By Sea, Mule, Rail", an article in the 14 April 1948 issue of the China Daily Tribune in Shanghai. This article discusses the activities of a Mr. Fox, "British electrical engineer, formerly a member of the British Political Mission who was asked by the Dalai Lama to investigate the possibilities" of having Britain supply equipment for electricity to replace the traditional rush lights of Lhasa homes.")

4. At the present time the MPR Government is trying hard to bring about close cooperation between Tibet and the USSR. Lamas from North Sinkiang Province (above 44°), which area is under virtual MPR and USSR control, frequently travel to the Kumbum Temple (101-40, 36-20) in Chinghai Province and then go to Tibet.

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

STATE #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY #	NSRS	DISTRIBUTION						
ARMY #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR								

Document No. 8
NO CHANGE in Class.
 DECLASSIFIED
Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

25X1A

Comment. The following article appeared in the 14 March 1948 issue of the North China Daily News, Shanghai English-language daily: "Lamas trained in Mongolia by the Soviets have recently been found in Tibetan lamaseries trying to influence other priests with pro-Communist propoganda, according to Professor LI Yu-i, who has returned to Hong Kong after three and a half years in Tibet. Professor LI said, however, that Communists do not have any practical control as yet. After discussing China's association with Tibet, he added that 'a third power could penetrate Tibet and do anything it wished.' The death of the present aged Regent Ta Tsa would be likely to cause a resurgence of clique rivalry and intrigue, Professor LI added. He described the government of the country as 'the most corrupt and decadent to be found in the world today'."

The following appeared in the 12 June 1948 issue of the Shanghai Ta Kung Pao: "With a view to preventing 'aliens' from sneaking into Tibet and engaging in assassination activities, the Tibetan Government authorities have suspended the issuance of visas to 'alien' merchants as of May 1948. The reason for the enforcement of this measure is that the Dalai Lama in Tibet prophesied that the King of Tibet would possibly be assassinated by 'aliens' within five years."

The following appeared in the 20 December 1947 issue of the Shanghai Ta Kung Pao: "The Regular Army belonging to the Provincial Government of Tibet consists of only 11 regiments and a total of some 10,000 men. In view of the future needs, the Tibetan authorities have now decided to expand the Army, increasing the regular troops to 30,000 strong. It is learned that Cha Yung, a pro-British leader, and others have been assigned to take charge of this task. It is further learned that the Superintendent of the Tibetan Government in Changtu (Chando), Larock, recently summoned the Tai-pen (regimental commander) of the Sukong region, the area west of the Chinsha River, and the Kachu (abbot) of the Ta Ching Monastery in Kantze, Sinkong, to proceed to Changtu to attend an important conference."

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL