

IMPACT

diary

Hajj decline

■ The number of persons performing Hajj this year on 4 September has drastically come down, according to figures released by the Saudi ministry of Hajj and Awqaf.

Pilgrims who performed pilgrimage this year numbered 1,650,000, a decrease of 837,228 or 22 per cent compared to last year.

The number of Saudis and expatriates who performed pilgrimage this year reached 744,807, a decline of 752,988 than last year. Saudis who performed Hajj this year numbered 218,589, a decrease of 74,373 or 25 per cent than last year.

Non-Saudis who performed Hajj from inside the country this year numbered 526,218, a decrease of 678,615 or 56 per cent than last year. Pilgrims who came from abroad this year numbered 919,671, a decline of 84,240 or 56 per cent, the statistics said. Percentage of Saudis to total number of pilgrims this year is 13 per cent, the statistics said.

Nigerian pilgrims numbered 23,655, a decrease of 52,498, North Yemenis numbered 65,279, a decline of 45,201 than last year. Syrians were 18,729, a decline of [figure not clear] while Indonesians are 40,928, a decrease of 13,976 than last year.

However, there was an increase in numbers from some countries. Iranian pilgrims numbered 154,958, an increase of 51,914; Egyptians numbered 133,071 pilgrims, a rise of 11,618, while Sudanese reached 49,072, an increase of 10,048.

Pakistani pilgrims this year numbered 91,872 a rise of 6,852 than last year.

But the greatest tragedy struck about 500 Eastern Turkistani Muslims who sold their valuables, took leave of their families and travelled all the way from Xinjiang via the Kasghar-Skardu road and arrived in Pakistan on 30 August only to be told that the

date for the issue of Saudi Hajj visa had expired.

It's not clear who exactly bungled, the bureaucrats in Pakistan or their compatriots in Saudi Arabia or both but no-one had the vision or courage to cut the bureaucratic red tape.

The Turkistanis cannot go back and now they plan to wait in Pakistan for the next year's Hajj.

Learn English, learning to drive

■ 'Pull out', 'move off', 'change down', 'double de-clutch', 'take full and effective observation' — all of these phrases are perfectly clear to the experienced driver but if English is not your first language and you're trying to prepare for your driving test the language can present a real problem.

'L-Driver', a new series of six television programmes starting on BBC-1 on 14 October, tackles just this problem. Presented by former Dr. Who Peter Davison, the programmes will help viewers to command the special language involved in taking driving lessons and preparing for the driving test.

'L-Driver' is on Sundays at 10.30am on BBC-1 from October 14-November 25 (not November 11) and will be repeated on BBC-2 on Wednesdays at 12.55pm from October 24-November 28. An illustrated book, 'English for Driving' is available from the National Extension College, 18 Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, CB2 2HN, price £2.95.

On 'leave'?

■ Khurram Murad who has been heading the Leicester-based Islamic Foundation since 1976 and whose tenure has been very productive both in terms of quality of academic work as well Islamic d'awah has proceeded on leave with effect from 1 September. Mr Murad is expected to undergo a second open heart surgery later this year or early next year (may Allah grant him quick recovery and long life — Ameen!) and he wants to cut himself off from the administrative and other routines of the Foundation and complete some of his original as well as editing works. Is he then really on leave?

Dr Manazir Ahsan has stepped into Kurram Murad's shoes as acting director general. Dr Ahsan's task is made no less daunting by his illustrious predecessors.

Council of Mosques

■ The first annual general meeting of the Council of Mosques UK will be held on 29 September at the office of the Muslim World League, 46 Goodge St, London. Information: Chowdhury Mueenuddin, general secretary at the above address; Tel: 01-636 7568.

in the NEWS

The Ethiopian junta leader Col Mengistu Haile-Mariam has been unanimously elected the first secretary general of the newly-formed Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE). The constitution and statute of WPE have 'all the qualities and principles that a Marxist-Leninist party should have', according to Comrade Legesse Asfaw, chairman of the constitution commission. Col Mengistu particularly criticised Sudan for 'collaborating with . . . reactionary governments, drunk on oil wealth . . .'

The WPE founding congress was attended by among others Prime Minister Ali Nasir Muhammad of South Yemen, and communist leaders from Greece, Cyprus, USA, France, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Kabul, Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

The Eritrean Liberation Front issued a statement condemning the Ethiopian regime for pursuing a 'policy of extermination of all nationalities' and said that while the regime claimed to be democratic and progressive, Ethiopia was faced with 'famine, political terrorism, massacre, pillage and oppression'.

President Husni Mubarak of Egypt has declined a 5,000 million dollars gift offer as well as refused to meet the envoy who had brought the highly attractive offer, according to *Al-Ahram*. It has been claimed that the Libyan leader Col Qadhafi had recently sent a special envoy to Cairo with the above offer. Mubarak, in return, was required to do only two things. One, to send a message to Qadhafi hinting that Egypt would repatriate the Libyan pilot who had defected to Egypt about three months ago. Two, to renounce the Camp David agreement. *Al-Ahram* said Qadhafi had promised to give Sadat 1 billion dollars before the 1973 war, but he did not keep the promise.

The Musa Sadr episode refuses to fade out. Demonstrations were staged in Beirut by the Amal movement recently to protest against his disappearance four years ago while on visit to Libya. The protests called by the Amal leader Nabih Birri, — minister for justice, hydroelectric resources and south Lebanon affair, however, brought a strong rejoinder from the Libyans. An official commentary claimed that the Lebanese Shi'ah leader Imam Musa Sadr was a member of SAVAK and an agent of the Shah and Zionism — and had he been present after the Iranian revolution, he would have been executed. This insistence about Musa Sadr was 'annoying', said the commentator.

What the Iranians think of the episode was, however, not disclosed. President Ali Khamenih of Iran visited Tripoli in September where he was welcomed at Sirte by Col Qadhafi.

The Comoran president Ahmad Abdullah Abdur-Rahman I will be the sole candidate in the Comoran presidential elections to be held on 30 September. However President Abdur-Rahman launched his election campaign on 15 September.

Abdulah Conteh, the Sierra Leone foreign minister, has been appointed the country's new finance minister with the finance minister Salia Jusu-Sharif being made minister of development and economic planning.

Constantin Mitsotakis, 66, a Cretan Liberal has been elected leader of opposition and of the conservative New Democracy party. The former chairman Evangelos Averoff, 74, has retired. Mitsotakis has served as minister of economic affairs and of foreign affairs between 1978 and 1981.

Canada's Progressive Conservative leader Brian Mulroney has become the new prime minister of Canada after his party's triumphant victory at the midterm polls following the retirement of flamboyant and Liberal prime minister Pierre Trudeau. The Liberals had been in power in Canada continuously since 1963 except a brief interlude in 1979-80.

The Saudi minister of oil Dr Zaki Yamani has been awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of London.

The Burundi military ruler Col Jean-Baptiste Bagaza has been elected president of the country. Bagaza who was the sole candidate of the sole ruling party, UPRONA, polled 99.63% of the 98.34% votes cast. This was the first ever presidential election in Burundi.

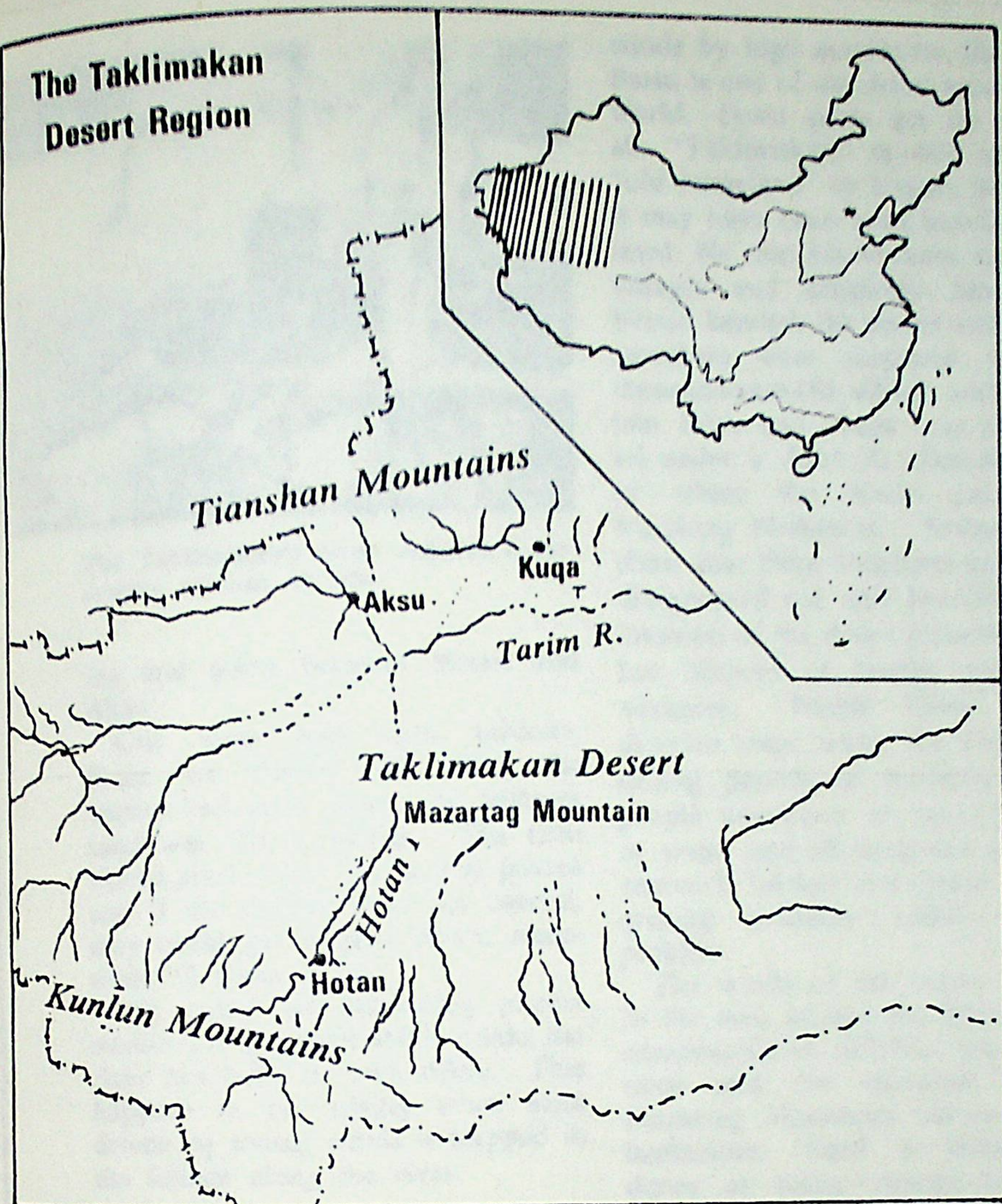
Maj Gen Saeed al-Katib has been appointed Tunisia's Inspector General of the Armed forces.

Adam Malik, 67, Indonesia's vice-president (1978-1983), foreign minister (1966-1977), president of the UN general assembly (1971) and a distinguished Indonesian politician and diplomat died in Bandung, 5 September.

Turkish film-maker Yilmaz Guney, 47, a fugitive from his own country (on a murder charge, which he claimed was framed) but a celebrity dissident in West Europe, died in a Paris hospital, 9 September.

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The Taklimakan Desert Region



Into the Taklimakan Desert

YUAN GUOYING

THE Taklimakan desert in the Tarim Basin of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region is one of the world's largest. It is bigger than Poland. From ancient times it has often been a death trap for those who ventured into it. In 1895 Swedish explorer Sven Hedin nearly died in its Hotan (Khotan) River valley.

In October 1984 at this very spot, a research team of 30 Xinjiang scientists began a journey into the desert in a comprehensive effort to penetrate its secrets. They were specialists in meteorology, hydrology, water conservation, geomorphology, soil, vegetation, archaeology, environmental protection and other fields. The aim was to provide information for developing the basin of the

Tarim River and its three large tributaries, one of which is the Hotan.

The Hotan River (also known as the Kara Kash) crosses the desert from south to north, and after its flood waters recede it offers passable transport conditions. Representing Xinjiang's Environmental Protection Institute, I was part of the team.

We travelled by jeep from Aksu in the north, through Aral, sometimes alongside the Hotan, sometimes in the dry riverbed itself. We made seven camps on the way. Twenty-six days and 940 kilometers later, the team reached the town of Hotan in the south.

The Hotan River

From June to September the Karakax and Yurungkax rivers unleash a torrent of water from melting snow in the Kunlun Mountains south of the Taklimakan. This mas-

sive surge of water plunges out into the desert, becoming the Hotan. Even in drier years the desert cannot swallow the giant flow. The river rolls madly north until it merges with the Yarkant and Aksu rivers and pours into the world's longest landlocked river, the Tarim.

The Hotan is 1,026 kilometers long. The smashing water erodes and carves the banks, spilling as much as five kilometers out over banks rarely more than a meter high. Turbid and silt-laden, and only a few feet deep, the river appears vast and mighty. Sand dunes, vegetation and huge poplar trees go down. An annual 7,000,000 tons of mud is carried downriver. After the water recedes, poplar trees lie like skeletons over a dreary landscape. Yet the dried river bed provides a very important way through the otherwise impassable desert for farmers, herdsman and others com-

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JUNE 1985



The Taklimakan's oases support a surprising amount of life.

ing and going between Hotan and Aksu.

Our team had eight vehicles. Since we passed just after the waters had gone down, the still-wet sand was like a sponge. The tires would press water out as they passed and if the drivers were not careful, they could get bogged down, sometimes 15 times a day.

We noted an interesting phenomenon. On the more stable banks the river has built its own dikes. This happens in the spring when sand driven by strong winds is trapped in the foliage along the river.

Desert Landscape

Far from the Indian Ocean and cut off from its moisture-carrying

winds by high mountains, the Tarim Basin is one of the driest areas in the world. Some parts get no rain at all. "Taklimakan" is said to mean "old homeland" in Uygur, indicating it may have once been heavily populated. No one knows how many old villages and kingdoms have been buried beneath the desert sands. Researchers were surprised when a thousand-year-old village with porcelain kilns and shops was discovered under a dune 80 kilometers east of where the Hotan passes the Mazartag Mountains. Investigations show that these kingdoms and towns disappeared not only because of the invasion of the desert from the south but because of human production advances. People living upriver diverted more water for their crops during periods of drought, forcing people downriver to leave for lack of water and allowing the desert to encroach farther and faster. Overgrazing probably added to the problem.

The winds of the basin intersect in the area around the Hotan. The combination of different wind directions and the existence of the Mazartag Mountains causes bizarre landscapes. Sand is blown into dunes of many strange shapes—pyramids sometimes 140 meters high, crescents, beehives, crosses, stars, moons, and others. There are many shifting dunes moving constantly.

As one looks toward the Kunluns in the south and the Tianshans in the north, the landscape is a weird ocean of yellow waves.

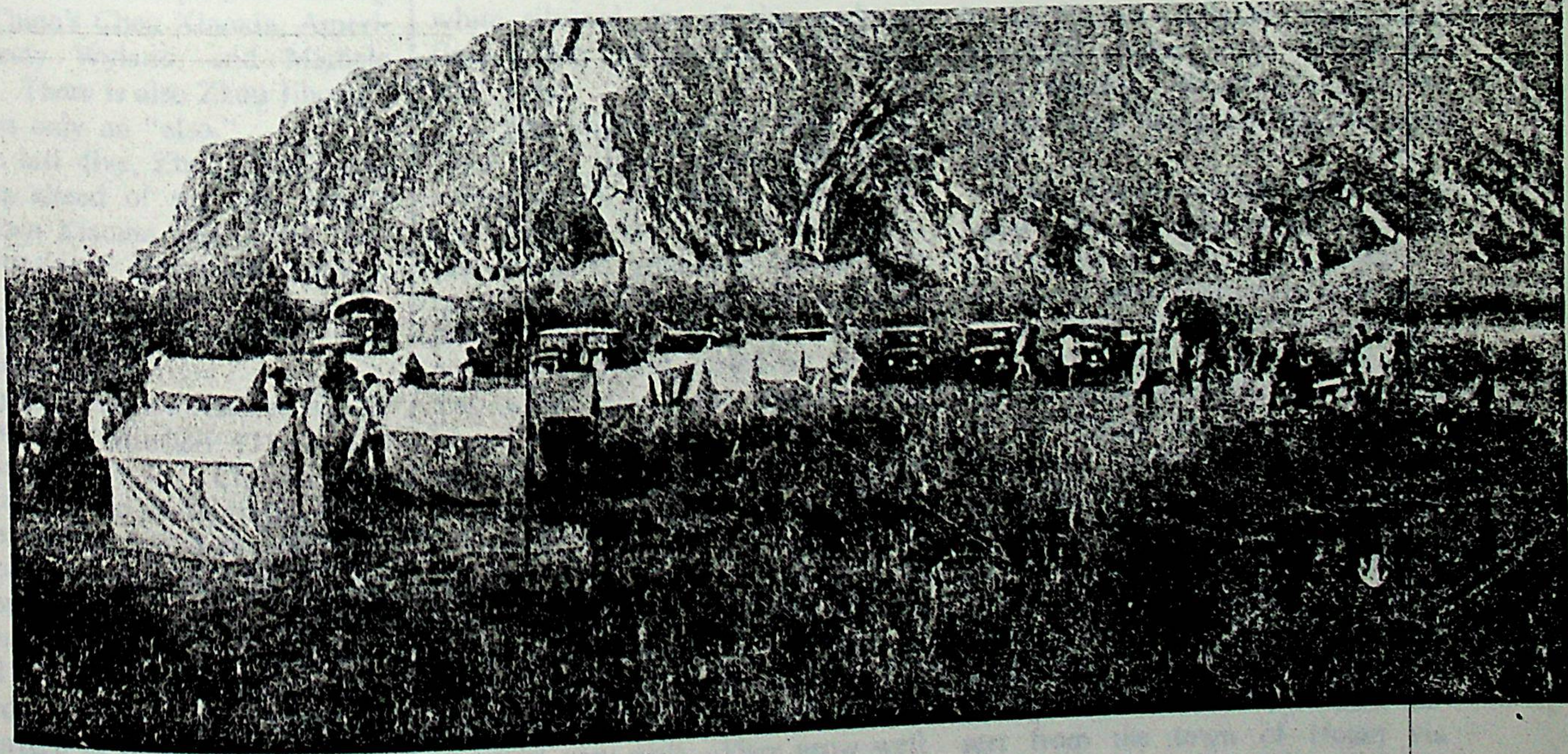
The Mazartag Range

On the map one sees in the middle of the Taklimakan desert an east-west range, 100 kilometers long and one to three kilometers wide, with the eastern end touching the Hotan River. These are the Mazartags, whose name means "Mountains of the Grave" in Uygur.

