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March 13, 14 and 16, 1959 material  
Reported March 17

Synopsis of Intelligence material reported to the President

TIBET

A tense situation has developed in Lhasa and other areas of Tibet in early March. On March 10th, the Tibetans captured a sizeable ChiCom outpost. Peiping has apparently ordered an "all-out" attack on the rebels.

As of March 13th, the Dalai Lama was being held captive by the rebels.

IRAQ

Local communists have seized the opportunity provided by the failure of the Mosul revolt to renew pressure for arming the Popular Resistance Force, further purges and executions, and withdrawal from the Baghdad Pact. Meanwhile, tension is continuing along portions of the Iraq-Syrian frontier. UAR may be encouraging dissidence by the Shammar bedouins in northern Iraq. Plots are reported to assassinate both Qasim and Nasir.

OMAN

The Arab League and Saudi Arabia are apparently continuing to support the Omani rebellion and the Sultan of Muscat. The ChiComs have made a recent offer of financial aid.

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| E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.6(b)     |               |
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| NLE Case                    | 84-283-1      |
| By                          | AKO           |
| NLE Date                    | 12/2/97       |

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March 23, 1959 material

Reported March 23

Synopsis of State and Intelligence material reported to the President

TIBET

The Dalai Lama, reported to have fled Lhasa on March 17th to seek asylum in India, arrived secretly at a monastery about 35 miles southeast of Lhasa on March 18th according to a reliable report. The location of the monastery suggests that the party's destination may be Bhutan or the nearby northeastern Indian border. Rebel forces are believed to be strong in the area between the monastery and the border. The Tibetan uprisings apparently have resulted in a considerable loss of prestige for Communist China in India, and Indian newspapers are critical of Nehru for having minimized reports of the uprisings.

JORDAN

The commanding officer of the Jordanian Fifth Artillery Regiment was arrested on March 20th on suspicion of complicity in a "pro-Nasir plot to overthrow the present regime," according to the British ambassador in Amman.



FRANCE-INDOCHINA

France seems to be accelerating its efforts in the Indochina area to attract Laos and Cambodia into an association with the new French Community. France has turned down U.S. plans for joint training of the Laotian Army, and the French ambassador in Cambodia has been playing a devious, independent role in that country. The French also are conducting a smear campaign against South Vietnamese President Diem, whom they regard as an obstacle to French influence in the area.

EAST-WEST CONFERENCE

The Italian Embassy here has stated that de Gaulle told Segni and Pella his Government committed itself to support Italian participation in a foreign ministers conference. The French consider the Italians should be full participants from the beginning rather than observers. De Gaulle apparently made one reservation to the effect that those meetings devoted to Berlin would be restricted to the four nations with special responsibilities.

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