

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

April 12, 1959

*Note from the Prime Minister*

1. I have read all these papers.
2. From the list of persons accompanying the Dalai Lama, it appears that the number is 120, and not 80 as we imagined. On a different paper, mention is made of the persons who are expected to accompany the Dalai Lama further, that is, to his ultimate place of residence. This is a much small list. It is suggested that the others accompanying him might go to Darjeeling and Kalimpong. Among these others who are supposed to go to Darjeeling or Kalimpong, are the members of his family, the tutors and other officials. I think that it would not be desirable for the members of his family or the Ministers and other high officials to be separated from him. All the important people accompanying him plus the necessary attendants should come together to Mussoorie. If we allow the important people to establish themselves in Kalimpong or Darjeeling, difficulties would arise. This need not apply to the unimportant people or to the host of attendants. Some indication of our views might, therefore, be sent to PN Menon and KL Mehta. The Dalai Lama might be informed that we are arranging suitable accommodation for a fairly large party and that it would be desirable for his principal advisers as well as the members of his family to be with him. Possibly he is afraid of the members of his family being brought to the plains in the hot weather. He should be

- told that this will not be so and that they will be kept at a hill station.
3. The Dalai Lama should be informed that we are making arrangements at Mussoorie which is a hill station and which is fairly easily accessible from Delhi.
  4. He should be informed also that I hope to meet him at Mussoorie soon after his arrival there and to discuss various points with him.
  5. If they wish to bring some interpreters from Kalimpong, they can do so.
  6. The Dalai Lama can be told that any particular persons who are indicated by him, will certainly be allowed entry into India. We may also permit entry to some unarmed Tibetans seeking asylum, but if the numbers are at all larger matter will have to be given special consideration.
  7. I presume that the Dalai Lama has been informed that we shall give every facility to his brother Gyalo Dhondup, and anyone else he wishes to meet him, but this will be much more convenient at Mussoorie than en route.
  8. The other points raised by the Ministers will have to be dealt with after the arrival of the Dalai Lama in Mussoorie and when we have had talks with him.
  9. I agree with you that some kind of a statement should be issued by the Dalai Lama he emerges from the NEFA. The proposed communique is not suitable for this purpose. At the same time, the statement he might issue at Tezpur should not be too bold. It should deal with the circumstances of his leaving, Lhasa, but something more is needed. Perhaps you might come to see me tomorrow evening and we can discuss this matter further.
  10. There is no mention in these papers of the alleged letters he is supposed to have written to the Chinese Commander in Lhasa. This

question is agitating all the foreign as well as Indian correspondents, and some time or other he will have to say something about them. You might indicate to PN Menon to find out privately about this matter.

11. The latest message that he has sent me, should be suitably acknowledged.
12. I think that you should accompany me when I go to Mussoorie or, perhaps, you might even go a day before. I intend going to Dehra Dun on the 23<sup>rd</sup> evening and spending the night there. Early on the 24<sup>th</sup> morning, I shall go to Mussoorie. I shall be busy with my conference till lunch time and indeed a little after. I can, therefore, see the Dalai Lama on the 24<sup>th</sup> afternoon. I have some engagements then, but they can be adjusted. I intend returning to Dehra Dun on the 24<sup>th</sup> evening and coming back up to Delhi on the 25<sup>th</sup> morning.
13. If you accompany me on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, you can go on straight to Mussoorie that evening and not remain at Dehra Dun, or you could go early in the morning on the 24<sup>th</sup> from Dehra Dun and see the Dalai Lama and others there on the morning of the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Sd/- J. Nehru

12.4.1959

To FS [Foreign Secretary]