

FF037

120744/81

ASIA— .ETHNIC CONFLICT, IN STRATEGIC WESTERN PROVINCE ALARMS PEKING

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 12 (SPECIAL)-- THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY MICHAEL WEISSKOPF APPEARS TODAY IN THE WASHINGTON POST:

PEKING, SEPT. 11 — CHINA'S SENSITIVE NORTHWEST REGION WHICH 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 SFRIOIS MINORITY PROBLEM IN YEARS AND HAS ALREADY PROMPTED AN EMERGENCY INSPECTION TOUR BY CHINESE POLITBURO MEMBERS AND TOR-. 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, HINDIC INDIAN AND BURMA. IT ALSO IS HOME FOR THE LOP NOR NUCLEAR TEST SITE AND 200,000 CHINESE BORDER GUARDS. ■

■ WORKING "HINDIC SENSITIVITY IS SHARPENED BY WHAT THE CHINESE CLAIM TO BE CONSTANT SOVIET RADIO PROPAGANDA IN XINJIANG IN FAVOR OF TONGUES URGING THE PROVINCE'S VARIOUS MINORITIES TO RESIST CHINESE DOMINATION.

ETHNIC TENSION RECENTLY SURFACED AS A RESULT OF RENEWED DEMANDS FOR SELF-RULE BY THE UIGHURS (PRONOUNCED WE-GUR5), A TURKIC PEOPLE OF MOSLEM FAITH WHO COMPRISE 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 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 1990 BEGAN AFTER A UIGHUR MAN WAS KILLED BY TWO CHINESE IN THE EASTERN XINJIANG CITY QAKSU. 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.

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 POLICE FORCE REFUSED TO EXECUTE HIM AND THE LOCAL ARMY COMMAND THREATENED TO MILENITY IF THE SENTENCE WAS CARRIED OUT, CHENG MING REPORTED. FURTHER TROUBLE WAS AVERTED WHEN THE SENTENCE WAS COMMUTED.

ANOTHER INCIDENT OCCURRED THIS PAST JUNE IN KASHI, WHICH IS 60 MILES FROM THE SOVIET BORDER, AFTER WEEKS OF "RIOTS" WITH CHINESE, A

ATTACK ON 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

X

.i *



ASIA--(1) ETHNIC CONFLICT IN STRATEGIC WESTERN PROVINCE ALARM PEKING

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 INFIGHTING BETWEEN CHINESE AND UIGHUR MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL RULING COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATS.

ALTHOUGH PUBLICLY CHINESE OFFICIALS DESCRIBE DENG'S NINE-DAY VISIT AS A "ROUTINE GENERAL INSPECTION," OTHER SAY PRIVATELY HE CONFRONTED A REVOLT BY UIGHUR PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBER AGAINST THE CHINESE RULING MAJORITY.

CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD DIPLOMATS THAT DENG YTK, TAILA ORGANIZATION OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE, WHICH SERVES AS XINJIANG'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 WAS THE DEPUTY POLITICAL COMMISSAR OF THE CANTON MILITARY COMMAND. HIS MILITARY BACKGROUND IS SAID TO REFLECT PEKING'S INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING ORDER IN

XINJIANG.

IN ITS SEPTEMBER EDITION, ICHINE MTNK REPORTED THAT DENG DISCOVERED AN "UNSTREASY 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 IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF CHINA IS ONE OF FIVE SO-CALLED AUTONOMOUS PROVINCES WITH LARGE CONCENTRATIONS OF MINORITIES. THESE REGIONS WERE SET UP BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY AS PLACES WHERE CHINA'S ETHNIC GROUPS COULD ENJOY SOME DEGREE OF FREEDOM TO PRACTICE THEIR RELIGION, MAINTAIN THEIR TRADITIONS AND TEACH THEIR LANGUAGES.

ALTHOUGH CHINA HAS MORE THAN 50 DIFFERENT MINORITY STRAINS, THEY COMPRISE ONLY 6 PERCENT OF THE NATION'S 1 BILLION PEOPLE. CHINA'S

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, TARTARS AND OTHER MINORITIES WHO ARE AMONG THE MOST REBELLIOUS IN CHINA.

(MORE)

158

FF039

120748/01

ASIA—(2) ETHNIC CONFLICT IN STRATEGIC WESTERN PROVINCE ALARMS
PEKING

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 LETLLLS1D0GMA.

THIS CLASH OF CULTURES RESULTED IN 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 INSTITUTED AT THE PROVINCIAL UNIVERSITY TO GUARANTEE THAT 60 PERCENT OF STUDENTS ARE FROM ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS.

CADRES OF UIGHUR BACKGROUND HAVE BEEN GIVEN SPECIAL PRIORITY FOR ENROLLMENT IN PARTY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING INSTITUTES TO RAISE

ASIA —CHINA REPLACES PARTY CHIEF IN TROUBLED

WASHINGTON, NOV 4 (SPECIAL) ~ THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY MICHAEL PARKS APPEARED IN TODAY'S LOS ANGELES TIMES:

PEKING - AFTER TWO YEARS OF MOUNTING PROBLEMS IN XINJIANG, CHINA'S SENSITIVE NORTHWEST PROVINCE BORDERING THE SOVIET UNION IN CENTRAL ASIA, PEKING HAS REPLACED THE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER THERE WITH A VETERAN GENERAL WHO HELPED BRING THE REGION UNDER COMMUNIST CONTROL 30 YEARS AGO.

WANG ENMAO, 69, WHO WORKED IN XINJIANG (PRONOUNCED SHIN JEEAHNG) FROM 1949 UNTIL 1969, HAS BEEN SENT BACK AS THE REGIONAL PARTY'S FIRST SECRETARY WITH ORDERS TO REESTABLISH POLITICAL STABILITY AND STRENGTHEN DEFENSES, THE COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER PEOPLE'S DAILY REPORTED TUESDAY.

HE REPLACES WANG FENG, 75, ANOTHER VETERAN MILITARY OFFICER AND XINJIANG'S FIRST SECRETARY SINCE 1978, WHO HAD BEEN UNABLE TO RESTORE HARMONY BETWEEN THE REGION'S NATIVE UIGHUR AND KAZAKH PEOPLES AND THE 5 MILLION ETHNIC CHINESE WHO HAVE BEEN SETTLED THERE OVER THE LAST THREE DECADES.

COMMUNAL FIGHTING HAS BROKEN OUT REPEATEDLY SINCE LATE 1979, ACCORDING TO INFORMED CHINESE SOURCES HERE AND IN URUMOI, THE REGIONAL CAPITAL, WITH CONCERN GROWING IN PEKING THAT IT MIGHT ESCALATE INTO AN OPEN REVOLT BY THE UIGHURS AND KAZAKHS, WHO TOTAL ABOUT 6.2 MILLION OF XINJIANG'S 12 MILLION PEOPLE.

AFTER ARMED UIGHURS REPORTED TRIED TO STORM AN ARMY BASE NEAR KASHI (KASHGAR), 80 MILES FROM THE SOVIET BORDER, AND WERE REPULSED BY FORCE LAST JUNE, DENG XIAOPING, COMMUNIST PARTY VICE CHAIRMAN AND HEAD OF ITS IMPORTANT MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION, TRAVELED TO XINJIANG FOR FIRST HAND INSPECTION AND ORDERED A TOTAL REORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP THERE AND NEW POLICIES TO RESTORE ORDER.

WANG ENMAO, AT A MEETING OF XINJIANG OFFICIALS AFTER TAKING CHARGE LAST WEEK, CALLED ON THE REGION'S VARIOUS NATIONALITIES TO CARRY OUT THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S DECISIONS ON XINJIANG AND THE "IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS BY LEADING COMRADES," PRESUMABLY DENG HIMSELF, ON RESTORING STABILITY TO XINJIANG, WHICH MAKES UP A SIXTH OF CHINA'S TERRITORY.

A SECOND MAJOR PROBLEM THE NEW XINJIANG LEADER FACES IS UNREST AMONG FORMER SHANGHAI RESIDENTS WHO WERE SETTLED BY THE THOUSANDS ON STATE FARMS IN THE REGION IN THE EARLY 1960S AND WANT TO RETURN TO SHANGHAI. MORE THAN 30,000, INCLUDING THEIR DEPENDENTS, LEFT FOR SHANGHAI EARLY THIS YEAR AFTER CLASHES WITH XINJIANG AUTHORITIES AND SO FAR HAVE REFUSED TO RETURN TO WHAT THEY REGARD AS A VIRTUAL WASTELAND.

THIS PROBLEM IS RELATED IN A WAY TO THE UIGHUR-HAN (ETHNIC CHINESE) CONFLICTS BECAUSE THE FIRST MAJOR INCIDENT STEMMED FROM THE KILLING OF A UIGHUR BY TWO CHINESE IN APRIL, 1980, IN AKSU, ONE OF THE TOWNS WHERE THE SHANGHAISE WERE SETTLED. ANGRY UIGHURS RETALIATED BY BEATING UP SEVERAL THOUSAND CHINESE RESIDENTS, SMASHING AND LOOTING THEIR HOMES AND RAMPAGING THROUGH THE FACTORIES WHERE THEY WORK. "THE CHINESE COMMUNITY WAS ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED," A HONG KONG NEWSPAPER SAID IN ITS REPORT OF THE INCIDENT.

LAST NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, THE SHANGHAISE GATHERED AT AKSU TO DEMAND THAT THEY BE PERMITTED TO RETURN TO THEIR NATIVE CITY. WHEN AUTHORITIES REFUSED TO GRANT PERMISSION, 10,000 BEGAN A SIT-IN DEMONSTRATION THAT GREW TO MORE THAN 70,000 ACCORDING TO LATEST HONG KONG JOURNALS, AND THEN A HUNGER STRIKE IN WHICH 100 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN REPORTEDLY DIED. GOVERNMENT OFFICES WERE TAKEN OVER, OFFICIALS WERE ATTACKED AND HAND TO HAND FIGHTING



<:V

Riff

Munioh, Sept. 17 - (CND/EC) - following article By Christie) appeared in the West Berlin daily BER TAOESSPIEOEL (right-lib) of i

'16,9,1981 \$ titledi

Moskau iiiul Peking , werben 11111 Mindcrheiten

Der Propagandakrieg im Grciv/gcbict hat sich verslurkt *

Von unsaramK orrespondent on
Hongkong, im September

In Sinkiang luit dor Propagandakrieg zwii
imrm»nin«aMa.ru»ii»ninrnmim«

winuMi. Chmus wesimmTo Provinz, uic
y*uir-Sinkiang-Autonomie-Region, zuht xwldf
Millionn Bewolmer, von deien rund sieben
Millionen nationalen Mindcrheiten anyohoren,
die zuu yruUton Toi Moslems kind, und deren
Stammcsbrmler aul der andere Sella der
(jivnic in der Sowjetunion leben. Die weilaus
Hjsten Gruppen stellung mil liber vicreim-
w Millionen die Uiyihurcn, die Hue Zentron in den allen Oasrcstadten Kasghar, Kholan, Yarkand
und Turfan haben. Mil Ausnahme der ladschikim, die wie die Iraner Schiiten sind, gehoten alle anderen
in Sinkiang leben- den Moslems, wie Uigluiren, Kasadion, Kirgi- seii uml Usbeken dur sunnitischcn
Glaubcns- lidituiiy an.

Gogcnuber den nationakn Minderheiten hat die pr-<jinditshu Reylyorung in Peking unler I-
nhruny von Teng lisiwo-ping und liu Yao- bang eme none Politik eingeschlugen, deren Xi. I nidU nielf die
Intcmiorunn der Minder-
Feilen in die Il-ni-Russo 1st. Chinas Mindcr-
leilen uewonnen reau sensitive Gebiete. die

kmq hat nach dem anwiihlichen Fiiungrich in '16*
Aglianistan an lilykcl zugenommen. Die
* binesclion Radiosendungen, die auch in die
Sowjetunion gehen, berichten vor allem von
der Il-nlordQskiing dca afghonischen Volkea
dutch die Sowjetunion und von Greuellalen,
die von russischen Soldaten In Afghanistan an
Moslems begangen wurden.

Die Sowjetunion wiederum versucht Ihrer-
aeila fiber das Radio die in Sinkiang lebenden
Minderheiten gegen die chinesische Oberherr-
schaft aufzuwiegeln. Dabei wird Immer wie-
der ddrauf hingewiesen, wie gut ea ihren
Stammesgenossen In der Sowjetunion gcle.
Dorh in Jlingster Zeit scheint die chinesische
Propaganda — zumindest In Sinkiang — Br-
folg zu haben, denn was heuta In Afghanistan

vor sich geht, kann kaum den Beifall der in *
Sinkiang lebenden Moslems finden. <
Auch iiber den Pamir, wo Sinkiang an die
Sowjetunion, Afghanistan und Pakistan slbOt,
ist es Jctzt zu ciner neuen Auseinanderset-
zung zwischen Peking und Moskau gekom-
men, nachdem die Sowjetunion ciren neuen
Grenzvertraq mil Afghanistan abgeschlossen i-
hut. China, das im JahreH 1 184 Im Grenzvertrag
von Kaschgur ciren betrachtlk lien Teil des
Hochlandes von Pamir an Kullalaid utreten
inulle, erficbl hier Anspruch aul weilu Gebie-
te und hat die russi ho Demarkationslinie nle
anerkannt. Das Ilodiland von Pamir wird vor
Inchmilch von Tadschikcn bewohnt.

Der Radiokrieg zwischen Peking und Mos-
kau begann In Zentralasien schon im Jahro
192, als 50 000 Kasachcn mil Ihren llerden
aus China in die Sowjetunion gezogen waren,
wazu sic angeblich von Moskau bewoyn
worden waren. Doch die Moslems in Sinkiang
sind heule nichl nur dor chinesischen und so
wcielsrhen Propaganda ausgesetzt, die in den
Sprachen der Minderheiten ausgesrahlt wird.
In arabischer Sprache senden heule* auch-JJ
Ij^en^PukistarrAr^tci^
bien und die vereiiiigte

'FrojiaijJMd itam sinRiarrn

den islamischen bolnrlgel
MdkUlilis *eisl
kein i'urnsehen gliit, und, wenn von Urumchi
abgeschon wird, auch keine Zeitungen, so 1st
der Hdrtunk die einzige Informationsquelle
und das wichtigste Propagandamittel.

In den Radiosendungen aus Saudi-Arabien
und den Vereinigten Arabischen Emiraten
liegt der AKXent auf religioen Thoinen, die
von den Igiens in Sinkiang hiuilig auf Ton-
bänder aufgenommen werden. Doch die Pro-

ananda auv/h:n arabisdien inKlann mont n.r LUUWL agjgM cl.nlomaT
lisrhen bezielin *en, zuJiaudi-ATal^ien nesnzL

Sioren sinriumi, sojw \ . Ch n ,C,e KonA»*

WliiiiMa.viiiiimiraptnnn

(ten was nnr moglich *tot, wenn die hodmen
*Pesen In Gadel und Armo weller In 3-
WilUrauen der nkUnalen^WICfueufr^r Sinkiang qegender den Han^orT5^SToffal :



an din Sowjetunion, die Mongolisdio Volks-
angrenzen, Obschon-in nw
Knnfivooiiiion der dumalige Militarkom-
in,liid,ml vim Sinkiang, General Widm En-
inao. nut dlur Sdiarte yeijTu till! lllilJUlIst^r

vniynig, wurden unler der -Viereibanile* die
Nl.isli nib unfordmkl. die die kuituielle Ubcrcr-
legenheit der Ilan ukzepticrefl Ldillen. In
Sulkidlij WUlild dlfm nJUdnak-n MinHerhStI
Ini angeioiente ruiiKIDfJU) uurni ilans cr-

si-zi, die Mosccnen wurden 'besdluss'en-oller
*i'z zersluri nnt tier rb-lua
*en dor Minderheiten betrachUdi timia.
sindnkl. -

i J e r s i haben, den die Kulturevolution an-
gii'ruct bat, soil heulo wieder gut gemacht
weiden. So konnen in Sinkiang rfidic nationalen
Minileitellen wieder ihfi fallen 1 radidrhft
J.iii-Y/ThT-AMLMit^r UTui.ithl lIhd d'e"ill.rj MB-
I-T-eT^eruTHIL+WPMIL^H^m UIMWH^ I.IJBIWB^1

fuimai "am lag iluu ucubo vurrhilen ko'n-
trurDie Pilgclahil nacll Mekkd konnen In
iJesmirJmansunddUere^aimiJSidienbMiwliiM

ueien. iJie uigliur Die Uiyiyur-bprachc, lur lio ein la-
leinisi ires Alpliallet onyeluht worden war,
wild heule wieder wiu vor dor kumniuSU*
when MadUcrgrellung in der arabisdiun
S^brill yscrhneben. Die Kasuchen, die in
Kutmunco angescidclU worden waren, kbn-
n.oi beule mil ihren lIrdon wieder cin Semi*
Nntnaicndasein fullron. Audi die Goburtcn
kontrolle besitzt fur die Minderheiten koine
Gultigkeit, die sovielle Kinder In die Welt
fetzen konnen, wie lie wollen.

Sinkiang, das mil der Sowjetunion eine ge*
ihSim^ CTIIZI^1 VOu tIUif 1 UIAJ MIImderTI
qU- IH Htr mini full ItULIMff siraieqlscTief
Uedcutunq. Per uber das fradio auagel

£

g
Cr\

Ti

t/h' ' -1
*pfc

M ' -v., %

* \ ... i i.v. . . r . . w »

i ; . l v

Munich, Nov 10 (CND) — the following article appeared in 'The Financial Times', Nov 10, 1981

/6<

•Y TONY WALKER, RECENTLY IN SHANGHAI

UNEMPLOYMENT IS a word never mentioned, even in a whisper, by any self-respecting Chinese bureaucrat. In China people "wait for the Jobe." Some, like Miss Sun, an attractive young Shanghainese, have been waiting since they left school in the mid-1970e.

Miss Sun now has a job of sorts. She pieces together battery-operated plastic toys for export to the Middle East, for about \$10 a week. Miss Sun is relatively lucky. Millions of youngsters "waiting for Jobs" in China earn less than half that amount helping to run stalls in free enterprise markets which have mushroomed by the thousand across the country.

Since China does not officially recognise it has an unemployment problem there are no statistics for the number of people out of work. Full employment is "guaranteed" by the state. But according to westembased estimates the figure could be as high as 20m.

The problem of unemployment in Shanghai—the world's most populous city — is now critical and is getting worse each year as several hundred thousand middle school graduates pour onto the labour market each year.

This is compounded by hundreds of thousands of young Shanghainese who, like a gun at the heads of Shanghai's harrassed officials, are scattered around the country, agitating, sometimes violently, to return to their birthplace.

These young people were driven to the countryside during

the cultural revolution under doctrinaire Maoist policies which extolled the virtue of agrarian toll. Many were taken to places as distant as Xinjiang and Yupan and, in the words of one foreign teacher working in China, "dumped off the backs of trucks in the middle of nowhere and told to get on with it."

An estimated 100,000 Shanghai youths were "encouraged" to go to Xinjiang, a forbidding expanse of mountains enclosing a small pocket of civilisation near the Soviet border.

When the cultural revolution ended, most 61 these young people wanted -return home. While magfc4QafiQfl, accprdring to local officials—have been allowed to return, there are many—certainly tens if not hundreds of thousands—who

doing

These disaffected youths bring constant pressure to bear on local officials where they live and work, on central authorities in Peking, and on the Shanghai municipality.

In the face of these refusals, the Shanghai youth in Xinjiang organised several delegations to travel to Peking to plead their

affected Shanghainese gathered in a place called Aksu in the west of Xinjiang, near the Soviet border, to protest against government policy.

According to a letter from one of the participants to the Hong Kong left-wing publica-

tion, ChengMinArnpre than I.OOt took pan ih a_*at wmc

-wrrrnwmr tion also'spread to other centres where youths from Shanghai wore Hvinj Thu ended Wi li hmlauthorities agreed to allow youth around Aksu to reLmMoShnngghaJ. Permission however,

Dong Chai Bang, a vice-goncral party secretary in Shanghai, admitted in an interview that it was "tough problem."

"If all the young people come back who want to come back we could nit cope with them,"

Dong's bleak message to the thousands of Shanghai youth trapped in country areas is: "In the long run everyone must make sacrifices for the country, Another official admitted there were a number of young people living "illegally" in Shanghai, and many of these had returned secretly

On the basis of one visit to a Shanghai neighbourhood employment office, discussions with several young people, and Interviews with several officials it is possible to say, with caution, that the municipality is achieving some success in its efforts to mop up the army of unemployed youth that has been hanging around this city of 12m since the end of the "cultural revolution."

According to Shanghai labour officials, jobs have been found for more than 1m youths since 1978. Those still "waiting for Jobs" number some 130,000.

Local authorities are clearly sensitive about unemployment

problems. When I asked to be taken to a "typical" labour office, I was shown a "model" bureau where, according to district officials, there was virtually no unemployment problem.

Under questioning, officials admitted that this area was

privileged by Shanghai standards. Still, there seems no doubt China's new eronomlc policies, encouraging the growth of collective and individual enterprises, are helping to ease a problem th.it still looms as one of the biggest challenges facing the leadership.



Munich, Nov, 30 - (CND/EC) - following report by Helmut Op (Uv rlimqi) appeared in today's FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU (left-lib) ti

Das Wort Allahs aus alien Laulsprech'ern

klings

Ira chinesisclie/Xinjiangiat der Islam wieder Kennzeichen der uigurischen Nation Von Helmut

Oplctal (Orumqi)

Vor rwel Jahren noch drfhnte aus den Lnutsprechern In den StraQen der Provinzhauptstidt Orumqi ausschlieBlich Pekinger Revolutionsmusik. Heute hOrl nun in vielen VierHn der Altstadt wie- der ffinfmal am Tag das Tonband mit der Stimme des Muezzin: Allah ruft zum Gcbel. Das diinesische Zentml- asien erlebt derzeit eine i\$lamische .Renaissance, und Peking loDt aeine Moslems gewkhren.

Nach den Erelgnissen In Iran und In Afghanistan tun die chlnesischen Kommunisten alles, um nicht auch in Ihren e .jenen Grenzen einen politischen Kon- fllkt mit dein Islam heraufzubeschwo- reu Dafir nehmen sie aogar In Knuf, daii sie in Xinjiang den EinfluQ auf Kul- tur, Erziehung und oTentliches l.rben mit den Mullahs und Moscheevorste- lu-rn tellen miissen.

Als der Ruf .Gott 1st grofl" aus dem Lautsprecher der kleinen Vorstadt- moachee Uber die Geschafsstrafle hallt, Sainmeln sich zwei Dulzend Manner zum Mittagsgebct. Entgegen der Gepflogen- hcit in anderen orient.ilischen Landern Ziehen die Uiguren und Kasachen hiur beim Betretcu des Belraumes nur die diinnen Oberschuhe aus, die schweien l^-dersticfel behalten sie an.

Die Leute sind bel der Arbeit Oder In der Schule; so begrlndct der Imam an- seiilicOend den relativ geringen Besuch. Viel verrichten die vorgeschriebenen fiinf tSglichen Gebete auch ziwHause, wie es die Regeln der Religion gestation, und kommen nur an Freitagen (dem islamischen Sonntag) und zu den Feslen in die Moschee.

An den groilen Felertugen platzen die Moscheen allerdings aus Ihren NShten. Zum Korban-Fest gvrade eine Woche da vor, ao bests tig ten mir auch Partei- funktioniiere, mufflen dieses Jahr die Leute auf den StraOcn stehen, weil die Mt*cheen den Andrung nicht .fussen konnten.

Fiir die religiOse Erziehung der Kinder meint der Geistliche, werde vor allem in den Familicn gesorgt, einige wiirdcn auch bei ihm .<)K-ziellen Koran- uuh-rricht bekommen. Kin etwa Zehn- jahiiger, der auch U-im Mittagsgebct war, zeigt mir gleich ciuen dldcen Band der Heiligcn Schrift — arabisch mil u>r ii ischeii Erliulei ungen — und be- giinnt, daruus einige AL-Otze zu rezitie- ren.

Auf rund rwel Millionen (von Insge- smnt zwOlz Millionen Einwohnern) sti.alzen offizielle Stellen heute die Zahl tier aktiven Glkubigen in Xinjiang, doch Imii) Roze, der Direktor des Bliros der

.Islamischen -GesellschaftV^fctlt^elieBP¹ Ziuhl noch fiir zu niedrig.