As our car approached them in the dim early morning light, we saw red peaks in the south and white ones in the north. Golden-yellow poplars along the river stretched westward toward them. The eastern part of the Mazartags divides into two branch ranges, the northern one of white dolomite and gypsum, the southern one of red sandstone. They resemble a long two-headed dragon asleep on the desert.

The Tarim Basin was an ocean before the Old Tertiary Period (67 million to 15 million years ago), as proved by the existence of many mollusk fossils. The Mazartags were formed from sedimentary deposits when mountains were thrust up two to three hundred meters. The range blocks the southward movement of

(Continued on p. 23)



The investigation team's camp.

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

fortable at home, she was in tough training. Sometimes she felt rebellious and shed secret tears. Once, tired after some hard training, she asked her coach to let her quit a bit earlier. He refused, and criticized her. Pouting, she climbed up to the diving platform and stopped there with tears in her eyes. No matter how he shouted, she refused to dive. She got angry.

Xu Yiming wasn't angry. He knew the importance of strengthening an athlete's determination and willpower. With good guidance he hoped to convert her stubbornness into the courage and grit so necessary in an excellent athlete.

Gradually she became more conscientious and trained harder. Once the high board was slippery and she hit the water flat. This often makes divers afraid. But Zhou Jihong went right back at it.

In the beginning she couldn't do the "107-B," a three-and-a-half tucked somersault. But she wouldn't retreat. She practiced the movement on a spring net every day until her skin was raw from falls. Finally she turned failure into success on the high board. "I don't know how many of my body cells died for this," she laughed.

Success

At the 23rd Olympic Games, people's attention was focused on the most promising divers. An American coach predicted, "Champion candidates in the women's platform diving will be China's Chen Xiaoxia, America's Wendy Wyland, and Michele Mitchell. There is also Zhou Jihong." Zhou was only an "also."

At the last dive, Zhou Jihong was 10 points ahead of the two Americans. Chen Xiaoxia was fourth. Just as the American divers were ready, several jet planes flew above the pool, skywriting the words "Go, USA!" in the sky.

Wendy Wyland had reached 423.07 points, Michele Mitchell 431.19, and Chen Xiaoxia 419.76. China's hope for the title lay on Zhou Jihong's last dive. Pushing her hair back, she made her approach steps and took off, her arms around her legs. Her three-and-a-half somersault tuck — the "107-B" — sealed China's fifteenth Olympic gold medal. Zhou Jihong broke up to the surface of the pool and smiled merrily. □

TAKLIMAKAN DESERT

(Continued from p. 14)

the desert, causing a huge ocean of dunes to pile up on the north side.

At the red end of the range a relatively complete Tang dynasty (618-907) fort and an ancient beacon tower still stand. Standing 36 meters in diameter and 15 meters high, the walls of the fort were built of mud and poplar tree trunks. In the debris we found old coins, four-edged arrowheads, brass buttons, and other relics that give scholars of the Old Silk Road and ancient China new evidence to ponder. On a steep cliff beneath the fort an underground passage and storage room is visible and, though partially blocked, they can still be entered.

The Green Corridor

People think the extremely arid Taklimakan desert is a barren wasteland. But along the Hotan River it is surprisingly full of life. Leafy plants and poplars six to ten meters tall form a green belt up to three kilometers wide. Reeds, Ural licorice, and dogbane hemp grow a meter high and in some places make the desert look like the African veld.

There is a succession of plant communities. Under the steeper banks is a band of seabuckthorn, Chee reedgrass, and little cattails, sometimes the false broadleaf tamarisk and Japanese inula. The white silvered tips of the reedgrass flash in the sunlight when the breeze stirs them.

A little higher up the trees begin. Near the river where the flood waters reach, the belt is denser. As the distance from the river grows, everything is gradually replaced by tamarisk. Poplar twigs and branches often a hundred years old have become twisted and curled by the sun and wind into weird shapes. The branching serpentroot and tamarisk, two of the Taklimakan's hardiest plants, grow on the tops of dunes.

Nearer Aksu the Hotan's lower reaches host about 40 species of plants. In spots of heavier growth the green belt might be imagined to resemble a tropical rain forest. The plants and poplars can stand the desert heat very well. They grow well where the water table is not lower

than six meters but also in dryer, windswept places.

Animals

To avoid getting stuck along the river, our cars sometimes crept single file, sometimes forged ahead by twos and threes, the engines shattering the quiet of the desert and scaring its animals. The yellow-brown antelope raced us, circling around and running off again.

The green belt along the river allows the desert a much larger number of species than otherwise — about 50. These include the bactrian camel, the talimu red deer, and a wild boar that loves to bury itself in the wet sand and steals grain and sheep. The most numerous species are the talimu hare, meridian sand rat, and jerboa mouse. The ordinary house rat also lives here in great numbers, prey of the spotted prairie cat, sand corsac, and other carnivores.

The tree belt is home to the beautifully plumed grizzle-winged woodpecker, white-tailed land crow, purple-winged starling, tree sparrow, owl and others. In places where water accumulates there are the grey crane, long-foot sandpiper, herring gull, cormorant, and other water birds.

Fishes common in the Tarim River, the large-head croaker and sharp-mouth croaker, no longer live in the Hotan — only the grass, common and crucian carp, and a few other species. Reptiles include the talimu mane lizard and the red sand snake.

Some desert animals have developed special adaptations to the climate over millions of years, a subject of great interest to biologists.

Our research team's investigation helped us draw up a scientific plan for the comprehensive development of the Hotan River area. Shortly afterward, a post was built at the town of Mazartag in the middle of the desert as a center for the preservation of the ecosystem and the better use of the area. A paved highway to follow the river's west bank will allow direct north-south passage across the Taklimakan desert from the town of Hotan via Kuqa to Urumqi. □

Ethnic Conflict in Strategic Western Province Alarms Peking

By Michael Weisskopf
Washington Post Foreign Service

PEKING, Sept. 11—China's sensitive northwest region that borders the Soviet Union has been shaken in recent months by communal fighting and ethnic group demands for greater rule, according to diplomatic and Chinese sources.

The recent trouble in Xinjiang Province constitutes China's most serious minority problem in years and has already prompted emergency inspection tours by Chinese Po-

litburo members and top provincial leadership changes.

Xinjiang's stability is of great concern to Peking because of the province's location contiguous with four unfriendly neighbors—the Soviet Union, India, Mongolia and Afghanistan. It also is home for the Lop Nor nuclear test site and 250,000 Chinese border guards.

The region's strategic sensitivity is sharpened by what the Chinese claim to be constant Soviet radio broadcasts beamed into Xinjiang in

several tongues urging the province's various minorities to resist Chinese domination.

Longstanding ethnic tension recently surfaced as a result of renewed demands for self-rule by the Uighurs (pronounced we-gurs), a Turkic people of Moslem faith who compose the largest minority in Xinjiang.

The Uighurs, who make up almost half of Xinjiang's 12 million people, ask for greater religious freedom and fiscal autonomy from Peking and for

less control by Chinese, who are fewer in number but occupy the top posts in the party, government, military and police force.

Ethnic friction exploded into a series of violent incidents pitting Uighurs against Chinese in at least two Xinjiang cities, according to Chinese sources and reports in the Hong Kong communist magazine, *Cheng Ming*.

The first incident in April 1980 began after a Uighur man was killed by two Chinese in the eastern Xin-

jiang city of Aksu, according to *Cheng Ming*. The Uighurs retaliated by beating up several hundred Chinese, smashing Chinese homes and damaging a factory run by Chinese, the magazine said.

A few months later in the southern city of Kashi, a Chinese soldier driving a military truck struck and killed a Uighur pedestrian. When the court dominated by Uighurs convicted the driver and sentenced him to death, the predominantly Chinese

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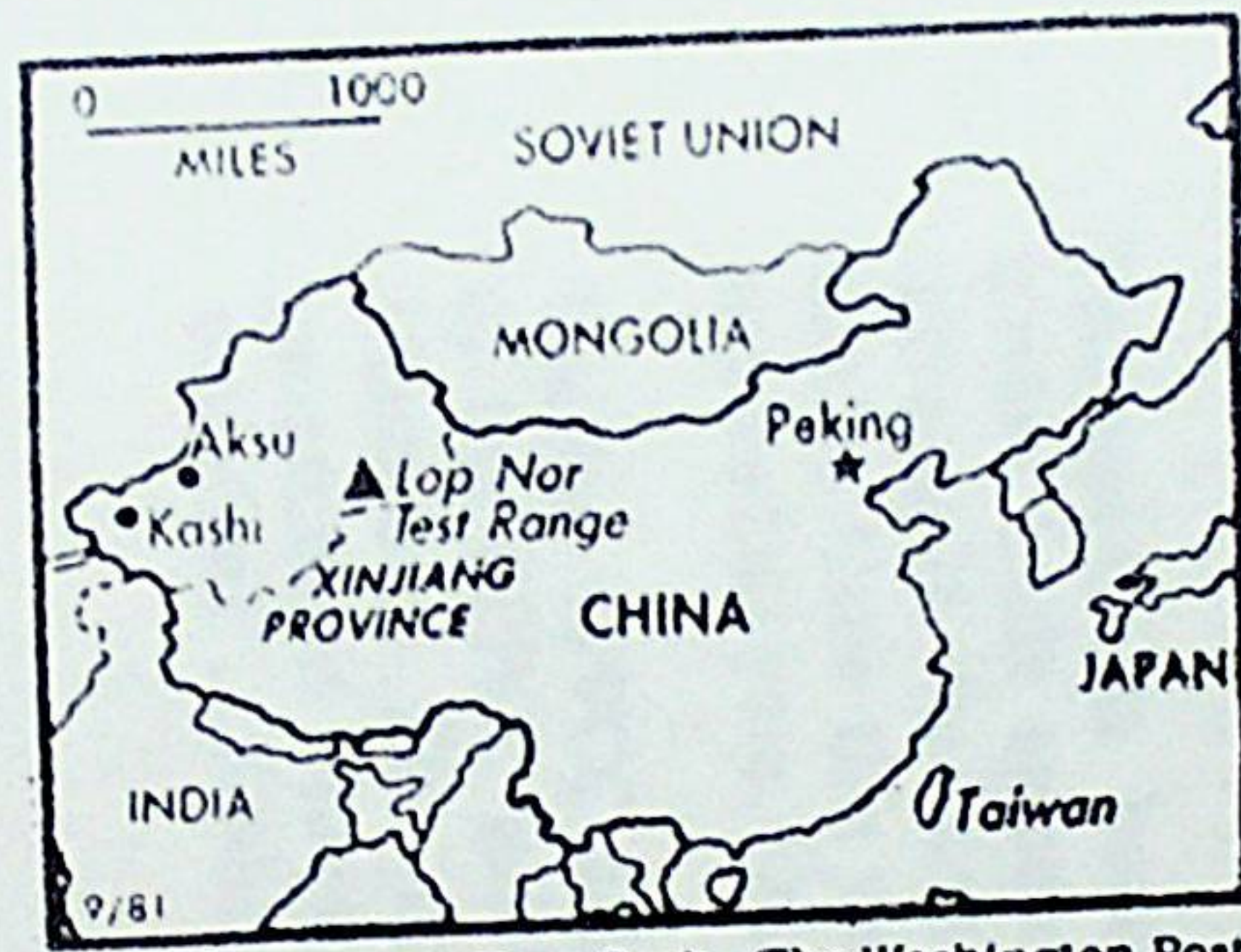
China Strives to Calm Tensions in Key Province

CHINA, From A1
police force refused to execute him and the local Army command threatened to mutiny if the sentence was carried out, Cheng Ming reported. Further trouble was averted when the sentence was commuted.

Another incident occurred in June in Kashi, which is 60 miles from the Soviet border. After weeks of fighting with Chinese, a band of 200 Uighurs tried to storm an Army base outside the city, according to a Chinese source. The attack was repulsed and the Uighur leaders arrested, said the source who lives in Xinjiang.

Trying to restore stability, Peking dispatched Politburo member Wang Zhen to Xinjiang twice in 1980. But Wang, who served as the province's first party secretary until the early 1950s, was unable to contain the violence and political fissures within the provincial party committee, according to diplomats.

The situation deteriorated so badly last month that Vice Chairman Deng Xiaoping, who is China's most powerful political leader, traveled the 1,500 miles from Peking to Xinjiang to help mediate political relations between Chinese and Uighurs.



By Dave Cook - The Washington Post

jiang's local ruling body. The diplomats were told that Xinjiang's first party secretary, Wang Feng, was recalled to Peking, although that report was later publicly denied.

The second party secretary, however, was replaced within recent months. The new official, Gu Jingsheng, was the deputy political commissar of the Canton military command. His military background is said to reflect Peking's interest in reestablishing order in Xinjiang.

In its September edition, Cheng Ming reported that Deng discovered an "unsteady situation" in Xinjiang. The magazine said that Uighur dissidents had planned a province-wide uprising against Chinese rule, following the slogan "We want self-rule and don't want to be dominated."

Xinjiang, a vast and arid outback

billion people. China's vast majority are known as Han Chinese, named for the Han Dynasty of 2,000 years ago that laid the foundation of the Chinese empire.

Despite their high-minded minorities policy, communist leaders have long encouraged, and sometimes forced, migrations of Han Chinese settlers to the autonomous regions to dilute ethnic influence and help assure central control along China's troubled borders.

This was especially true in Xinjiang, where Uighurs and other Moslem minorities have longstanding ties with Turkic people in the Soviet Union. Part of the province was ruled by a Soviet-sponsored semi-autonomous regime before the communist takeover in 1949.

Since 1949, 5 million Han Chinese have been brought to Xinjiang from eastern China to help assimilate the Uighurs, Kazakhs, Tatars and other minorities who are among the most rebellious in China.

The integration effort began with the founding of the commune in 1958 and greatly intensified during

the Cultural Revolution (1966 to 1976), when the Arabic script was outlawed in favor of the Latin alphabet, mosques were closed, Moslem classics burned and traditional songs replaced by radical leftist dogma.

This clash of cultures resulted in fierce fighting in 1967 when thousands of Red Guards went to Xinjiang and criticized the religious practices of the proud Uighurs as "feudal."

Since the Cultural Revolution, Peking has taken pains to ensure ethnic rights and elevate minority group members to leadership positions. In Xinjiang, a kind of affirmative action program has been started at the provincial university to guarantee that 60 percent of new students are from ethnic backgrounds.

Cadres of Uighur background have been given special priority for enrollment in party schools and training institutes to raise their educational level, and in recent local elections, Uighurs and Kazakhs have won a majority of the seats.

Xinjiang: government decision on the allocation of motor vehicles (Text) The regional people's government decided recently to stop increasing the number of trucks, passenger cars and luxury cars within the next two years. All vehicles made by the region department or unit will be allowed to assemble or add additional motorcars or to scrapped motorcars. The transport supervision and oil industry departments must guarantee the quality of the work. In the next two years, the region's establishment and expansion of factories, mines and enterprises, as well as railway, road and other projects will include no investment in the motorcar industry. All motorcars needed by the projects will be handled by the construction departments at the upper level through internal readjustment, nor by arranging part of the transport work to the local transport enterprises.

The regional government urged the relevant departments to give full play to the leading and major roles of the region's state-run construction and transport enterprises. They should do well in supplying key materials, providing passenger services, and transporting grain, petroleum, timber, chemical fertiliser and important materials. Transport departments at all levels must also guide and organise the work of individual transport households. They should give play to their role in the industry. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1200 gmt 8 May 86)

Xinjiang: more minority-nationality cadres and policemen The people's courts in Xinjiang have actively trained minority-nationality cadres and policemen. There are now 2,600 of them, representing 50% of the total number of cadres and policemen in the region's court system. Nearly half the presidents and vice-presidents of the people's courts at and above the county level are now of minority nationality. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1200 gmt 9 May 86)

Pakistan-China border trade agreement (FE/8107/A3/3) The 1985 China-Pakistan border trade agreement was signed in Urumqi on 13th November, indicating a further increase in the border trade between the two countries. Total volume of China-Pakistan border trade this year is expected to reach 5m Pakistan rupees this year, as against 4.5m rupees last year. (Xinhua in English 1650 gmt 13 Nov 85)

Visiting CPPCC delegation meets Pakistan President (FE/8105/A3/5) The delegation of the CPPCC led by Yang Chengwu had talks with Ziaul Haq on 13th November in Islamabad. Zia praised the friendly ties between Pakistan and China as "not only government-to-government, but also deep-rooted among the peoples of the two countries". (Xinhua in English 0156 gmt 14 Nov 85)

Xinjiang: figures on grassroots party organisations (Excerpts) The regional forum on party rectification in experimental units, at and below the county level, concluded in Urumqi today [13th November]... The forum pointed out that our region has 21,590 grassroots party organisations at and below the county level, with some 300,000 party members, who account for 58.63% of the total number of party members in the region. These grassroots units are in the forefront of production and reform. Their party rectification tasks are very arduous... (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 13 Nov 85)

Xinjiang: Vistas for Development

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region (October 1, 1985), "Beijing Review" publishes this article contributed by Ismayil Aymat, chairman of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous regional people's government. — Ed.

