

August 28, 1952

The US Counselor at New Delhi (Drumright) to the Department of State, 'Nepalese Report regarding Developments in Tibet'

Citation:

"The US Counselor at New Delhi (Drumright) to the Department of State, 'Nepalese Report regarding Developments in Tibet'", August 28, 1952, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Record Group 59, Central Decimal Files, 1950-1954, Box 4227, 793B.00/8-2852, National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD. Contributed by Charles Kraus. https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/176582

Summary:

Dispatches from the Nepalese representative in Lhasa from May-June 1952.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

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(Security Classification) 7936.00/8-2852 FOREIGN SERCHIGE DESPATCH New Delhi MON SEP - 5 1952 August TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATES : Embassy Despatch 377, August 19 ACTION 2 S/S NEA OLI For Dept. OTHER Use Only SEP Kp LONDON CALCUTTA KATHMANDU' SUBJECT Nepalese Report Regarding Developments in Tibet There are enclosed additional secret reports regarding Tibet which were recently received by the Nepalese Minister of Foreign Affairs from the Nepalese representative in Ihasa. These reports were made available to the American Embassy by the Nepalese Embassy in New Delhi. The current reports are rather brief and deal with events toward the end of May and the beginning of June 1952. These events include the arrival of the Nepalese rebel, Dr. K. I. Singh, and unsuccessful Nepalese efforts to obtain his extradition. It is reported that the Communist Chinese military authorities were insisting 0 that all the papers of the "Tibetan" Party should be confiscated. It is recalled S (enclosure No. 1 to Calcutta despatch No. 5 of July 2) that the Brincess of Sikkim W has previously indicated the formation of a People's Party because of widespread Tibet dissatisfaction with the Communist Chinese occupation of Tibet. 00 PE NEW OCI Reference is also made in the Nepalese reports to food scarcity and lawlessness in Tibet which tends to confirm earlier reports in the Indian press. 00 1 ACTION REQUESTED: That the Department transmit reproduced copies of this despatch to AMEMBASSY London, AMCONGEN Calcutta, and the American Library. Kathmandu. 0 OI For the Charge d'Affaires, a.i.: N STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW Change/classify to Retain class'n Everett F. Drumright with concurrence of Declassify Counselor of Embassy (Political) Enclosure: DECLASSIFIED

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Desp. No. 571
From New Delhi

REPORT FROM LHASA

Jestha 14, 2009 - May 27, 1952

Dr. K. I. Singh and thirty-five followers arrived at Ihasa on Jestha 13, at 9.30 A.M. They are now staying in the house of Panda Chhang. Dr. Singh is reported to have reached Lhasa on the night of Jestha 12. At the gate of the house there are two Chinese armed guards. It is learnt that Dr. Singh is accompanied by an old man called "the old general" two or three persons from Nepal proper and other Nepalese from outside the valley of Kathmandu, or from India, Among them there are Brahmins, Kshetriyas, Newars, Tamangs, Magers, Gurung and Limboos. The Chinese do not allow these Nepalese to move freely, and have appointed a strong guard over them. They have warned them not to correspond with any body on pain of punishment. Dr. Singh and his man have not get any job yet from the Chinese. They are provided only with rations and clothes. It took fifteen days for Dr. Singh's party to reach Lhasa from Digercha on foot. There is a rumour that the Chinese are taking Dr. Singh and his followers to China, but there is no confirmation of this. Our Representative sent a man to the Kashag requesting them again for the handing over of the rebel and his followers immediately on Singh's arrival in Lhasa. There were only Rambha Kazi and Surkhen Kazi present there that day. They replied that they would inform our Representative after consulting with the other Kazis.

On Jestha 13, our Representative and his assistant went to Dhikilinka to meet Mr. Singh on the Indian Mission. Mr. Sinha asked whether our Representative had any information from the Tibetans about the handing over of Dr. K. I. Singh and his followers. Subba Youdha Gambhir Singh replied that he had been informed some days previously, that the case was now being heard by Shoen-Chem. The Kazis had promised our Representative to inform him as soon as the matter had been decided. Mr. Sinha said that the case was now in the hands of the Chinese and therefore it would be difficult for us to get the rebel. He advised our Representative carefully to study the policy of the Chinese regarding Dr. Singh. He also said that a Muslim Abdul Mazim from Pakistan, had recently arrived and was living near the house of Kap Syopa, and it was possible that he might conspire against the Government of Nepal together with Dr. Singh. Mr. Sinha asked our Representative to try to find out every thing privately. At this our Representative said that the Chinese did not allow any body to meet Dr. Singh. Mr. Sinha told our Representative that the Chinese also fear the possibility of a plot by Dr. K. I. Singh. He said further that these days the Tibetan situation was critical and asked our Representative to visit him at times to exchange their views, in view of a great friendship existing between India and Nepal. (Br. No. 45)

Ashad 2, 2009 - June, 1952

Our Representative tried to obtain a reply from the Kazis about Dr. K.I. Singh after the latter's arrival at Lhasa. The Kazis said that the case had been decided by the Shoen-Chem, that if Dr. Singh and his party has not entered Tibet but had returned to his country, the Chinese would not have been taken up the matter. But Dr. Singh had come into Tibet and had sought asylum there. According to the Kazis the Chinese Officer had stated that the law "Thumthum Kalim" which regulates the international relations of Communist China does not provide for the extradiction

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of any kind of refugees from neighbouring countries who come to seek protection from them. The Kazis said further that the Chinese Officers in Tibet had sent an enquiry to their Government in Peking about the demand of the Government of Nepal regarding Dr. Singh and his party. The Kazis asked the Representative to report to his Government the decision of the Shoen-Cham about Dr. Singh and his party and said that they would inform him later if they received any new information from China about Dr. Singh. (Br. No.50)

Jestha 14, 2009 - May 27, 1952.

It is reported that the Chinese were insisted that all the papers of the "Tibetan" party should be confiscated. Consequently Tibetan Officers were compelled to order the leaders, to submit all their papers for examination. But the members of the party refused to submit their papers on the plea that their party was a non violent one, and that they would not therefore remain silent if the Government interfered in the party's work on the basis of non-violence. There is a possibility of conflict between the Chinese and the 'Tibetan' party. (Br. No.44)

Jestha 12, 2009 - May 25, 1952

The Chinese celebrated the first anniversary of the liberation of Tibet for three days from Jestha 9 to 11. They had placed a decorated portrait of Mao-Tse-Tung on the field Maga Sanha. The Kazis were also present there on the last day of the ceremony. The Chinese delivered a speech in which they said both the Dalai-Lama and Tashi-Lama were one and the same.

Four or five Chief leaders of the Tibetan party were called before the Shoen-Cham for interrogation. The leaders were warned by the Kashag and told not to disturb peace. They replied that they had never tried to do so, and they had only demanded that the people should be provided with food and clothes in these difficult days. They said that the Government could punish their party, which numbered thousands, if their statement was found to be untrue. (Br. No.43)

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