Der etwa fUnfzigjiihrige Uigure ist- in mein Hotelzimmer gekommen, um' mir eine Darstellung der neuen Peldn-i ger Religionspolitik zu geben. Wie es um <lie Autonomie der Religionsgemein- sdiaflrn und die Mitspracherechte der Gliubigen in der Praxis immer noch bcstellt 1st, dafuir gibt er selbst ein benches Bcispicl ab. Der Direktor der islamischen Gesellschaft 1st nfmilch keinesfalls ein Moslem, sondern Atheist und Parteimitglied. Und auf jede melner Fragen blickt er zunachst einmal zu dem gleichzeitlg anwesenden Vertreter des Nationalil&tcnknltees hintiber — ein offensichtlich hOherrangler Kader — und erkundigt sich im Zweifelsfall auf Uigurisch nach den richtigen Antworten.

Die Hauptaufgaben der Gesellschaft aieht er In der Propagierung der Reli- glonspulitk der Partei und der erwei- terten Rcllglonfreiheit aowie der Er- ihutcrung des Parteikurses bel den glku- bigen Moslems. Gleichzeitig toll die

Islamische Dachverelnlgung die WQnsche und Anlegen der Religionsgemeinschaft in den politischen Gremien vertreten, also eine Art Mittlerfunktion zwischen Staat und Gliubigen ausben.

Rund 12 000 Moscheen sind In Xinjiang wleder In Betrieb, das sind aogar mehr als vor der .Kulturrevolution" und — wenn man cum Vergleich Berfchte aus Moskau heranzieht — um ein Vielfachea mehr als im angrenzenden sowjetischen Zentralasien, wo nur mehr einige Dut- zend Gotteshiuser funkUoniejtn. >.

Rund 8000 Moecheevorstehei* und Angestellte der islamischen Gemelnden erhalten ein etaatlches Gehalt, und Zuschusse gibt es fiir die Renovlerung der rellgOsen StUtten. Die meisten Moscheen werden allerdings mit dem Geld und dem Arbeitseinsatz der GUubigen selbst widerbergestellt

Die Exzeise der Kulturrevolution, von denen man lberall zu hOren bekommt, kann auch Herr Roze bestktigen: Die islar.iischen Kommunebauern wurden dm <ii den Stuuksplan gezwungen, Sthweine su stichten. Die Moscheen wurden in Fabriken und Waredepots

| umgewandelt Oder, einfach abgerlsser , Nur ein paar alte Leute trauten aid noch in die wenlgen verbliebenen Bet hkuser. Mehr aJs 80 Prozent der 10 00< Gelstlichen wurden cwangswelse in der Lalcnstand versetzt, und vor den Auger der Glkubigen vcranitalteteten die Roler Gardcn OffentlJdn Ko/an-Verbrennun- *en.

• Heute bestehe wleder voile Religions- freiheit, betont Herr Roze mehrmals, 48 000 BMnde einer neuen Koran-Aus- gabe aeien eben erst fiir Xinjiang ge- druckt worden. Jedes Jahr darf wleder eine kleine Pilgergruppe nach Mekka reisen, und 18 Korangelehrte wurden Im vergangenen Jahr nach Peking geschickt, um an Chinas einzigem islamischen Seminar zu studieren. Drei junge Moslems aus Xinjiang haben kUrzlich aogar ein Stipendium fUr die beriihmte Islamische University in Kairo erhalten. Auch ge- gen die religiOse Erziehung der Kinder in den Familien wtirde die Partei keine Propaganda mehr betreiben.

Wie tief ist denn die Religion Qber- haupt noch In der Bevolkerung ver- ankert, frage Ich. .Dort, wo die natio- nalen Minderheiten Xinjiangs die Mehr- heit stellen, also vor allem in SQd- Xinjiang, 1st auch die religiOse Aktivitk schr groO." Und wo sind die Grenzen der Religionsfreiheit? .Die Religion darf die Gesetze des Staates nicht verletzen. ReligiOse Propaganda Oder MiObrauch der Religion cur politischen Aufwieee- liing'des VolkessindWitit eHSub:

Der anwesende Vertreter des Nationa- litktenknlteeB filgt nodi hinzu, daB der Glaube an Allah heute kein Hindernis mehr set, uni eine Unversiifit zu toe- " suchen oder ataatlliche Funktionen aus- ^zuiiben. NatUrlich milase man die mar- ' xlistisch-leninistische Grundlinie ' dabel unterstitzen, und Partelgenoase Oder MitgUed der-Jugendliga kOnne ein Moslem natUrlich nicht werden.

Ich frage die beiden Funktion&re noch, ob sie dem Islam auch fortschrittliche, positive Seiten abgewinnen kOnnten. Nach diner etwas verlegenen Denk- pause — die Frage wird offensichtlich seiten diskutiert — einigen sich die zwri, den Humanismus und die soziale und moralische Kraft der Koran-Lehre .lobend anzuerkennen:Der Islam sei zum Bcispiel gegen die Latter des Rauchens und Trinkens; er fordere von den Giau- bigen, Streltigkeiten giltlich beizulegen; Diebstahl, Mord und asoziales Verhalten wurden streng geOchtet; und das Gebot, einen bestimmten Tell des VermOgens

(fro)

»> Almoaen xu geben, wtlrde den Armen
 »Cute kommcn.

1 Trolz(*em >elen die rellgldse Sozial- lehre und das kommuniRliNche Konzept wesenlich vorschlidim; „lin Gegenatz . f^u.n Marxismus- l'ninismuM sngt der Islm nicht, d;»B der IKichlum der Welt »li'n Arbcltern geh.ni, south i n er spricht bloß von mildon Gobi n."

Obwohl die Abkelir von der kultur- • '- revolutionfiren Polilik tin systematl- adivn Unlerdrilikuilg rd Igidson Lcbens erst vor rund zwđ Juhren vollzogen wurde, aleht Inin. Hu/»> in.*ute kelne groQen ungeldsten Piobleme mehr. Es gebe zwar Immer noch „ganz wenlge“ Chinesen und nach Xinjiang versetzte Funktionare, die du' rdigiosen Sitten nicht respektierten, die die Uiguren und Kasachen iur lucksiiindtg hielten und die Moslems auslad- .tcn, well aie kein Schweinefleisch essm. Aber die Partei hube es sich zur Aufgabe g'emacht, auch chose Leute zu deni nbliigon Respekt vor den Empfndungeu oar Gliubigen zu oraehen.

Tatskchlich haltcn die „Hun“-Chinesen' ihre Schweine heule diskret hinter Mauern verborgen. D» n mosiemischen Kssensgewohnheitou kommen Dutzende staatliche und private Schafflclschgast- sUitten entgegcn, und auf den Mirkten sieht man gelegentlich sogar blilllge, aui Pakistan imporlierte Gebctstcoppiche.

Wie sehr der Islam vor allem tber die Familien noch seinen EinfluB gcltend machen kann, wird mir bewuBt, als ich in elncr AltstadtkncllR* einen jungen Uiguren kennenleine, der gerade ein jnehrglrgcs Studium in Peking be- endet hat. Von den Chinesen wurde er nach Peking geholt. urn nach seiner Ausbildung als Funktionar in der Ver- wallung zu dienen, ein Vertreter der im in aen Chinn aufgewachsenen Jungen Intelligenz also.

Weil der**Vater, ein FunktionSr der AuBenhandelsabteilung, „illegaler Be- zichungen zum Ausland“ beschuldigt wurde, konnte er bis zum Sturz der „Viererbande“ Im Jahre 1978 nicht stu- dieren. Nach dem StudienubschluB an der Pekinger „Nutionnlit.'ilen-Hoch- M-hule- bekam er aueh eine Stelle in der

Hauptstadt angeboten, aber nach kur- zem 'Uberlegen entschied er sich, nach Xinjiang zurilckzugehen. .In Peking ist das Leben besser, aber hier bli Ich zu Hause, und hier ist mein Land", sagt er.

Ich frage ihn, ob er sich als religios bezelchnen wUrde. „Ja und nein", zdgert er. .Ich bin an eine chinesisehsprachigc Schule gegangen und wurde dazu er- mgen, nicht an Gott zu glaubcn. Aber in j.vinun Inneraten gluube ich immer noch ein wenig."

Bolm Korban-Fest war es fUr ihn ibstvcisUindlich, zusaimnen mit seinen Freunden in die Moschee zu gehen. Religion, erklrt er mir, sei in Xinjiang nicht bloB Sache des Glaubens an Gott, sondern beinhalte auch die ldenUflzie- rung mit Familie und Tradition.

Der Islam fordert zum Beispiel, daB gewisse Regeln in der Familie eingehal- ten werden, daB Manner und Frauen ihren Kopf bedecken, daB man keinen Nichtmoslera heiratet. Je mehr man sich an seine Familie und an seine noch im trditionellen Familienverband leben- den Freunde gebunden fiihlt, deslo mehr verspiirt man auah-den Duick, sich an- diese Regeln zu halten. Die meisten tun

es, auch die Jugendlichen. .Hier im iNorder> V6n Xinjiang 1st unter den Ju'n- I gen vieUaicfcUhoth die Halite rallgida,* im mehr tfadtlionellen Siid-Xinjiang sind es last alle.**

Wenn man heute 'durchs Land ffihrt, sieht man in fast Jedem Dorf wieder die bunten Minarett-Turmchen der kleinen Moscheen. Sehr oft sind noch Arbeiter beim Bauen und beim Renovieren. Manchmal — wie in der alien Seiden- straBen-Oase Turfan — steht statt der Moschee nur eine mit Ornamenten und Koranspriichen bemalte Fassade. Ge- betet wird auf dem freien Plulz dahin- ter; denn Regen ist ohnehin fast un- bekannt.

Der Islam ist heute in Xinjiang ganz zweifellos wieder eine fiihrende kul- turelle und moralische Kraft, zumindest bei .den bodenstandigen Turkvolkern, die fast 60 Prozent der Bevulkerung ausmachen. Natiirlich sind die Religion und das zur Schau getragene religiose Bekennnis auch Ausdruck sehr konser- vativer, auf das unkritische Bewahren von Tradition gerichteter Einstellungen. Aber gerade in einer Region, die aid) iiner Uberfrerndung durch die letztlich doch von auBen hereingetragene chine- sische Kultur erwehren will, ist dieße Religion auch Trfiger eines verstand- llchen Nationalismus, der eine ldenliUit aus der- eigenen Geschichte, Literatur, Kunat und Moral entwicketn will.

i-de
'ti-

.ur
•ht.

0815/811



Munich, Dec. 7 - (CND/EC) - following report by Helmut Opl< appeared in today's FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU (left-lib) titled.

Drei Welten treffen > sich im fernen West eh

Audi im Autohomen Geliiet Xinjiang gesteht

China Fehler der National]lilenpolitik ein *

Von Holm 11! Onletal ffrriimnil SchafflelachspleDe tibar

Von Orlmq (Uriimtschl) nach Moskau and M nur wc-nigc Kilometer mehr als nach Peking. Der taghche Schnellzug aus dein nordwestliehen Zipfel des Landes in die diinesbchc Hauptstadt branchl dreieinhalb Tago fur die last viertausend Kilometer lange Strecke. Die Btrickonfunktion zwisohen Orient und Okzidnt hat Xinjiang (Sinkiang) im y.eitalter der gesperrlun Grenzen und politischen Konflikte zwar verloren, doch in dein tradillonellen Schnittpunkt europaisch-rusbischer, islamisch-xenlralsiatischor und chineslsdi-fernbstlicher Kulturcn lebt inimer noch ein wenig vom Geist der alien Seidenstrabc, die sich hier einst noch Indien, Afghanistan, Pcrsien und Samarkand verzweigte.

j Abcnteuerland wie zu Zeiten Sven i Hedlms vor noch nicht einmal hundert Jahren 1st die Grenzregion heute kaum mehr. Die Induslrllalisierung steckt noch in den Kindersdiuhcn, und die entlegc- *n Berg- und Wuslengcbiete *7. ahlen kaum 40 Dollar durdischnlliihcm | Jan nprokopfeinkommen zu den arm-step Hcgionen Chinas, doch StraOen, Eise\hnen und Telefonleitungen durchz ven heute das ganze Land.

Zwar i.v.ier bus von Oriimqt In die . alle Kuraw. v>nstndt Kaschgar im Sud- l wesWn der .V>vinz noch sieben ^age 1 unterwegs, doA die Kamelkarawanen durih die Takla yikan-WUste Oder die

Dsungaei sind au\ hier Im Verschwin- : den begriffen. In. Oriimqi wird das l Stadtblld heute von brlkschlotten ge- prigt, in Karamay r.'va Erddlbohr- l tUrme aus der Liindschail; ind auf den ; rndlosen Weizenleldcrn der Staatsfar- men wird die Ernie zunchmend von Mdhdrescham elngebracht.

Trotz der Induslrllalisierung und trotz des airfitbaren kulturellen Einflusses der aeit den ftinfziger Jahren in groiien Zahlen zugewanderten Chinesen hat i der Alllag to don SUidten und Dbrform noch viel von dent mlUclasiutisch-orlen- lalisdten Charakter bewahrt. Die wirt- sthaffllthe Uberalisierung in China hat hier sogar die tradltionulle Handels- und Basaralmosphirc wiedtrauflebcn lassen.

Wo einst das Sildtor der AJtstadt stand, ha ben Handler aus Khotan und K&Mhgnr lbre hqndgekniipflen Bauurn- loppidii' zum Vvrkauf ausgehingl. An dm' tfchaKhlik-siandun kann rttan

uigurisches Zwiebelbrot fell. Viele Ein- heimische haben jeder kleine Imbiff- stuben aufgemac^t, und der Lamm- flischgeruch mlt den Gcwtrldzdlften des Orients durchziehL die engen Altstadt- gassen mit den 'ebenerdigen Lehm- hausern.

Von aufien aehen die Wohnungen oft recht unschelnbar aus, und natUrlich fehlen die elementarsten saVtit&ren Ein- richtungen, aber die InnenhOfe und Wohnraume sind meist geschmadcvoll und recht gemutlich gesiallet. Das Ofen- bett 1st init dicken Teppichen und Filz- matten bclegt. Und in der Oasenstadt Turfan hat Jedes Haus einen von Weinreben umrankten und Oberdach- ten Vorgarten, Shnlich den Pergolen in Italien.

Die Miirkte bieten Weintrauben und Rosinen, Datteln und Feigen an.. Die islamischen Metzger hangen ihre ge- schlachteten Schafe und Ziegen mitten auf der StraBe zum Verkauf aus, wSh- rend gleich daneben ein glatzkOpfiger Barbler Haarschnltt, Bartpflege sowie Kopf- und Gesichtsmassage verpaffl.

Die alien Uiguren tragen immer noch ihre kleinen gestickten MUtzen, wf- hrend sich die Jungen in der Kleidung schon an das chinesische Vorbild an- gepa'Qt haben. Bei den Frauen 1st das tradilionelle Nationalkostlim von rus- slsch wirkenden Rbcken, Kniestrump- fen und Kopffilthern verdr&ngt. Ohr- ringe, Armreflon und llaarschmuck -

billlger PlaStikverslon — wer- !

'det\ nur von dan Moalem-Fraudn, nicht⁷ aber von den Chinettinnen, getragen.

. Und dann gibt.'ps noch die ganz ihlt- telalterlichen Typin' uralte Mttner mit langen BMrten und turbanihnllichen MUtzen auf dem Kopf, Kasachen zu Pferd, einen .vtlUlg sarlumpten ' 8lra- flenmualkanten. : « v»

Chinesen-alitd 'in dlesembuaten. Vfillkergemisch 4eher unaufflllig. In UrUmql wohnen tie, vor allem In den neueren Industryororten. Arbeiter, Busfahrer, Poatbeamte, Hotelangestellte und Staatakader find fast auaaachlieOlid

wiSr,Bd Ae Einheimischen dL_*5dlj,On*U*In der Land- m Kleinhandl und im Handwerk behemchen.

vi|r **Chine-** UDM m *L*ftd«'lnnervn- — wie "frr: wurd« « »«it

isso S_un.X.inJ***11Vur der Grun- dung der Volkarepublik maditen ale

kaum ein Zehntel dei' BevOlkening aus. heute steUrn «ie 41 Prozent. und auBcr In den Stkdien sind lie vor allem In den groflen Staatsfarmen konzentriert, die sclt den fUnfziger Johren als elne Art Wehrdrbrer Im Gronzgebiet errichtet wurden.

Anders als das sUdlJch gelegene Tibet hat Xinjing kaum eijje Tradition der Eigenstaatlichkeif, obwohl alch Isla- mlsche FUrsten auch hier gelegentlch von den.mSchUgen>fachbBrn zu ldsen versuchten. Aber aonsl blleb der heute von China verwaltete Tell Zentral- asiens, das einstige *Chlnesisch-Turke- stan", Immer vine PufTerzone zwisohen chinesischen und russisden Einflul- mphiren, wobei die Chinesen eindeutig auf die tradilionell engeren Bindungen verweisen konnten.

Chinesische Verwaltungsbearbeiter und Sledler sind achon aeit vielen Genera- tionen in dem Gebiet. Der russidte EinfluQ verstarke sich erst im 19. Jahr- hundert. In den Burgerkriegswirren der dreifiger und vierziger Jahre wurde Xinjiang dann proktisch ein sowjeti- aches Protektorat, und nach der Griin- dung der Chinesischen Volksrepublik halfen sowjetische Experten beim Auf- , bau von Verwaltung und Industrie.

Noch heute trifft man ein paar hun- ; dert Nachkommen russischer Handler und Handwerker, die in Xinjiang einst Geld und Abenteuer suchten Oder vor . der Aulorilal der Zarer\ flichteten muD- ten Und in Urumqi erinnern viele der neueren Hauser eher an Irkutsk Oder Charbarowsk als an Peking. • Mit dem Ende der-ehinesisch-sofc, lwjetischen Freundchaft ir.u3ten die 'Sow)ets dann gehen. Auslosendes Er-- eignis in Xinjiang war die Masbenflucht ,von 60 000 Kasachen aus dem lli-Grenz-^ gebiet In die benachbarten Sowjetrepu- bliken im Jahr 1962, fur die sowjetische Propaganda-ein Beweis der Unzufrie- denheit der islamischen Volker mit den chinesischen -Herren, fir Peking damals eine von. sowjetisdien Agitateren »n- gezettelte ProvoUation.'

Die sechs Moskauer Konsulate mu3- ten jedenfalls schlicDen.. - Schritt fir Schrltt wurde die Grenze dlchlgemacht, und dabei wurden auch Familien und traditonelle Bindungen zwisohen den _Angehorigen der gleichen. Nationalitii- ten auf belden Seiten der. Grenze aus- einandergerissen. Handel, Verkehr und Kulturaustausch kamen innerhalb ktir- zester Zeit villig zum Erliegcn.

Die einzige Kommunikationsverbin- dung, die heute geblieben 1st, 1st das sowjetische Postaulo, das dreimal wb- 'chentlich an die chinesische Grenze kommt, um Briefe und Pfickchcn aus- zutausdien. Ein paar hundert Bewoh- ncr Xinjiangs dfrfen Jedes Jahr zu ih- ren Verwandten in die Sowjetunlon 'reisen, umgekehrt glibt es kelen Be- suchsverkehr. In jedem Fall mtissen die Jtelsenden jedoch viele tausend Kilometer Umweg Uber Pekl: g in Kuuf nehmen.

In dor .Kulturrevolution* reidhten Freundschafts- und Verwandtschafts-

Gr?nt* •« um Jefnifc; und ..SpionMrt...
 *«*lemfiin i-onJ*1, en« ..SpionMrt...
 Hundeminc^{AwC>} n xln JluilG wurden II? tS' melsl recht
 willkUr-' hut m_{nn} MUjeidenschaf *ezogcn. Heute »es
 virtiuu eAer ein etwas entspannte- di»rfwJl' tn,s zum
 Nuchbnrslaal: Je-i funtanH in x^nJ'ang h6rt die
 Run5-. wh.Vr« d'wf. d'ir wntralasialiaehcn So-
 °Publlkvn, die ofTensichtlth cin
 rtij «rcASUu U n?s p.0B'Brm,n blcen als die
 auneaischen. Die Partei hat ea Inzwl-^ ^nen
 aufgegeben, den Empfang durch verbote zu
 unterbinden. Bel melnem^ m-sueh an der
 Xinjiung-Univer6ilit er- m'.- Engelsdi-Siudenten
 ohne ocncu, daO sie gernc das englische Pro-
 giamm von Radio Moskau horen und nUKi Sejl0n
 Radio Peking, weil es an- geblich „schwer zu
 empfangen" ist.

Auch Herr Rahim Bahir, der Vertre- ter des
 Nationalitatenkomitees, der mit mir iiber
 Minderheitenprobleme In Xinjiang diskutieren
 soil, ist etwas ent- tiuscht, daO ich nicht
 russisch spreche. Herr Bahir, ein stammiger,
 ganz und gar europaisch aussehender Usbeke
 im chinesischen Mao-Anzug, kommt aus der
 Grenzstadt Tachng. In der Kultur- revolution
 wurde er drei Jahre zur Arbeit in der
 Landwirtschaft gcschickt, weil seine Frau
 Kontakte zu ihren so- wjetisehen Verwandten
 unleihielt.

Trotzdem maclit Rahim Bahir den Eindruck
 eines durdiaus linientreuen Purleifunktionsars,
 dvr allerdings sehr uberlegt argumentiert. Auf
 meine Frage nach dem heuligen Verhiiltnis
 zwischen Chinesen und den islamisdien
 Minder- heiten legt er mir Zahlen vor: Ein hal-
 tibefi Dutzend nicht-chinesisdier Natio-
 eiallUten inachen heute etwa 60 Prozent
 derBevolkerung von Xinjiang aus, vor allem
 Uiguren und Kasuchen, die eine mit dem
 Tiirkischen verwur.dtc Sprache sprechen. Sie
 stellen auch 50 Prozent der Funklionare in der
 Autonomen Region Xinjiang. Prozentual sind
 das mehr als vor der kommunistisehen Macht-
 ergreifung, obwohl die Chinesen da- mals noch
 einen sehr geringen Anteil an der
 Gesamtbcvfilkerung stellten.

Mehrere tausend Angehorige der Minder-
 heiten studieren derzeit an den gro- Den
 Universitaten Chinas, und die Xinjiang-
 Univcrsitat in Oriimqi ' mit 3800 Studienien wird
 heute zweispra- diig — chinesisch und
 uigurisch — ge- fdhrt. Die Uiguren, Kasachen
 und an- deren Minderheiten werden in der
 Grundschule in ihren Nationalsprachcn
 unterrichtct, Presse und Rundfunk be- niitzen
 ebenfalls Uigurisch (die- „Xin- i jjang-
 Tageszeltung" ersdcint sogar in sechs
 verschiedenen Sprachen und Schriften), und
 demnächst soil das Uigurische sogar zur ersten
 offizlcllen Sorache der Region werden. Die
 mln- dcrheitenfeindliche Politik der Kultur-
 revolution sei heute (iberwunden, sagt Herr
 Bahir, die nach wie. vor beslehen- den
 Ungleichheiten hUtlcn vor allem tikononische
 Grinde, *kulturell und po- Utlsch bestchl
 Gleichberechtigung".

Nur gebe es ebon noch zuwenig Leh- rer
 Verwaltungsbeamte, Arztc und lu-

gtiilturi. abj 'den Minderheiten; doth ptah
 ael'aabei, die Nationalititen i In dlescr
 Hinsicht besonders zu fordern. Die
 Schwerpunkte der Autonomiepoli- tlk gingen In
 drei Richtungen; die „Na- tionalisicrung" der
 Verwaltung, die Durchsetzung des
 umfassenden Ge- brauchs der
 Minderheltenspraehen und die erweiterte
 wirtsdiatlische Selbst- vcrwaltung. Dcmnidist
 soli der Volks- kongrefl In Peking wieder ein
 Autono- mlestatut beschliessen, so wie es
 schon in den liinfzlgcr Jahren eines gab.

* Bel elnem unbeobachteten Gesprich mit elner
 Gruppe Junger Uiguren wird mir das Verhaltnis
 zwischen Minderheiten und Chinesen allerdings
 etwas weniger rosig dargestellt. Man ist sich
 zwar einig, daQ sich die Lage sehr ge-
 bessert hat. Aber es gibl eine ganze Reihe diinesischer
 Funklionare, die auf uns verkditlich
 herabschauen und die i .uns diskriminieren",
 sagt einer. Bei vie- • len wichtigen Behorden
 betrage der Anteil der Minderheiten an den
 Dienst- stellen nur 10—15 Piozent. Die Arbeits-
 • dmier und Einwohneramler seien v.on den Han-
 Chinesen kontrolliert, und s'ie verstuinden es audi
 sehr geschickt, da- mtt alle guten und
 inlercssinten Ar- beltsplatze an Jhresgleichen
 weilerzu- vermitteln. „Die Madit isl voll in- den
 Handen der Chinesen", sagt er.