THE Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region will be 30 years old in October. In the three decades since its founding, the region has undergone notable economic changes.

Compared with that of 1954, Xinjiang's 1984 gross industrial and agricultural output value rose 10.02 times; agricultural output was up 5.94 times; grain output, 3.4 times; and cotton, 12.9 times. The acreage of cultivated land and head of livestock in the region doubled in those 30 years. Xinjiang's industry, which was almost non-existent in 1954, is now comprising more than 4,000 enterprises of various sizes, raising its industrial output 20.94 times over that of 1954. Many products have come close to meeting the region's own needs and some products have even been marketed abroad. Xinjiang's commerce, foreign trade and cultural, educational and health care undertakings also have developed apace, all spurring significant improvements in Xinjiang residents' living standards. All in all, a new Xinjiang with its first signs of prosperity is emerging.

In 1982, conferees at the 12th National Party Congress set the target of quadrupling China's annual gross industrial and agricul-

* The five autonomous regions are the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, the Tibet Autonomous Region and the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

October 7, 1985

tural output value by the end of this century. Simultaneously, the Party Central Committee attached great importance to accelerating the economic construction of the five autonomous regions*, stressing the importance of helping the autonomous regions to equal or surpass the country's average in the not too distant future.

During his inspection tour of Xinjiang in 1983, General Secretary Hu Yaobang said Xinjiang and the rest of China's northwest should become one of the country's most important economic bases in the 21st century. Hu said that in the drive to open up the northwest priority should be given to Xinjiang, and that the region should be regarded as an independent economic zone.

To implement the Party Central Committee's strategic plan, the Xinjiang Party committee and people's government have set forth the development goals for the region by the end of this century.

With its rich natural resources, Xinjiang has great potential for development. The region has vast expanses of virgin land and pastures, dense forests, rivers and abundant sunshine — all facilitate the development of agriculture and livestock breeding. In addition, Xinjiang abounds with coal, petroleum, non-ferrous metal and other mineral resources, providing favourable conditions for its industrial development.

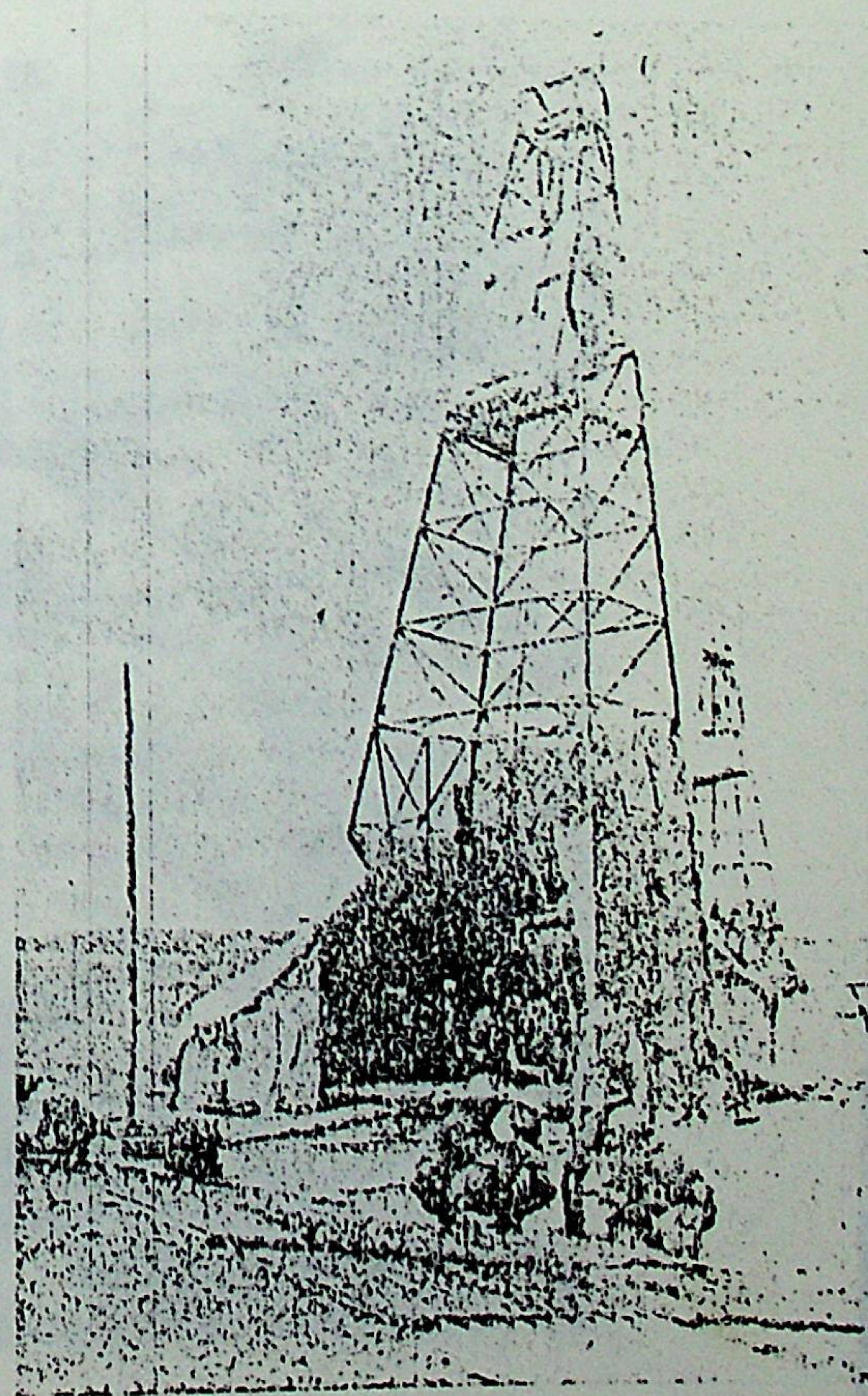
In the past 30 years, the state has invested heavily in the region, providing it with material, personnel and technical support. By investing in state-owned units' capital construction over the years from 1950 to 1984, the region has had fixed assets worth 15.1 billion yuan, laying a solid foundation for achieving its development goals.

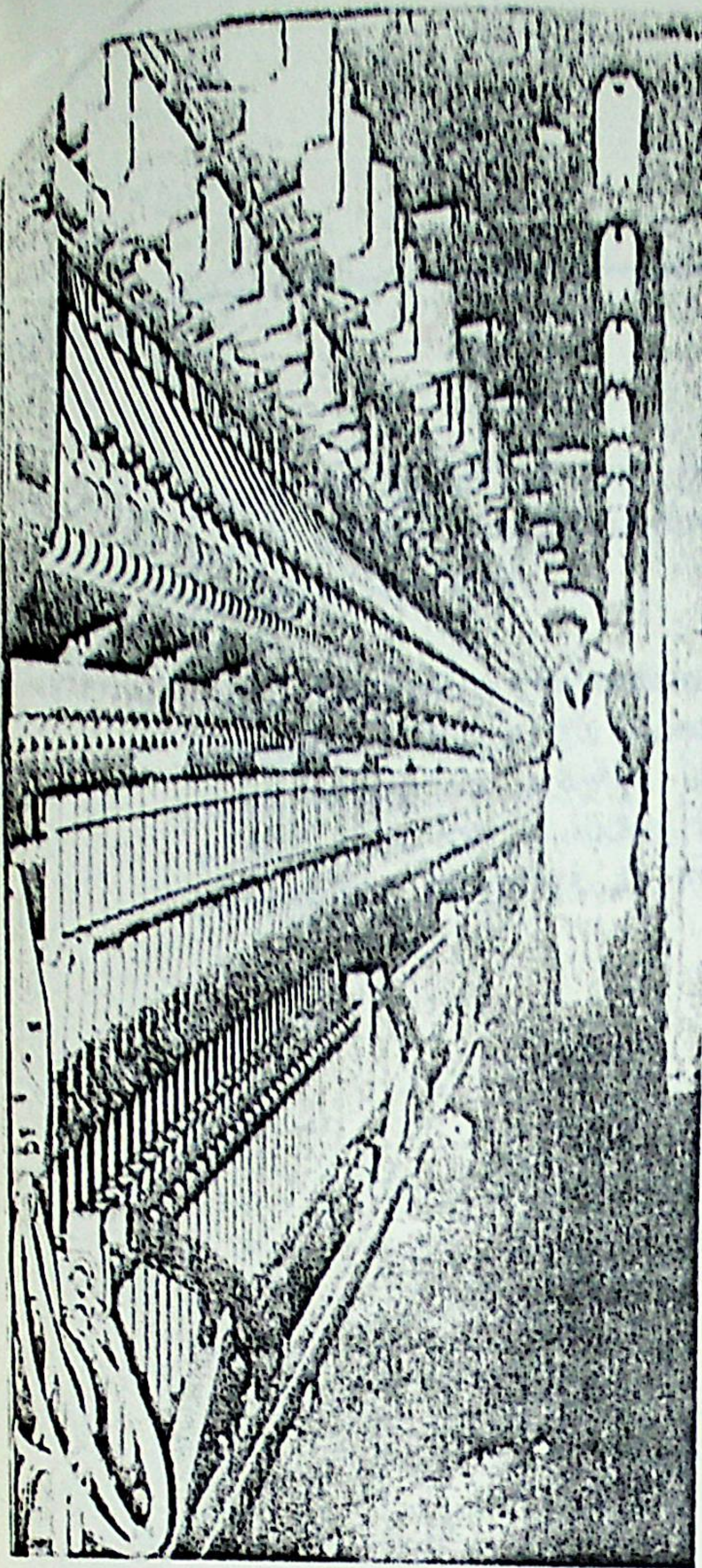
Xinjiang is a multi-national region, with a total of 13 million people. The unity among its various ethnic groups, which has withstood the test of history, has been steadily strengthened, adding to the region's positive environment for economic construction.

To reach its development targets, Xinjiang must continue to carefully tackle the problems of resources, funds, talented people and infrastructural construction and to improve its communication and the irrigation systems — the two major obstacles holding back Xinjiang's economic development. To solve these problems, it is necessary to do the following work.

(1) Rapidly verifying the region's natural resources. Geological prospecting work should be made a key part of the region's economic development. While making a general geological survey in the re-

Geological workers ready to tap Xinjiang's rich copper-nickel sulfide deposits.





Textile equipment imported from Italy by the Xinjiang Shihezi No. 8 Textile Mill.

gion, stress will be put on the needs of the region's development at different stages, on the basis of which exploitable reserves for industrial development should be proven in time according to plan. Apart from the survey teams organized by the region and those sent by the state, the region also will invite foreign prospecting teams to help with the work.

We plan to use foreign funds to invite bids for petroleum and mineral exploitation. Geological prospecting and development will be conducted together, while income from mineral products will be used to speed up prospecting and exploitation.

(2) Raising construction funds to meet Xinjiang's needs for its development goals. In addition to increment of state allocations, the region will expand its own financial resources. It will also collect

funds from other parts of China as well as from abroad.

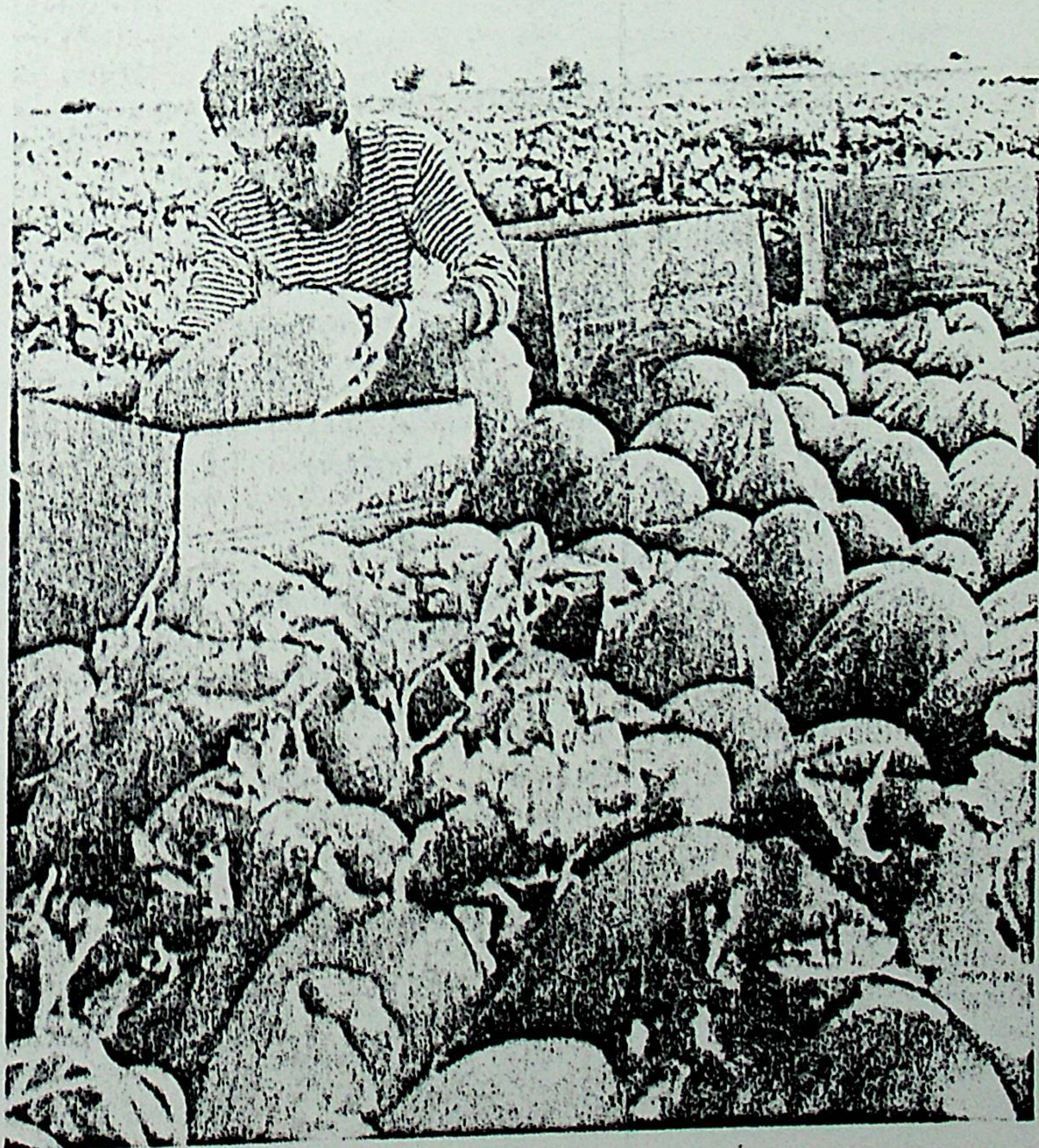
(3) Stepping up training of personnel in various fields. While rearranging the colleges and reforming the education system, the region also plans to attract professionals from the inland provinces and autonomous regions as well as from abroad to participate in Xinjiang's construction.

(4) Carrying out infrastructural construction. The development of communications, energy resources, urban construction and other infrastructural facilities is a prerequisite for Xinjiang's economic improvement. Inadequate transport and communication facilities pose a serious problem to Xinjiang's economic development. In addition to speeding up the revamping of the Lanzhou-Xinjiang Railway, efforts will be made to step up the construction of some sections of the northern Xinjiang railway and to extend the southern Xinjiang

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railway westward, in order to make the two the trunk railway lines in the southern and northern parts of Xinjiang. The surface of the region's main highways is also expected to be reconditioned to facilitate heavy-duty truck transportation, while additional inter-county and inter-township highways are slated for construction. The region's civil airports will be revamped, and more planes will be bought to increase passenger and freight transport capacity.

Oil pipes will be laid to facilitate the development of the region's petroleum industry. However, economic growth requires the development of diversified energy resources, and importance should be attached to developing charcoal and coal, as well as alternative sources such as thermal power, hydropower and wind and solar energy resources. Energy resources should be tapped according to local conditions, and priority

Hami melons produced by the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps ready for export.





should be given to any energy source whose conditions for development are ripe.

(5) Upgrading the region's old enterprises. Xinjiang's more than 4,000 enterprises provide it with a solid base for its industrial development. However, to upgrade

and expand the region's existing enterprises is an important way of opening up Xinjiang. By the end of 1990 the obsolete equipment of all the small and medium-sized enterprises will have been replaced or upgraded. The technological transformation will help boost the region's key industries, such as tex-

tiles, building materials, petroleum, and sugar, foodstuffs, fruit and leather processing and the dairy industry.

