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Project: K-19

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

Project Initiation Memorandum

16 July 1951

To: D/G

From: D/R

Subject: The Southwestern Frontier of China

Statement of Project

Origin: D/G

Problem: The undefined frontier between China-Tibet and India-Pakistan could be exploited for Chinese Communist advance southward. Problem is to examine basic physical cultural, and economic factors and historic Chinese claims to determine areas in which penetration would be easy and areas in which penetration would be difficult.

Scope: Area embraced in study: southern borders of Sinkiang, Tibet, and Sikang.

Brief outline:

1. Topography: how formidable is the mountain barrier?
2. Cultural orientation of people: toward north, south, or neither?
3. Economic orientation: degree of dependence on areas north or south.
4. De facto control and boundary claims.

Graphics: One or two maps.

Form: M Report

Draft due in D/R: 31 August 1951 - Part 1: Sinkiang-Tibet-Kashmir border
30 November 1951 - Part 2: Tibet-Sikang-Assam border
Open - Part 3: Nepal-Sikkim-Bhutan border areas

Responsible Division: D/G

Internal Coordination: D/A

Departmental Responsibilities: None

Classification to be no higher than:

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Title of report: ~~THE SOUTHWESTERN FRONTIERS OF CHINA~~
Frontiers with Kashmir and India from Afghanistan to Nepal.
Report Series No. CIA/RR-G-8 Project Number 68.913 Classification

Analyst: [redacted] 25X1A9a Maps: 2 Pictures: pictures with copies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 only.
Date of Report: February 1954

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