Bei genauer Belrachlung lassen sich diese
 Machtverhaltnisse auch aus der Besetzung der
 obersten poliischen Or- gane ablesen: In der
 regionalen Volks- vertretung und in der
 ..Volksregierung" von Xinjiang stellen die
 Minaeil.eiten zwar den GroBteil der
 Fuhrungspositio?*ⁿ nen, 1m vi&rwuj-iigieren
 Parteikomitee; sitzen jedoch zwei Drittel
 Chinesen, der Vorsitzende ist , ein Chinese, und
 nur , zwei von 'hcht -Siellvertretem gehhren den
 regionalen Minderheiten — die in Xinjiang Ja die
 Mehrheit bilden — an.

In Peking wren in den letzten Mo- naten
 immer wieder BericMe von Na-
 .tionalitatenkonflikten in Xinjiang zu horen, sogar
 von Auseinandersetzungen zwischen
 uigurischcn und chinesischen Vertretern in der
 Regionalrcgierung. Im ' Mai eilte eine
 Parteiaelegulion mit dem starken Mann Deng
 Xiaoping an der Spitze nach Uriimqi, um die
 Wogen zu glatten.

'Audi die Uiguren in Xinjiang besta- tigen
 diesen schwelenden Nationaliti- . tenkonflikt,
 betonen aber, daB es noth zu keinen ernstern
 Zwisdienfallen ,ge- kommen ist. Ich flnde keine
 Anhalts- punkle fdr eine aktive oder gar bewaft-
 nele Untergrundbewegung, wie sie in der
 westliehen Presse manchr.ial berich- tet wurde. ,

Im Berelch del* Kultur, der Sprache, des
 Sdiulwesens und der Religion be- muht sich
 Peking siditlich, den Natio- nalltkten Xinjongs
 wieder groBen Spiel- l*aum filr ihre eigene
 Entwicklung zu geben. Um aber die
 Unzufriedenhcit nidit zu einem polttischen
 Konflikt werden zu lassen, missen sie wohl
 iiber kurz oder lang auch die Ma< it teilen.

im-

■ die
n

ASIA -SETTLERS IN XINJIANG

„ „ Munich, Deo. 21 - (CUD/EC) - following report by Helmut Oplei (Urutnqi) appeared in today's FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU (left-lib) tit. "Fine neue Heimat 1st Xinjiang noch nicht" ' "

Das Berg- und WUstenland Xinjiang mit 5000 Kilometer Grenze zur Sowjet-union, zur Mongolei, zu Pakistan und Afghanistan ktnnte ein chinesisches Alaska sein. Aua der Steppe aprudelt Erdtil, im Boden achlummern noch kaum erschlossene Vorkommen an Kohle und Edelmetallen, Jade und Kri- atall, in den endlosen Wtisten und Wfil- dern verbergen sich die letzten Wild- pferde und ungczahmten Kamele dieser Erde, und in den Altai-Bergen im Nor- den, so berichte- te kOrzlich die lokale Presse, 1st sogar der Goldrausch ausge- brochen.

Xinjiang besitzt die zweitiefste und die zweithdehste Stelle der Erde. — die Turfan-Senke 154 Metrr unter dem Meeresspccgel, ' und den _ 8610 _Meter i hohen Tschagorl / K T im Karakorum- .fybiege. Auf diesem SeChSTel der Land- ^?asse Chinas — grofler als Deutschland, Italien, Frankreich und GroBritannien zusammen — leben nur 12 Millionen Menschn. Doch die natlrlichen Vor- ausseuungen fur eine florierende Ent- wicklung sind vorhanden. Zwar sind weite Flächen von Wiislen bedeckt, trotzdem gibt es Wasser in UberfuMe: Die Schneeschmelze im .Tianshan" — den Himmelsbergen, wie die Chinesen die Gebirgskctte nennen, die Xinjiang durchzivht — fillt jedes Jahr von neuem die unterirdischen Naturreser- voirs, und an vielen Stellen quillt das kostbare NaO ganz von selbst aus dem sonst unwirtschaftlichen Boden.

Kein gelobtes Land

■ DaB Xinjiang dennoch nicht das ge- lobte Land lit und einige Landsfrliche sogar zu den armen Regionen Chinas (und damit der Welt) zahlen, dazu haben Mangel an ArbeitskrSften und Kapital wesentlich beigetragen.

Dem Menschcnhandcl versuchte ma seit den funfziger Jahren mit der .tnsiedlung von Millionen Jugendlichen aus den ubervolkerten Stadt- und Agrnrrgioncn Ost- und Zentralchinas zu begegnen. Die unerschlossenen Ol- urid Mineralienvorkommen will China , im Zuge seiner Politik der wirtschaft- lichen Offnung jetzt mit Hilfe west- licher Konzerne erkunden und nutzbar machen. In den Hotels dor Provinz- hauptstndl Urumqi begegnet man heute nicht mchr reisenden orientalischen Handlern, sondern Geologen und Olpro- spektoren aus Frankreich und Amerika.

Doch Geld und Mangel an Fachleuten ind nicht Chinas einzige Sorgen bei der ErschlieBung seines Wllden Westens. Auch die bodenstiindlfc Bevtilkerung 1st keinesfalls immer entzUckt Uber die chU nesische Zuwanderung und Uberfrem- dung. DaO die neuen Staatsfarmen und Industriebetriebe Land in Besitz neh- mcri, das ursprunglich Lebensraum und Weidcgbiet der einheimischen Uiguren und K.isachen war (und von Entschldi- gungen ist in der sozialistischen Gesell- achaft dabri keine Rede), das sind keine Thrown dor bffontlichen Diskussion, aber iinmerhin Probleme: In einer Suatsfarm am Rand der Dsungarischen

Wiisse erfahre ich, doO hler auch elnmal „ein\paar Dutzend" Uiguren gesiedelt hatten, klelne Felder bebauten imd ihr Vieh weldeten. Als die Chinesen kamen, hklte das Militfir das Land requiriert, die Uiguren rnUBten weg und wurden drclBig Kilometer weiter neu angesie- deli.

Unmut unter Siedlern

Doch auch. unter den ehinesischen Neulandpionieren hat sich Unmut breit- gemacht: die ersten Siedler aus dem Osten waren demobilisierte Soldaten und Junge Bauern, fur die sich in den neuerschlossenen Gebieten Aufstiegs- chancen und Lebensmdglichkeiten er- Offneten, die sie anderswo nie htitten linden kbnnen. Sie sind verstndlicher- weise zufriedener. Doch seit den sechziger Jahren kamen nur mehr Funktlen&re, ausgebildete Fachkrffte und jugend- liche Mittelschulabftnger aus den Mil- lionenstaden an der 4000 Kilometer fer- hen Kiiste. Bei ihnen wich der anfang- liche Enthusiasmus bald den Klagen iiber Kiima, Entbehrungen, achlechte Vorsorgung und mangelndes Kulturange- bot.

Viele chinesische Funktionre, die man in Xinjiang trifft, haben um RÖck- ver.setzung nach Oslchina nachgesucht, und Hunderttausende Jugendliche, die zu Beginn der „Kulturrevolution" Maos Aufruf gefolgt waren, .in die Berge und aufs Land" zu gehen und das Grenzge- biet zu befestigen, haben in den letzten Jahren ihre Rtlckkehr in die Stadt be- trribcn.

Im November 1980 brachen in SUd- xinjiang aogar achwere Unruhen aus, Zebntausende erzwangen mit elnem Strck ihre Repatriierung nach Shang- hai. Doch die Zentralregierung in Peking firchtete um 30 Jahre Aufbau- und ErschlieOungsarbeit und machte die Erlaubnis wieder rllckgangig. Und auch die unter Wohnungsnot und ArbeiU- platzemangel leidenden KUstenstfide dachten gar nicht daran, die RUckkehr- willigen aufzunehmen. Viele hatten in Xinjiung schon Hab und Gut verkauft und muOten schlieBllich doch wieder schweren Herzens In ihre Staatsfarmen in der Wiiste zurtck.

Zwei Reglerungs- und ZK-Delegatlo- nen kamen aus Peking angereist, um die GemiiUr zu beruhigen. Nur filr elnon ganz kleincn Tell erlauben die ncuc*n Ausnahmeregclungen in besonderen HartefUuen die Riickkehr In die Stadt.

Von Urimqi aus habe Ich die Erlaubnis bekommen, eine dieser Neulandzonen, 150 Kilometer westlich der Provinz- hauptstadt, zu besuchen. Die kleine Stadt Shihezi ist Verwaltungssitz eine* 7000 Quadratkilometer groQen Gcbictcs hnii 600 000 Einwohnern. 96,6 Prozent davon sind Han-Chinesen, also seit don fUnfziger Jahren angesiedelte Zuwande- rer aus dem ehinesischen Kernland.

Die vicrbtilndige Busfuhr durch die Wiislen und Sleppen um nrdlichen Ab- hang des Tianshan ist eintbnig. Einzige Abwechslung sind die erdbrunen

Mauerreste aufgegebener Festungsanla- gen, die einst die Kamelkarawanen ins wesliche Turkestan schiitzen sollten., Auch Shihezi — der thinesische Name bedeutet „Steinfluo" — war vor dreiflig Jahren wlldzerfurchtes Odland. Heute ist es eine griine Oase mit ObslgSrten, 40 000 Kilometern BewSsserungsanla- gen, Fischtcichen und mehr als 100 000 Bitumen. * * *

Zuerst kamen Sojdaten

. Die ersten ehinesischen Siedler waren 11 J50—aemobinslgrte „Einheile'a der i .VolksEelraungsarmee" Uhd Aogehb-. ' Hge flyr yyUtlidgenen Kuominiang- "TruppCtr'Dhne "Maschnen, nur mtt SchaUfeln, Militkrpferden und Men- • achenkraft schufen tie die erste Siad- lung und legten Felder an. Bei minus drelQlg G/ed im ersten Winter muflten sie sich in H6hlen eingraben, um nicht zu erfrieren.

Als in der groQen Umsiedlungskam- pagne der funfziger Jahre Hunderttau- sende weitere Siedler kamen, entwarf die Regierung einen Plan, aus Shihezi ein „Klein-Peking" zu machen: Mit Parks und Prachtbauten, kiinstlichen Seen und alien Annehmlichkeiten einer groQen Stadt. Ein rechteckiger GrundriB wurde ausgelegt, breite Alleen entstan- den Gebaudeanlagen, Parks, sogar ein Zoo.

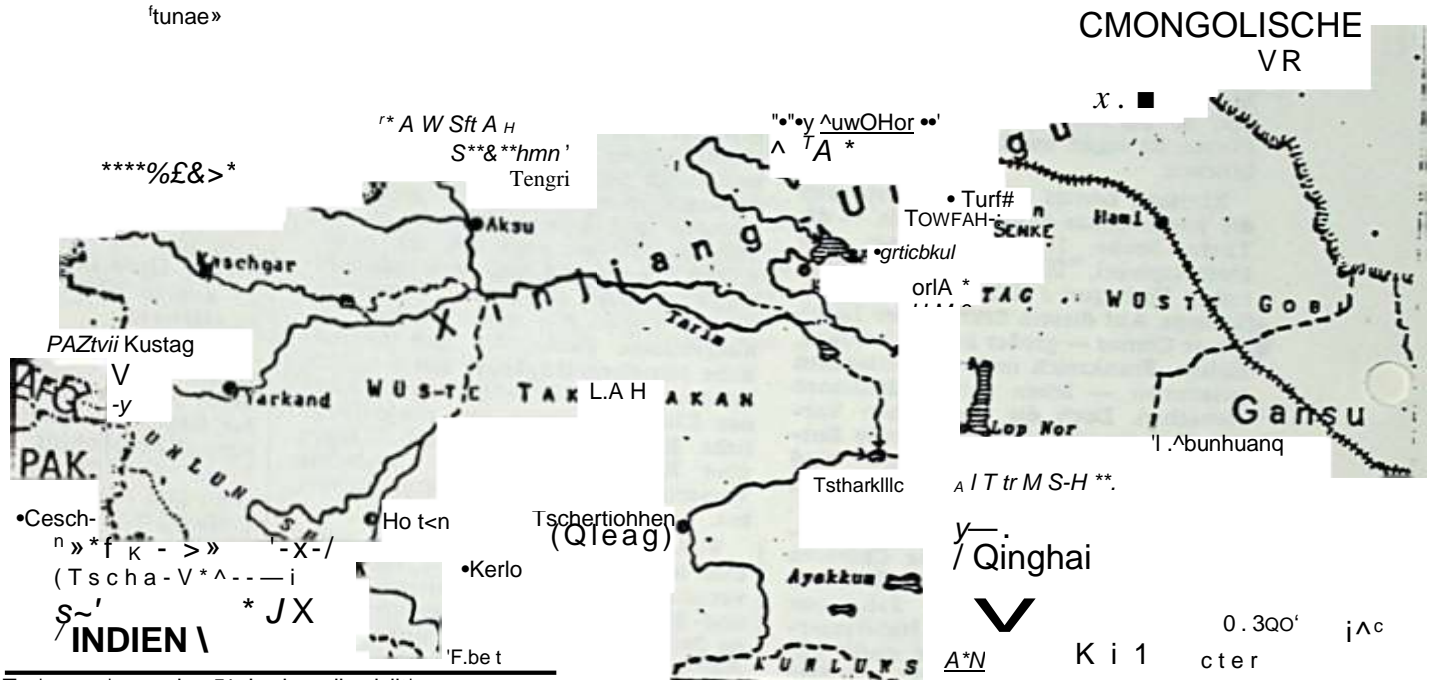
Das Chaos und der „revolutk>n8re* Ubereifer der Kulturrevolution haben die Trkume dor Architekten und Siedler zur.ichte gemacht. In die Garten wurden unter dem Motto „alles fur die Produk- tion“ umweltverpestende Kleiniabriken gebaut, die 'Parks verdorrien, und die Tiere im Zoo galten als biirgerlicher Unfug und wurden einfach erschlagen. Heute sind die schSnsten Pffitze verun- staltet, und es fehlt das Geld, um an dem Projckt weilerzumachen. So zeigt sich Shihezi wie eine durchschnittliche Kleinstadt in der chinesischen Provinz.

In einer Weintraubenplanlagic der „Zentralen Slaatsfrnm Shihezi" werde ich sechs jungen Leuten vorgestolli, die alle zwischcn 1964 und 196S aus Shanghai und Peking nach Xinjiang gekom- men sind — toils freiwillig und mit gro- Bern Enthusiasmus, sagen sie, tells auch, weil es fiir die Mittelschulabgenger damals gar keine andere Mbghchkeit gab.

Die „Jugendltchen" sind Inzwischen 32 bis 38 Jahre alt, arbeiten als Lohrer, Traktormchaniktr, lundwirtschaftliche Facharbeiter Oder in der Verwaltung, sind durchwegs verheiratet und haben Kinder, die hler geboren wurden und Inzwischen auch hier die Schulbank drticken.

Nur der Verantwortliche der Gruppe, Herr Qiao, hat eine andere Lebncsge- schichie: Er war ein kleiner Armeeoffi- zier und wurde nach seiner Ausmuste* rung als Verwaltungsbeamter hier her geschickt; denn obwohl Shihezi vor fUnf Jahren von der paramilit&risrhen Filh- rung durch das „Aufbaukorps**" dvr regulkren Zivilverwaltung unterstellt wurde, haben die chomaligen Militars

OWJETUNK)N



T> *>»«*c warden 5^ J• • h m die ziviit*
 Führung übernommen *v •*n %r.! iC,di iHnier noeh
 von Komn i- Zute" Vnd regimentern, und die
 f. ••*.u'niiirc ,rtSi50n Ach weiterhin mit i. rer. einsligen
 militiirischen Titeln an- jvden.

DM- srehs jungen Manner und Frauen
 wisai.-n. da/3 sie wohl den Rest ihres Lobens in
 Xinjiang verbringen werden. ilie h:brn sich
 sichtlich d.imit abge/un- d= !*, und sie versudien.
 sich ihre Um- v.eit so angncnm wie inoglich zu
 ge- sljMi'ii, auch wynn sie mit ihren Herzen Kg.ir
 nael) inehr ills 15 Juhren noeh an 11 ivv alien
 Heimat hiingen.

Lci/.ten Kndes seien die Lebensbedin-
 gungen in Xinjiang heute gar nicht so selikeht,
 sageri sie. Ja. zwischen 1075 ui.d 1 i>77 ha tie
 es grofle Versorgungs- pi obieieuc gegeben, wjrfl
 einer ein. Vide Mon.ile konnte man uberhaupt
 kein F»ei?..h kauhn, doeh heute sei das An-
 g. boi on Lebensmitteln besser und bilker als
 etwa In Peking und In Shang-

h. ii. Nur fur Industrieprodukte und Guter des
 tagllchen Bedarfs misse mun etwas mehr
 bezahien. cine Packung Zigaretten sei sum
 Beispiel drel Fen /u(r Pfennig) tourer als tn
 Peking, d ,fu- bekame man hier auch beasere
 ten die In den GroQstidten norma- » gar nicht zu
 haben sind. Und rtrrdom sclen die L6hnc in
 Xinjiang ^ M b£ 3oX«n. hr.hr. .1. In. (ibr-
 eeii China.

Dunn beglennen allerdings auch achon . vfhza.
 Au/ begehrte Produkte wie d . K fiiiicn Fahrfrlder
 Oder prels- N¹¹ KSn ehgeriite misse man
 endJos MXn bis zu zwei Jahren lanlle hmHI Soil
 kurzem gibt es rinen

pin ncnmai.

•Fernseher. Aber das Programm kiinn
 nicht dirckt bbernommen werden. Die
 Sendeblinder miissen mit dem Auto aus der
 Provinzhauptstadt tJriim«il her-
 gebracht werden, und so tst das Pro-
 gramm immer eintge Tage, oft sogar einige Wochen alt,
 einschlieQlich der Nachrichten.

Wohnungen noeh primitiver

Die Wohnverhaitnlisse seien sogar im
 Vrgleich zu den beengten GroQstaden mies.
 ..Angenommen Ich will mir eine
 Waschmaschine kaufen, und es wirde ntr
 sogar gelingen, dann hStte ich nicht einmal
 FlieDwasser, um sie anzuschlie- Oen", sagte
 einer. Hclzungen, Kochgele- genheiten und
 Bademoglichciten sind tiuDerst prtmiltv. .Man
 muQ sehr viel Zcit /Ur die Hausarbeit
 verwenden und hat kaum Zcit /Ur sich selbst.
 Zum Fern- sehen komme tch gar nicht", klagt
 ein junger Lchrer. Genauso wie die moisten
 undren Ehepaare auf der Slaats/arm hat uuch
 er etnes seiner Kinder zu den Grolleltern nach
 Shanghai geschickt, um sich die liausarbeit ein
 wenig zu er- lichter, und wohl auch, um die
 Bin- dung an die ulle Heimat damll aufrecht-
 zuerhaltn und dem Kind viellcicht die Chance
 zu geben, selbst wieder in der. Stadt Full zu
 lassen.

Wer vurheiratet 1st und mit dem Ehe-
 purlncr zusammen wohnt, erhilt nur elninal allc
 vler Jahrc rinen Monat Ur- laub und vom Staut
 das Heisegeld, um

seine Eltern — und das Kind — zu besu- chen.
 Dazwischen kann man auch unbe- zalilten
 Urlaub nehmen, aber eine Bahnreise nach
 Shanghai — hin und zu- rUck /Ur drei
 Personen — kostet einer halben
 durchschnittlichen Jahreslohr. Wer nicht von
 den Verwar.dten aus Shanghai einen ZuschuD
 bekommt. kann sich den zusStzlichen Besuch
 in der Heimat nicht leisten.

; Noth schlimmer, so er28hlen sie mir, seien die
 Jugendlichen dran, die nact SildxInjiang
 verschickt wurden, f wo es 1m letzten Jahr
 auch zu Streiks und Unruhen gekommen war
 Dort betragen die Einkommen nur 4C Yuan (50
 Mark) Im Monat — wShrend die Lehrer und der
 Traktormechanikei in Shihezi /asl das Doppelte
 verdienen —, und von den Staatsfarmen im
 Sucif.i brauche man fast eine Woche, um mil
 dem Bus nur in die Provtnzhaupisludi zu reisen.

168 F- 132

Einige hundert gingen

-Einige hundert", heißt es, hätten in den letzten Monaten auch aus Shihezi in die Städte zurückkehren dürfen. Nur wer seine betagten Eltern pflegen mußte oder seiner kranken Mutter, konnte nach den neuen Bestimmungen dazu die Erlaubnis erhalten.

Mit den sechs Jungen Leuten wanderte ich dann noch eine Stunde durch ihr „Dorf“ — eine Art Gemeindezentrum für die Staatsfarm mit Geschäften und Dienstleistungsbetrieben, einer Medizinstation, Buchladen, Freiluftkino und Sportplatz. Allein in Shihezi gibt es einige Dutzend solcher Zentren, die alle durch regelmäßige Linienbusse verbunden sind. Man hat sich allenthalben Mühe gegeben, hier in der Wüste, 4000 Kilometer von Peking und Shanghai, die materiellen Annehmlichkeiten zurückzubringen, ebensogut wie im übrigen China, womöglich sogar noch besser, zu gestalten. Das Gefühl des Zuhause-Seins konnte den mit Enthusiasmus und Ideen nach Xinjiang gekommenen Pionieren jedoch noch nicht vermittelt werden.

1/2/81

PEKING (UPfI) - IN BER VON IMHEHPOLITISCHEH SPRNNUNGEN
GEKENNZEICHNETEH NORBWESTCHINESISCHEN GRENZREGIOH XINJIANG
(SINKIANG) 1ST PfiRTEI CHEF WANG FENG SEINES POSTERS ENTHOEEEN MGRBEN,
WIE DIE PRRTEIRHTLICHE~TEKINGE~UOLKSZEITUNG" AN DIENTRIG EERICHTETEI
HAT DIE CHINESISCHE FuHRUNG DEN 69 JAHRE ALTEN JIRNG ENH0R7RLS NEUEN
ERSTEN PRRTEISEKRETfir EIlIGESSETZT, WANG EHHffITFORIERTE~IN EI HER REDE
UOR FUNKTIONfiRENi HIE REGION XINJIANG ZU EINEM FESTEN EOLLHERK GEGEN
SOWJETISCHES UORGEHEN III NORDHESTEN CHINAS ZU HACHEN. XINJIANG. HO
•.SICH AuCH DAS CHINESISCHE ATUTKJtRSliC'HSGELfINDE EEFINDET. GRENZT AN
DIE SOHJETUNION. AN AFGHANISTAN. PAKISTAN UND INDIEN.

DER NEUE PARTE I CHEF TEILTE NIT. DIE CHINESCSCHEN FUHKTIONfiRE
SOLLTEN NOCH LANGERE ZEIT IN XINJIANG RREEITEN UND DEN ANGEH5RIGEH DER
ANDEREN IN DER REGION LEEENDEN NRTIONRI.TTfitFH „HIT I FIR HMD SEELE DIENEN-
, ES CEDE GuNSTIGE DORRUSSETZUNGEN FOR DIE —ffffincriIM'litR REGION, DGCH RUF
DEN WEGE DGRTHIH SEI NOCH HIT

HWIERigKEI TEN UND HINDERHISSEN ZU RECHNEN.

IN XINJIANG 1ST ES WIEDERHQLT ZU SPRNNUNGEN ZUISCHEN DEN
NATIONAieIJJJOERHEITEH UND DENJUS ANDEREN TEILEN DER D0LKSREPU11IK
ANGESIEDELTEN CHINE SEN GEKOHHEH. DOR' ALLEN HEGET DER STMEGISCHEH BED
EDITING DEN^GBOST' Ilit PEKIHGER FuHRUNG UN EENE AUSS5HNUNG ZUISCHEN DEN
JE06LKERUNGSGRUPPEN BEHQHT. DEN NATIONRLEN HINDERHEITEN WURDEM IN DER
LETZTEN ZEIT UQN PEKING HEHR POLITISCHES ! TSPRACKERECHT UND EIfie
DERBESSERUNG DER HIRTSCHAFTLICHEN URGE z u G E S A t r r : — -

IL`

> V



•• 'Vr: ISP. ■:• :•'v'•.

In Himalayas

'U.S. made base, China runs it'

PARIS, Jan. 3 (Agencies) — A French general Sunday scoffed at Tokyo newspaper reports alleging that the United States has been running a military base in China for reconnaissance and communications purposes, but said that Washington did have a hand in building the base.

Gen. Georges Buis, in a French radio interview, said that the Americans had collaborated in the "installation of electronic-listening equipment in the Himalaya Mountains, but that only the Chinese had the equipment. Therefore, the base cannot be said to be an American military observation and communications post," he said.