The people of Xinjiang will continue to strengthen national unity and we believe the grand objective for opening up Xinjiang will be achieved. □

FALLING GROWTH RATE OF XINJIANG'S HAN POPULATION The natural growth rate of the Han population in the autonomous region has decreased from 24/1,000 in 1975 to 7.14/1,000 in 1984 - lower than the national average of natural population growth rate. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 19 Dec 85)

XINJIANG INCREASES FOREIGN TRADE AND CO-OPERATION IN SIXTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN Xinjiang has achieved an average 30.6% increase annually in the volume of exports and imports since 1981. Exports and imports were worth 280m US dollars in 1985, up 17% from 1984. Xinjiang exports minerals, textiles, farm products and animal by-products in exchange for rolled steel, chemical fertilisers, cement, motor vehicles and other equipment.

Border trade between Xinjiang and the Soviet Union, which resumed in 1983, came to 200m Swiss francs in 1985, triple what it was in 1984. A railway is being built in northern Xinjiang to reach the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan to promote bilateral trade.

Border trade between Xinjiang and Pakistan soared to 5m Pakistan rupees in 1985 from 240,000 in 1969. Work is under way to widen a 410-km highway from Kashi in southern Xinjiang to Hongqilapu - a port of entry on the Sino-Pakistan border. The port is to open to citizens from other countries in May.

Xinjiang has introduced 200m US dollars in foreign funds since 1981 to set up 29 Sino-foreign joint ventures and co-operative businesses. More than 60,000 people from overseas, Hongkong and Macao have come to Xinjiang for business or on visits since the introduction of the open policy in 1979.

A French seismic survey team is helping the Karamay oilfield search for oil and a US geophysical team is doing similar work in the Tarim basin.

Xinjiang now has trade, economic and technological co-operation ties with 50 countries and regions. (Xinhua in English 1433 gmt 26 Jan 86)

XINJIANG'S EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND COTTON Foreign exchange earned by Xinjiang's export of textile products and cotton increased by more than 45 times during the sixth five-year plan period, accounting for 47% of the total foreign exchange earned by the autonomous region during this period. The products were exported to Europe, USA, Japan, Hongkong, and other countries and regions. The Xinjiang textile products import and export company has made efforts to ensure cotton supply, and, as a result, the export of cotton rose from 5,000 t in 1981 to 50,000 t last year. (Xinhua in Chinese 0220 gmt 18 Jan 86)

28 Jan '86

Xinjiang: comment on integrating industry and agriculture (Excerpt from station commentary. "Integrate 'no riches without industry' with 'no stability without agriculture'") ... Some of our townships have gained some experience in handling the relationship between industry and agriculture. On the one hand they base their efforts on local strong points in natural resources and develop collective industry vigorously. On the other hand, they persistently use some of their industrial accumulation to increase agricultural input, improve the conditions for agricultural production, and subsidise appropriately the peasants who are contracting land, in order to narrow the income gap between those peasants who cultivate the land and those engaged in industry. In this way they have stabilised the peasants' minds and achieved the synchronous development of industry and agriculture. This is an extremely good method. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 20 Jan 86)

(Bracketed names phonetic. Unless a minority language or dialect is specified, all provincial broadcasts were in Standard Chinese)

XINJIANG SENDS STUDENTS OVERSEAS TO GAIN EXPERTISE The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region is sending more students to study abroad in an effort to boost the regional economy. Some 25 students from the Uygur, Kazak, Kirghiz, Xibe and Han nationalities will go to Japan to study after completing a language training course in Changchun. Another 67 students from Xinjiang are scheduled to go to Japan by the end of this year.

Xinjiang has sent more than 100 students to Britain, West Germany, Japan and the USA over the past year; there were only 21 sent abroad between 1978 and 1984. In addition to sending students to study abroad, the regional government has sent large numbers of minority people to universities and colleges in other parts of the country to study, and many noted universities offer special classes for Xinjiang students. (Xinhua in English 0715 gmt 17 Jan 86)

XINJIANG'S ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION In 1985, the autonomous region concluded some 950 agreements on economic and technological co-operation with provinces and regions in the interior. As a result of this co-operation, the autonomous region's output value increased by some 170m yuan and taxes and profits increased by some 33m yuan. The autonomous region has established co-operative relations with 26 provinces and municipalities throughout the country and with 11 departments of the central authorities. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 3 Jan 86)

URUMQI CHECKS POPULATION GROWTH The population growth rate of Urumqi Autonomous Region dropped to 5/1,000 in 1985 - or 12.6/1,000 lower than in 1975. The national population growth rate fell from 25.83/1,000 in 1970 to 10.81/1,000 in 1984.) Urumqi's total population is 1.16m - 73.76% of Han nationality and 26.24% of minority nationalities, including Uygur, Kazak and Hui. The aim is to keep Urumqi's population to about 1.3m by the year 2000. (Xinhua in English 0630 gmt 3 Feb 86)

24. 4 1986

العثور على مومياوين في الصين

بكين - ا.ف.ب : ذكرت وكالة انباء الصين الجديدة امس انه تم العثور على مومياوين يرجع تاريخهما الى ٣ الاف عام مضت في منطقة شينجيانج التي تتمتع بالحكم الذاتي في شمال غربي الصين . والمومياوان لرجل وامرأة طولهما ١٧٥ سم و ١٧٠ سم اي انهما لشخصين كان طولهما يبلغ في حياتهما مترين و ١٩٠ سم . وعثر على ملابس المومياوين بحالة طيبة داخل مقبرة طولها متران وعمقها ٢,٤ مترا وتحتوي قطعا من الفخار وسهاما خشبية وجلود حيوانات ولحوما مشوية وقطعا من الطوى . وترجع الحالة الطيبة التي وجدت بها المومياوان الى الجو الجاف في المنطقة .

الشرف الإرساد

١٩٨٦ / ٤ / ٢٤

BBC-London

Xinjiang: stress on technological modernisation and lateral links (Excerpts) The second regional conference on technological advancement in enterprises ended on 18th April. The conference decided that this year the region would spend two-thirds of its technological transformation funds on promoting 49 technological transformation projects and bringing in 35 new technology items. . .

The conference demanded that all localities, departments and enterprises must control funds for technological transformation properly, and establish the project responsibility system. . . All localities must grasp the current favourable opportunity and adopt various methods actively and extensively to develop various kinds of lateral economic ties with other provinces and areas, particularly coastal areas and economically and technologically developed areas. Meanwhile, it is necessary to bring into full play the influential role of key enterprises in the region, and vigorously to develop lateral economic ties within the region in order to upgrade the technological level and improve the economic results of enterprises in the region in an all-round way. Regional leading comrades Qi Guo, Tuohudi Shabier and (Jin Yuanhui) attended the meeting. Qi Guo and Tuohudi Shabier spoke. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 18 Apr 86)

XINJIANG DEVELOPS TOURISM The autonomous region, which received only 88 foreign tourists in 1977, has attracted more than 23,200 overseas tourists in the past year. The autonomous region has earned a total of over 7.2m US dollars since 1978 by receiving 68,000 tourists from foreign countries, and Hongkong and Macao.

TURKEY - JOINT VENTURE ON HYDRO-TURBINE MANUFACTURE An agreement establishing the first Sino-Turkish joint venture of an industrial company to produce small-sized hydro-turbine power generating sets was signed on 14th April, under which the China Chongqing international economic and technical co-operation company will have 49% of the total capital, while the Lamas Company of Turkey will have 51%. Until the formal establishment of the joint venture, the Lamas company will serve as the sole agent of China in marketing Chinese-made hydro-turbines in Turkey and China will send experts to Turkey to help in assembling and installing the first batch of 5-10 hydro-turbine power generating sets. (Xinhua in English 0710 gmt 15 Apr 86)

Xinjiang: construction of the Zepu petrochemical plant begins (Excerpts) The construction project of the Zepu petrochemical industrial plant was started today [1st May] in a petroleum base in southern Xinjiang. The project is a key project of the CCP Central Committee and the State Council to support and develop the region. Wang Enmao, Vice-Chairman of the CPPCC and Chairman of the regional advisory commission, Li Tianxiang, Vice-Minister of Petroleum Industry; Jiao Liren, Adviser, Song Hanliang, Tomur Dawamat, Janabil [and others] . . . attended the opening ceremony . . . (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 1 May 86)

Xinjiang: circular on the introduction of summer time (Text) The regional CCP Committee and people's government recently issued a circular on instituting the summer time system. The practical way to institute the summer time system is as follows: Except for some special units, the region will change Urumqi time from 0200 to 0300 on 4th May and then reverse Urumqi time from 0200 to 0100 on 14th September. From 4th May, Xinjiang's summer time work schedule will be 0800 to 1200 and 1430 to 1830. From 14th September, Xinjiang's winter time work schedule will be 0800 to 1200 and 1330 to 1730.

The circular urged all localities, departments and units to make good preparations before the institution of the summer time system and give much publicity and good explanations to the masses to promote the institution. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 23 Apr 86)

Xinjiang: new regional financial system (Excerpts) The regional people's government has decided that as from this year, the region will institute a new financial system for classifying taxes, checking and ratifying income and expenditure, and assigning a financial task to each level until it is completed. This is an important reform in the region's financial management system. . .

The contents of the new financial system . . . are: on the basis of defining the scope of income and expenditure of the region, prefectures, autonomous prefectures and cities, to make reasonable readjustments using as a base the income and expenditure in the final financial accounts of 1985 and to define bases for the income and expenditure assigned to all prefectures, autonomous prefectures and cities. Rich areas whose income exceeds expenditure should submit their quota and the part in excess of the quota should be retained in proportion. The region should give subsidies to areas whose expenditure exceeds income and the amount of subsidy should increase in proportion. The method of assigning the financial task to each level should remain unchanged for four years. . . Localities with more income can spend more, and localities with less income should spend less, thus breaking the previous situation of eating out of the same big pot in which regional authorities controlled income and expenditures in a unified way. . . (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 17 Mar 86)



Untrodden outposts: A tourist bus amid snowy peaks on the Karakoram Highway

TRAVEL

The Secret China

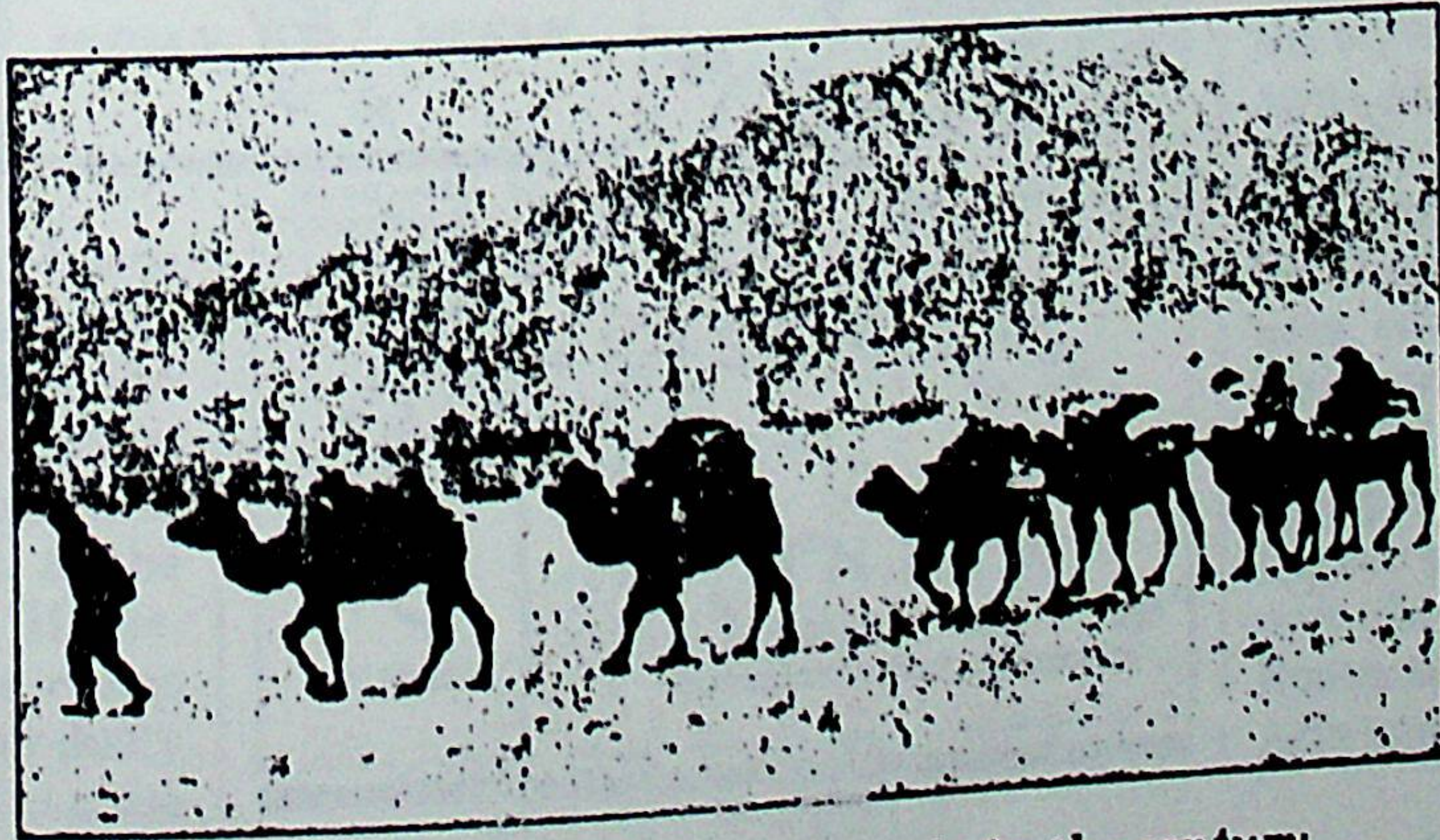
Traversing the exotic Khunjerab Pass

Marco Polo stopped at Kashgar in the 13th century, when it was a busy entrepôt town on the Old Silk Route. Britain and Russia used the ancient city as an outpost for diplomatic intrigue in the 19th century, when those nations were playing the "great game" for supremacy in central Asia. Not many outsiders have set foot in Kashgar in recent times; the city is in a remote corner of western China, and for years Peking put that entire area off limits to foreign visitors. Two years ago, however, the government opened the city to tourists. Since then, American and European backpackers in search of exotic places to explore have begun to trek in through the Himalayas from Tibet and Nepal. Now there is an added attraction: last month China officially opened the Khunjerab Pass on the Karakoram Highway—a spectacular, 766-mile roadway that runs from Kashgar across the Himalayas to Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan. NEWSWEEK's James Pringle was one of a small group of journalists who recently made the trip from Kashgar through the pass into Pakistan. His report:

Kashgar is a captivating blend of "The Thousand and One Nights" and 1986. On Sun-

days—market day—Kirghiz and Tadzhik nomads with baggy trousers tucked into high boots drive camels into town for sale or trade. Thousands of mule and donkey carts head in from the fringes of the Taklamakan desert—the name, in the Turkish dialect, means, "You go in, but you don't come out." There are few motor vehicles to be seen. From shop doorways and market stands, giant transistor radios blast out the current hit tune in Chinese central Asia: "Down at the YMCA."

The city is situated in China's most sensitive frontier region, 75 miles from the Soviet border and 194 miles from war-torn Afghanistan. Despite its great distance from Peking, 2,600 miles to the east, Kash-



Beaten path: Plying the Silk Route early in the century

gar did not escape China's recent political upheavals. During Mao Tse-tung's Cultural Revolution, an estimated 7,000 people died in clashes throughout Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region. Red Guards in Kashgar closed the mosques, destroyed all copies of the Koran that they could find, shut down the ancient bazaar and jailed its traders as "speculators." There were violent clashes between the Chinese and the Muslim Uighurs (pronounced wee-gurs), the largest minority group in Xinjiang, as recently as 1981. But the bazaar reopened shortly after Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping visited the region that same year, and today, although a statue of Chairman Mao sti-

dominates a crossroads in the center of town, Kashgar has gone back to many of its time-honored ways.

It would be hard to find people more unlike the Chinese than the Turkish-speaking Uighurs. They readily invite foreigners to their weddings, where the sensuous dances recall both the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent, or to their homes for an informal evening—still a rare and stilted event elsewhere in China. In Kashgar, the muezzin calls the faithful to pray at the central Id Kah mosque and at 150 other mosques in the city. It is a relaxed form of Islam, and even foreigners seem welcome there during prayers. The comforts may be spartan, but they certainly come cheap: for backpackers, \$5 a day covers food, lodging in the former Russian or British consulate and transportation by bus.

'Difficult and rugged': The drive south along the Karakoram Highway begins in Kashgar. Even now, the route looks much as it must have in A.D. 400, when the Chinese Buddhist pilgrim Fa Hien made a similar journey. "The way was difficult and rugged, running along a bank exceedingly precipitous," he wrote.

"When one approached the edge of it, his eyes became unsteady and if he wished to go forward in the same direction there was no place on which he could place his foot, and beneath were the waters of the river called the Indus."

It took China and Pakistan more than 20 years to build today's Karakoram Highway, which is intended to promote trade and improve communication between the two countries. Over the space of those two decades, at least 15,000 Chinese



A blend of past and present: Serenading a bust of Lenin, an Uighur wedding party

and Pakistani Army engineers worked on the project; 408 of them lost their lives, buried beneath rock slides or swept over precipices that plunge for hundreds of feet. The work was slow and backbreaking: almost 30 million cubic yards of rock and earth were blasted away, using more than 8,000 tons of explosives. "Sometimes we considered ourselves lucky if we made a few yards of road in a week," a Chinese Army engineer told me.

