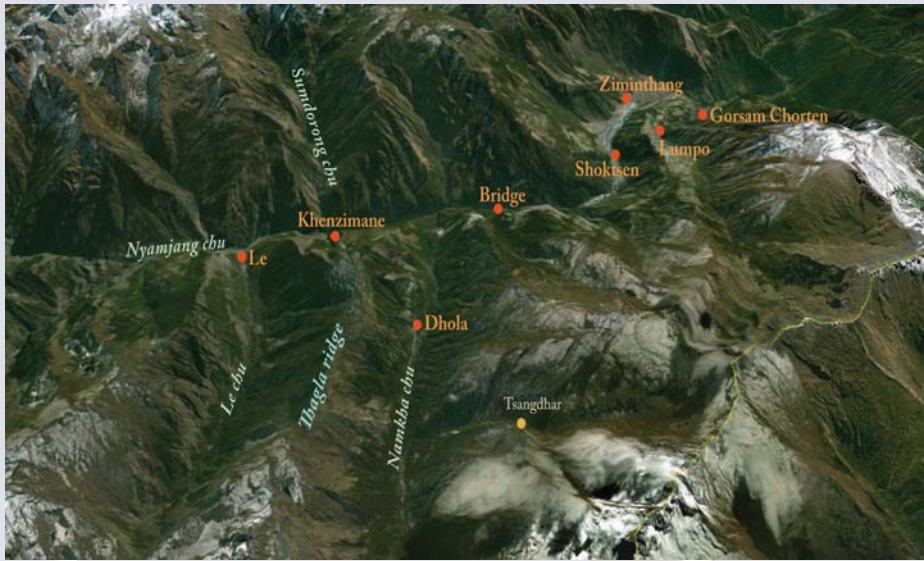


A War Over the Tibet Border

The 1962 Sino-Indian Conflict



The battle of Namkha Chu (October 20, 1962)



The defence of Sela pass

The Sino-Indian conflict has remained a scar on India's psyche, partly because there is a feeling that it can happen again.

Many reasons have been assigned to the 1962 Sino-Indian conflict. The most plausible is that China was keen to take revenge on India who, three years earlier, had 'dared' to offer asylum to the Dalai Lama and tens of thousands of Tibetans.



Air Force officers with local Monpas before the War



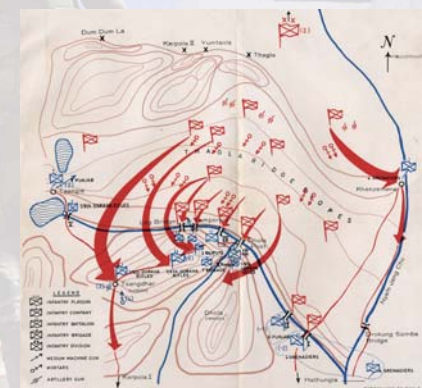
The 17 Para Field commandos north of Tawang (October 1962)

The pretext used by China to attack India was Delhi's Forward Policy in the early 1960s. Beijing said that they had to counter-attack in self-defence to "liberate all our territories in NEFA and Ladakh, ...we have proved that you are no match for mighty China".

Where was the question of attacking China when the Indian soldiers were short of food, clothes, armament and other basic supplies?



Indian troops in Ladakh



The Chinese attack in the Tawang Sector on October 20, 1962



The War Memorial in Tawang



PoWs in Tibet: Brig John Dalvi and 4 Indian Commanding Officers in Lhasa after their release