N *
N The Tokyo daily *Yorruun'sHimbun* had reported Sunday that Japanese government and defense agency sources had confirmed the existence of the base near Lop Nor in western China. The base was designed mainly for monitoring Soviet military activities such as nuclear experiments, the paper said.

Gen. Buis said the Chinese built the base largely because of the deployment of a large number of Soviet SS-20 Missiles along its border. Such collaboration between China and the U.S. began in 1978, but was stepped up following the downfall of the Shah of Iran, the general said. The U.S. had been monitoring Soviet activity from Iran until the Islamic revolution. Gen. Buis said there were indications last June that the Soviet Union was

growing of the has-

The report quoted government sources as saying that in official queries to Peking the Chinese government would neither confirm nor deny the report but left the unspoken impression that the bases exist.

In a visit to Peking last June U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that the United States would consider supplying arms to China and agreed to closer defense ties between the two countries. Sino-U.S. relations have cooled recently, however, over Peking's opposition to proposed U.S. weapons sales to Nationalist China.

The account also said the United States and China have been secretly negotiating about a U.S. request to allow the U.S. 7th Fleet to make port calls on Dalian in northeast China. It said government officials had heard from third-country sources that the 7th Fleet, based in Yokosuka, Japan, is interested in Dalian as a port to take on water and food.

Japanese officials were not available for comment, and a U.S. embassy spokesman said he had no information on the newspaper report.

NBC and the *Africa World* in June that two U.S. embassies had been set up in China. The Chinese government responded at the time by saying "We have never heard of it."

u,-)*/)£>



FF100
WSH046

091822/82

ASIA - PORTRAIT OF AN ETHNIC RUSSIAN IN CHINA REFLECTS TWISTS IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, JUNE 9 (SPECIAL) - THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY FRANK CHINS APPEARED IN TODAY'S WALL STREET JOURNAL:

A7* **

URUMQI, CHINA - TAMARA MICHAILOVNA SHI IS A MEMBER OF A VANISHING RACE IN CHINA - THE RUSSIANS.

* THE RUSSIANS IN XINJIANG ARE RECOGNIZED AS A DISTINCT MINORITY NATIONALITY, THE SMALLEST OF THE 13 NATIONALITIES INHABITING THIS VAST REGION BORDERING THE SOVIET UNION. THEY ARE THE REMNANTS OF A POPULATION THAT NUMBERED 250,000 IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY DURING THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION.

«OVER THE YEARS, MOST HAVE BEEN REPATRIATED TO THE SOVIET UNION. OTHERS HAVE MIGRATED TO AUSTRALIA OR OTHER COUNTRIES. AND MANY OF THOSE WHO REMAIN, LIKE TAMARA, ARE GRADUALLY LOSING THEIR DISTINCTIVENESS THROUGH INTERMARRIAGE WITH CHINESE.

THE 1953 CENSUS SHOWED 23,000 ETHNIC RUSSIANS IN CHINA. AS RECENTLY AS 1965, CHINA'S OFFICIAL "PEOPLE'S HANDBOOK" SHOWED 9,700 RUSSIANS IN XINJIANG. NOW, 17 YEARS LATER, ONLY 1,500 ARE LEFT IN XINJIANG, THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF RUSSIANS IN CHINA.

ACCORDING TO TAMARA, HER FATHER WAS A POOR CHINESE MAN FROM ZHEJIANG PROVINCE WHO WENT TO THE SOVIET UNION TO SEEK A BETTER LIFE. THERE, HE "ACCEPTED REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS AND JOINED THE REVOLUTION." THERE, TOO, HE MET TAMARA'S MOTHER, A MUSCOVITE.

BECAUSE SHE WAS SERIOUSLY ILL AT THE TIME, AND THE SOVIET UNION WAS IN TUMULT, HE BOUGHT HER BACK TO CHINA FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT, AND THEY SETTLED DOWN IN XINJIANG. THERE, TAMARA AND HER SISTER WERE BORN.

TO SOME EXTENT, THE LIVES OF TAMARA AND OTHER RUSSIANS IN CHINA REFLECT THE TWISTS AND TURNS IN THE SINO-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP.

TAMARA WAS BORN DURING WORLD WAR II AND GREW UP IN TACHENG AND ILI, NEAR THE SOVIET BORDER, WHEN CHINA AND RUSSIA WERE FAST FRIENDS. WHEN SHE WAS 16 YEARS OLD, TAMARA WENT TO URUMQI TO ATTEND THE XINJIANG METALLURGICAL INSTITUTE. THE SCHOOL WAS JOINTLY RUN BY CHINESE AND RUSSIAN EXPERTS, AND THE CLASSES WERE TAUGHT IN RUSSIAN.

BY THE TIME SHE GRADUATED IN 1960, CRACKS WERE BEGINNING TO APPEAR IN THE FACADE OF SINO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP. TWO YEARS LATER, WHEN CHINA WAS IN AN ECONOMIC DEPRESSION, 60,000 PEOPLE CROSSED THE BORDER TO THE SOVIET SIDE. THE CHINESE ACCUSED THE SOVIET UNION OF INSTIGATING THE EXODUS, AND OF FANNING UP ANTI-CHINESE SENTIMENT AMONG THE BORDER POPULACE. ALL THREE SOVIET CONSULATES IN XINJIANG - IN URUMQI, ILI AND KASHGAR - WERE ORDERED CLOSED. THE SINO-SOVIET DISPUTE HAD BEGUN IN EARNEST.

TAMARA WAS LESS AFFECTED BY THESE CHANGES THAN MOST RUSSIANS IN XINJIANG, PERHAPS BECAUSE BOTH HER FATHER AND HER HUSBAND WERE CHINESE. SHE AVOIDED INVOLVEMENT IN POLITICS, BURYING HERSELF IN HER STUDIES, FIRST IN GEOLOGY AND LATER IN LINGUISTICS. SHE IS NOW A RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE TEACHER AT XINJIANG UNIVERSITY.

DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, MANY RUSSIANS WHO HELD SOVIET PAPERS HID THEIR DOCUMENTS AS XENOPHOBIA SWEEPED THE LAND. "WE STOPPED ALL CORRESPONDENCE WITH RELATIVES IN THE SOVIET UNION AS SOON AS THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION STARTED," TAMARA SAID. THOSE TIES HAVEN'T BEEN REVIVED. HER FAMILY APPARENTLY DIDN'T SUFFER ANY OTHER HARDSHIP. SOME RUSSIANS SAY THEY SPENT LONG PERIODS IN PRISON WITHOUT ANY TRIAL DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. (PTO)

TL

WJ
WSH047

091824/82

ASIA "(<1)%?25T5AIT OF AN ETHNIC RUSSIAN IN CHINA REFLECTS TWISTS IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

CIWYIJS! * * * HOW MANY RUSSIANS IN XINJIANG MAY STILL HOLD SOVIET CONQUI ED A£;JHE SOVIET EMBASSY HASN'T BEEN PERMITTED TO SEND THAT Q£5CI5SP.SNEL TO XINJIANG FOR ALMOST TWO DECADES. TAMARA SAID NPwro A5L2F HER ERIENDS MAY STILL HOLD SOVIET DOCUMENTS, BUT SHE HAS -• -TucASKfP,r-THEM ABOUT THIS.
TM nVur-2HINESE HAVE PERMITTED RUSSIANS IN XINJIANG TO JOIN RELATIVES nvco ViRJ\$U(!TRIES. maNY HAVE GONE TO AUSTRALIA, WHICH HAS ACCEPTED «n5 IP.1000 IN THE LAST FEW DECADES. LAST YEAR, ABOUT 100 RUSSIANS FR0M CHINA MIGRATED TO AUSTRALIA. ' . TAMARA AND HER FAMILY, HOWEVER, ARE UNLIKELY TO LEAVE. HER HUSBAND1** rJ?I0LOGIST; IS A COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBER. AND THEIR THREE CHILDREN WERE ALL BORN IN CHINA. THOUGH THE CHILDREN ARE ONLY ONE-QUARTER RUSSIAN, THEY CHOSE TO BE OFFICIALLY CATEGORIZED AS MEMBERS OF THE RUSSIAN MINORITY.

TAMARA SAYS THE OLDER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY STILL CELEBRATE FEASTS SUCH AS CHRISTMAS AND EASTER, DURING WHICH THE EMIGRES BAKE SPECIAL CAKES AND COOKIES, EXCHANGE GIFTS AND CARDS AND DYE EASTER E6GS.

"THESE MAY SOUND LIKE SUPERSTITIOUS PRACTICES," TAMARA SAID, SOMEWHAT DEFENSIVELY, "BUT ACTUALLY THEY HAVE BECOME NATIONAL CUSTOMS."

SHE SAID SOME MEMBERS OF THE RUSSIAN COMMUNITY STILL EXCHANGE THE TRADITIONAL EASTER GREETING WHEN THEY MEET: "CHRIST IS RISEN!" FOLLOWED BY THE AUTOMATIC RESPONSE; "HE IS TRULY RISEN!"

THOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR CLASHES. ALONG XINJIANG'S 1,800 MILE pnRnFR WITH THE SOVIET UNION SINCE 1969, RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO roiINTRIES REMAIN TENSE. THERE ARE ABOUT 10 DISPUTED AREAS ALONG THE RORDER TOTALING 10.800 SQUARE MILES.

TAMASA SAYS SHE LISTENS TO SOVIET BROADCASTS BECAUSE SHE ENJOYS THE MUSIC AND OTHER CULTURAL PROGRAMS. BUT SHE DOESN'T CARE FOR THE 0

PR2cApnR°THE QUARREL BETWEEN HER MOTHER'S HOMELAND AND THAT OF HER .-ATUCD TAMARA SAYS: "MY VIEWS ARE THE SAME AS THOSE OF THE CHINESE F!£2D5JIFNT I THINK EVERY COUNTRY SHOULD HAVE ITS INDEPENDENCE. I **THINK** THE SOVIET PEOPLE ARE VERY GOOD, VERY LIVELY." - 30-/AR 1210

TL

• from U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, MARCH 8, 1982

! -"Life Around the World

Peking's "New Frontier": Where China, Russia Vie

Life is hard in Xinjiang, a rugged region of deserts, mountains—and great potential wealth. With the Soviets looking over their shoulders, the Chinese are out to make it a land of plenty.

URUMQI, China

Picture a place so hot in summer that fresh eggs buried in the soil bake hard in minutes, so isolated that it may take seven days to get a newspaper, so fierce of winds that faces of the southful aie lined like those of the middle-aged.

Improbable as it may seem, this harsh land also is a prize owned by Peking and coveted by Moscow—an age-long gateway to China that is rich in oil, coal and minerals.

Xinjiang means "New Frontier." And in many ways, the remote territory is the Wild West of China, an area of jagged mountains, forbidding deserts and nomadic herdsmen.

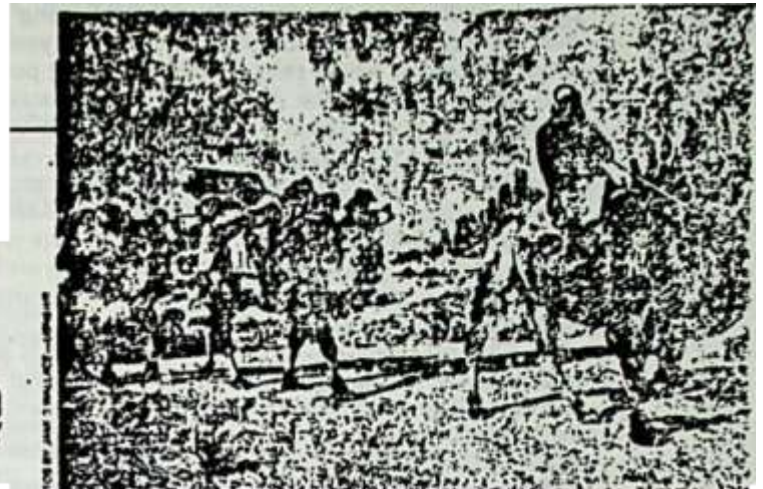
Lying almost in the heart of Asia, the autonomous region of Xinjiang, once known as Sinkiang, is where China confronts restless ethnic and religious minorities, a long and hostile Soviet border and the challenge of creating farms and industry amid grim climate and landscape.

Through this land ran the old Silk Road, the main artery between China and the West-20 centuries ago. Alexander the Great's armies marched here. Marco Polo also was a visitor.

Now, for its 12.8 million people scattered across a region bigger than Alaska, life is rugged and rewarding. Thanks to allowances averaging 25 percent of basic pay, salaries are the highest in China. Fast-paced economic growth quickly pushes talented young people into responsible jobs.

Xinjiang's deserts bloom when surprisingly abundant underground water—tapped from aquifers fed by snowcapped mountains—is brought to the surface. But working here means enduring dust storms, arctic winters and relentless winds. In the Turfan depression, the second-lowest spot in the world at 501 feet below sea level, midsummer temperatures stay above 100 degrees for 40 to 50 straight days.

Although Xinjiang has been ruled by China for over 2,000 years, it is not Chinese in appearance or even outlook. People talk about the rest of China as "inland" and seldom ask for leaves to go there, despite reasonable good



Camel caravan. Despite 2,000 years of Chinese rule, Xinjiang's 13 different minorities hang on to ancient traditions.

air and rail services. Two-humped camels pulling wagon-loads of cotton hardly fit any image of rice-paddy China. Neither does the babble of Turkic-speaking people.

"To us Chinese, the people here seem very different," says Xie Liangying, director of the provincial foreign-affairs bureau here in Urumqi, the capital. "The women look almost Western in their pretty dresses. The bread they make from local flour is much too sweet for our taste." The reason is that 55 percent of the people are not Chinese. Thirteen "national minorities" live here, mixing cultural traditions ranging from those of Kazakh herdsmen to Russians who drifted in after the 1017 revolution.

The biggest single group is nearly 5.8 million Uyghurs, who slightly outnumber the ethnic Chinese, called Hans locally. Almost all Hans are newcomers

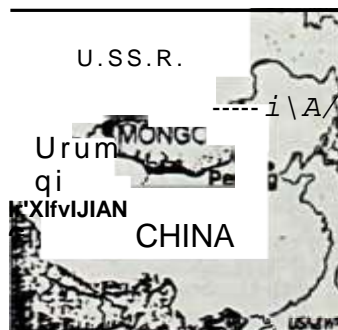
since the Communists came to power in 1949. Other major groups are 870,000 Kazakhs, 560,000 Hui and 100,000 Mongols. Since 1950, Peking has moved large numbers of demobilized soldiers, "educated urban youth" and other Chinese into the area. This was partly to provide technicians for economic development but far more to "stabilize" a region of doubtful loyalty, coveted by Russia and sometimes, as in the 1930s, influenced and infiltrated by Soviet agents.

Embarrassing incident. Peking's handing of minorities in Tibet and Mongolia, as well as

Xinjiang, has always been complicated. In Imperial times, Xinjiang was considered more barbarian than most places. The capital was called Dilwa, roughly translated as "place where people are stupid." The name Urumqi is an exercise in cosmetics. It is a Mongol word meaning "beautiful pastures," though the closest green fields are many miles distant.

Under Mao Tse-tung, despite posters showing the "great helmsman" embracing minority men and women, the policy was to homogenize minorities by repressing languages, customs and culture. This, plus Soviet agitation triggered the flight of more than 600,000 Kazakhs across the border into Russia in 1962, an incident that still embarrasses Peking and gives Moscow propaganda material.

Things got even worse during the 1966-76 "cultural revo-





life around the world (2)

people religion of more than 4 million
da" «K Was savagely attacked along with "feu-
Moslem 11 Fanatic Red Guard youths forced
and V ose religion forbids eating pork, to raise
writ* !k Arabic-like cursive script used to
... Uyгур language was arbitrarily replaced with a
1 could not read.
01 affirmative-action program, reopening uml often repair-
nig some 12,QUO mosques at government expense and as-
suring ininonnes an extra share for etlucatiou and jol*,,

Minority youths can take college and tc<
exams in their own languages and study at technical-school
the Chinese need At Xinjiang Univ lower marks
get a degree taking only courses taught
Few rank in party. Minorities are well represented among
local & firmstrative Jonties are well repi

..... ■ TncialsT^ut^t^gls'
^isn^rTT^e^mSsfl P
'jvenTS^ is dif-

nucit to gauge minority restlessness.
Uut enough troubles have bee"n docu-
mented tq underscore Peking's con-
cern. Last summer, pacty Vice Cham
nian Deng Xiaoping, China's most
powerful political chief, made a "rou-
tine general inspectiojr" pf Xinjiang
that diplomats say actually was to me-
diate bitter disputes between Chinese*
officials and Uyгур leaders.

One result of Deng's trip* was a top-
level shake-up ~Back in charge in
Urumqi as party first secretary is Gen.
Wang Enmao, a hard-bitten former
guerrilla who bossed Xinjiang for "2?
years until topnled in 1975 for defying
KTao's^ultural revolution^l radicalism^
Vung^is tough but lair wUh people dt
all races. On his first day in office, he
urged Han Chinese to "work content-
edly in Xinjiang and wholeheartedly
serve the people of all nationalities."

Wang touched on another Peking
worry in describing Xinjiang as "gnout-
nnxt to oppose Soviet hegemony —Chi-
term for Krefritin expaniiOftism.

Xinjiang's Soviet borders stretch negrly^.
900 mileTmore along the frontier withjhe Soviet-dominat-

900 miles mm c «*«0 -----
ed Mongolian People's Republic. Borders are sealed and
quiet now No major incidents
in, mid-1979, a situation Chinese officials attribute tn
being "extremely busy" in Afghanistan. Still
more than 250,000 troops in the region, and soldiers f
common sight in railroad stations and in small oJA*
that seem far removed from any strategic objective oS
That appearance can be deceiving. The ancient Silk R* J
trading town of I urf, now slip of
—w,ne center, is only 150 miles from China's too-serr^
• — On several ^osjonjlf^j^i^

growing
Lop Nor nuclear-test m pported by Western intelligence
been that Mpsc , nuclear-war Tre
sources—uui...—

Lop Nor and its still fledqmg nuciear.wur,^m
Officials say they are not worried by the A
Soviet troublemaking effort, constant rad in
The main theme is how much tetter off
he Soviet side," expbuns^orovinrini o m,, TM^or,t,es are on*
the broadcastsmake claims *bputWn&^jirj^—

that people know are not true from their own daily experi-
ences. So they don't believe any of it."

Peking's biggest success here is economic development
in an area once so primitive that not even matches were
made locally 30 years ago. Now, there are petrochemical
plants, an iron-and steel complex, textile factories, fertilizer
mills and food-processing plants. Cultivated land has tripled
to about 1,5 million ucrc.s. almost 90 percent »t irrigated.
The value or agricultural and livestock production, 1.4 bil
lion dollars in l OH(L has jumped 71)0 m»rtvp»

2

llesource^rich Xinjiang could become a major Asian indus-
trial center if climate and distance could be mastered. There
are iron oie, uranium and nonferrous metals, along with oil
and other petroleum possibilities. Geologist* yinioing^x
cpal fields could supply the entire world (nr 60 vpar-j, Urum-
qi's biggest hotel, tne drab, Soviet-designed Kun Lun, sits
atop one of eight coal seams beneath the city. Workers dig
boiler fuel in the back yard.



While Kazakh woman tends fire In family's
yurt, the men graze sheep and trap.

About 70 percent ofXiniiane's PCQ-
ple work as farmers. This is less than
China's national ratio of 80 percent,
because much of the farming is not
labor intensive, but big-scale grow'
of cash crops like cotton and wheat,
livestock grazing. There are three
times as many animaTs—sheep, goafs,
cattle, camels and horses—as people.
Most crops are grown on state farms^gr
communes onto which Uyгур have
settled with little objection. Livestock
herding, a specialty of fiercely inde-
pendent Kazakhs, is technically com-
munal, but this has done little to
change nomadic shifting between sum-
mer and winter pastures

A Kazakh family setting up its half-
dome-shaped, pressed-felt yurt for win-
ter in the Tien Shan foothills is typical.
Five people, from toddlers to a wiz-
ened grandmother, graze 250 "com-
munal" and 15 "private" sheep. From
these they earn \$470 a year.

The family, not some commune offi-
cial, decides when to move to a differ-
ent pasture, as Kazakhs always have
done. The family earns additional m'

ey trapping foxes and wolves worth_\$7 to \$10 per pelt. ML...
still carry rifles in the mountains to protect sheep from
snow leopards and other predators.

Mixed blessings. Yet there are signs of change on the
new frontier. Most of Xinjiang's atmosphere is still crystal
clear, but industrialized Urumqi lies under a pall of dust,
smoke and chemical fumes that makes Los Angeles' a candi-
date for a clean-air award. Shihezi's deputy mayor, Shi
Jingyeu, whose farm-and-factory town of 560,000 didn't
exist three decades ago, notes something else:

"Before, most of our problems were about construction—
first even getting tools to work with, then raising living
standards. In the past two or three years, we have some
new troubles of criminal activities like drinking, hooligan-
ism and the molesting of women. Back in the 1960s, you
could leave your things on our streets for two days and
nobody would touch them. But not any more. Our main
problems in the 1980s are a shortage of schools and finding
jobs for young people."

ASIA - CHINA ESTRANGED FROM ITS NEIGHBOURS

Munich, Jan. 14 - (CND/AD) - WELTWOCHEN, Zuerich weekly, -today the following article by Markus Maeders

China kann eine Menge aussenpolitischer Probleme nicht lösen, und im Innern wird die Herrschaft über die Minderheiten wieder vermehrt durch Repression ausgeübt.

Die chinesische Sprachtradition reanischen Wiedervereinigt unterscheidet alle Nicht-chinesen in gungsvorstellungen klingen ziemlich «rohe Barbaren*» und ungekochte dissonant angesichts des Interesses, Barbaren». Roh sind die Nachbarn das Peking doch an Südkorea und ausserhalb des chinesischen dessen ameri* kanischem Schutz Hoheitsgebiete. Sorgfältig haben muss. Das Bekanntwerden kleingestückelt, nach Gutdünken eines recht regen Handels zwischen sinisiert und auf rotglühendem China und Südkorea über Hongkong Peking Feuer zum Eintopf gegart, tragi kaum bei zur «Gemeinsamkeit sind die Nicht-Han-Völker inner* hat in Krieg und Frieden», wie sie Peking der chinesischen Grenzen, die in Pjongjang im* mer wieder betont. sogenannten «nationalen Die aber muss um jeden Preis Mindlichkeit». Roh wie ge- kochte erhalten bleiben, wenn der Alptraum indessen richten sich nicht nach eines Afghanistan oder Vietnam in Chinas Geschmack. Nordkorea nicht Wirk- lichkeit werden

1978 ging die Freundschaft mit

Vietnam in die Brüche, ein Jahr später marschierten chine* sische Soldaten «zur Erziehung» in Vietnam ein, ohne dass die Vorwürfe aus Hanoi, Peking betreibe eine Politik des «Landabnagens», deswegen aufgehört hätten. Eine Basis für (iesprache mit Vietnam sieht Peking nicht. Ebenso halt es eine Wiederaufnahme der Vor- gopr.iche mit Moskau von 1979 für* sinnlos, solange die Sowjets Afghanistan besetzt halten und die vietnamesische Invasion in Kambodscha unler* stützen. Durch den Einmarsch in Afghanistan hat sich «Jie «jüngste Grenze der Welt» fak- tisch um* ein strategisches Schlüsselstück verlängert. Auch von den alten Nachbarstreitigkeiten sind weder die mit Japan um den Sengaku-Archipel noch die mit Indien im Himalaja, noch die mit Burma (trotz Cirenzabkommen 1960) einer Lösung wirklich nShergekommen

Die diplomatischen Bezie* hungen mit den USA seit 1979 machen, bei allen weitreichenden Vorteilen, für China das Verhältnis mit den Nachbarn nicht leichter. Die Freundschaft mit dem sozialistischen Nord* korea ist nicht zuletzt deswegen zu einer ideologischen Zirkus* nummer gediehen. Denn die fast rituellen Verurteilungen der US-Präsenz in Südkorea und die Unterstützung der nordko-

Alptraum von Vietnam bis Afghanistan

Von den Barbaren im Inland erweisen sich ausgerechnet die politisch und strategisch so wichtigen Buddhisten im «Autonomen Gebiet» Tibet und die islamischen Uiguren im «Autonomen Gebiet» Xinjiang als ziemlich schwer ^er- daulich. Statt weich gekocht wurden sie hart gesotten. Auf mehreren Xinjiang-Reisen im Sommer versuchten Deng Xiaoping «und andere fuhren- de • Genossenw, latente Span- nungen zwischen Uiguren und Chinesen sowie Unrast unter den chinesischen Siedlern zu bannen. Mit der Wiedereinset- zung des 70j3hrigen Wang En- mao als Erster Parteisek retar im Oktober wurde, wohl als der Weisheit letzter Schluss, auf den • Mann zurückgegriffen, der vor der Kulturrevolution so eigen* miichtig und flexibel tils «König von Xinjiang» amtiert halte, wie er es für ndig hielt, um die zentrifugale Drehscheibe Asiens im Griff zu behalten.