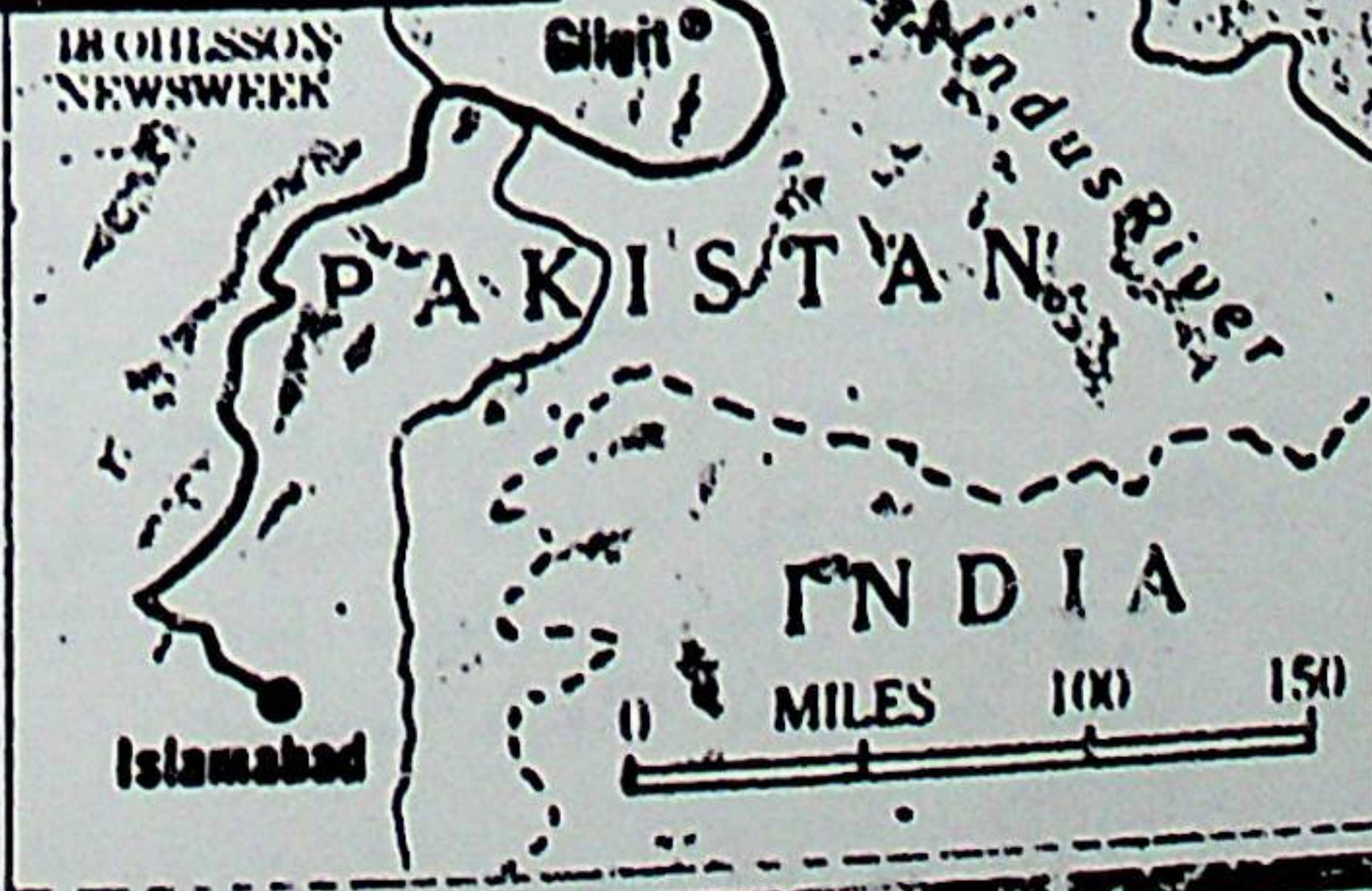
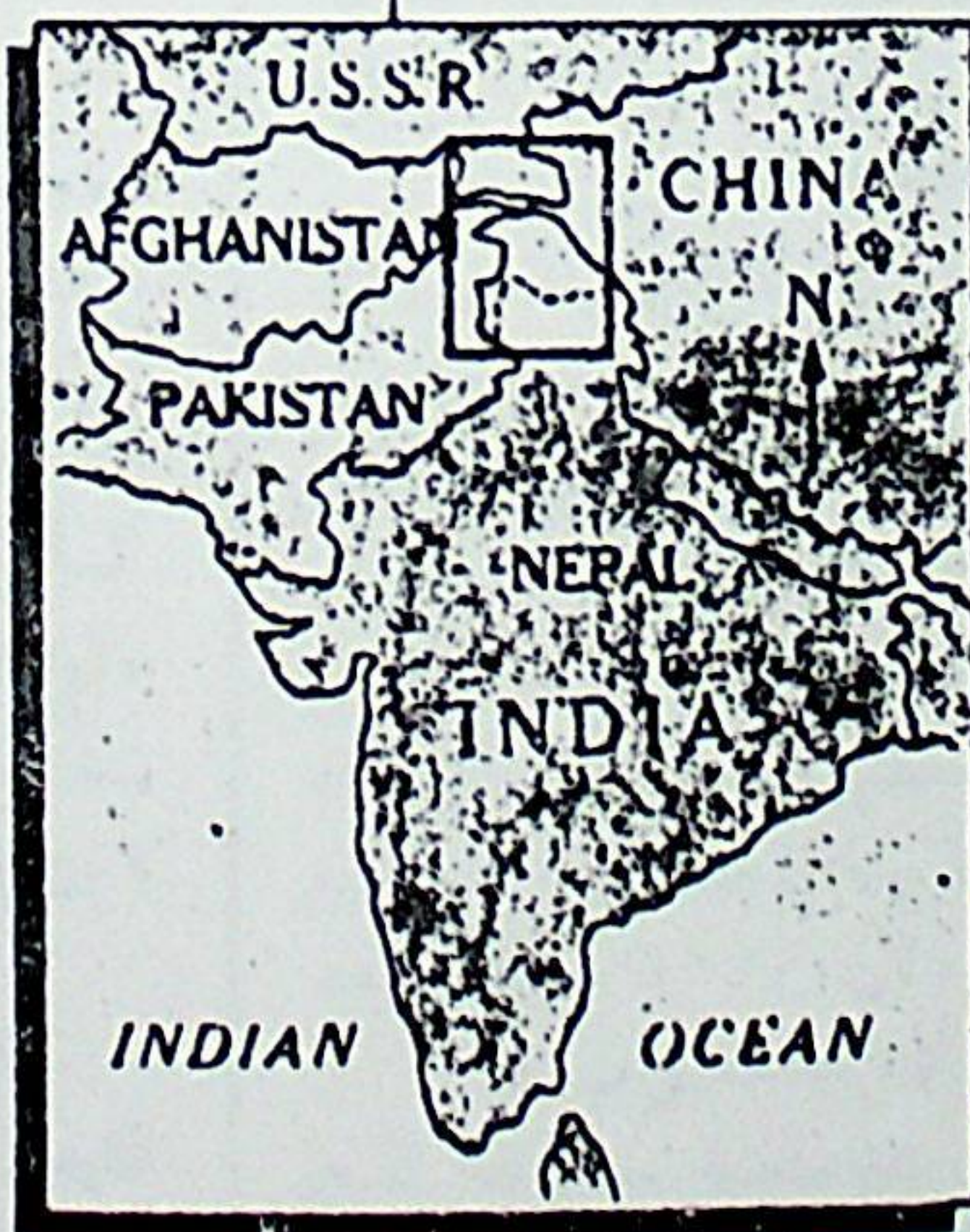
Teetering on a precipice: The blasting destabilized the rock formations, and the road is still dangerous, especially in the months of April and May, when melting snow often dislodges rocks. At one point, across the Pakistani border, the road was heaped with boulders from an avalanche; we had to clamber through fallen debris and a torrent of water. Another time, our four-wheel-drive vehicle seemed to teeter a foot from the edge of a precipice as water streamed across the track, loosening earth at the side. And well into Kashmir, one of our drivers—a red-haired Ismaili Muslim from Pakistan's remote Hunza Valley—gunned the vehicle forward as small stones, foretelling a larger rock slide, cascaded down toward the Indus River.

From Upal, the first town of any note after Kashgar, the road heads over a spur of the Pamirs to Tashkurghan, a Tadjik town. Ptolemy spoke of it in the second century as the extreme western emporium of the Land of Seres (silk), as mysterious China was then known. At the recently renovated Pamir Guest House, an attendant proudly shows off the rooms and gleaming new bathrooms. The dusty traveler, eager for a bath, smiles. Then the

attendant slams the bathroom door and firmly locks it. The plumbing, she explains, has not been connected. Like Kashgar, Tashkurghan seems caught in a time warp. The local people, both male and female, greet one another by kissing each other's hands. It is odd to see two swash-buckling Tadjik men delicately smooching work-gnarled fists. Three Pakistani traders arrive at the Pamir Guest House from "dry" Pakistan. They immediately ask for beer. One of them whispers, "You

Cathay Caravan

Retracing the path of the ancient Silk Route through the Karakoram Range



want to buy rupees?" The subcontinent cannot be far away.

Between Tashkurghan and the Kashmir border, the only traffic—apart from the occasional military vehicle—consists of nomads, camels, donkeys and sad-eyed yaks. A side road branches off into Afghanistan's Wakhan corridor, a strategic finger of Afghan territory that Soviet troops occupied soon after their 1979 invasion. Majestic mountains are reflected in lakes. Hawks and eagles soar overhead. Red and yellow-hued marmots dart and frolic beside the dirt-track highway. In their yurts—circular-shaped Mongolian tents—Kirghiz herders offer tea. Joseph, our Uighur driver, sings Arabic-sounding melodies about unrequited love. Abdullah, the Uighur guide of the China Travel Service, reveals that he writes romantic poetry. It is hard to imagine a staid CTS guide admitting to such a thing anywhere else in China.

Suddenly, a vision appears on the road ahead. It turns out to be a British bicyclist named Mark Skinner. He had pedaled over the Himalayas and the Karakoram from Islamabad. Now, surrounded by curious Chinese road-construction workers, he says that Chinese border guards at Pirai rescued him in a snowstorm and fed him. "It was the first time on the trip I had used chopsticks," he says. "I knew I had made it into China." A lawyer, Skinner took the Karakoram Highway as part of a marathon ride for charity. He says he has already pedaled 12,500 miles since starting off from Britain a year ago. "We British," he says, "are a bit eccentric."

Mountain scenery: At the Khunjerab Pass we entered Pakistan. The road sign says 16,000 feet above sea level. (Actually, it is 15,431 feet.) If the people on the Chinese side of the border are more exotic, the scenery on the Pakistani side is more dramatic. In the vicinity of the highway there are no fewer than 33 peaks 24,000 feet or higher. Among them is mighty Nanga Parbat (elevation 26,660 feet), one of the highest mountains in the world.

The inauguration of the Karakoram Highway may open up China's Xinjiang Province not only to trade and tourism but to a population explosion as well. Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang has mentioned the region as one of three areas of the world with great potential for development, along with the Sahara and the Amazon. He has said that Xinjiang, which is now home to 14 million people, including 6 million Uighurs and 5.3 million Han Chinese, could easily absorb 200 million more people—presumably Han Chinese. If Hu's vision comes true, the Karakoram Highway may prove to be a mixed blessing for the Uighur people—and for people the world over who relish the romance of the Old Silk Route, the untraveled outposts of central Asia and the days of Marco Polo.

Friday, August 29, 1958.

Moslems Under Red Rule

THE Chinese Communist authorities have for the last four months conducted an intensified purge campaign directed at the Chinese Moslem minority on the mainland.

Moslem dissatisfaction with Communist rule, long pent up, was given open expression at the time of the "blooming and contending" last year. Peking is now making a major effort to "wipe out rightists and wicked elements" among the Chinese Moslems and thus restore complete and unopposed political control over them.

There has been a drive against "parochial nationalism" in Sinkiang, and there has also been a "resolute," "broadened" and "more penetrating" struggle against "rightist and wicked elements" among the Hui people in Shantung, Honan, and Anhwei.

Official reports of these campaigns reveal that the authorities continue to assert that the freedom of religious belief is being safeguarded, and that they are merely attacking "counter-revolutionary activities under the cloak of religion."

Moslem leaders are, however, being denounced for declaring that "all Moslems under Heaven belong to the same family," that "Moslems should love their religion first and their country second," and that "the Koran is the same as Marxism-Leninism: to study the Koran can also build up socialism." Strong action, it is reported, is being taken against these reactionary ideas.

THE purge of Moslems in Red China cannot be considered surprising when we consider the plight of Moslems under the regime of "Big Brother" in Moscow.

A Moslem delegation which visited the Soviet Union has reported that:

In the whole of the Soviet Union there is not a single primary school to teach the Koran or the principles of Islam; neither do the Moslems have the freedom or means to open and conduct such a school;

In the whole of the Soviet Union there is no primer on the rudiments of the Moslem religion in Turkish, Persian, Uzbuki or any other language, nor do the Moslems have the freedom to publish any book on religion, Islamic culture, history or traditions;

In the whole of the Soviet Union the Moslems do not have a single printing press or a single publication to preach their religion and culture; and there is not a single free Moslem religious society or association;

The Moslems have not been permitted to print and publish the Koran for 40 years; recently it was printed by the government, but in Arabic for propaganda in Arab countries; none of the younger Moslems in the Soviet Union and few among the older generation, can read Arabic, as the Arabic script is banned;

The Moslems have been divided and disintegrated by deliberate act of government policy; attempts have been made to de-Moslemise and Russify them, and all means of their cooperation, unity and fusion have been blocked.

Communist policy in the Soviet Union and Red China, therefore, forms an interesting contrast to Moscow and Peking's loud and fervent support for the cause of Arab unity in the Middle East.

Beijing Review of 13 December 1982 reports that the new Chinese Constitution was adopted on 4 December at the Fifth National People's Congress. A draft had been published in May, with the intention that the proposed clauses should be discussed and possibly amended before the People's Congress made its final decision. (See KNS No. 149.)

A comparison of the new Constitution with the published draft reveals that quite a number of amendments have in fact been made. The following changes particularly affect religious believers.

Article 36 reads as follows: "Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of religious belief.

"No state organ, public organisation or individual may compel citizens to believe in, or not to believe in, any religion; nor may they discriminate against citizens who believe in, or do not believe in, any religion.

"The state protects normal religious activities. No one may make use of religion to engage in activities that disrupt public order, impair the health of citizens or interfere with the educational activity of the state.

"Religious bodies and religious affairs are not subject to any foreign domination."

The first and second clauses of this Article remain as in the draft, and represent an even-handed legal attitude to religious believers that had been found wanting in the previous (1978) Constitution. In the third clause the draft phrase "(No one may use religion) to carry out counter-revolutionary activities" has been omitted. No doubt it is felt that counter-revolutionary activities are clearly enough outlawed by the Constitution as a whole. The new wording of the fourth clause (compared with the draft "No religious affairs may be dominated by any foreign country") is significant. While the threat to the Vatican remains, these words could clearly be used to check ecumenical activities in general.

Article 24 is quite new. It was not to be found anywhere in the draft, and should be noted carefully by religious believers. The Article states that:

"The state strengthens the building of socialist spiritual civilisation through spreading education in high ideals and morality, general education and education in discipline and the legal system...The state educates the people in patriotism, collectivism, internationalism and communism and in dialectical and historical materialism; it combats capitalist, feudal and other decadent ideas."

Great stress was laid on this article by Peng Zhen, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Revision of the Constitution, during his speech to the National People's Congress. Though the positive aims of this article should not be lost sight of, religious believers cannot but be worried about the "building of socialist spiritual civilisation" and the far-reaching claims made for the educational process; they enjoy freedom of religious belief, but are strictly forbidden to "interfere with the educational system of the state".

There are various reasons for a new stress on "spiritual" values in a manner that might at first seem foreign to a Marxist society. There are many signs that widespread corruption has become a desperate problem in recent years. Most of the blame is generally laid at the door of the infamous "Gang of Four" and the "ten years of turmoil" (1966-76), when values were confounded, and children went astray as a result of having no clear example of right and wrong to follow. During the 1980s, of course, Western "capitalist" influences have been increasingly blamed. Some recent trials and the threat of many more have demonstrated the authorities' apparent determination to put back the clock to the moral climate of a generation ago.

A recent article in Beijing Review (17 January 1983) sheds more light on the "spiritual" element in contemporary education. The article, "Bid farewell to yesterday", describes the aims and administration of a reformatory at Qinghuangdao, about 200 miles

east of Peking. The article takes pains to distinguish between "reform through labour" and "education through labour". The former is a process of administering criminal sentences, and is applied to criminal offenders guilty of serious crimes, who are sentenced to detention and forced labour by the people's court. The latter is designed to treat minor lawbreakers and to transform them at an early stage into citizens of value to socialist society. There has evidently been some recent change of policy as regards "reform". A decision to implement "education through labour" was taken at national level in 1957, but nothing was done at the time. Only in 1980 was the decision reaffirmed and action taken. Changes were soon seen at Qinghuangdao: armed police were withdrawn, and the barbed wire fence which surrounded the inmates' sleeping quarters was dismantled. Slogans such as "Admit your guilt and submit to the law" and "Severe punishment for those who refuse to admit their crimes" were removed to make way for the motto "Bid farewell to yesterday and completely break with wrongdoings". Warders became "mentors" and prisoners "students". The reformatory follows the basic principles of education, redemption and reform. The whole policy points to an attempt to go back to the puritanical spirit of the early 1950s, so often commented on by foreign visitors at that time. Thus the curriculum does not reflect the "Four Modernisations"; instead, we hear of the "Four Points of Beauty" (Beautification of the mind, language, behaviour and environment) and the five stresses (stress on decorum, manners, hygiene, discipline and morals). Beijing Review prints the words of a song said to have been composed by the "students":

We come from all over China;
Here we seem to have returned to our mothers.
Start a new life, we have made up our minds,
Leaving ignorance and fantasy behind,
To be clear of what is right and wrong;
Correct our mistakes, let bygones be bygones.
A returned prodigal is more precious than gold;
"Not let our motherland down" is the determination we show.

