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TO AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208257

E.O. 12065:GDS 8/9/85 (FREEMAN, C. W.)

TAGS:PEPR PINT CH US

SUBJECT: CHINESE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON DALAI LAMA'S U.S.
VISIT

1. PRC CHARGE CAO GUISHENG RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE DALAI
LAMA'S VISIT TO THE US BY PRESENTING A NON-PAPER TO
ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE ON AUGUST 7. TEXT, WHICH WAS
REPORTED TO EMBASSY BEIJING BY SEPTTEL, IS REPRODUCED IN
PARA SIX FOR OTHER POSTS' INFO.
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Lahiguera, Senior Reviewer

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2. WE RESPONDED BY PRESENTING OUR OWN NON-PAPER WHEN CAO
CALLED ON DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY SULLIVAN AUGUST 9. TEXT
AS FOLLOWS:

"THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE
OF A VISA TO THE DALAI LAMA TO PERMIT HIM TO VISIT THE
UNITED STATES IN A PURELY PRIVATE CAPACITY. HE WILL NOT
BE RECEIVED BY ANY OFFICIAL OF THIS ADMINISTRATION. WE
HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HIS VISIT HERE WOULD BE SOLELY

IN HIS ROLE AS A RELIGIOUS LEADER AND THAT WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE HIM IN ANY GOVERNMENTAL CAPACITY. TO DENY THE DALAI LAMA THE ABILITY TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES FOR RELIGIOUS PURPOSES WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH UNITED STATES PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM OF TRAVEL.

"THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS VISIT SHOULD HAVE ANY ADVERSE EFFECT ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA. OUR POSITION ON THE STATUS OF TIBET IS CLEAR, AND WE ARE PREPARED PUBLICLY TO STATE THAT WE CONSIDER TIBET TO BE A PART OF CHINA.

"THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOTES THAT THE DALAI LAMA HAS VISITED JAPAN, SWITZERLAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES, APPARENTLY WITHOUT ANY ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THOSE COUNTRIES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

"AS REGARDS THE 'OFFICE OF TIBET' IN NEW YORK, WE CONSIDER THE OFFICE TO BE A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION WITH NO OFFICIAL STATUS OR CHARACTER. AS LONG AS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE DO NOT VIOLATE THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES CONFIDENTIAL

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OR OF THE STATE AND CITY OF NEW YORK THERE IS NO LEGAL BASIS FOR TAKING ANY ACTION AGAINST IT."

3. CAO RESPONDED TO OUR INFORMAL PAPER WITH WHAT HE TERMED HIS "PERSONAL COMMENT" THAT ALLOWING THE DALAI LAMA TO VISIT WOULD BE AN UNFRIENDLY GESTURE TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE. HE REQUESTED USG ASSURANCE THAT THE DALAI LAMA WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITIES DURING HIS STAY IN THE US. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE DALAI LAMA'S TENTATIVE US SCHEDULE INCLUDES SEVERAL PRESS CONFERENCES AND OTHER "NON RELIGIOUS" ACTIVITIES. CAO CONCLUDED BY READING FROM HIS NON-PAPER THAT "IF ANYTHING THAT HURTS THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S FEELINGS AND HARMS SINO-US RELATIONS SHOULD HAPPEN, THE US GOVERNMENT CANNOT BUT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR IT."

4. ON THE QUESTION OF THE "OFFICE OF TIBET" IN NEW YORK, CAO MADE A "PERSONAL COMMENT" THAT OUR REPLY WAS NOT SATISFACTORY.

5. SULLIVAN CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION BY STATING THAT "WE UNDERSTAND THE CHINESE POSITION."

6. TEXT OF THE CHINESE NON-PAPER AS FOLLOWS:

"WE HAVE TAKEN NOTE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NEVER LET DALAI VISIT THE U.S IN THE PAST. IT IS MUCH TO OUR

REGRET THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE CHANGED ITS ATTITUDE AND AGREED TO LET DALAI VISIT THE U.S. AFTER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN CHINA AND THE U.S. AND WHEN SINO-U.S. RELATIONS HAVE MADE

PROGRESS AS COMPARED WITH THE PAST. THIS CAN HARDLY BE SEEN AS A FRIENDLY GESTURE TO THE CHINESE PEOPLE. TIBET IS AN INALIENABLE PART OF THE TERRITORY OF CHINA, AND OUR COMPATRIOTS OF TIBETAN NATIONALITY ARE A MEMBER OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE GREAT FAMILY OF NATIONALITIES IN CHINA. ANY ATTEMPT AIMED AT SPLITTING THE UNIFICATION OF OUR COUNTRY AND JEOPARDIZING THE UNITY OF VARIOUS NATIONALITIES IN CHINA WILL NOT BE TOLERATED BY THE ENTIRE CHINESE PEOPLE INCLUDING TIBETANS. WE HOPE TO HAVE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S ASSURANCE THAT DALAI SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITIES DURING HIS STAY IN THE U.S. IF ANYTHING THAT HURTS THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S FEELING AND HARMS SINO-U.S. RELATIONS SHOULD HAPPEN, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CANNOT BUT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR IT.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WE ALSO WANT TO POINT OUT THAT THE CHINESE SIDE ASKED THE U.S. SIDE REPEATEDLY IN THE PAST TO BAN THE SO-CALLED "TIBET OFFICE" SET UP BY DALAI IN NEW YORK, THE U.S. SIDE, HOWEVER, PREVARICATED IN ITS RESPONSE. WE NOW ONCE AGAIN ASK THE U.S. SIDE TO ADOPT CORRESPONDING MEASURES AND COME UP WITH A SATISFACTORY REPLY TO THE CHINESE SIDE'S DEMAND."

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