In Tibet scheint die chinesische Führung nicht mehr an- ders als mit erneuter Unterdrück* kung von religiösen Freiheiten der unsozialistischen Umtriebe Herr zu werden. Mit ausneh- mender Zuvorkommenheit hat- te Peking während Jahren den

14. Dalai Lama aus seinem nordindischen Exil heim ins Reich zu locken versucht. Es wurde zugegeben, dass die «Lebensbedingungen in Tibet achlimmer sind als vor 1959», dem Jahr der Fricucht des Dalai Lama, und ein weitreichendes Liberalisierungsprogramm sah eine rasche Verbesserung vor. Der Dalai Lama schien zuerst angetan von der Idee eines möglichen Buddho- Marxismus, wie er es nannte, doch unterdes- sen ist das Pekinger Traumziel, den buddhistischen Oberhirten als Garanten eines chinesisch- sozialistischen Tibets nach Lha- ia zu kodern, wieder in weite Feme gefickt. Der Dalai Lama beschuldigte Peking in diesen Wochen, die religiösen Aktivi- taen der tibetischen Bevölke- rung wieder eingeschränkt und das Liberalisierungsprogramm revidiert zu haben. Nicht ein- mal Weihrauch dürfe mehr ver- wendet werden.

Geradezu tragisch aber neh- men sich die fortwährenden, hilflos ins Leere greifenden Umarmungsversuche der eige- nen- «Landsleute» in der <«unbe- fruchten Überseeprovinz Tai- wan» aus. Mit seiner ganzen Kraft und seinem ganzen Prestige ist Deng Xiaoping bis heu- te daran gescheitert, der Ver-

sonnung auch nur einen Weg zu bahnen. Am Neujahrstag 1979

hat der Ständige Ausschuss des Nationalen Volkskongresses eine «Botschaft an die Lands- leute auf Taiwan» veröffent- licht, in der er feierlich die all- gemeine Politik für die

«Wiedervereinigung des Vater- landes» bekanntgab. Doch weder von den vorgeschlagenen Post*, Verkehrs- und Handels- verbindungen noc- von wirt- schaftlichem wissenschaftli* chem und kulturellem Aus- tausch ist bis heute auch nur eine Spur erkennbar. Nicht cin- mal Verwandtenbesuche für die vielen, seit fiber dreissig Jahren getrennten Familien, will Taiwan gewahren. Keine Familie soll zusammenkommen, solan-

fro

ge die Entzweiung der chinesischen Grossfamilie wahr. Denn nach dem in manchen Ziigen feudal gebliebenen chinesischen Politikverständnis ist die Taiwan-Frage letztlich eine Familienangelegenheit, und zwar für beide Seiten.

Taiwan-Frage als Familienangelegenheit

Als die hochverehrte Song Qingling, die Witwe des Kuomintang-Gründers Dr. Sun Yat-sen, starb, lud die Pekinger Führung vergeblich die mit ihr verwandte Führungsspitze von Taipeh zum Begräbnis ein. Es ist die kleine Geste, die im Klima gekrankter Familiengefühle, dem Verstande zum Trotz, Herzen erweichen konnte. Tief in den gemeinsamen Zitateschatz grübelnd, empfahl der Parteivorsitzende Hu Yaobang «Herrn Jiang Jinguo» in Taipeh bei jüngster Gelegenheit, seinen Vater Tschiang Kai-schek in die von den Kommunisten wiederhergestellte Familiengruft der Tschiangs in Fenghua zu überführen: «Ein Baum mag Myriaden Fuss hoch wachsen, seine Blätter fallen dennoch zur Wurzel zurück», sagte Hu.

Aus einer Position der Stärke heraus kann es sich die winzige Splitterfamilie in Taipeh leisten, gegenüber dem Riesen unerbittlich aufzutreten. Ein eventuelles Finanzhilfeangebot aus Peking verachteten die Taiwanesen mit dem Sprichwort: «Ein Buddha aus Lhm beim Überqueren eines Flusses.» Marschall Yeh Jianying erklärte sich sogar bereit, Vertreter Taiwans an der Staatsführung zu beteiligen, wenn nur Taipeh verzichte, Hauptstadt zu sein. Doch Taiwan hat «nichts zu gewinnen und viel zu verlieren».

Die Politik von US-Präsident Reagan, Waffen (vorab F-5E-Flugzeuge) an Taiwan zu liefern, ist wenig dazu angetan, die unbotmassige Insel in Pekings Arme zu treiben. Es bleibt ihm nicht viel Besseres übrig, als diese Art der «Verletzung chinesischer Souveränität» mehr oder weniger protestreich hinzunehmen. Markus Miider

R -- ISLAM IN A COMMUNIST STATE

MUNICH MAR 1 <CND>~ FROM FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW. FEB 26.19

Islam is an important factor in the political calculations of both China and the Soviet Union. In the conduct of foreign policy, attitude towards the faith and the treatment of Muslims in the two communist countries affect their relations with the increasingly influential Islamic world. Domestically, both have to contend with the problems posed by sizable Muslim populations concentrated on either side of the Sino-Soviet border.

The end of the Cultural Revolution resulted in greater autonomy and opportunity of religious expression, for China's Muslims. Muslim practices, which were once punishable, are now officially allowed! The party and the state are said to be seeking support of Muslim religious and national leaders in Hunan and

Salisbury. The party line appears to be that as long as Islam does not interfere with the state's economic and political interests, there will be no conflict of matters of culture.

Reforms across the border have alarmed the Soviet Union and it has intensified propaganda aimed at China's Turkic Muslims. The Soviets have thought of themselves as having an advantage in Central Asia because of Peking's high-handedness in dealing with minorities. The scope for success in exploiting cross-border ethnic ties has definitely been reduced by the improvement in the Chinese party's relations with Muslims.

The Soviet Union itself once tried liberalisation as a means of ensuring the loyalty of its Muslim population. During World War II and the early phase of the Cold War, Stalin made a number of concessions such as reopening of mosques and establishment of Islamic organisations. The changes in policy were motivated by the need for conscripts from Muslim areas to fight in the Red Army against Hitler's Germany and to counteract the Nazi effort to recruit disaffected Crimean Muslims for their armed forces.

In return for the concessions, the official Muslim clergy appealed to Muslims to "struggle mercilessly against the Hitlerite assassins and pillagers" and gave their blessings to the "sons fighting in the just cause." After the war, selective toleration of Islam continued as a reward for Muslim leaders' contributions to "the cause of peace." However, it aided with de-Stalinisation; and Khrushchev's campaign to spread "scientific atheism" culminated in suppression of Islamic institutions.

The Soviets would like to see a similar reversal for religious toleration in China. A vital and resurgent Islam, particularly in areas geographically close to the Soviet Union, can only be perceived as a threat to the Soviet state by Moscow. The Soviet Union has more than 40 million Muslims (more than half the world's Muslims of

Turkic background), and if their current rate of growth continues, they may constitute as much as 35% of the Soviet Union's Population by the year 2000. Their political

participation in the labour force and the armed forces will be even higher, given their younger age. Control of Islam and Muslims is compelled by demographic trends, if not by ideology.

Unlike the Soviet Union, China has no problem regarding the number of Muslims reaching an unmanageable percentage. While the Soviets have to figure out a way of coping with their Muslims' rising population and increasing Islamic sentiment, the Chinese priority is to modernise by the end of the century. China can allow the Muslims to believe and practise their religion and even develop their national identity, if doing so will help secure their cooperation in modernisation and economic development.

History favours the Chinese in cultivating a tolerant relationship with Islam and Muslims. Islam was adopted by various ethnic groups in China as a result of their contact with Muslims from Arabia and Persia. Nearly half of China's Muslims are ethnic Chinese, though they are designated as a separate nationality — the Hui. Since the advent of Islam in China in the

Pakistani Journalist Husain Haqqani is Hongkong correspondent for the magazine *Arabia*, founded in 1981 as a forum for Muslims throughout the

early part of the seventh century, the Muslims have maintained their distinctive identity but their relationship with the Chinese was never characterised by animosity.

Muslims served in Chinese courts and Chinese officials benefited from their skills in the arts and sciences. Muslim admirals and generals led Chinese military expeditions and used their influence to protect the faithful from persecution. Occasionally a bigoted ruler suppressed the Muslims and the community had to organise itself in rebellion, but by and large, Chinese-Muslim relations remained friendly over the centuries.

The benevolent attitude towards Islam in China suffered setback during the Qin dynasty. The Muslim rise in the Uighur part of the Islamic, nationalism, The communists recognised the national aspirations of the Muslims and their assurances of "protection and development of all nationalities" appealed to Muslim leaders. Muslims became active in the communist party and for some time, the Muslim-Soviet government was established in Northwest China with the backing of the Chinese and Soviet parties. A Muslim detachment joined the Eighth Route Army to fight the Japanese. Muslims participated on the communist side in the civil war in several places.

; I
of

lumped, but d,e (i'1''' , L' or Nttf Muslims
P««achcil lhcir M 'r'cw
ap

caution. Sovin ., .m Population with '»:»in
lhcc-Hivl »X,C,? ,W,,W C{,nc10 Chi- lie advised i
V • .c PcnPI«'» icpub- *Itai of the Sm-i'm' -K S
M,n'arto I lan Chinese in 1} T''' '«c"Ulcmcni
of taken l>u i'i^ ri^N us ^,u,^Ci:,w,s under-
Soviet nr il i j (Vncsc U,u mu fnIK,w «hc
Mile ihJirh CC j rosc,1"»>iJ
Muslims out- Sinh
.rti^0, Vc,.,,ul, W^» n«*NMve
scale, the A, i, 'c- P^o,ic y
replacing Vc, s cn P t f'>r
Muslim languages

it xviii^0> CJ _vul1 ,ic modification that r pursual
K™dually. Following re- u re tonus,
recruitment of minority na- onalty cadres is to
he pursued more vigorously than Han
resettlement and the Aiulnc script has been
restored alongside the mmanised one. This
contrasts sharply "dh practice in the Soviet
Union, where tcsetilement has been forcefully
implemented and the Arabic script has been
banned since the late 1920s.

There has been a duality in China's treatment
of Chinese and Turkic Muslims. Different
ethnicity, language and links with their kin in the
Soviet Union have made the Turkic Muslims
somewhat suspect. That is why the authorities
have felt the need to dilute the Turkic population
a. Xinjiang with lj.ut scVilcis as well as the
lllf'.Tncase"of ificlflui, the pro Mem is merely
one of different belief and not of different race
and language. Common ethnicity with the Hans,
coupled with lhiei strong religiosity, has qualilicd
tire Hui as inlcime.ii.IIICN in ('IIIIICM- Turkic
relations. Pckinc. cannot ignmc I lie pl-*y
pcrrnrracial-religious eonlionaliou with iis I uikic
people> aiul has triel to remove the religious lac
tor through the I luis.

But there is nothing inherent in the past
of China or the Chinese Communist
ll ,iv that prevents a retraction from the
excesses of .he Cultural Revolution. In
f ict the Chinese can go even further in
•mneasing the Muslims, should the need
arise The Soviet Union, on the other
hand* has to contend with the legacy of
Tsarist colonialism in its dealings with

Asian and Crimean Muslims. The

Partly docs not have a record of Muslim co-
i-Jr ^,nt from its genesis in China. In-
is d,K « brought to the local ponii-
sical °Miishm trailers and scholars, Islam
lace by ^ M" ,t ,,f subjugation
c»n* "" /SVsarist armies. What is
of Centra A . { oncE constituted
no* M.v.cIC. «f-r-'1'h?|N|ii,niI.empire.°I"c
an intcgi*1P , re,Jon succumbed
Muslim kban. pressure and the
one by one ,keomplishcd over
Russian coi«P^ • innillg in ilie middle of a,on,g/?h
century and lasting until 1921. the ^A_uhnru /iul
Khiva lost their semi-
^nrwtus.T]«cM!2!!!2 ?iemMl

•the Tsarist armies at every step and rebelled
against Russian rule sporadically, once it wits
established.

Tsarist Russia luul a tradition of Orthodox
Christian disapproval of Islam and the
administration of conquered Muslim territories
was far from benevolent. Rebels were treated
brutally, the massacre at Cieog Tepe (1885) mid
the executions of Muslim leaders in the
subsequent and preceding periods being just
one example. The bolshevik revolution and the
civil war that followed were seen by Muslims as
an opportunity to revolt against Russian rule, but
they found themselves pitted against the Red
Army.

The Muslims were not enthusiastic about the
bolsheviks and the communists made no
attempt to appease them. Six Soviet social
republics and eight autonomous republics and
provinces were created in the Muslim region but
they have continued to be dominated by
Russians. Not only have Russians been brought
into Central Asia, but Muslims have been forced
to emigrate to the European Soviet Union and
Siberia. Authorities have been particularly harsh
on the Crimean Tartars, accused of
collaborating with the Germans during World
War 11.

Apart from the Stalinist concessions of
1941-53, the Soviets have made no attempt to
lessen cultural and religious repression.
Compared with 3,00*1 working mosques and
8,00(1 Muslim communities reported officially
between 1947 and 1057, Soviet officials quoted
the strength of Islam in IV0(» as being
represented by only 4(H) mosques and 1,00(1
unregistered congregations. Chances of
improvement in the treatment of Islam have
further faded under President Leonid Brezhnev.
Present Soviet nationality policy remains as
staunchly assimilationist as ever. The goal of the
Soviet Union is presented now as the
development of the "Soviet Man" — "a s.K'i.dist
being moulded mound the Russian nnc." As the
cult me of the Soviet Man would lie based on
Russian language and models, it has become
more important to do away with cumbersome
ethnic and icligious values.

The concept of the Soviet Man brings state
policy into conflict with ethnic-Is- lamic
aspirations of Soviet Muslims. The Soviet
leadership is aware of the implications of trying
to eliminate the more spiritually Muslim identity
of its Turkic population and appears prepared
for them. The feeling in Moscow, probably, is
that there are only two ways of dealing with the
Muslims: to Russify them in the name of so-
cialism or to allow them to develop their
independent, Islamic and anti-Russian
personality. Since the second course is im-
possible, the course of eliminating the Islamic
identity among Soviet Muslims has been
adopted.

China and the Soviet Union arc moving in
opposite directions with regard to Muslims. Hie
Chinese have the opportunity as well as the
need to develop a coideal relationship with their
Muslim population. The Soviets, however, have (i
created a situation in which enmity between
them and their Muslim minorities is likely to in-
crease further: By trying to manage Islamic
renewal insicad of suppressing it, the Chinese
are (vying to avoid the difficulty faced by the
Soviet Union. g

179

1

-Life Around the World

Peking's "New Frontier": Where China, Russia Vie

Life is hard in Xinjiang, a rugged region of deserts, mountains—and great potential wealth. With the Soviets looking over their shoulders, the Chinese are out to make it a land of plenty.

URUMQI, China

Picture a place so hot in summer that fresh eggs buried in the soil bake hard in minutes, so isolated that it may take seven days to get a newspaper, so fierce of winds that faces of the youthful are lined like those of the middle-aged.

Improbable as it may seem, this harsh land also is a prize owned by Peking and coveted by Moscow—an age-long gateway to China that is rich in oil, coal and minerals.

Xinjiang means "New Frontier." And in many ways, the remote territory is the Wild West of China, an area of jagged mountains, forbidding deserts and nomadic herdsmen.

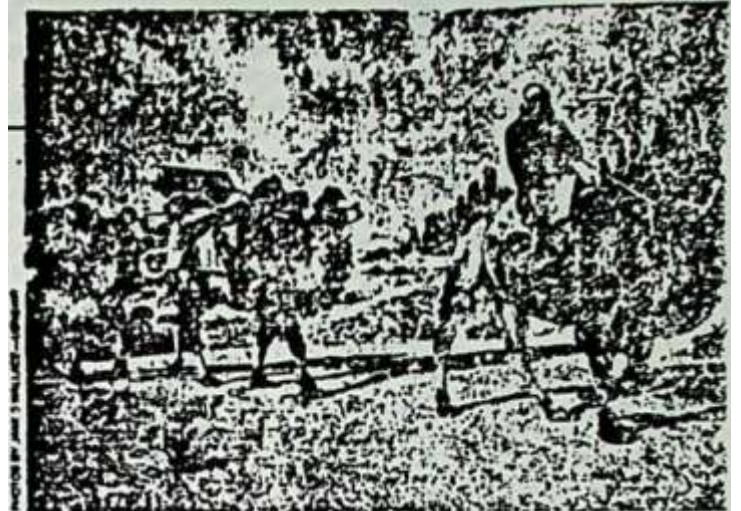
Lying almost in the heart of Asia, the autonomous region of Xinjiang, once known as Sinkiang, is where China confronts restless ethnic and religious minorities, a long and hostile Soviet border and the challenge of creating farms and industry amid grim climate and landscape.

Through this land ran the old Silk Road, the main artery between China and the West-20 centuries ago. Alexander the Great's armies marched here. Marco Polo also was a visitor.

Now, for its 12.8 million people scattered across a region bigger than Alaska, life is rugged and rewarding. Thanks to allowances averaging 25 percent of basic pay, salaries are the highest in China. Fast-paced economic growth quickly pushes talented young people into responsible jobs.

Xinjiang's deserts bloom when surprisingly abundant underground water—tapped from aquifers fed by snow-capped mountains—is brought to the surface. But working here means enduring dust storms, arctic winters and relentless winds. In the Turfan depression, the second-lowest spot in the world at 508 feet below sea level, midsummer temperatures stay above 100 degrees for 40 to 50 straight days.

Although Xinjiang has been ruled by China for over 2,000 years, it is not Chinese in appearance or even outlook. People talk about the rest of China as "inland" and



Camel caravan. Despite 2,000 years of Chinese rule, Xinjiang's 13 different minorities hang on to ancient traditions. ■

air and rail services. Two-humped camels pulling wagon-loads of cotton hardly fit any image of rice-paddy China. Neither does the babble of Turkic-speaking people.

"To us Chinese, the people here seem very different," says Xie Liangying, director of the provincial foreign-affairs bureau here in Urumqi, the capital. "The women look almost Western in their pretty dresses. The bread they make from local flour is much too sweet for our taste." The reason is that 55 percent of the people are not Chinese. Thirteen "national minorities" live here, mixing cultural traditions ranging from those of Kazakh herdsmen to Russians who drifted in after the 1917 revolution.

The biggest single group is nearly 5.6 million Uyghurs, who slightly outnumber the ethnic Chinese, called Hans locally. Almost all Hans are newcomers since the Communists came to power in 1949. Other major groups are 870,000 Kazakhs, 560,000 Hui and 100,000 Mongols. Since 1950, Peking has moved large numbers of demobilized soldiers, "educated urban youth" and other Chinese into the area. This was partly to provide technicians for economic development but far more to "stabilize" a region of doubtful loyalty, coveted by Russia and sometimes, as in the 1930s, influenced and infiltrated by Soviet agents. Embarrassing incident. Peking's handling of minorities in Tibet and Mongolia, as well as?



Xinjiang, has always been complicated. In Imperial times, Xinjiang was considered more barbarian than most places. The capital was called Dilwa, roughly translated as "place where people are stupid." The name Urumqi is an exercise in cosmetics. It is a Mongol word meaning "beautiful pastures," though the closest green fields are many miles distant.

Under Mao Tse-tung, despite posters showing the "great helmsman" embracing minority men and women, the policy was to homogenize minorities by repressing local languages, customs and culture. This, plus Soviet agitation, triggered the flight of more than 60,000 Kazakhs across the border into Russia in 1962, an incident that still embarrasses Peking and gives Moscow propaganda material.

Things got even worse during the 1966-76 "cultural revolution."

life around the world (2)

Peonlo ;^{iv} \P.n.,^{ae} hlamic religion of more than 4 million dal" not¹ ^hJ^{an}8 was savagely attacked along with "feu* Moslem II ^{cusloms_} Fanatic Red Guard youths forced and Y^{urs} whose religion forbids eating pork, to raise \vritr» ^ pi^s Arabic-like cursive script used to 1 „»■ » ,^ysnr language was arbitrarily replaced with a >n alphabet that people could not read.

r "rr- ° f^t>f years, repression has given way to a kino ? alnrinativc-action program, reopening and often repairing some 12,000 mosques at government expense and assuring minonV" ail . ' T I T ! ! r
Minority

an oXtfa share for education and job*...
exnmc • >10uhs Cttu luke college and technical-school thm ru-^{heir} OWn languages and qualify with lower marks mnese need. At Xinjiang University, it is possible to b a degree taking only courses taught in Uygur. , —In party. Minorities are well represented among locaTjftJfirriiJtnftivc oTROalsT^uTtonT^t^T^ Ptf¹W? WWflrcr
' f^mumsn^TTarr^Tn^

•iveri Gluna's clb&a s'ocfeVy, it is difficult to gauge minority restlessness. Hut enough troubles have been documented tq underscore Peking's concern. Last summer, patty Vice Chair^ man Deng Xiaoping, China's most powerful political chief, made a "routine general inspection" of Xinjiang that diplomats say actually was to mediate bitter disputes between Chinese officials and Uygur leaders. ^

One result of Dene's trip was a tQB: Wei shake-up. Back in charge m Urumqi as party first secretary is Gen. Wang Enmao, a hard-bitten former w ang
cierrill

Noars untiTtopoled in 1975 for HIKWTT Tr-°-' enlUtrul rwulthon" radically V 9 IS Iougl, bul lair with¹ people^1
rracu_ o" h,s firs> day in Office, he urged Han Chinese to "work contentedly in Xinjiang and wholeheartedly serve the people of all nationalities."

Wang touched on another Peking worry in describing Xinjiang as "an out-post to oppose Soviet hegemonv^ChT naslerm lor kremlin expansiOTiism.

Xinjiang's Soviet borders stretch ne?rly 9000 miles nine 900 mile^more along the frontier with tfeSoviet-d5ni?^a" ed Mongolian Peoples Republic. Borders are sealed and qui et TMW' No ma J^or Jncidents have been reported since mid-1979, a situation Chinese officials attribute to Moscow's being "extremely busy" in Afghanistan. Stili Peking has more than 250,000 troops in the region, and soldiers Ire a common sight in railroad stations and in small oasis towns that seem far removed from any strategic objective That appearance can be deceiving. The ancient Silk Road trading town of Turfan, .now a sleepy gt«pe and cotton-growing center, is only 150 milesJrom China's top-secret r np Nor nuclear-lfigt Site. On several occasions, thereTav?' Tjeen rumors—well supported by Western'intelligence sources—that Moscow intended a^surgicalstrike" t_0 destroy Lop Nor and its still fledgling nuclea-wa?Tff»ii l
Officials say they are not worried by the most common Soviet troublemaking effort, constant rj^lio_rop_apoN^h

The main theme is how much better off minorities are on* he Soviet side," expfains provinelial ofTW.f e^m Y_ril , broadcasts make claims about thingsover here

the
••Hut the

that people know are not true from their own daily experiences. So they don't believe any of it."

Peking's biggest success here is economic development in an area once so primitive that not even matches were made locally 30 years ago. Now, there are petrochemical plants, an iron-and steel complex, textile factories, fertilizer mills and food-processing plants. Cultivated land has tripled to iibont 1.5 million acres, almost 90 D.TCCilI pf it irrigated. The value of agricultural and livestock production. L4 billion dollars in 1980. has iuiimcd 700 norn^{1m1} *jir,|> UHW Resource-rich Xinjiang could become a major Asian industrial center if climate and distance could be mastered. There ure iron oie, uranium and nonferrous metals, along with oil and other petroleum possibilities. Cc-oloeists <-<y Xini. -mg's coal fields could supply the entire world Tor 00 years. Urum-qis biggest hotel, the drab, Soviet-designc-d Kun Lun, sits atop one of eight coal seams beneath the city. Workers dig boiler fuel in the back yard.



While Kazakh woman tends fire In family's yurt, the men graze sheep and trap.

About 70 percent of Xiniiang's PCO-ple work as farmers. This is less than China's national ratio of 80 percent, because much of the farming is not labor intensive, but big-seale growing of cash crops like cotton and wheat, or livestock grazing. There are three times as many animals—sheen. eo_s 3 cattle, camels and horses—as peo?T.

Most crops are grown on state farms or" communes onto which Uygurs have settled with little objection. Livestock herding, a specialty of fiercely independent Kazakhs, is technically communal, but this has done little to change nomadic shiftir? between summer and winter pasturva A Kazakh family setting up its half-dome-shaped, pressed-feh yurt for winter in the Tien Shan foothills is typical. Five people, from toddKrs to a wiz-ened grandmother, graze 250 "communal" and 15 "private" sheep. From these they earn \$470 a year.