Arvan Gordon

(The opinions expressed in the COMMENTARY and ANALYSIS Sections of the Keston News Service do not necessarily reflect the position of Keston College.)

Repression and revival—the dichotomy of Islam in China

By *Husain Haqqani*

Hongkong: After four years of relative religious tolerance, China's communist leaders are once again trying to curb the activities of the country's several million Muslims. Their target is the elimination of so-called unofficial Islam, which organises and provides religious training for Muslims in defiance of the officially prescribed boundaries. Party leaders in regions with significant Muslim populations are particularly alarmed over the fusion of Islamic officialdom with unauthorised Islamic orders.

Party newspapers in Muslim areas in recent months have strongly criticised what they call illegal Islamic activities and have reminded party members that the policy of religious freedom does not extend to card-carrying communists.

The dichotomy between official and unofficial Islam dates back to the early years of communist China. Official Islam is represented by public mosques, officially controlled schools and government-supported organisations. Their activities are circumscribed by law as well as the writ of local government and party officials. The unofficial world of Islam comprises Sufi mystical orders, night-schools run in homes and an underground publications network.

The Sufis hold prayer and religious training sessions, preparing their disciples in a spirituality which runs contrary to the materialistic teachings of the party and state. Their semi-secret activities do not

conform with the official plan for religion, which is to tolerate belief among minorities without allowing it to entrench itself.

According to Chinese communist theory, religion is a phenomenon of class society. While socialist changes are expected to diminish the influence of religion, some communists hope to expedite the demise of religion by controlling its teaching and practice. Islam, with its tradition of integration of faith and politics, is a major challenge to communist policies. It becomes doubly dangerous when its operations are outside the confines of official regulation.

Muslims have always occupied a unique position among religious groups in communist China. First they are numerous and, more important, are concentrated in strategic areas bordering the Soviet Union. Although official estimates put China's Muslim population at 15 million, independent research indicates that the figure is at least twice as large, at 30-45 million. Secondly, Muslims belong to 10 minority nationalities which have special protection (under the letter of the law, at least). Finally, China's treatment of its Muslims has significance for its foreign policy: it affects relations with Islamic countries.

Traditionally, the Chinese Communist Party has acknowledged Islam as an integral part of Chinese culture, unlike Christianity which is seen as having been intro-

duced by European imperialists. Islam arrived in China in the seventh century; according to Chinese Muslim legend, it was spread in the coastal cities by some companions of the Prophet Muhammad.

Except for occasional repression by individual emperors, Muslims co-existed happily with other Chinese until the Qing dynasty, when persecution became policy. Muslim leaders were wooed by the Kuomintang and the communists to their respective causes in the early part of the 20th century with promises of better treatment. The communists won considerable Muslim support because of their avowed policy of granting autonomy to national minorities. After the communist takeover, autonomous regions were created for Muslims in Xinjiang and Ningxia — but Muslims did not get the promised liberties.

Under communist rule, several Muslim scholars and leaders joined officially established religious bodies, but others decided to keep outside officialdom. While official Muslim leaders promoted loyalty to the Chinese state, dissidents propagated Turkic nationalism as well as Islamic puritanism in a closely knit Muslim society.

During the early days of the people's republic, foreign-policy considerations dominated attitudes towards the Muslims. Delegations were sent regularly to make the pilgrimage to Mecca between 1952 and 1964. An Islamic association was set up in Peking to publish material in Arabic and receive delegations from newly independent Muslim states. Muslim cadres were recruited from among the Hui and the Uigur Muslim nationalities.

The Chinese also won over members of

Vol. 122 No 50

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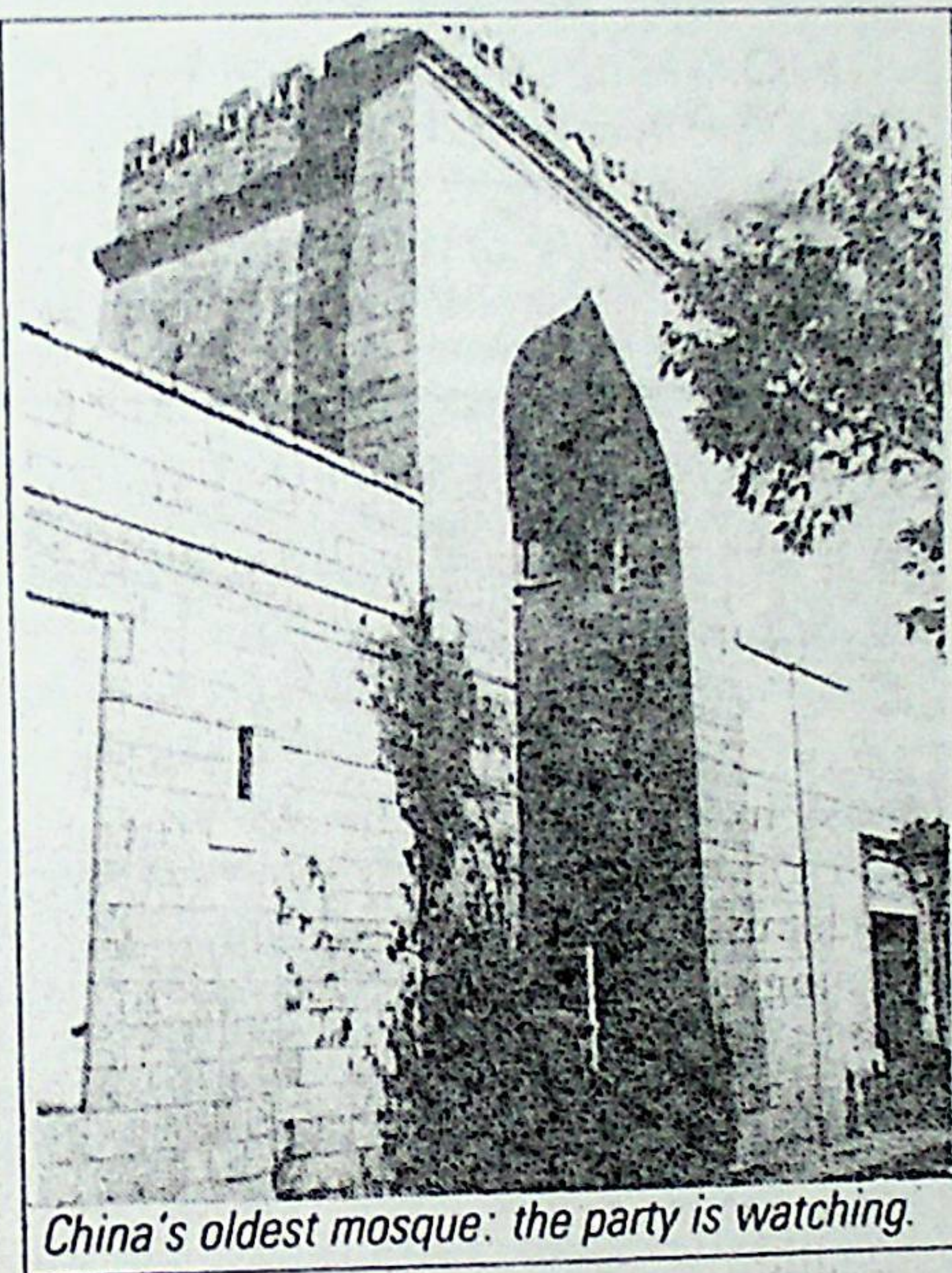
the Soviet communist party who hailed from Chinese Turkestan but had joined the Soviet party on pan-Turkestanist grounds. Domestically, however, the picture was not so good. Muslim religious schools were closed down and, while mosques remained open, people attending prayers were humiliated. Printing of the Koran and import of Islamic books were strictly controlled.

One area in which greater tolerance was shown was the question of Muslim dietary laws. Halal meat, slaughtered according to Islamic laws, remained available in most Chinese cities and all areas with a Muslim population.

Then came the Cultural Revolution — a disaster for Muslims as it was for everyone else in China. Any concessions available to them until then were removed and the Red Guards destroyed mosques and religious libraries wherever there were not enough Muslims to confront them. In areas of Muslim concentration, Islamic practices continued, but on a very quiet level. Muslims on communes were forced to eat pork.

Despite the excesses against Muslims — as well as all other religious groups — the Chinese Government kept a mosque open in each of the main cities of Peking, Shanghai and Canton for Muslim diplomats, visitors and students. A limited number of Chinese Muslims (only four in Shanghai, for example) were given permission to attend prayers at these mosques so that their absence was not conspicuous.

But the repression of religious practice during the Cultural Revolution had the unlooked-for effect of swelling the ranks of the unofficial Islamic activists. As the Red Guards dispersed the official religi-



China's oldest mosque: the party is watching.

ous establishment, several imams and religious teachers who had hitherto accepted subsidies and salaries from the state in return for preaching patriotism found themselves forced to join the ranks of Muslims who refused to compromise.

Attendance at Sufi centres multiplied though precautions against government penetration were presumably increased. An "Islamic publications centre" (dar-ut-tabaat al Islami) produced hand-written Korans and translations of important Arabic texts.

In resisting official pressures, Chinese unofficial Islam had the added advantage of having a precedent in the Soviet Union, where Muslim communities and activities have existed outside the scope of permitted and registered religious leaders. China's Turkic Muslims, linked ethnically

to the Muslims of Soviet Central Asia, built a structure similar to that across the border and even established links with spiritual brotherhoods in the Soviet Union. Soviet authorities also assisted Chinese Muslims in underground religious activities, hoping to use a religious revival among Chinese Muslims for their own purposes at a future date.

While Sufism provided the inspiration as well as the means for unofficial Islam among Turkic Muslims, the ethnic Chinese Muslims (called the Hui) developed their own system. Arabic and Koran teaching in village schools as well as quietly organised religious ceremonies for weddings, funerals and circumcision provided the focus for Islamic activity among the Hui. The Uigurs and Kazaks, on the other hand, organised circles of spiritual brothers with a sheikh as leader and all members sworn under an oath of fealty to him.

After the Cultural Revolution, Chinese authorities made fresh pronouncements about freedom of religion. Muslim leaders, imams and religious teachers were brought in from out of the cold and reinstated in previous positions. Mosques were opened and religious festivals were celebrated under official patronage.

Instead of apologists seeking refuge with dissidents, the process now involves limited participation in official activities by previously uncompromising Muslim leaders.

The Cultural Revolution, it seems, has had an odd effect on Islam and Muslims in China — as indeed it did on other religions. It intended to suppress them but instead has led to an alliance between establishment and dissident Muslims in religious activities.

asserted that people of Nepalese origin constitute only one of several ethnic groups, though the claim of 15% is patently absurd. In terms of real policy, however, one indicator is enforcement of a birth-control programme in the south alone where Nepalese are concentrated. In the north, where other tribes live, it is stated that more people are required because the region is underpopulated.

My estimates cover thousands of Nepali-speaking people who do not have citizenship rights and are considered by Bhutan as citizens of Nepal or India and hence able to be repatriated. As to the issue of second-class citizens, it is a matter of opinion best left to the Nepalese living in Bhutan.

The Bhutto spectre

Pakistan's tragedy is that democracy (Western style in President Zia-ul Haq's words) was never allowed to flourish through usurpers of power in the army. During 36 years of independence, democratic government of even two five-year terms did not exist. How then can Zia philosophise that democracy is not the solution for Pakistan if it has never been practised? Zia has no place in a democratic system and, as Husain Haqqani has rightly reported (REVIEW, Dec. 22, '83), he is "buying time by creating confusion through discussion." Haqqani has correctly assessed that Zia "is looking into ways of keeping out the Pakistan People's Party" (of executed former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto) by suggesting elections on a non-party basis on the plea that Islam has no place for political rivalry. The fact is that for Zia, Bhutto is as threatening dead as alive.

Dubai

S. ZAMAN

Of Muslims and myth

I must take issue with Husain Haqqani's contention that "the communists won considerable Muslim support" in his otherwise illuminating article **Repression and revival — the dichotomy of Islam in China** [REVIEW, Dec. 15, '83]. The fact is that the Chinese communists could get no more than a few thousand Muslims to support them even though they remained camped on the borders of the Muslim strongholds of Ningxia and Gansu for more than a decade from 1936. The Hui governors of the Ma clan — especially Ma Hung-kuei and Ma Pu-fang — were staunchly anti-communist and largely ensured that their provinces remained the same.

The late chairman Mao Zedong's friend Edgar Snow was forced to admit in his famous *Red Star Over China* that Ningxia was almost like an independent Muslim country with hundreds of well-kept mosques, where Muslims outnumbered non-believers 10:1 in some areas in the 1930s. When A. Doak Barnett passed through this region after World War II, he was struck both by the lack of communist infiltration in Ningxia and Qinghai, and the progress and prosperity

in the provinces vis-à-vis the rest of war-torn China.

Today, China's northwest is among the poorest regions in the country. The 3-4,000 ethnic Chinese Muslims who did join the communists in the pre-1949 period did so more out of personal grievances against the Kuomintang and the ruling Ma family than any great belief in the Left as saviours.

An early communist attempt to set up an "autonomous region" in Yuhai county in 1936, using disaffected Muslims, was crushed speedily by forces loyal to the Ma governors. The 1949 "liberation" of northwestern Xinjiang province was more in the nature of an armed conquest, and the communists have had to face sporadic Muslim revolts ever since.

Lahore

I. K. MALIK

Hedged out!

Your article **The gordian knot is cut** [REVIEW, Dec. 22, '83] describes the decision by Australia to float its currency and lift some exchange control restrictions. The inference in one of the articles is that it is the merchant banks in Australia which provide the foreign-currency hedge market as a means of forward cover for capital transactions. This ignores the fact that certain Australian trading banks are also very active in the hedge market, and in fact Westpac Banking Corp. was the driving force in its establishment and continues as a major participant.

As far as Westpac is concerned, we are not at all nervous working with a floating Australian dollar, and media coverage of activity in our dealing room on the first day of trading in the new environment confirmed this. Westpac has always given high priority to training its foreign-exchange dealers both in Australia and major financial centres, so we do have the expertise.

As an offshore financial centre, Australia has great prospects, and with advances in communication and other technology, the tyranny of distance from other centres will not be a threat to future development.

P. J. CLARKE

Acting Treasurer, International Division
Westpac Banking Corp.

Sydney

To coin a phrase . . .

With reference to Michael Malik's recalled quote concerning the "Maggie" coin in **Traveller's Tales** [REVIEW, Dec. 29, '83], the 50p piece originally was dubbed the "Wilson" (after former British Labour prime minister and now peer of the realm Sir Harold) because it is two-faced, seven-sided and no use to anyone.

Hongkong

DAVID HUMPHREYS

CORRECTION

Due to a processing error in our January 12 edition, remarks describing the people of Tamil Nadu were incorrectly attributed to the chief minister of the state, M. G. Ramachandran. These remarks, quoted on page 31, were made by K. Rajaram, the speaker in the state legislature.

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Radio War in Western Chinese Province Focuses on Minority Muslim Tribesmen

URUMQI, China (UPI) — A radio war is raging in the westernmost Chinese province of Xinjiang for the allegiance of millions of China's Muslims.

The Soviet Union bombards the region with broadcasts in at least half a dozen languages to sow discord between the Islamic tribesmen and the Chinese government.

Muslim countries ranging from Libya to Pakistan beam in political propaganda as well as religious teachings.

And the Chinese government constantly tells the Uighur, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Uzbek and Tadjik residents of Xinjiang that they have it best under Peking's umbrella.

About 7 million of the province's 12 million people belong to a bewildering variety of nationalities other than Han Chinese.

The rugged, isolated region was brought under Peking's control only in 1949 and the loyalties of its non-Chinese inhabitants are still sufficiently in doubt to encourage a massive radio propaganda effort.

The province is doubly sensitive because it shares borders with the Soviet Union, Mongolia, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India.

Radio is the most important means of communication because outside of the capital of Urumqi there are virtually no televisions and the distribution of newspapers is exceedingly difficult.

Soviet Propaganda Effort

The major radio threat from Peking's vantage point is the Soviet propaganda effort aimed at convincing China's minority Muslims that their counterparts on the other side of the border lead better lives.

In addition to regular Radio Moscow broadcasts in English and Russian, the Soviet Union projects news in the Uighur, Uzbek, Tadjik and Kazakh languages.

One particularly clever Soviet broadcast, monitored by Western correspondents visiting the region, comes from Radio Tashkia, which apparently is based in Tashkent, capital of the Soviet Union's Uzbekistan province.

The radio transmits in the Uzbek language with English translations, describing how Uzbeks on the Soviet side of the border are making great achievements in contrast with their cousins on the Chinese side.

Another Soviet radio report that was beamed into China alleged that a rebellion by the Uighur people had broken out in Urumqi, which never happened, a Chinese journalist said.

"Their (the Soviet) main propaganda is aimed at breaking down the unity of the minority peoples," a

Chinese journalist said. "A few people believe them but most people don't."

The reason much of the Soviet broadcasting rings hollow to Xinjiang's Muslims is that they are acutely aware of the Soviet occupation of nearby Afghanistan.

