

National upsurge in Tibet

Sir, no one can deny that the reaction in India to the situation arising out of the events in Tibet was strong and swift. Even in Parliament all parties, with the exception of the Communist Party, united in

sure, desires to strengthen the friendly relations that have prevailed for two thousand years between India and China. But these friendly relations canars based only on frankness and free expression of opinion. No fruitful relations canars established if we suppress honart

There is one more point in connection with the situation arising out of recent events in Tibet that I should like to lay stress on. We all realise

we shall be actuated by that broad and liberal policy which actuated our country in the past and which a small country like England has

The Central authorities of China will not alter the existing political system in Tibet nor will they alter the established status, functions and powers of the Dalai Lama.

The religious beliefs, customs and habits of the Tibetan people shall be respected and lama Monasteries shall be protected.

Sir, those are some of the articles of the Sino-Tibetan Agreement of 1951.

The beginning of the present crisis in Tibet goes back to 1950. Sir, in that year it was my privilege to be on the Indian delegation to the United Nations. When in November of that year, reports came out of China of Chinese forces advancing towards Lhasa, the suggestion was made by one of the members at the United Nations to the Steering Committee, which was in charge of the Agenda of the General Assembly of that year, that Tibet be included on the Agenda.

Tibet in the United Nations

The Leader of the Indian Delegation under instructions from the Government of India, unambiguously and firmly on the basis of reports received from Peking at that time — Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel — gave the assurance to the Steering Committee that then Chinese forces had halted at Chamdo, some three hundred miles from Lhasa, and that they had no intention of going further. And, Sir, it was on that assurance given by the Leader of the Indian Delegation to the Steering Committee that the proposal to discuss Tibet in that session was dropped. What happened subsequently? Only a few months later, in the spring of 1951, the Chinese forces resumed their advance towards Lhasa. A Tibetan Delegation was summoned to Peking. It went through New Delhi. There was, I think, some delay in the Tibetan Delegation leaving New Delhi for Peking because of certain transport or transit difficulties in Hong Kong en route. The Chinese Government,

I regret to say, even on that occasion very readily attributed unworthy motives to the Government of India and suggested that the delay was due to foreign influences being at work in New Delhi. When the Delegation reached Peking, it was asked to sign an agreement which had already been drawn up. The Tibetan Delegation was reminded that there was already established in Lhasa Chinese Military Headquarters and the Delegation was asked to sign on the dotted line. After that, Sir, who are the people who keep other people under duress and make them sign statements?

The Charge of Expansionism

It seems to me a matter of very great distress that charges of intervention and of expansionism should be made against India, after the experience of China during the

Mr. Chairman, sometimes emotions and sentiments do overpower us and tend to distort our vision. But

Tibet revoked her seventeen-point agreement with China, signed in 1951 and declared complete independence on March 12, according to Lukhangwa, former Prime Minister

MR. BHUPESH GUPTA: And you too.

Now, Sir, recall 1953 when it was found necessary to make a surprise

MR. RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: How are we concerned with all these
Sir? We are concerned with Tibet now.

MR. BHUPESH GUPTA: Because I say that the PSP have not understood
the point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Go on.

MR. GUPTA: I know the agitation and there will be greater agitation if I
were given a little more time to speak on the subject.
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