The family, not some commune official, decides when to move to a different pasture, as Kazakhs always have done. The family earns additional mon-

ey trapping foxes and wolves worth \$7 to \$10 per pelt. Men still carry rifles in the mountains to protect sheep from snow leopards and other predators.

Mixed blessings. Yet there are signs of change on t. . new frontier. Most of Xinjiang's atmosphere is still crystal clear, but industrialized Urumqi lies under a pall of dust, smoke and chemical fumes that makes Los Angeles a candidate for a clean-air award. Shihezi's deputy mayor, Shi Jingyeu, whose farm-and-factory town of 560,000 didn't exist three decades ago, notes something else:

"Before, most of our problems were about construction—first even getting tools to work with, then raising living standards. In the past two or three years, we have some new troubles of criminal activities like drinking, hooliganism and the molesting of women. Back in the 1960s, you could leave your things on our streets for two days and nobody would touch them. But not any more. Our main problems in the 1980s are a shortage of schools and finding jobs for young people."

By JAMES WALLACE

■e-

China's Minorities Find a

By CHRISTOPHERS. WREN -
Special TV News Team

JINGHONG, China — The mountain men of the Wa ethnic minority had a custom that upset their neighbors. They would grab some hapless victim and ritually chop off his head to insure a plentiful harvest of the rice that they planted in fields slashed out of tin; rain forest

Not only was it barbarous, the Chinese authorities decided, but it was also obstructing the building of Communism in this remote corner of China where Laos and Burma converge.

"This habit was really very harmful to the unity of the minorities," recalled Ai Wennuan, an official of the Dai minority in the Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous District, of which Jinghong is the capital. Under the official pinyin, transcription system, Dai stands for, 'China's Thai minority.....'

A delegation was dispatched to approach the Wa — carefully — and ask them to try chopping off a cow's head. Instead, the Wa evidently found this worked too, because officials here have not heard of another human sacrifice since 1955.

Exotic Subtropical Region A dozen ethnic minorities now coexist with the Chinese in Xishuangbanna, an exotic subtropical region of highland valleys astride the upper Mekong River, with lush vegetation and fog-shrouded mountains that soar above 7,500 feet. The Dai predominate, with 210,000 people. Their gracefulness and docility have made them perhaps China's model minority.

There are also 100,000 Hani, who until 1956 used to discard newly born twins or babies with birth defects by throwing them in the fire. There are hundreds of Kucong. Until a few years ago they wore animal skins and slept by open fires without any permanent home.

Deep in the forests that make up half of Xishuangbanna dwell people yet undefined, who coexist with the elephants, tigers, golden-haired monkeys and peacocks that retreated as civilization intruded upon the river valleys.

The 55 ethnic minorities officially recognized in China account for only 6 percent of its population, but this adds up to 60 million people, larger than the populations of either Britain or France. Their significance exceeds their numbers, for many of them inhabit China's sensitive border regions with the Soviet Union, Mongolia and Indochina.

Separate-but-Equal Strategy The officials who prevailed during the Cultural Revolution tried to assimilate the minorities into the Chinese majority, or Han, as the ethnic Chinese call themselves, by suppressing ethnic

Place in the Sun at Last

traditions, however, and today Peking has adopted a more conciliatory separate-but-equal strategy of encouraging ethnic diversity while still demanding adherence to a vision of harmony in which the Han Chinese are elder brothers.

The Government now warns against "Ban chauvinism" as well as local nationalism and has introduced improved medical care and education, to the extent of enrolling minority students in universities and technical schools under a quota system that admits them with lower grades than Han Chinese.

Some tensions, however, have persisted. Last year there were reports of clashes between indigenous Uygurs and Han Chinese in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region. Earlier this year in Inner Mongolia, another autonomous region, a radio broadcast alluded to social unrest believed caused by frictions between ethnic Mongolians and Chinese.

But here in Yunnan Province, which includes the Xishuangbanna district, the climate has substantially improved after a purge of officials. Yunnan was once assailed in the press as "notorious" throughout the country as an area of severe disaster in minority relations.

Sensitive Border Region

The stability of this border province is important, for a third of Yunnan's 30 million inhabitants are non-Han, representing 22 ethnic groups. They are primarily Dai and Yi but also include Moslems and even Tibetans. In Yunnan's southernmost pocket of Xishuangbanna, the members of 12 ethnic minorities outnumber the 210,000 Chinese residents 2 to 1.

The Chinese can view their minorities patronizingly through a quaint Marxist prism. Huang Guoyi, an official with the Nationality Affairs Commission in the provincial capital of Kunming, observed that the Wa, while being headhunters, also displayed commendable proletarian traits like working together and sharing their harvest.

The Yi were clearly more advanced, but they had to shake off the feudal practice of owning slaves. The Jingpo were harder to characterize ideologically, Mr. Huang said, because while the chief exploited the villagers, he also worked beside them in the fields.

Its remoteness from Peking has nonetheless preserved a charming langur in Xishuangbanna, a theoretically self-administering district slightly larger than New Jersey. Though the Communists took power in China in 1949, the Nationalist armies were not driven

across the border into Burma until a year later, and skirmishes with "bandit" remnants continued into the mid-1950's. Mao Zedong - communitized China's peasants in 1958 but it took 11 years for the process to be completed in Xishuangbanna.

"Ambiance of Southeast Asia"

The Chinese Army has built roads that cling precariously to the dense mountains, reducing the bus trip to Kunming to only a few days. Electricity has reached many rural villages, which now reverberate to the music of radios and cassette recorders. Bicycles have been introduced for tribesmen to tote their produce to market.

But Xishuangbanna retains an ambiance of Southeast Asia. The Mekong River, which is known here as the Lancang, comes tumbling down from the glaciers of Tibet, coursing through the wide valley on its way south to Indochina. Bananas and mangos ripen on trees around the thatched Dai villages, whose houses perch on slender stilts.

In the cool of the morning, Dai men set out barefoot with their cobras in the bush. Their slender women in sarongs and silver belts kneel by the river banks and slap the laundry with wooden paddles or draw water in bamboo gourds from village wells designed like small painted pagodas, whose mirrors and dangling tin strips flash in the sunlight.

A revival of Buddhism has been allowed in the last two years, after its brutal suppression in the Cultural Revolution. White strips of prayer flags flutter atop long bamboo poles in almost every village.

ASIA - CHINA'S LAISSEZ-FAIRE ETHNIC POLICY SUCCEEDS
IN YUNNAN

* *

Munich, 21-June 1982.(CHD) - The following article appeared in the
International Herald Tribune, June 21,

By Gristophcr S. Wren
Hr- York Times Service*

JINGHONG, China — The mountain men of the Wa ethnic minority had a custom that upset their neighbors. They would grab some hapless victim and ritually chop off his head to ensure a plentiful honest of rice.

Not only was it barbarous, the Chinese authorities decided, but it was also obstructing the building of Communism in this remote corner of China where Laos and Burma converge.

"This habit was really very harmful to the unity of the minorities," said Ai Wennuan, an official of the Dai minority in the Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous District, of which Jinghong is the capital

A Model Minority

A delegation was sent to approach the Wa — carefully — and ask them to try chopping off a cow's head instead. The Wa evidently found this worked, too, because officials here have not heard of another human sacrifice since 1955

A dozen ethnic minorities now coexist with the Chinese in Xishuangbanna, a subtropical region of highland valleys astride the upper Mekong River, with lush vegetation and fog-shrouded mountains. The Dai predominate, with 210,000 people. Their gracefulness and docility have made them perhaps China's model minority.

There are also 100,000 Hani, who until 1956 used to discard newly born twins or babies with birth defects by throwing them in the fire. There are hundreds of Kucong, who until a few years ago wore animal skins and slept by open fires without permanent homes.

Deep in the forests that make up half of Xishuangbanna dwell people yet undefined, who coexist with the elephants, tigers, goldenhaired monkeys and peacocks that retreated as civilization intruded upon the river valleys.

The 55 ethnic minorities officially recognized in China account for only 6 percent of its population, but this is 60 million people, larger than the populations of either Brit

ain or France. Their significance exceeds their numbers, for many of them inhabit China's border regions with the Soviet Union, Mongolia and Indochina.

Separate but Equal

The officials who prevailed during the Cultural Revolution tried to assimilate the minorities into the Chinese majority, or Han, as the ethnic Chinese call themselves, by suppressing ethnic traditions, folklore and dress. Today Peking has adopted a more conciliatory separate-but-equal strategy of encouraging ethnic diversity while still demanding adherence to a vision of harmony in which the Han are elder brothers.

The government now warns against "Han chauvinism" as well as local nationalism and has introduced improved medical care and education, to the extent of enrolling minority students in universities and technical schools under a quota system that admits them with lower grades than Han Chinese.

Some tensions have persisted, however. Last year there were reports of clashes between indigenous Uighurs and Han Chinese

in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region. Earlier this year in Inner Mongolia, another autonomous region, a radio broadcast alluded to social unrest believed caused by frictions between ethnic Mongolians and Chinese.

Though the Communists took power in China in 1949, the Nationalist armies were not driven across the border into Burma from Xishuangbanna, a theoretically self-administering district, until a year later, and skirmishes with "bandit" remnants continued into the mid-1950s. Mao minimized China's farmers in 1958, but it took 11 years for the process to be completed in Xishuangbanna.

Improved Relations

Here in Yunnan province, which includes the Xishuangbanna district, a purge of officials has substantially improved minority relations once assailed in the press as disastrous.

The Chinese Army has built roads that cling precariously to the dense mountains, reducing the bus trip to Kunming to only four days. Electricity has reached many villages, which now reverberate to the music of radios and cassette recor

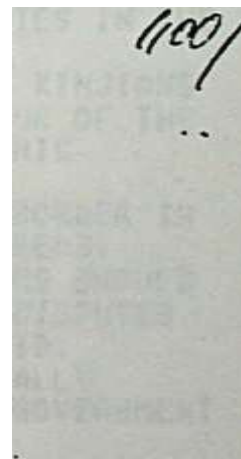
ders. Bicycles have been introduced for tribesmen to tote their produce to market.

The stability of this border province is important, for a third of Yunnan's 30 million inhabitants are non-Han, representing 22 ethnic groups. They are primarily flu, Dai and Yi but also include Moslems and even Tibetans. In Yunnan's southernmost pocket of Xishuangbanna, the members of 12 ethnic minorities outnumber the 210,000 Chinese residents 2 to

¹ The Chinese can view their minorities patronizingly through a

Quaint Marxist prism. Huang Yuoyi, an official with the Nationality Affairs Commission in the provincial capital of Kunming, observed that the Wa, while being headhunters, also displayed commendable proletarian traits like working together and sharing their harvest.

The Yi were clearly more advanced, but they had to shake off the feudal practice of owning slaves. The Jingpo were harder to characterize ideologically, Mr. Huang said, because while the chief exploited the villagers he also worked beside them in the fields.



ASIA — CHINESE PARTY CALL FOR END TO MOSLEM MINORITIES DISPUTES

PEKING, APRIL 18 (REUTER)-- DISPUTES BETWEEN ETHNIC CHINESE AND MOSLEM MINORITIES MUST BE RESOLVED BEFORE STABILITY CAN BE CONSOLIDATED IN THE VAST XINJIANG REGION OF CHINESE CENTRAL ASIA, ACCORDING TO ITS NEWSPAPER CHIEF.

GENERAL WANG ENMAO, REAPPOINTED TO HEAD THE SO-CALLED AUTONOMOUS REGION BY VICE-CHAIRMAN DENG XIAOPING LATE LAST YEAR. WAS QUOTED BY THE PEOPLE'S DAILY YESTERDAY AS SAYING THAT THE KEY TO POLITICAL STABILITY WAS UNITY BETWEEN DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS.

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER SAID THE SITUATION HAD IMPROVED SINCE THE RETURN TO POWER OF GENERAL WANG, WHO RULED XINJIANG FROM 1954 UNTIL HE WAS PURGED IN THE MAOIST CULTURAL REVOLUTION OF THE MID-1960S.

BUT ANALYSTS SAID THE WORDING OF THE ARTICLE CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE STILL SERIOUS STRAINS AND POSSIBLY SPORADIC CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE MAINLY ATHEIST "HAN" CHINESE AND MOSLEM GROUPS SUCH AS UYGURS AND KAZAKHS.

MOST OF THE REGION IS CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS, BUT VISITORS TO OPEN AREAS OFTEN REPORT CASES OF ILL-FEELING BETWEEN THE LOCALS AND THE HANS. THE CHINESE MEDIA IN HONG KONG PUBLISHED REPORTS OF TROUBLE THERE LAST YEAR.

THE PEOPLE'S DAILY SAID: "A SMALL MINORITY OF BAD PEOPLE AND COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES WHO ARE HOSTILE TO THE UNITY OF THE MOTHERLAND AND SOCIALIST SYSTEM ARE DOING THEIR UTMOST TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLOIT DISPUTES BETWEEN THE NATIONALITIES TO SABOTAGE NATIONAL UNITY RELATIONS BETWEEN ETHNIC GROUPS."

THE ARTICLE ALSO APPEARED TO CONFIRM REPORTS BY TRAVELLERS LAST SUMMER OF TROUBLE LAST YEAR NEAR THE OLD SILK ROUTE SETTLEMENT OF KASHGAR.

IT SAID THE XINJIANG PARTY COMMITTEE HAD "SUMMED UP LESSONS AND EXPERIENCE" LEARNED LAST DECEMBER FROM SOLVING ETHNIC DISPUTES IN THE KASHGAR AREA.

GENERAL WANG, WHO WAS APPOINTED PARTY FIRST SECRETARY IN XINJIANG IN NOVEMBER AFTER MR DENG HAD MADE A PERSONAL INSPECTION TOUR OF THE REGION, WAS QUOTED AS TELLING A PARTY MEETING THAT GOOD ETHNIC RELATIONS WERE ALSO IMPORTANT FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE.

MANY OF XINJIANG'S MINORITIES HAVE RELATIVES ACROSS THE BORDER IN THE SOVIET UNION AND THE FRONTIER IS NOT MARKED IN REMOTE AREAS.

GENERAL WANG'S PARTY COMMITTEE URGED THAT MINORITY LEADERS SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE REAL WORK TO DO BUT CALLED ON THEM TO HANDLE DISPUTES FAIRLY AND NOT TO BE SWAYED BY THEIR EMOTIONS, THE PAPER SAID.

IT ADDED THE PARTY BOSS HAD SET A GOOD EXAMPLE BY PERSONALLY GIVING PUBLIC APOLOGIES TO MINORITY LEADERS WRONGED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST.

WORLD AFFAIRS'

other problems. Thirty years of concerted ethnic Chinese, or "Han," colonization has still left nearly two-thirds of Xinjiang's 13 million people officially counted as "minorities"—the largely Muslim Uighurs, Kazakhs, Kirghiz and nine others, whose loyalty to greater China has never been assured. Perhaps nowhere else in China is Peking's authority so tentative or so raw. One official admitted as much, looking out from a Xinjiang town toward a long line of graves of the early pioneers—the price of Peking's dream of cultivating the desert. "We call them the last battalion," he said.

Czarist Days:

More important to Xinjiang today are the battalions of the living, specifically those of the Soviet Army, which has about 450,000 men arrayed along the entire 4,500-mile Chinese border. Since czarist days, Russia has annexed more than 10,000 square miles of territory that is now disputed by Peking, including

two strategic triangles -where the Soviet-Chinese border meets Afghanistan in the west and the Mongolian People's Republic in the north. China now has an estimated 1.5 million troops on the Soviet front-

The stakes in Xinjiang are high: the desert covers great reserves of oil, coal and minerals, and on it stands the Chinese nuclear-test site at Lop Nor. Nearby are other military bases where missiles are reportedly targeted on Russian cities. Last March Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev made a dramatic personal appeal for improved relations in a speech broadcast from Tashkent—only-300 miles from Xinjiang. But on the Chinese side of the frontier that call falls on skeptical ears. "We do not know when local cross-border trade will be renewed," says Li Qishun, a Xin-

Ctoir«A.I

IGSHXT - ' *
| *" r** ' ? :.-» 5 n-

V>v
. A * * . W
^ • • : 'KuU 'tt
baV.rrr). ' 9 •

J. V *
u * : i' f i k l i * f i n d K
a v . 4 v r * ? > \$ }

WuX"!^
■4* **-

• ' - V * v
▶ . : TV •

Maiind* Uu—Nmrac*

Camels pull a cart through Urumwu A strategic outpost that Peking has yet to fully tame

In China's Wild West

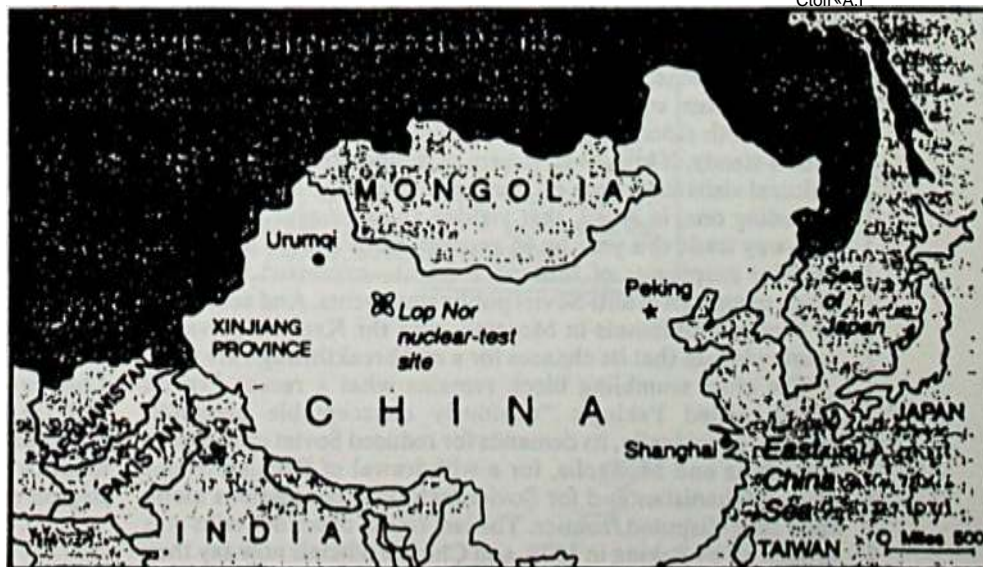
fyval empires have-battled over itsfdt-late military camps, forced labor and political prisoners-who" never returned. They were part of a massive effort to make the Gobi desert bloom. To start some farms in the 1950s, prisoners had to dig holes and huddle together underground against freezing winters. In summer, temperatures get high enough (75 degrees Celsius) to fry an egg on the sand. jNow the modcl farms have, tree-lined streetslinci woHTbrigades of ur-ban youth. But conditions are still so de-man ding that some 20,000 young people! have illegally run away, back to Shanghai,! in the last three years alone.

The native population in Xinjiang has

filung trade routes since the opening of the Silk Road two thousand years ago. Isolated yet strategically vital what is now called the Xinjiang -Autonomous Region is China's equivalent of America's old Wild West, a primitive area of harsh terrain, mineral riches and restless minority peoples. But Peking's greatest worry in the region is the IS"mile disputed border between Xin-jic _ and the Soviet Union. With a sixth of China's land mass and just over 1 percent of its population, Xinjiang is considered vulnerable—and a major effort to build it up has met with mixed success. NEWSWEEK'S Melinda Liu visited the Soviet-Chinese frontier and filed this report: :

The teeming bazaar at Urumqi is a smoky maze of rickety stalls, mangy camels and open-air Muslim food stands. Propped against a wall, a legless beggar beseeches passers-by with a wailing song from the ancient Middle East. Street merchants loudly hawk antique carpets with a verve that rings more of old Samarkand than a regional capital in China. In an alley, half a dozen sidewalk barbers shave heads for a swarthy clientele. Nearby, a curio dealer displays tarnished Korean War medals, bought decades ago from cash-strapped soldiers sent battalion by battalion to this hardship posting 1,500 miles from Peking to farm and to defend the frontier.

The very name Xinjiang brings a shudder to anyone in China with memories of deso-



: NEWSWEEK/JUNE 28, 1982 V,

"7" -----

pro

WORLD

AFFAIRS

B-r border

UrA on sUc£ long M the .
!AC .wo rd for Sovfct wD hcgCmoni8@»
Studfedp³ Hkc WMSU?1110vcs*n V*.'Ac»yation'^sito—started three years

sionally at four contact points, to discuss problems such as errant livestock wandering across the frontier. Ip Shihezi, a new desert city only 200 miles from the border, the studied peace ^symbolized by an enor-

viet side of the border can own private cars and better homes than their ethnic cousins in China.' Few locals admit to listening. "Nobody wants to hear Soviet propaganda," says one. Nevertheless, Peking feels obliged to reply with extensive airplay for atrocity stories told by Afghans fleeing into Pakistan from the occupation Soviet troops.

SB*0* frontier. iS3rk^{fnf}^thc' •> those days," «ys dty official Shen . r^Pceially compared Yuewcn/"we were following Mao's instruct
^ny.^HHcd clashes on rv^ ^almost ^onstoMig tunnels deep; store grain every- ;Wh^ 'and prepare for,war.' No^.it will.
Vietnam. ;S^w^.> ;!^*ve <rmore practical use." /
y^rs have passed sinri^ ■* Theory really heated sign of confronts^
involving bloodshed when * r? WI,V faonls'a daily battle of the radio airwaves,
dicr was killed by olar*csmen in.an^JTie chief targets are thelieartsand minds of
moisted pasture n/-«r the People's Liherr^« e norder. Mariy ^ ^Xinjiahg's'diverse minority'groups, most of
1 <nrwi. C5 uperatJon Army's estimated^ whom ,A * --
250,000*troom:ic^FV. UUQ ^vrmly 8 @tunated ^: whom regard both' Russian and Chinese as
as much timelahmi*!! r^gl^? 8ccm; to spend; ., -distinctly foreign tongues. Soviet: broad-
Works nmi/^to * ,, tsnns or public-^, casts feature news and other programs in at
local offirLic A. ^iktary exercises. And -- least four Central Asian languages—often from both,
sides meet occa-. including claims that minorities on the So

Torn Paget: But even Peking's -own propaganda often seems ignored in distant Xinjiang. In a mountain enclave of nomadic Kazakh' herders, a middle-aged woman ioffers visitors'sbur-milk tea—and confes- ses to not. knowing the name of China's current Communist Party Chairman, Hu Yaobang. In the same' Kazakh yurt (a felt- lined tent) an onlooker patiently rolls cigarettes,'using pages torn from'Mao Tse- tung's'<Little Red Book. To the locals in Xinjiang the names of the mighty rouse little awe. They have seen them come and go since Marco Polo.

Time to Settle An Old Score?

As sometimes happens .in Peking, there was far more to the headline than first met the eye. FOREIGN PARTICI- PANTS .Aiuuyg FOR INTERNATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD MEET, the official Xinhua newsagency. reported a week . ago. Buried farther down was the real news: among :the many arrivals was a four-member .team from the Soviet - Union—the first athletes to compete in China in more than fifteen years. For astute observers who remember what Ping-Pong did-for the Sino-American .relations eleven years ago, that low-key bit of 'ph»ying*^{field} diplomacy provided •



TMS from Sovtrto

... another clue to a recent warming and between the two Communist gi- Soviet frontier guards on patrol near the Chinese border A thaw in relations?

£li22?5he Russians who are taking the lead in this latest Sch up an alliance that began to fall apart more than attempt wp^ most dramatic single gesture so far came m twodf^h^n :Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev declared in a from.Taahkent: "We are prepared to widely ■5@*rr^unthou< any preconditions, on measures accept- comC to improve Soviet-Chinese relations." Since able to both sio» stream of diplomatic, economic and

are willing to "study" proposals for their resumption. But as Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang stated recently, any such move would depend on the "actual deeds" of the Soviet Union. And none of the Kremlin's recent olive branches has even hinted at Soviet concessions. - ■ i

Though Soviet officials deny any connection, there is little doubt that Moscow hopes to exploit the strain in Sino-U.S. ties over the problem of arms for Taiwan. Both publicly and privately, the Chinese have gone out of their way to insist that their relations with the superpowers are separate issues—a point underscored by their coolness so far to Moscow's advances. As Peking is well aware, the "Soviet Card" is more useful as a threat than as a *fait accompli*. But one development could put all bets off: the passing of Brezhnev. Just three weeks after Nikita Khrushchev's fall from power in 1964, Chinese Prime Minister Chou En-lai rushed to Moscow in a futile attempt to mend fences with the Kremlin's new leaders. If the next change in the aged Soviet or Chinese leadership opens up a better opportunity, this month's playing-field diplomacy could prove to be an important step on that road.