"We hate the Russians because they are killing Muslims and we don't like to listen to their propaganda," Imam Abdullah, head of Urumqi's largest mosque, said in an interview.

Jamming Unsuccessful

Chinese officials acknowledge they try to jam the Soviet broadcasts but say it is impossible because the province shares a border of more than 1,000 miles with the Soviet Union through some of the world's most inhospitable terrain.

Of far more lasting impact perhaps are the Arabic-language broadcasts which the Muslim tribesmen can pick up on their radios.

Radio Libya describes the activities of Libyan leader Moammar Kadafi and devotes much time to the reading of lengthy communique but does not emphasize religious subjects. Egypt and Iraq have broadcasts in a similar vein.

But radio stations in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia beam in religious broadcasts that local Imams tape-record and use during their worship services.

Although many of the minority languages in Xinjiang are Turkic in origin, they have absorbed many Arabic words and older religious leaders in particular are able to understand the Arabic language broadcasts.

The Chinese response to the Soviet and Arabic radio offensives is to emphasize the reign of the Soviet Union as evidenced by its actions in Afghanistan.

Chinese Broadcasts Score Successes

Local radio stations, though controlled by the Chinese, broadcast in at least five minority tongues and devote extensive coverage to atrocity stories told by Afghans fleeing to neighboring Pakistan.

Judging from informal contacts with Uighur residents of Urumqi, the Chinese broadcasts have scored some success. The Muslims appear genuinely concerned about the fate befalling their counterparts in Afghanistan.

Broadcasts from China are undoubtedly beamed across the border into the Muslim republics of Soviet Central Asia but from the Chinese side of the border this was impossible to confirm.

جناب گوپ قیصلینگ دوستوم رحمة الله افندیم: بولوس نه نجیلس نه خباریدیخ معلوم بولغانی کبی
تیکی هولاق دی دوشمه نی الله سیز کو مونیست دولت رادیو نشریات لوی یا مغوری آستیدا باشلیری
سماق گراب هیدایت سیز قالغان شرقی وه غربی ترکستان موسولمانلیری (تویغور-توزیک) تیلیدا
باشلا یدیغان رادیو نشریاتنی به کی هولاق نه لشمیه تکه تیگه دورا وه بولوس تویغور وه مؤهم وه ظیفه
بولوس سیمه تیله به هه سیمه لریگه
تولوع رب العالمین دی موافقیت لری تیله کی جان وه یوره کدی بونه واری نه بولیکه سمن

BBC - 16.3.85

Xinjiang Party Leader on Problems Faced in Economic Reform

Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 11 Mar 85

Excerpts from report:

At a recent regional meeting of prefectural commissioners, governors of autonomous prefectures, mayors and county magistrates, Ismail Amat, Chairman of the region, spoke on reform of the economic structure. He urged responsible comrades of governments and departments in charge of economic affairs at all levels to emancipate their minds and to seek unity of thinking and action so as to unswervingly carry out reforms.

Ismail Amat said: Starting from last year, the region's reform of the urban economic structure began on various fronts. We have made new achievements in invigorating enterprises. Some departments which supervise industries have also properly decentralised decision-making powers to enterprises. Therefore, many enterprises are developing from a production pattern to that of economic development. Proceeding from their characteristics, some factories, mines and enterprises mobilise the initiative of workers by linking their wages with performance and by rewarding the diligent and punishing the lazy. In the region 76 enterprises have introduced the system of directors of managers assuming full responsibility and have made gratifying results.

Ismail Amat pointed out: There are still many problems in the region's reform of the urban economic structure. First, we have not emancipated our minds well enough. Basically our understanding still adheres to the outmoded concept of focusing on the natural product economy. We do not have a deeper understanding of the point that enterprises are commodity producers and can manage affairs on their own. Instead, we are apt to administer the economy through administrative measures. While decentralising decision-making powers to the lower levels, some people do not implement what should be done.

Second, we lack investigation and study on the new problems and new situation that has developed in the course of reform and are unable to promptly undertake co-ordination and reach settlements.

Third, we do not carry out reforms in a co-ordinated way. Therefore when decentralising decision-making powers, only the upper level does so but not the lower level; and only some people do so, but not all. The progress of reforms is affected because of this type of containing action. . .

Comrade Ismail Amat said: Maintaining a continued and steady rate of economic development is a major issue concerning the smooth progress of reform of the economic structure as well as the consolidation and development of the good situation. Therefore, we must grasp firmly the task of production and avoid being slack.

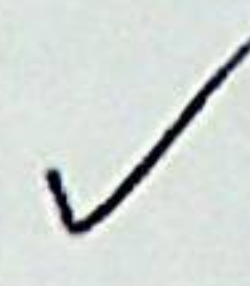
BBC - 6.3.85

XINJIANG SALE OF LIVESTOCK The Xinjiang production and construction corps has decided this year to sell most of its livestock to herdsmen for private breeding. The sale involves 2.8m head of animals. The decision was made after a year-long trial. The herdsmen will be allocated grazing grounds under contract. The corps has 1m ha of pastureland. By mid-February, the corps had sold one-third of its sheep, cattle and hogs to herdsmen. Accordingly, the corps has set up 71 livestock companies to offer veterinary and information services, supply fodder and frozen semen of fine stocks, purchase animals and process by-products. (Xinhua in English 0727 gmt 23 Feb 85)

6/3/85

Xinjiang Radio Stresses Enforcing Orders and Prohibitions

Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 2 Mar 85



Excerpts from station commentary, "It is essential to enforce orders and prohibitions":

The Central Discipline Inspection Commission recently issued a document stressing yet again that all areas and departments must resolutely carry out the regulations of the CCP Central Committee and State Council on resolutely curbing new unhealthy practices. It is essential to carry out an immediate check on the unhealthy trend of failure to implement orders and prohibitions and other new unhealthy practices and deal with them severely. The Party organisations at all levels and all Party members must unswervingly implement this instruction of the Central Discipline Inspection Commission.

6/3/85

At present the reform of economic structure is developing healthily in Xinjiang. This is an extremely complex task involving continual innovations. There is nothing to be afraid of in the appearance of a number of problems at the start caused by lack of experience and these are not difficult to solve. The serious thing is that certain places, departments and units fail to implement effectively the series of decisions and circulars issued by the CCP Central Committee and State Council in order to correct the new unhealthy practices. They even act as they please and indulge in various malpractices that endanger the smooth progress of reform.

For instance, the central authorities have repeatedly stated that Party and government organs and cadres are not permitted to run businesses and enterprises.

However, some organs and cadres cling obstinately to their course, continue to participate in running businesses and engage in speculation for profit. The central authorities have repeatedly banned indiscriminate price rises that violate policies. But some units and individuals have completely ignored this and continued to raise a wind of price rises. The central authorities have repeatedly opposed the random payment of cash and goods in kind as bonuses under various pretexts. But some units and cadres have feigned compliance and come up with all kinds of excuses for continuing to randomly issue various goods in kind and subsidies. In short, orders and prohibitions are not being enforced. . .

To ensure the smooth progress of reform of the economic structure, the Party organisations and members throughout the region must take the overall situation into account and whole-heartedly serve the people. They must strictly act according to Party principles and policies. . .

BBC

13 February 1985

XINJIANG FINDS OF HEAVY OIL China has verified 648m tons of thickened oil reserves in Xinjiang Autonomous Region; the estimated reserves of thickened oil there are more than 1.3bn tons. The verified reserves are mainly distributed in a fault belt 250 km long and about 25 km wide between Karamay and Urho, north-west of the Junggar basin. The Karamay oilfield has succeeded in exploiting heavy oil by using high-pressure steam injection technology. The oil has a low content of sulphur and wax, a strong temperature sensitivity, and is deposited in shallow geological formations and easy to extract. (Xinhua in English 0228 gmt 1 Feb 85)

BBC - April 23, 1985

Xinjiang radio blames leading cadres for malpractices (Excerpts from station commentary) Most of the new unhealthy trends that have currently emerged amid the excellent situation are the responsibility of the leaders. Either the leaders nodded assent and approval or gave tacit consent. Some of the trends are even indulged in by the leaders themselves. To resolutely and rapidly curb the new unhealthy trends, we must focus investigation and action on the problems at and above county-level, in the regional departments and bureaux, the prefectures and their subordinate departments. In all units where new unhealthy trends have appeared, the leading cadres must seriously check on and deal with them. . .

We must realise that the fundamental reason for the emergence of new unhealthy trends is that Party members lack Party spirit. Some Party-member cadres who indulge in new unhealthy trends have forgotten the lofty ideal of communists and the Party's fundamental programme of serving the people whole-heartedly. They strive for small

interests and have forgotten big ones. Hence, in correcting new unhealthy trends, we cannot simply treat the matter as it stands but must raise it to the ideological plane of the principles of Party spirit. . . (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 19 Apr 85)

Xinjiang journalists' meeting urges study of Hu's speech A regional journalism work conference and a congress of journalists, which concluded on 17th April, called on journalists in the region to study seriously Comrade Hu Yaobang's important speech on the Party's journalism work, enhance understanding, straighten out their thinking, work hard, further create a new situation in journalism in the region and make still greater contributions to . . .

APRIL 25, 85

"Unhealthy trends" continue in Xinjiang (Excerpts from station commentary) Like all other places throughout the country, our region has, under the central authorities' unified arrangements, carried out the reform of the economic structure. In carrying out this great reform, the central authorities have repeatedly advocated that it is necessary to emancipate the mind and to invigorate economic work. This is completely correct. However, misunderstandings and incorrect methods have appeared among some comrades. They have interpreted the emancipation of the mind as meaning they can do whatever they please. They have not observed discipline and not adhered to the principle that the individual is subordinate to the organisations, a small number is subordinate to the majority, the lower levels are subordinate to the upper levels and that the whole Party is subordinate to the central authorities. In particular, at the previous stage, some people stirred up new unhealthy trends. . .

May 1, 1985

XINJIANG'S POINTS OF ENTRY Four border points have been opened to date in the autonomous region: Urumqi airport; Kunjirap Daban, bordering Pakistan; and the Korgas and (?Burqin) points neighbouring the Soviet Union. Last year, 4,300 passengers, more than 12,000 motor vehicles, and over 90 aircraft passed through these four border points. More points will be opened in Xinjiang. These points not only facilitate border trade and help the border population visit relatives and friends, but also promote tourism. (Peking in Russian 1800 gmt 7 Apr 85)

BBC - April 12, 1985

Other reports

Xinjiang leader emphasises importance of ideology (Excerpts) At a regional meeting on commending outstanding units and workers in conducting ideological and political work, Janabil, secretary of the regional CCP committee, pointed out that we should make the ideological and political work serve structural economic reform, guide reform, and develop the smooth progress of reform. Comrade Janabil said: Some think that ideological and political work is not so important now because we are reforming the economic structure, advocating the system of contracted economic responsibilities among enterprises, and have strengthened economic means and administrative measures. This is extremely erroneous thinking.

He said: Our present reform of the economic structure will inevitably bring about great changes in economic life, as well as people's way of thinking and living. Therefore, this will unavoidably give rise to various problems in people's minds and will encounter various social comments. [Words indistinct] if we do not settle the problems in ideology, we shall be unable to do well in reform. . . (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 8 Apr 85)

BBC - April 17, 1985

FIRST QUARTER PROGRESS IN XINJIANG In the first quarter, the autonomous region's gross industrial output value totalled 1.538bn yuan - an increase of 28.49% compared with the same period last year, or 24.03% of this year's assigned target. Of the total value, the light industry's output value was 135m yuan, while heavy industry's output value was 803m yuan - increases of 23.74% and 33.17% respectively, compared with the same period last year. The output value of industries owned by the whole people was 1,336m yuan, and that of industries owned by collectives was 189m yuan - increases of 24.74% and 62.93% respectively, compared with the same period last year. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 6 Apr 85)

XINJIANG DISCOVERS NEW HIGH-YIELD OILFIELD In (?Mogui), a town north of the Zhunger basin, the Xinjiang petroleum administration bureau has found a new high-yield oilfield. Since 1981, the bureau has been collecting data on natural deposits in the northern Zhunger basin near (?Mogui). The bureau has already found two oilfields, which produce over 30 and 140 tons of oil respectively each day. This latest high-yield field, which was found in March of this year, produces 129 tons of oil each day. (Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 4 Apr 85)

XINJIANG VILLAGE AND TOWNSHIP ENTERPRISES Enterprises run by various villages and townships in the autonomous region in 1984 had a total output value of over 600m yuan - an increase of 47.1% over 1983. (Xinhua in Chinese 0733 gmt 20 Mar 85)

Problems in Xinjiang's Development

✓ Urumqi, Xinjiang regional service 1300 gmt 10 Mar 85

Excerpts from report:

From 3rd to 10th March, the regional government held a meeting of prefectural commissioners, autonomous prefectural governors, mayors and county governors to discuss how to consolidate and develop the excellent situation in the region, solve the new problems that have emerged in this situation, ensure the smooth progress of all reform work this year and guarantee the fulfilment of goals of endeavour set by the Regional CCP Committee and government: To reach the national average level in growth of industrial and agricultural output value this year and to increase this output value by six times by the year 2000.

Ismail Amat, Chairman of the regional government, delivered a summation. He pointed out: Last year the economic situation in the region was very good. Total industrial output value exceeded 10bn yuan for the first time, showing a rise of 10.76% over 1983, when a large rise was recorded. The region has fulfilled one year ahead of schedule the targets set for the sixth Five-Year Plan. . .

Ismail Amat stressed: Amid this excellent situation, certain new problems have arisen in the region's economic life. The main ones are: The growth of consumption funds exceeds the growth of production; there has been an increase of money in circulation; fiscal expenditure exceeds revenue; and the township enterprises are developing very slowly.

Ismail Amat said: The most fundamental things in consolidating and developing the excellent situation in the region and solving the new problems and unhealthy trends

that have arisen are to continue to implement the principle of opening up to the world and invigorating the domestic economy, carry out active and steady reform of the economic structure, strictly enforce orders and prohibitions, implement the Party's and state's policy decrees in a model way, speed up economic development, do a good job in reforming prices and wages and make outstanding achievements to greet the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the region.

Ismail Amat pointed out: The emergence of some new problems in the excellent situation is hard to avoid. However, we certainly cannot view them lightly and allow them to develop. We should see that the region's economic construction has speeded up in recent years and the [word indistinct] capacity of the whole economy has been strengthened; and we must also see that the region's economy remains very weak and there have still been no major break-throughs in many fields. We must make still greater efforts. We cannot allow consumption funds to grow too quickly and exceed our economic capacity, which would affect the development of the excellent situation.

We must unswervingly carry out reforms, clear the way to forge ahead and do our work with caution. We must resolutely control credit funds, investment in fixed assets and the use of foreign exchange, so as to ensure the smooth progress of reform.

Ismail Amat stressed: At present there are a number of unhealthy trends in society. These are: Indiscriminate price rises; random payment of bonuses and goods in kind; indiscriminate upgrading; running of businesses by Party and Government organ cadres and so on. These do tremendous harm and must be resolutely curbed. . .

Excerpts from report:

The regional forum on organisation work concluded in Urumqi today [11th March]. The forum decided to focus this year's organisation work on expediting and doing well in readjusting leading groups and building the third echelon.

The forum summed up the work done in 1984 and pointed out that last year the region made remarkable achievements in organisation work. However, judging from the requirements of the new situation and the general task, and proceeding from the region's needs for economic construction and conducting reforms, we still fall short of what is expected and there are problems in several areas. In particular, we have not sufficiently emancipated our minds and are not bold enough in promoting middle-aged and young intellectual cadres. Some areas and units have not attached enough importance to building the third echelon and have not grasped the work firmly. Neither have they launched a full-scale reform of the cadre management system nor promptly investigated, grasped and solved the new situation and new problems emerging after we decentralised the frontline of cadre management to the lower level.

For this reason, the forum made specific arrangements for further doing well in the readjustment of leading groups, grasping the building of the third echelon and so forth.

The forum urged: Any leading group at the department, bureau, prefectural, autonomous prefectural and city level which did not carry out re-examination last year, must, in the first half of this year, fulfil the examination work in connection with the spirit of the Regional CCP Committee's notice on further expediting the four transformation of the region's leading groups at the prefectural and county levels. Through various means, the leading groups should propose plans for readjusting, supporting and strengthening the groups and strive to accomplish this work by the end of March. We should also re-examine and readjust leading groups at the prefectural and county levels with focal points. Leading groups which have been further readjusted conform to the requirements of four transformations of cadres. Therefore, they will not be provided with temporary preferential arrangements.

The forum pointed out: The region has been slow in developing the building of the third echelon, which must be ended at an earlier date. The forum urged the number one persons of Party committees at all levels to personally select, assess and train the third echelon. Party committees at all levels must include this task in their agenda and often study it. Members of leading groups at the prefectural, autonomous prefectural, city, county and town levels, as well as those in various units, must be promoted in such a way that the total number of members is within the presently allotted quota. Or we may utilise the reserve cadre vacancies when promoting them. On promoting reserve cadres, however, we must uphold the procedures of being nominated by the masses, approved by the organisation, the Party committee concerned and the Party committee at the upper level. When doing so we must establish the correct attitude of respecting knowledge and qualified personnel and select candidates in connection with the criteria during the new period. At the same time, when building the third echelon, we must pay attention to recruiting cadres who are from minority nationalities and are female and non-Party personnel.

In the course of form, the participants discussed and proposed many constructive suggestions on reform of the cadre system, cadre training, recruiting Party members from among intellectuals and so on.