> vvesicjM . chances lor a rcajj u. -v.
-knowledges that» rcmains what a recent Pravda
The chief stu_m^ " ? , "obviously unacceptable precondi- rticle called
P?., dcmands for reduced Soviet influence in ."^specifically, its
withdrawal of Russian troops
^hinaWid Mongoha.^ ^torta! concessions along Indoc , h,aristan and f
las(round of border talks was
S3? I^*_diS?u?gfn^i979. and Chinese officials now say they
broken off by .

SPENCER REISS with MELINDA LIU in Peking and ANDREW NAGORSKI in Moscow

China's Kazakhs: livestock breeders and yurt builders [^]

Descendants of the armies of Genghis Khan mix tradition ... and China's commune system

By Taka shi Oka
Staff correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor
Urumchi, China

Norlan and Norbeti are newlyweds. They celebrated their nuptials last winter, but it was only in May that they moved into their own felt yurt (tent) in White Poplar Valley on the slopes of the snowcapped Tianshan Mountains.

They will stay in their yurt until September, when they and their whole Victory Production Brigade will move back with their sheep, goats, cattle, and horses to their winter quarters farther down the mountain slopes.

I came across Norlan and Norbeti on an idyllic patch of moist greensward looking out across alpine pastures. They were helping Norlan's mother build another yurt, beside (heir own, for the rest of the family - a younger brother, 17, and three sisters, the oldest of whom is 19.

Norlan is a Kazakh, a descendant of nomadic horsemen who helped Genghis Khan sweep across Central Asia and a great deal of Russia. Today the Kazakhs, a Turkic people like their neighbors the Uighurs, number

890,000 in Xinjiang, the former Chinese Turkestan, where they have their own autonomous district near the Soviet border

There are more Kazakhs on the Soviet side of the border, where they constitute the Republic of Kazakhstan, one of the 15 constituent republics of the Soviet Union. (But the Kazakhs of Kazakhstan are far outnumbered by non-Kazakh immigrants from Russia and other Soviet republics.)

The Kazakhs are no longer nomadic. But they are horsemen and livestock breeders par excellence, moving (as do Norlan and Norbeti) with their herds from well-defined winter pastures to summer grazing grounds.

The young couple invited me inside their yurt, which was immaculate and quite spacious. Their walls and ceiling are of thick white felt, wrapped around a framework of sticks, crisscrossed like a lattice. At the top there is an opening for air to circulate, and part way to the top another small opening

for a chimney should a stove be used indoors.

Inside, the place of honor is occupied by an iron bedstead, on which are neatly piled boldly patterned handmade carpets. A fringed canopy hangs above the bed. The felt covering of the tent is secured to the framework of poles and sticks by woven strips of wool in bright colorful patterns. These, and the cushions above the bed, are the handiwork of Norbeti.

Norlan owns one horse, five cows, 25 sheep, three goats. He used to have twice as many sheep, but sold them last year to pay for his wedding, receiving about 80 yuan (about \$41) per sheep. He is now once again gradually building up his flock.

Norlan also does collective work for the production brigade. For this work he was paid about 600 yuan last year. Following Kazakh custom, his wife and mother do not work. But his unmarried sister keeps the production brigade's books, and his brother has just started to work as a herdsman, like Norlan himself. His sister will stop working when she gets married, probably in a couple of years.

The Victory Production Brigade to which Norlan belongs is one of three brigades specializing in livestock-raising belonging to the East Wind commune. The commune, with a total population of 8,000, also has a brigade specializing in farming.

Norlan's father died when the boy was 15 years old. Norlan went to work immediately, but his family required support from commune funds - about 300 yuan or \$155 per year - until recently when his sister and brother began to work. Because of this support his sister was able to complete high school and two younger sisters are at school now.

We went outside to see how the yurt Norlan's mother was making was progressing. The framework was nearly complete, but the doorposts and the ridge poles had yet to be hammered in. "It won't take us long," said Nolan. "Maybe another hour or two." His brother, taking time off, was sprawled on the grass listening to a radio blaring songs in Uighur, a related language.

ASIA _____ CHINA MOVES TO PROTECT XINJIANG PLANK

MUNICH, August 4 ^82 (CNL) ----- The following appeared in the July 26, 1982 edition of the Long Inland novo paper Ke-wsday

Deep in the Eurasian land mass lies an area fought over since the earliest history by Huns, Persians, Turks, Mongols, Russians and Chinese. Today the land once known as eastern Turkestan is the Chinese autonomous region of Xinjiang, and

the Chinese are planning to develop it as a future base of military might and economic self-sufficiency — if Moscow doesn't interfere. *Newday's Asia Bureau chief recently spent three weeks in the strategic border zone.*

BT William Sexton
Newsday Asia Bureau -
Urumqi, Xinjiang — When Chinese troops invaded Vietnam in 1979, many people, including Chinese officials, expected the Soviet Union to retaliate by attacking China's thinly guarded desert domain along the Soviet underbelly in Central Asia.

In most military analysts' view, the under-equipped, under-trained People's Liberation Army, with its 1960-vintage jets and tanks, would have been no match for the powerful Soviet war machine deployed along the frontier of Xinjiang, China's mineral-rich central Asian territory. Russia's claims to the area go back three centuries, and the brand-new alliance with Hanoi offered the excuse to But the Soviets didn't march on Xinjiang. Instead, they invaded neighboring Afghanistan within the

Since the Soviet invasion, the look at the Soviet threat in Xinjiang. By 1980, a new army commander had been dispatched, and last year the Communist Party replaced its regional first secretary, the *de facto* governor-general of an area making up one-sixth of China. This summer the central regime is reactivating the special military unit that originally put the sorely underdeveloped territory under Chinese Communist control after 1949.

Precisely because it is underdeveloped—only 10 million persons, or less than 2 per cent of China's total population, live in an area the size of Western Europe — Xinjiang is especially vulnerable to Soviet pressure. An attack on China's other frontier zone to the east would threaten the Manchurian industrial base, where perhaps one-half the country's technological capacity is sited, and might call down a nuclear response from Peking's small but respectable missile arsenal. In Xinjiang, Peking presumably would not invite a nuclear attack on its own cities by playing the nuclear card in the desert. Here its defense strategy is generally to avoid direct confrontation, giving ground while mounting guerrilla tactics against an invader's supply lines. The traveler following Marco Polo's path along the narrow corridor leading into China from the Xinjiang frontier sees no evidence of a Maginot line. But the mountains flanking the long approach provide an obvious redoubt for massive guerrilla,

>£: SOVIET UNION ;

'iff

"rr

MONGOLIA c'

Urumqi
"ZJXINJIANG (GANSU PROVINCE)
CORRIDOR

> Peki

•AFGHANISTAN

JJOI

CHIN t

•" K; .: STATUTE
MTT.F

300 «
M»p/phO» I

forces, and the main passenger traffic at small desert railway stations consists of soldiers in uniform. Two hours outside the capital of Urumqi, a heavy artillery battery is visible. The huge gun fires a single round as the train passes.

Foreign journalists aren't permitted anywhere near the Soviet frontier. The bulk of Xinjiang is closed to all foreigners except for a handful of oil exploration technicians, mountain climbers and occasional travel magazine staffers who are shown carefully selected corners of the exotic region.

Chinese travelers describe the border as slicing across almost continuous mountains, the traditional grazing land of nomadic Moslem shepherds who wandered freely back and forth until the border was slammed shut in 1962.

"The Soviets build guard towers here and there," said one Chinese source, "then we build watch towers to observe their watch towers. You can see the Soviets, always with their binoculars. The only barbed wire is around the guard towers. Sometimes they'll suddenly move a tower, so we move ours. And in summer when the herds move out of the valleys, we'll see their patrols reconnoitering the hillsides."

Probably because neither side wants to alienate the Kazak, Kirgiz and other minority peoples living on both sides of the border, it is a far quieter one than the strife-ridden line between China and Vietnam. The last fatal incident made public took place in July, 1979. China charged that Soviet border guards fired on a livestock farm in Tacheng, killing a Han (ethnic Chinese) woman official and kidnaping a Kirgiz, veterinarian who wasn't released until February, 1980. "They tried to make me provide information on the military, topography and streets in Tacheng and the grazing routes on the stock farm," veterinarian Burumbutug was quoted as saying after his release.

• «onvjJ^e \$ blizzard Western Tiw5^oi? re«cu«l People³* nw^otUr da/E¹ Bnd niE^{ht}*¹ efflyrt by the • - natinn.H* - r V^{on} Army and people of various (minorities), the official news agency

radio broadcast revealed dia- i 7~iJⁿ with the army over such hardships. The l ' *A5 of * "rtAm [air force] unit is ata- •; *» • jn/>ⁿ "e Tian Shan mountains," the broadcast ' »md. "Certain fighters held that the hardships of the border region were too great." Air force headquar- , •*** m Urumqi sent "a propaganda group into the units to conduct education for the officers and fighters in loving the motherland, Xinjiang, and their 5 units and jobs." *

There is also anti-Chinese propaganda from pow- -J, •rful Soviet radio transmitters and, for the central * Asian peoples, the strong attraction to join relatives elsewhere. The Turkish embassy in Peking reports : continual traffic between Xinjiang's Uygurs and : their cousins in Turkey. People's Daily, the central •

. Communist Party organ, revealed July 7 that a "po- * litical working group" had to be dispatched "to help a . regiment stationed in the Djunggar basin" just across ' . the Soviet border in North Xinjiang. "This education • made a great change in the mental attitude of the officers and men," People's Dailg said.

The uncle of Duonati Niyazi, a deputy battalion' commander of the Uygur nationality, is manager of a private factory in a foreign country, ana he asked Niyazi to go to wrk with him and inherit his property, but Niyazi decided to stay end do his job for the party." ^ ^ — — ~rf----- r_~ •.

Aaart'fifum the obvious military preparations, Chiaflmain strategy for holding Xinjiang has been u with Hanwople. A generation ago there 'were 3 million non-Han residents, mostly Islamic, to '2? 1 Sffion Ham The 1981 populaUon estimate £md 76million frnm the mmonties, jadJ-3 mil-, rful: But the Han influx has- exacerbauri rather • Bon nan. "'yr? situation because of than relieved .. mostly Moslem indig-

.the Han had three sources of Han emlt In the past. Sdicra, high school graduates f grants— demobilised established cities, • S r w h o m n^o f b e w U M ^ , e x . •

• if ¹>e^uaition throuⁱ labor." No figures exist , • Uedfor>e-e<mca xinjiaang aspunishment.al- f on ^ffidfl ofthe Shihezi state farm complex though an offi^f that3,000 "oounter-revolu- ^est of Urum^^We included* the popu- donariea **f^f ^ pillion. The proportion may be Ution rfJrLjjSr m les^deHirab.e reclamation

• g C * ! # » d M e r t

, Disenchanted "educated youth" have proven al- • • most as great a problem for authorities as the stub- »bornly independent and religious minorities.

• Correspondents covering the Boston Symphony Or- c h v i i i ! to in 1971/witnessed noisy demonstrations by young people demanding permanent relocation. They had been permitted to visit Shanghai for the Chinese New Yeart festival and . . refused to return to Xinjiang. Apparently the' prob-

•* lem still exists. A Shanghai newspaper reported in May that government "organizations in Nanshi County [a suburb] have paid much attention to the / work of indoctrinating youth to go back and support the construction in Xinjiang. . . with their earnest - efforts many youth . . have changed their mind and decided to go back."

!* Involuntary transfers supposedly ended with the Cultural Revolution. Estimates of the total of young people shipped west range up to 1 million and more. Urumqi radio once gave the figure of 200,000 for the years 1968-74. Since the program began about 1960 and was still going on in 1976, the 1 million figure might not be for off.

At Shihezi, Wu Quangyu, 39, and his wife, Cheng Rong, 36, insisted they have no desire to leave their new home to rejoin family in Shanghai. Wu is a plant protection chemist and his wife a schoolteacher, and their bright little row house of- . fere about three time6 the space a similar family of four would be allotted in Shanghai. Still, their eldest, •on's given name means "born in Shanghai" (during^J a vacation), and Wu concedes that life in Shihezi is far better than on more remote state farms where most of the young people end up.

Officials here insist that so-called "edi .ted youth" with family problems are allowed return

• to the cities. That's a ,half-truth at best. One young man sent to Xinjiang in the earlier 1960s was al- - lowed to return to Peking two year* ago to attend graduate school. Now the school wants him to join its faculty — but his wife and two children cannot ,get permits to leave the small town they're assigned ' to south of the Taklamakan ("no return") Desert.

Fully developed, Xinjiang should be able to sup- ' port 10 times the present population of 13 million..

Once the mountains' heavy snowfall is harnessed to - irrigation and hydropower, and the transportation bottleneck solved, it's inevitable that Han emigration will be stepped up again. The prospect of 100 million Chinese living nght next door to Soviet (Jen-;

tral Aria must be a nightmare for Moscow and per- hape one reason for deploying an estimated one- fourth of the Soviet Union's aimed forces along the border.

Bahaer, the Uygur spokesman of the Nationalities Commission, denies there is any plan to bring more Han into Xinjiang. Vice Gov. Amudong Nyari is more candid. "One day Xinjiang will have a need for additional labor force from Central China," he •aid. "But there must be education this time about the party's nationality policy. That could take 10 or 20 or 30 years." Given the population pressure back east, it's more likely that emigration will resume as soon as the new military superstructure puts Xinjiang's house in order.

.. China's main success story in Xinjiang has been the army's "Production and Construction Corps," the *bingtuan*. It had its beginnings as an almost Machiavellian ploy for dispersing Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's defeated northwestern armies after the Communist victory of 1949. Instead of repatriating the hundreds of thousands of nationalists back to their homes in eastern and southern China, Communist Commander Wang Zhen merged them into his army and assigned the mixed units to reclamation duty in the desert. In the east, meanwhile, the army recruited thousands of young single women and shipped them off to the northwest, where nature quickly took its course. Now the *bingtuan* is self-perpetuating.

It's a two-sided army: building families, farms and factories on the one hand while providing China's strategic reserve against Soviet expansion on the other. The accomplishments before its dissolution in 1976 were remarkable: 2.6 million acres, or almost the area of Connecticut, converted into farmland by irrigation, 170 mechanized state farms established and manned, and 691 industrial enterprises from power plants to woolen mills set up to supply the region and process its agricultural output for export. Throughout, the *bingtuan* kept its military organization, a factory constituting a battalion, a cluster of state farms a division, and all geared to switch into combat roles on a moment's notice. Some nationalists didn't do badly. After surrendering his artillery battalion in 1949, Col. Shi Yingyu became an army staff officer — then capital investment chief at Shiheri, now at age 70, vice mayor of a prefecture of half a million people.

Such was the *bingtuans'* clout by the 1960s that Chairman Mao Tse-tung's Red Guards were physically prevented from spreading the Cultural Revolution in Han Xijiang. When leftist units tried to take Shihezi by force on Jan. 26, 1967, they were repelled in a pitched battle that left a reported 100 dead and 500 injured. Tourists are not told that story, however.

Nor do officials in Urumqi offer much information on the situation of the party's political situation in Xinjiang. The party's political situation in Xinjiang is a complex one, involving many factors, including the party's national policy and the unity of nationalities.

At a party conference in the new year, First Secretary Wang Enmao gave the regime's first task for 1962 as "Another consolidate and develop the region's political situation of stability and unity." And the key to that, he went on, "lies in implementing the party's nationality policy and promoting the unity of nationalities." That's the Marxist way of saying it hasn't been done.

MOVES TO PROTECT XIJIANG

Border Area Long-Coveted

... Afghanistan was not the first SSSR's ambitions in Central Asia's y-... f*
 • [R«*«an ambitions in Central Asia's y- •• f*
 • «*@rtland. The czars gave that honor to
 • • co, rridor of riches that led Marco Polo
 v tot0 China in the 13th Century.
 *' _ 1° Polo's day, the bounty was »dlk and jade. For ' iv'
 .«ie. Creat, it was gold and territory. Today mere is oil,
 coal, iron, aluminum, copper and tungsten, as well as
 gold, hydropower and a potential empire of farmland.
 Xinjiang sprawl* across central Asia like a bloated
 half moon facing into the Soviet Union, its
 640,0 square miles (about the area of Western Eu-
 rope) accommodating a mere 13 million souls. A sin-
 gle-track railroad links the Chinese *nei lu* (inner land)
 with the capital of Urumqi in the crescent's northern
 reach; the trip from Peking is four nights and three
 days. Khashgar, the ancient caravan terminal at the
 crescent's western tip, is roughly equidistant from
 Peking and Moscow and has no railroad. . ^
 .i
 More than two thousand years have passed since, the Han
 emperor Wu Di dispatched the first expedi- tion to secure
 the territory in 138 BC. Its Chinese name is as appropriate
 now as then: Xinjiang means "new frontier." Today the
 frontier consists of 2,700
 • jriilftB of tense, often-disputed border with the Soviet
 Union and its lockstep ally, Outer Mongolia, plus
 another 75 miles with Afghanistan's northeast cor-
 ner. .
 ...
 Although the oasis outpogt* of Kashgar, Khotan,
 Turfan were famous among traders as far
 • as Roman times, the best-known place on the
 • wxjera map is probably Lop Nor, the Gobi waste-
 *- u2h. here China tests it. nudew h«nba Just to ;• in
 the Gansu corridor, shielded from the

... nearby Soviet Mongol border by 'deert
 is believed to be the
 principal missile launch com-
 plex from which China tested its first ICBM in May, " 1980.
 Y'V*.'
 The several hundred Soviet troops are
 poised along the Xinjiang frontier since the 1960s ~ \ and another 200,000 in adjoining Afghanistan since *.
 Dec. 27, 1979 — are only one of Peking's concerns in IT the region. Another is the apparent restiveness of the narrow majority of Xinjiang residents who are not of Han (ethnic Chinese) descent. Many are Moe- 61
 lems with close ethnic ties to central Asian peoples in the Soviet Union and Mid* at, and Islam's stir- rings to the west may be causing serious echoes in i the reopened markets along the Old Silk Road. Qyly-
 grendly the Chinese have admitted an area
 Wuchiao continental divide in Gansu Province—on - the west the Yellow River flows to the Pacific, on the - ■
 east Xinjiang's Iriz River (Irtys) flows to the Russians) north across Siberia to the Arctic Ocean. Endless chains of mountains seem to enfold the narrow, Gansu corridor, the floor sometimes flat, sometime^ rolling but almost always desert. In Xinjiang the @ Gobi Desert widens out, and at Urumqi a broad pass slices through the *Tian Shan* (heavenly peak) moun- tains into the Djunggar Basin adjoining Soviet Ka- zakhstan and Outer Mongolia. * »'
 The corridor seems an inviting path for Soviet armor, but the mountains are honeycombed with de- fence positions, including munitions and food . enough to support years of guerrilla operation against^ an invader. The strategy may sound primitive, but the Chinese are greatly comforted by Moscow's inability to pacify a similar terrain in- Afghanistan after 30 months of intense warfare.
 —Sexton

Munich, 16 August (CND) - The following article appeared in The Observer, 15 August 1982*

from JONATHAN MIRSKY In Xinjiang
* THE; LEADERS are here starved to death. I travel
always, telling* us to iep> *U over Xinjiang and I can
arate, fact from fiction. ««« P@oP*« *** pretty hungry
You want to hear the big j? countryside, but the
fbrt ■ ihnm % Government moves w food
For I J C . other provinces and
For us the Communist -buys from abroad. But
victory has been a disas- if most of the Hans left
ter.* • there'd be plenty to eat.'

So says a young womanXinjiang has never been
■ engineer, one of the six mil- fully integrated with the'rest
lion Uighur people who live'of China. It became an im-
here in China's far . west, • perial province only in 1873
close to-the border with the and in 1930 was the setting
Soviet Union. for a Muslim uprising which
Since the Communist take-' eventually rocked neighbour-
over in. 1949, the Uighurs ing provinces and was sup-

claim that the best jobs, the best pressed only after brutal
housing, and the lion's share of counter attacks by security
food in Xinjijng has gone to forces.
outsiders, members of the
country's dominant ethnic group, As late as last year disorders
the Hans, who have flooded into shook the city of Kashgar after aXinjiang University he is taught to
the area. young Chinese shot dead aread Chinese there for the . first

'I'm an irrigation, engineer', the Uighur during a quarrel. Fourtime in his life,
Uighur woman said. ' We have Hans were killed by outraged. 'This means the cultural level of
chronic drought in Xinjiang but Uighurs 'and hundreds wereXinjiang remains low,' one of the
before the Hans came we usually injured. Uighurs said. ' Outside the city few
had enough to eat. Then in 'The police separated thecountry
19^9,1960 and 1961 we had the groups late that day,' a Uighur
three terrible years because of said. 'If the army had been called
stupid Peking policy. A lpt of in the fighting would still be going
people on, but they still haven't tried the

Chinese who killed the
'Uighur.'

When asked .what. they
Would tell Chairmam Hu
Yaobang and Premier Zhao
'Ziyang, if asked for their
: opinions on how to improve
matters in this province, the
• young Uighurs burst out
laughing.

One said: * That's the whole
point. Peking would never ask
anyone here their opinion. If they
did they'd just get polite optimistic
answers about progress and
happiness. Do you think any
official here would risk his job to
tell the truth ? Everyone just
smiles and says what's expected.'

According to the Uighurs,' very
few of their people are . able to
learn Chinese in school. If a
student is lucky enough to get to
Xinjiang University he is taught to
read Chinese there for the . first

people understand cinema,
television or even official
broadcasts, unless they are in
1 Uighur.' .Despite . much lip
^aervice .about <their • highly
, prized . minorities — usually
' described here as ' colourful
' and vigorous '-7-the Han rul-
ing majority remains deeply
. chauvinist. Few of them

speak the language of the
minority peoples they rule,
and virtually, no minority
people hold significant cen-
tral responsibility,

' If Peking really wants
Uighurs te participate in
running Xinjiang it's got to
stop despising them,' the
Uighur woman engineer said.
Outside this city in several
days of attempting to speak
to Uighurs in the country-
wide, subjects of the Chinese
emperor since 1873 and citi-
zens of the People's Republic
since 1949, not one person of
any age was willing to speak
< a word of the national lan-
guage. In 1980, Chairman Hu
Yaobang apologised to the
-Tibetans. Perhaps Xinjiang
could benext on his list.