Tomur Dawamat, Secretary of the Regional CCP Committee, made a speech at the concluding session.

When addressing this morning's session of the regional forum on organisation work, Tomur Dawamat, Secretary of the Regional CCP Committee, pointed out: Any unit which has carried out Party rectification must seriously examine the present new unhealthy tendencies, as well as strictly enforce orders and prohibitions. In addition, Party rectification will never end until the work is completed.

Comrade Tomur Dawamat said: Straightening out the work style and strengthening the enforcement of discipline are two important tasks in carrying out Party rectification. During the first stage of Party rectification, various departments and units

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have developed, to varying degrees, new unhealthy tendencies under the new circumstances of carrying out economic reforms, though they have made some achievements in rectifying unhealthy tendencies and have improved the Party work style. For instance, Party and government organs and cadres take advantage of office in order to run businesses, engage in speculation, violate policies while increasing prices, arbitrarily giving bonuses under all sorts of pretexts, sending gifts to and entertaining guests at the expense of the state, practising fraud, carrying out work superficially, indulging in formalism, arbitrarily issuing lottery tickets, promptly promoting staff members and increasing wages without careful consideration and so forth. . .

Comrade Tomor Dawamat said in conclusion: One should not receive any ill-gotten wealth nor adopt a rapacious attitude. To take advantage of reforms for receiving ill-gotten wealth is a manifestation of having an impure Party work style and lax discipline, which may even go so far as causing crimes. Every CCP member must avoid doing this. In order to consolidate and develop this region's achievements in Party rectification, units that carry out the second stage of Party rectification must focus on correcting new unhealthy practices when examining and consolidating. Many units which have carried out the first stage of Party rectification but have developed new unhealthy tendencies must also carry out an examination and strive to check them. Party rectification will never end until this task is accomplished.

(Bracketed names phonetic. Unless a minority language or dialect is specified, all provincial broadcasts were in Standard Chinese)

Excerpts from report by correspondents Feng Shou (0023 2392) and Xi Ke (1585 4430) and reporter Li Du (2621 3256), "The reform-through-labour bureau of the Xinjiang production and construction corps achieves good results in carrying out policy":

At the end of 1984, many families in the hinterland received bulletins announcing meritorious service or notices of commutation of sentences sent from the great north-west. They were the new year presents sent to their parents, spouse or children by the prisoners serving their sentences in related units under the Xinjiang production and construction corps.

Since 1983, the reform-through-labour bureau of the Xinjiang production and construction corps has received prisoners transferred to Xinjiang by some other provinces and cities. After one year or more of reform, many of them have been elected active elements in reforming themselves through labour and a group of them have been given or are going to be given a reduction in penalty.

Of the transferred prisoners, there are a large number whose cases are serious and prison terms are long. Among them, quite a few are significant anti-reform elements, who are called prisoner's heads or bullies. In the early days after they were transferred to Xinjiang, anti-reform feeling ran high among them. However, cadres in charge of the administration and education of prisoners persistently did painstaking and meticulous work among the prisoners, educated them in the legal system, moved them with affection and enlightened them through reasoning. . .

In view of the situation in which most crimes in the 1980s were committed by teenagers, the bureau authorities compiled their own teaching materials and adopted multilayered methods of education characterised by diversified form and content. Apart from conducting education among the prisoners in pleading guilty and obediently serving sentences, observing discipline and in world outlook, they vigorously conducted informative and entertaining cultural, educational, book-reading, theatrical and sports activities with a clear objective in mind, in conjunction with the history of reclamation of wasteland by the corps and of Xinjiang's development.

The transferred prisoners have an insatiable thirst for knowledge; 80% of them have taken up general knowledge or technical courses. In the light of the cultural level of the prisoners, some units run literacy classes and junior and senior middle school courses, with fixed teaching materials, teachers, timetables and regular examinations. . .

The corps also organised the prisoners to visit state farms and household-run farms and the newly built cities and factories on the edge of the Gobi Desert. Through such activities, moved by the enterprising spirit displayed in those years by the fighters of army units engaged in wasteland reclamation, the prisoners expressed their determination one after another to study hard, to reform themselves with more determined efforts to turn over a new leaf and to do their bit for developing the great north-west by following the path already opened by the older generation.

To obtain the help of society and the prisoners' families, they conducted one-man, one-letter activities, encouraging the prisoners to regularly report what they had achieved in reforming themselves through labour to their family members. When the wife of Sun Guocheng, a prisoner from Peking, came to visit him, the cadres in charge of the

administration and education of prisoners made arrangements for her stay, offering her their bed and quilt. When Sun Guocheng's wife was about to leave, the cadres took a wedding picture for them. Sun Guocheng and his wife felt very much indebted. At the end of last year the husband sent a certificate of merit of a reform-through-labour activist to his wife, and the wife sent a tape recorder and cassettes for teach-yourself courses to her husband. With profound feelings, Sun Guocheng said: "I have committed a crime, but the government has never discriminated against me. I am determined to strive to be an activist every year and when I leave prison, I hope I will have had a college education". . .

In organising the prisoners to do productive labour, the reform-through-labour bureau of the Xinjiang production and construction corps also stressed developing diversified undertakings by giving full play to the professional skills of the prisoners in all fields. In the recesses of the Tarim Basin, there are "Shanghai clothes shops" run by the prisoners. The Jiangfang heavy-duty truck driven by first-class driver Zhen Yongquan in the Wangjiaqu reclamation area of the corps was equipped with an electronic flash device made by prisoner Liu Qingsheng. Well received by the users, this electronic device, whose electricity consumption is only 1% of that of the filament flash device and with a service life 20 times longer than the latter, has been mass produced.

When inspecting the Xiaozhizi reform-through-labour farm in Kashi, Chen Shi, Commander of the Xinjiang production and construction corps, said to the prisoners: "Work hard to reform yourselves and exert yourselves in study. In the future, let's build the great north-west together!"

Report on His Excellency Tunku Abdul Rahman's visit to
China - 10th May 1982 to 20th May, 1982

His Excellency Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al Haj led a delegation of eleven persons including the Secretary General of RISEAP and high officials of PERKIM on a visit to China between 10th - 20th May, 1982 at the invitation of the China Islamic Association and the Government of the Peoples Republic of China.

His Excellency Tunku Abdul Rahman, in a press interview at the Bayan Lepas Airport prior to departure, stated that the purpose of his visit to China was twofold - to see China and to meet the Muslim community there and to offer any assistance within the framework of Islamic da'wah if any was desired. He would also extend an open invitation to the China Islamic Association to attend as observers the Annual General Meeting of RISEAP in June.

The itinerary of the visit covered 4 cities; 5 nights in Peking, 2 nights in Shanghai, 2 nights in Hangchow and one night in Canton. At these places the delegation visited mosques and met the Muslim community and also saw places of interest such as the Summer Palace, the Forbidden City and the Great Wall.

His Excellency Tunku Abdul Rahman, accompanied by selected members of the delegation, was received by Premier Zhao Ziyang in the Zi Guang Ge Building on 12th May. The meeting was most cordial. The Premier, among others, said that China is a multi-racial country with many religions such as Islam, Buddhism, Taoism and Christianity. He stated that religious freedom is guaranteed by the Constitution and those who violated this freedom would be brought to justice. However, while there is freedom to have religious belief there is

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also freedom not to have religious belief. As an example The Premier pointed to Mr Burhan Shahidi, Honorary President of the Chinese Islamic Association sitting at his side, who was a Muslim whereas the Premier himself did not believe in religion. Both had their freedom. As a result of this policy, according to the Premier, all the people live together on good terms.

At every function or welcoming address, the Chinese side emphasised this freedom of worship. The number of Chinese Muslims according to them was 13 million and out of 56 minority groups or nationalities as they called it, 10 are Muslims. The majority of the Muslims live in the North western autonomous province of Singkiang but the delegation were only able to meet mainly the Chinese ethnic Muslims or the Hui. In these places the Muslims formed a very small minority : in Peking 160,000 Muslims out of 10 million, Shanghai 40,000 out of 11.5 million, Hangchow 2,500 out of 1 million and in Canton 4,700 out of about 5 million. During the Cultural Revolution and the rule of the Gang of Four, the Chinese Muslims had no political status, they were poor and oppressed. The mosques were closed, some vandalised and fell into disrepair due to neglect. After Liberation, the guarantee of religious freedom was restored and under Article 147 of the Constitution and the Criminal law, any Government functionary violating the custom and religion of a minority group is subject to 2 years imprisonment. The Muslim minorities are now free to practice their religion, read the Quran which is available in Arabic and Chinese and Uighur translations. They are free to pray 5 times a day, celebrate Eid, fast and perform the Haj.

The Muslims make up 1.3% of the population but they have 125 representatives in the Peoples Congress or 3.6% representation. They also have 39 representatives

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Majlis Da'wah Islamiah Serantau
Asia Tenggara dan Pasifik

Regional Islamic Da'wah Council
of Southeast Asia and the Pacific

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in the People's Consultative Conference. In China Islam comes within the responsibility of the Islamic Division of the Bureau of Religions of the State Council. The role of the Chinese Islamic Association as explained by Al Hajji Muhammed Ali Zhang Jie, its Chairman, is to protect Islam and Islamic traditions, to assist the Government by inculcating love of country, to carry out friendly exchanges with Islamic organisations outside China and with Muslim countries and to assist in the four modernisation programmes. This is in conformity with the Chinese Government policy as stated by Foreign Minister Huang Hua in January 1980 who had openly expressed his hope that "the communist Chinese Islamic Association.... under the premises of patriotism and anti hegenonism" should "engage themselves in gatecrashing and stringpulling for the external affairs departments and go about some religious public relations" Peking's plans it would appear was to exploit its Muslims for political purposes and image-building vis-a-vis the Muslim world.

H.E. Tunku Abdul Rahman, at his meetings with Premier Zhao Ziyang and others, expressed his appreciation of the policy of religious freedom after the Liberation. He emphasised that Islam teaches its followers to be good citizens and, therefore, no government should fear Islam. Particularly with a Muslim audience he expressed his concern that at the mosques he saw mostly older people, and asked what had happened to the young. The Cultural Revolution and rule of the Gang of Four had dealt a serious blow to Islam during which time all the mosques were closed. The Muslims should think seriously about this problem as having freedom of worship alone is not enough. Religion has to be practiced, taught and nurtured so that the younger generation can carry it on or otherwise the religion itself will disappear. He mentioned the intensive du'at training course which was currently being held in Kuala Lumpur and stated

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that he was prepared to have a similar course arranged specially for the Chinese if they wished. He spoke of the good work that PERKIM and RISEAP were doing in the cause of Islam in Malaysia and the region and he would be happy to invite them to come and have a look at how we organise our da'wah activities. He also stressed that Malaysia is a multi religious and multi cultural country and Muslims only make up half of the total population. But the Muslims have been able to obtain recognition for Islam as the official state religion of the country.

The Chinese were very impressed with Tunku, particularly by his sincerity and commitment to Islam. They expressed confidence that Tunku's visit would strengthen further the existing relations between Chinese Muslims and people of China with the Muslims and the people of Malaysia. They appreciated that he had undertaken the visit at an "advanced age" and they hoped that he would be able to come again.

His Excellency Tunku Abdul Rahman made several financial contributions to the mosques he visited: US\$5000 each to Niujie and Dongsu Mosques in Peking; US\$5000 to Yiao Tao Yuan Mosque in Shanghai and US\$2,500 each to Fu Gu Road and Yiao Shah Do Mosques in Shanghai; US\$2,500 to Foong Huang Mosque in Hangchow; and US\$5000 to Qing Jing Mosque in Canton.

For the Chinese Islamic Association there is no doubt that the visit has helped to boost their image as the Tunku was the first Muslim leader of international stature to visit China. The assurances by the Tunku that Islam teaches Muslims to be good citizens would be helpful to the CIA to carry out its religious work bearing in mind the CIA itself is a government controlled organisation.

To the Chinese government the visit could serve a political purpose as they would be able to project the image of tolerance and of religious freedom.

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Furthermore Chinese government officials had noted that with the Tunku coming to China, all the Prime Ministers of Malaysia, past and present, had all come to China. It therefore contributed towards better bilateral relations between China and Malaysia.

China's attitude towards RISEAP

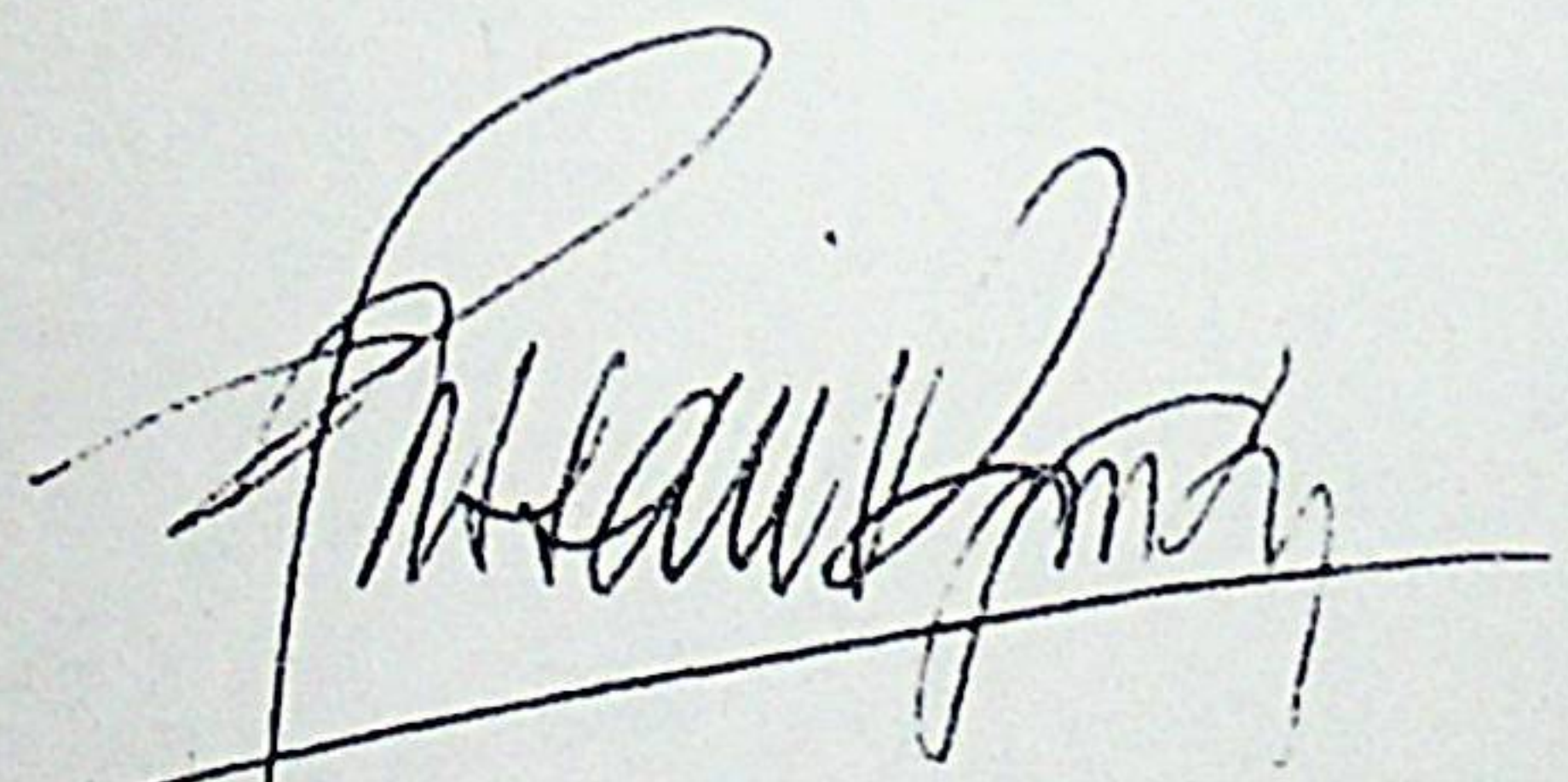
From the time the delegation arrived in China, the Chinese were keen to know our views on how they could participate in RISEAP. We had several discussions with them and evidently they already had considerable information about RISEAP. They intimated that they knew that during the Inaugural Meeting in November 1980, the representative of the Chinese Muslim Association, Taiwan was circulating a political paper but was stopped from doing so. The Secretary General informed them that RISEAP is an independent, non-governmental and non-profit making regional da'wah and welfare organisation and its members are existing voluntary organisations representing Muslim communities within the region of South East Asia and the Pacific.

The President of the Chinese Islamic Association explained that they were free to participate in international Islamic conferences but unless the question of membership of "Chinese Islamic Association, Taiwan" could be resolved, the Chinese Islamic Association could not participate in RISEAP. The name is not in accordance with the principle of one China. It implied the recognition of one China and one Taiwan which the Peoples' Republic of China opposed. He stated that Taiwan could only be a member of RISEAP as a province of China and not representing a country and it was suggested that the name "Chinese Muslim Association, Taiwan" should be changed to "Taiwan Chinese Muslim Association, China".

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The Secretary General explained that the name "Chinese Muslim Association, Taiwan" was not given by RISEAP but the name by which the Muslim community is known and RISEAP has no control over it.

For the time being it would appear that the Chinese Islamic Association would prefer to develop bilateral relations with Malaysia through PERKIM and they have accepted in principle, His Excellency Tunku Abdul Rahman's invitation to visit Malaysia as guest of PERKIM to see how PERKIM and RISEAP carry out their da'wah and welfare work.



DATO HUSSAIN MOHAMED OSMAN
Secretary General

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