Ti- AIMfjgZ

ASIA - REPORT ON XINJIANG

F -

NUNICH RUG. 26 <CND> — THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES BY WILLIAM SEXTON OF THE U.S. MAGAZINE NEMSBAY HAVE BEEN BISTRIBUTED BY THE LOS ANGELES TIMES-HASHINGTON POST NEWS SERVICE:

PRRT 1:

(deep in the eurasian land mass and far from any ocean lies an area fought over since earliest history by hunns, persians, turks, Mongols, russians and Chinese, today the land once known as eastern turkistan is the Chinese autonomous region of xinjiang, and the Chinese are planning to develop it as their future base of military might and economic self-sufficiency — If moscow doesn't interfere newsday's asia bureau chief recently spent three weeks in the strategic border zone, this is the first of two reports.)

urumqi; china -- when Chinese troops invaded Vietnam in 1979, many people, including Chinese officials; expected the soviet union to retaliate by attacking china's thinly guarded desert domain along the soviet underbelly in central asia.

in most military analysts' view, the under-equipped, under-trained people's liberation army, with its 1960-vintage jets and tanks, would have been no match for the powerful soviet war machine deployed along the frontier of xinjiang, china's mineral-rich central asian territory. russia's claims to the area go back three centuries, and the brand-new alliance with hanoi offered the excuse to move, but the soviets never marched on xinjiang. Instead, they invaded neighboring afghanistan within the year.

since then, peking has taken a fresh look at the soviet threat in xinjiang. by 1960 a new army commander had been dispatched, and last year the communist party replaced its regional first secretary, the de facto governor-general of an area making up one-sixth of china, this summer the central regime is reactivating the special military unit that originally put the sorely underdeveloped territory under Chinese communist control after 1949.

precisely because it is underdeveloped — only 13 million persons, or less than 2 percent of china's total population, live in an area the size of western europe — xinjiang is especially vulnerable to soviet pressure, an attack on china's other frontier zone to the east would threaten the manchurian industrial base, where perhaps one-half the country's technological capacity is sited, and might call down a nuclear response from peking's small but respectable missile arsenal, in xinjiang, peking presumably would not invite retaliation against its own cities by playing the nuclear card in the desert, here its defense strategy is generally conceded to embrace giving ground while mounting guerrilla attacks against an invader's supply lines.

the traveler following marco polo's path along the narrow corridor leading into china from the xinjiang frontier sees no evidence of a maginot line, but the mountains flanking the long approach provide an obvious redoubt for massive guerrilla forces, and the main passenger traffic at small desert railway stations consists of soldiers in uniform, two hours outside the capital of urumqi, a heavy artillery battery is visible, the huge gun fires a single round as the train passes.

foreign journalists aren't permitted anywhere near the soviet frontier, the bulk of xinjiang is closed to all foreigners except

</r> > BG/

< i >

REPORT ON XINJIUNG

F - 69/

for a h 4
 °Ccas of e*Ploratlon technicians, mountain climbers and
 Corners nf *ravel magazine staffers who are shown •carefully selected
 chInpl * * «tlc region.

continuous⁶ travelers describe the border as slicing across almost;
 Shepherns^{WOU}ntalns, the traditional grazing land of nomadic moslem
 slammer^{Who} wandered freely back and forth until the border was

•S*2t^{hut In 1962*}

Chinese^{h6} Sovlets dulled guard towers here and there, -'***'# said one
 watch f^{Sour}ce, 'ft'fttheVi we build watch towers to observe^fthe 1 r
 the^{oni} !^{r5}, y^{ou} can see the soviet, always with their bl-npculars.
 sudd i^{ariJetl} wire ls around the guard towers, sometimes they'ftll
 enlV wove a tower, so we move ours, and In summer when the herds
 hillside^{valleys}, we'ftll see their patrols reconno1 ter 1ng the

possibly because neither side wants to alienate the Kazak, Kirgiz
 and other minority peoples living on both sides of the border, It ls
 a far quieter one than the strife-ridden line between china and •
 Vietnam, the last fatal incident made public took place In July,
 1979. china charged that soviet border guards fired on a livestock
 farm In tacheng, Killing a han (ethnic Chinese) official and
 Kidnaping a Kirgiz veterinarian who wasn'tft released until february
 1980. 'ft'ftthey tried to make me provide information on the military,
 topography and str'eets in tacheng and the grazing routes on the
 stock farm,'ft'# veterinarian burumbutug was quoted as saying after
 his release.

life is hard for the defenders. In mid-may, a convoy of 160
 vehicles was marooned by a late blizzard In south xlnjlang on the
 highway to western tlbet. 'ft'ftseveral hundred people ... were
 rescued after four days'# and nights'# effort by the people'#s
 liberation army and people of various nationalities'#
 minorities,'#'# the official news agency reported.

a recent urumQl radio broadcast revealed dissension within the
 army over such hardships. '#'#the fourth compa'ny of a certain air
 force unit is stationed on the tlan shan mountains,'#*.# the
 broadcast said. '#'#cert%ln fighters held that the hardships of the
 border region were too great.'#'# air force headquarters in ururaqi
 ent *#'#a propaganda group into the units to conduct education fc
 the officers and fighters in loving the motherland, xlnjlang, and
 their Units and Jobs.'#'#

there is also anti-chinese propaganda from powerful soviet radio
 nsmltters and, for the central aslan peoples,- the strong
 ^traction to Join relatives elsewhere, the turkish embassy in
 3 kina reports continual traffic between xlnjlang'fts uygurs and
 p e K r cousins In turkey, people'fts daily, the central communist
 oraan revealed July 7 that a 'ft'ftpoll11 cal working group'#'#
 party y djs^{pa}tched 'ft'ftto help a regiment stationed in-the
 had ar basin'#'* Just across the soviet bolder In north xlnjlang.
 djunggar atlon made a great change In the mental- attitude of the
 '**filar* and men,'#'# people'#s dally said.

-cthe uncle of duonatl nlyazl, a deputy battalion commander of
 9 gur nationality, is manager of a private factory In a foreign
 the

country, and he asked niyazi to go to work with him and inherit his property, but niyazi decided to stay and do his job for the party. 'A'

apart from the obvious military preparations, china's main strategy for holding Xinjiang has been to fill it with han people, a generation ago there were 3 million non-han residents, mostly Islamic, to only 1 million han. the 1981 population estimate listed 7.5 million from the minorities, and 5.3 million han. but the han influx has exacerbated rather than relieved the strategic situation because of mounting friction between the mostly muslim indigenous people — 5.8 million of them uygurs of turkic background — and the largely nonreligious han. by law the uygurs, kazaks, uzbeks, Kirgiz, mongol, tadzhik and other nationalities are just as Chinese as the han Chinese.

in the past, china had three sources of han emigrants — demobilized soldiers, high school graduates for whom no jobs could be found in established cities, and lawbreakers or dissidents ('bad elements' etc) exiled for 're-education' through labor. no figures exist on the number sent to Xinjiang as punishment, although an official of the shihezi state farm complex west of urumqi admitted that 3,000 'counter-revolutionaries' and 'rightists' were included in the population of half a million, the proportion may be considerably greater in less-desirable reclamation colonies deeper in the desert.

disenchanted educated youth have proven almost as great a problem for authorities as the stubbornly independent and religious minorities, correspondents covering the boston symphony orchestra's visit to shanghai in 1979 witnessed noisy demonstrations by young people demanding permanent relocation, they had been permitted to visit shanghai for the Chinese new year festival and refused to return to Xinjiang. apparently the problem still exists, a shanghai newspaper reported in may that government organizations in nanshi county a suburb have paid much attention to the work of indoctrinating youth to go back and support the construction in Xinjiang ... with their earnest efforts many youth ... have changed their mind and decided to go back.

involuntary transfers supposedly ended with the cultural revolution, estimates of the total of young people shipped west range up to 1 million and more, urumqi radio once gave the figure of 200,000 for the years 1968-74. since the program began about 1960 and was still going on in 1976, the 1 million figure might not be far off.

at shihezi, wu quangyu, 39, and his wife, cheng rong, 36, insisted they have no desire to leave their new home to rejoin family in shanghai, wu is a plant protection chemist and his wife a schoolteacher, and their bright little row house offers about three times the space a similar family of four would be allotted in shanghai, still, their eldest son's given name means 'born in shanghai' (during a vacation), and wu contends that life in shihezi is far better than on more remote state farms where most of the young people end up.

officials here insist that so-called educated youth with family problems are allowed to return to the cities, that's a half-truth at best. one young man sent to xinjiang in the earlier 1960s was allowed to return to peking two years ago to attend graduate school, now the school wants him to join its faculty — but his wife and two children cannot get permits to leave the small town they're assigned to south of the taklamakan (no return)

desert.

(P20)

fUuy (j
 ^represent pon, Nnaf?ed, xInjiang should be able to support 10 times the
 , SriQw^al, ij :atlon of 13 million. once the mountains' ** heavy j
 trahsportat. arnes sed to lrrl93tlon and hydropower, and the
 emigrat^Qn *??, bottlePecK solved, It'fls Inevitable that han
 Ulonwchi^{W111} be stepped up again, the prospect of 100
 a nese living right next door to soviet central
 asla must be
 estimatPrt for moscow and perhaps one reason for deploying^an border one"fourth of the
 soviet unlon'as armed forces along the

tjenjpr Vr the uygur spokesman of the nationalities commission, amudn there is any plan
 to bring more han Into Xinjiang. vice gov. for artrt<nyazi ls wore candid. ***one day
 xInjiang will have a need the aaditional labor force from central china, '*** he said.
 ***but must be education this time about the party's nationality Policy, that could
 take 10 or 20 or 30 years.' »' » given the population pressure back east, It's more
 likely that emigration ^ will resume as soon as the new military superstructure puts
 xInjiang'fts house In .order.

chlna'Rs main success story in xInjiang has been the army'Rs 'Reproduction
 and construction corps, '*** the blngtuan. It had Its beginnings as an almost
 machiavellian ploy for dispersing generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's defeated
 northwestern armies after the communist victory of 1949. Instead of repatriating the
 hundreds of thousands of nationalists back to their homes in eastern and southern
 china, communist commander wang zhen merged them Into his • army and assigned
 the mixed units to reclamation duty In the desert. In the east, meanwhile, the army
 recruited thousands of young single women and shipped them off to the northwest,
 where nature quickly took its course.'now the blngtuan Is self-perpetuating.

It's a two-S'lded army: building families, «faras and factories on the one hand
 while providing chlna'fts strategic reserve against soviet expansion on the other,
 the accomplishments before Its dissolution In 1975 were ^remarkable: 2.5 million
 acres, or almost the area of Connecticut, converted Into farmland by Irrigation, 170

(
 nechanized state farms established and manned, and 691 industrial fenterprises
 from power plants to woolen mills set up to supply the region and process Its
 agricultural output for export, throughout, the blngtuan kept Its military
 organization, a factory constituting battalion, a cluster of state farms a division,
 and all geared to switch into combat roles on a moment's notice, some nationalists
 didn't do badly, after surrendering his artillery battalion In 1949 col. shl yIngyu
 became an army staff officer — then capital investment chief at shlhezl, now at age
 70, vice mayor of a orefecture of half a million people.

P such was the blngtuans'ft clout by the 1960s that chairman mao
 tung'Rs red gu^{ards} were physically prevented from spreading the ultural
 revolution In han xInjiang. when leftist units tried to ♦ kP'shlhezl by force on Jan.
 26, 1967, they were repelled in a irrhed battle that left a reported 100 dead and 500
 Injured. ^{PiZ}f_{is}ts are not told that story, however.

nor do officials in urumqi offer much information on the suffering of the minority peoples under the communist party's policies from 1966 to 1976 -- the gang of four years -- designed to wipe out their religion, language and other historic characteristics. since the moslems fought back, the death toll may have been heavy, vice chairman deng xiaoping set about reversing the attitude toward minorities after mao's death in 1976, but there is some evidence of continuing persecution, at a party conference marking the new year, first secretary wang enmao gave the region's first task for 1982 as 'further consolidate and develop the region's political situation of stability and unity.' and the key to that, he went on, 'lies in implementing the party's nationality policy and promoting the unity of nationalities.' that's the marxist way of saying it hasn't been done yet.

PART 2:

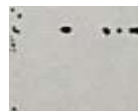
urumqi, china -- his intense, desert-tan eyes sparkling with excitement, the imam hadji abduallah announced to the foreign visitor seated cross-legged with him on a worn carpet in the blue-walled mosque: 'there is wonderful news for Islam today.'

it had been decided, he said, to reopen local koran academies here and in kashgar, china's westernmost city in central asia, for the first time since the 1950s. that should assure a new generation of imams to replace the aging spiritual leaders left over from pre-revolutionary china.

ending the prohibition on religious instruction probably represents a profound strategic decision by vice chairman deng xiaoping's pragmatic regime, it is probably no coincidence that china sent its xinjiang song and dance ensemble of central asian artists -- mostly muslim -- on a tour of tunisia, Jordan and turkey this summer.

peking's initiative toward its muslim minority makes considerable sense after the soviet invasion of muslim afghanistan in 1979. the soviet union probably contains more muslims than any other country, residents of the former central asian khanates gobbled up by the russian czars a century ago. if peking can pacify its own significant muslim minority and forge new ties with the arab theocracies -- a very large 'riff' -- the impact would surely be felt among soviet muslims restive over the afghan invasion.

china estimates about 13 million believers in islam, roughly equivalent to the entire population of Iraq, most live in the northwest provinces of Xinjiang, gansu and ningxia that provided marco polo his route to kublai khan's court in the 13th century and now form china's longest frontier with the Soviet union, many Chinese muslims are of hui nationality, which is indistinguishable in physical features from the majority han (ethnic Chinese). in Xinjiang, however, the bulk are caucasian-featured central asians like the imam hadji abduallah, a member of the uygur nationality, which is closely related to the turks.



< r > REPORT ON XINJIRNG

F - 5f!T

^rer>gth, ahrtnt? J*9ur@ who radiates dignity, warmth and Inner
 9overn the *o*o obvi;ously has made his peace with the Chinese who
 the 1 5Dn , y9Ur autonomous region of x 1 nJ 1 ang , ' ft' ft because of
 "e is the'ono lmams' who reportedly survived the cultural .revolution,
 the 'ft •pu9/0; whom foreign Journalists are taken for interview*,
 twice — « fH^1' »'ft in his name signifies that he has been to me£ca
 revolutlon nf 8 and.1962 , before mao tse-tung'fts cultural
 diversity ^{1966 set out to} eliminate religion and ethnic
 his offiro th3t year he had to doff thG crocheted white skullcap of
 streets h and put on <a dunce'fts hat while being dragged though the
 faner f y red Quards. then he was sent Into the desert lo work as a
 urumoi ?£.two years before returning to virtual house arrest In
 surviio * R1 Was not worried,'ft'ft he said, 'ft'fil knew Islam would
 jve, for it is so written in the koran.'ft'fl
 s mosque was returned to its uygur congregation two years ago
 e[servlng as a warehouse, the government helped pay for
 painting its plain interior, abdullah refused to estimate how many
 believers come to his mosque to pray but said there were 300,ODQ
 among the captal'fts population of 800,000.

since 1949 the communists have wrought many changes even among
 the believers, child marriage andpolygamy are prohibited.
 xinjiang'fls women abandoned the veil, and most have traded the f£ trousers they
 formerly had to wear under their skirts for heavy, but considerably cooler,
 stockings, still, when an attempt was made to photograph three 'old market women
 selling scarves on the street opposite the mosque, an elderly uygur patriarch
 berated one because her knees were showing.

one change the uygurs resist is chlna'fts Insistence on setting clocks to the
 same hour as peking, even though urumqi is as far west as is denver from
 Washington, imam, abdullah looks at a timepiece which reads s 1 x 'o' ftclock, and
 says' it is four o'ftclock.

in the tlan shan (heavenly peak) foothills, kazaks, the second-largest Islamic
 majority, extract a spartan livelihood by raising sheep and goats, 'ft'ftlt'fts a terribly
 hard life,'ft'ft said adlljan kaslm, the uygur interpreter on the tWee-hour drive up to
 tlan chi (heavenly lake) on the approaches to 17,9007ft. mt. bogda.
 ' ft' ftsometlmes a kazak gives up and comes to the clty'j but they always return to
 the hills, they can'ftt live without their
 independence.'ft'ft

--- In 1950, kazaks along the border staged a full-scale Jihad (hoi, :
 war) against the Chinese until the leaders were caught and executed, in 1962,
 60,000 of them simply packed up their yurts (felt tents) and moved to the soviet
 union.

for those nomads, summer means abandoning the secure valleys for the lush
 pastureland of the upper mountains, the families move their vurts on horseback
 while herding their hundreds of sheep into the unlands. in such inhospitable
 surroundings the kazaks have become a nnderfully hospitable people, even at such
 a busy season the tranoeer dropping in on kaskihbal, and hlsVilfe, kaplza, both 52,
 is s lied into their yurt, beckoned to sit down and offered sut, a



tart, watery mix of sheep's milk and cheese. It turns out Kaskinbai and Kapiza already have a guest, who has come to complete negotiations for the marriage between his son and their daughter, the two young people are out caring for their respective flocks and have no voice in the arrangements.

In Urumqi, the director of the government's commission on minorities, an Uygur named Bahaer, had said that arranged marriages are no longer permitted, the one visible accommodation to the new rules in Kaskinbai's house was a two-inch picture of Mao pinned to the wall.

Also in Urumqi, Liu Conghao, the Cantonese technocrat in charge of Xinjiang's economic research bureau, had said the minority peoples were prospering as never before, Kaskinbai's account of his first year under the "individual responsibility system," however, was grim, his contract with the commune allows him to keep all the lambs his flock produces in excess of an annual quota of 88 lambs per 100 sheep, but last winter was a hard one, and only 30 to 40 per hundred survived, he has no idea what his household will have to show for the arduous year's work, the 15 sheep in his private flock can't be sold for cash, he said, they will be needed to feed the family.

Back in Urumqi, provincial vice governor Amudong Niyazi had said that the communists have brought education -- along with health care and roads -- to virtually every corner of Xinjiang, yet 6-year-old Desinmorat was not with his peers in the first grade, he was on his way into the highlands to help tend the family's assigned herd of 500 sheep.

Such are the difficulties of enforcing Peking's intentions 1,700 miles west across the mountains and deserts, Xinjiang's response may indicate the chances of Deng's modernizers prevailing over the bureaucrat, often feudalistic, hangovers from old China. In the past century, other modernizers have tried and failed. Here the problem is exacerbated by an age-old character: the propaganda writers term "the great Han-Chinese" that's the ethnic Chinese assumption "of 'monarchy' over the rest of humankind. From the east disdained the central Asians as yemen (barbarians) despite their centuries of cultural enrichment from western civilizations at least as advanced as China's.

The new arrivals have been especially slow to learn about commerce from Uygur entrepreneurs like Rahmatulla, 64, born a peasant in Turfan. He saved his earnings as a shop clerk, borrowed money and labor from friends and now, two years after individual enterprise was legalized in Urumqi, owns his own 13-room hotel and as a sideline sells famous Khotan carpets from forbidden western Xinjiang, business was so good the first year he built six new rooms this year, as an individual businessman, Rahmatulla cannot expand beyond his own family residence or hire outsiders, but with nine sons and daughters, that's not a huge problem, (China's stringent family planning rules don't apply to the minority peoples).

Coaxing non-communists and party brethren to work together is called "united front work." Regional party chief Wang Enmao admitted two months ago at a special Communist Party congress on united front work that a lot remains to be done in bringing order out of chaos in this respect. Wang gave orders to promote "upper-strata figures among the nationalities" -- i.e., the

ftSif)

< J J - >

REPORT ON XINJJRNG

F S JA

PrG-coW»Un

? £rangemen It**e.**te Into the government, 'ft'ftand make proper H?elr Pay an/or their work and dally life^{1*1*} — i.e., restore^{ais} Possessert^{housIn} S. In the recent past they had been despised, j also, fi-o^{ant3} often tortured as 'ft'ftclass enemies.'ft'ft

a·nong re^{WB WUSt} consolidate and expand the patriotic alliance

fj^res^{6!.,9!.,0,5} circles in the nationalities, and win over and unite along r^119¹ous circles,'ft'ft he said, a directive like that,

traditiona-i n^lang *srefusa| to let Journalists visit **its'** experienn^{mostem} centers,'strongly suggests that china may be- In the 7^{In9} at least a measure of the Islamic activism so evident ' wideast,

a recp^{llar.Orders} wer.e Issued by military commander xiao quanfu at -,4,. nt * ' **di scipline and educat lon ' ft * ft conference for xlnJlang fri chiefs, a sure sign the army has caused Its share of

1: [lon with the minorities. 'ft'ftfour units are stationed In itinational areas, and they are mixing with the people of all • ha t ionall ties day. and night, 'ft'ft gen. xiao said. 'ft'fthence all units should pay attention to strengthening the unity between the army and civilians In border areas and Improving their relations with the ■asses of minority people, therefore, they must place this above all In the work of reinforcing discipline and educatlon.'ft'ft

In various ways the xlnJlang leadership has all but admitted the failure of Its economic and political strategies in the five years since deng regained power, that probably reflects less on the directives from peking than on deng'fts Inability to get them . Implemented In the hinterland.

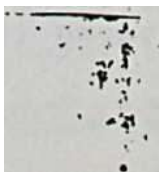
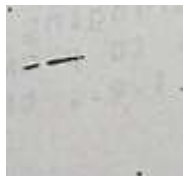
nowhere in china has the regime moved more dramatically than in Its June 1 decision giving back the army'fts special supervisory role over economic development In this most sensitive province, the urumqi radio announcement of the blngtuans'ft revival noted that its top officers we-re appointed not by the army command but by the communist party central committee, the most powerful body in peking. the Idea clearly appears to be Installation of military command

"llnes _____ and discipline*— to implement national policy decisions

where the civilian bureaucracy failed in the past, the move has its cedent, after the cultural revolution brought the Chinese economy rn the brink of collapse In 1968, military units were sent Into onvernment halls and factories to restore operations.

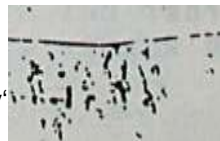
⁹ and lest moscow misinterpret the present appearances of disarray no the border, peking sent what appeared to be an warning to its rthern neighbor July 1. a local newspaper in ningxia, one of ° * 'fts frontier provinces east of xlnJlang, revealed a major china ru exercise in the area Involving the use of tactical nuclear »llitary qx]a dally Included a photo captioned: 'ft'ftan atomic weapons, ni a among the enemy, the mushroom cloud rises Into

Domb explodes^{0B} %
the air. » "



r

-SW» v'



ASIA - SINKIANG IS DIFFERENT

Munich, April 26 - (CND/AD) - FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG today carries the following report by Carol Bargmanni

Ein Besuch in Kaschgar und Urumtschi / Carol Bargmann berichtet

KASCHGAR, im April. Der Pilot stellt die Triebwerke wieder ab. Die zum Einsteigen bereiten Passagiere werden zurückgeschickt ins Flughafen-gebäude von Urumtschi, der Hauptstadt von Chinas westlichster, in die Sowjet-union hineinragender Grenzregion Sin-kiang. Seit Tagen warten sie auf den Flug nach Kaschgar, die zentrale Stadt von Südsin-kiang. Dort sind die ethnologischen Chinesen, die sogenannten Han, nur eine kleine Minderheit und die Bräute und der islamische Glaube der Uiguren dominierend.

Nur wenn das Wetter günstig ist, startet die altersschwache kleine Turbo-propmaschine vom Typ „Antonov 24“ zum Flug über das mit Fünftausend Sechstausend gesickte Tianschan-Massiv und die dahinterliegende Wüste Takla Makan, deren Name bedeutet: „Wer hineingeht, kommt nicht wieder heraus.“ Das Flugzeug ist, abgesehen von einer sechstägigen Busfahrt über eine holprige Wustenspiste, die einzige Verkehrs-

Verbindung in dieses Hinterland von China, das ehemalige „Ostturkestan“.

In der unwegsamen Provinz Sin-kiang, die größer als Westeuropa ist, aber nur 13 Millionen Einwohner hat, gibt es nur wenige, dünne Verkehrsadern: nicht mehr als elftausend Kilometer Schiene und dreiundzwanzigtausend Kilometer Straße. Dadurch hat sich mehr Eigenständigkeit erhalten als in besser zugänglichen Gebieten anderer nationaler Minderheiten in China, wo die Bezeichnung „autonome Region“ anstatt „Provinz“ kaum mehr als ein Titel ist. In Sinkiang wird der Unterschied deutlich. Die sechs Millionen Uiguren und eine Million Kasachen, Usbeken, Tataren und Angehörige anderer nationaler Minderheiten in Sinkiang leben nach anderen Regeln als die Han-Chinesen, und selbst das Leben der fünf Millionen Han in Sinkiang entspricht nicht in allem den Bedingungen im Inneren Chinas.

Kaum ein Soldat ist auf der Straße

Für die Chinesen dort ist Sinkiang die fernste Region, karg, das strategisch wichtige Gebiet, in das unter Mao Tse-tung Jugendliche zwangsversiedelt wurden. Zuerst denken die Chinesen im Landesinneren jedoch an Rosinen. Diese sind der Stolz der Oase Turfan und in ganz China überall beliebt, teuer und knapp. Nahe dieser geschichtsträchtigen Oase, durch die die mittelalterliche Seidenstraße führte, gruben um die Jahrhundertwende europäische Archäologen und Abenteurer versunkene Wüstenstädte aus und machten reiche Beute für Museen in aller Welt. China hat das bis heute nicht verziehen, aber es wird nicht mehr viel darüber gesprochen. Der Föhler durch eine der Höhlen, in der die Fresken von den Wänden gesagt wurden, besteht aber doch darauf, daß wir an einer bestimmten Stelle ein Streichholz anzuzünden. Mit Bleistift ist einer der Expeditionsführer verewigt, der aus diesen Höhlen Kunstschätze in Berliner Museen brachte, die zum Teil im Zweiten Weltkrieg zerstört wurden. Die Handschrift dürfte von einem zu spät gekommenen Konkurrenten stammen, denn eine wenig schmeichelhafte Randbemerkung ist dazugeschrieben.

Anders als in Tibet, wo das Nebeneinander von Han-Chinesen und Tibetern oft verkrampft wirkt und die Distanz groß ist, leben in Sinkiang Chinesen und Uiguren gelassen nebeneinander. Sie halten den Abstand, der zwischen wenig verwandten Kulturkreisen natürlich ist, wobei die Han-Chinesen möglichst abschirmen, daß sie regieren. Sie leben sehr zurückgezogen und vermeiden, Anstoß zu erregen.

Schweinefleisch, das die in Sinkiang durchweg muslimischen Angehörigen der nationalen Minderheiten ablehnen, gibt es nur in verborgenen Winkeln zu kaufen, während die Muslime in aller Öffentlichkeit Hammel schlachten, auch am nächsten besten Hochspannungsmast

im Zentrum von Urumtschi. Die Wohnblocks der Han liegen unauffällig hinter den Mauern der Behörden und Fabriken, in denen sie arbeiten. Zum Markt gehen sie morgens, bevor die uigurische Bevölkerung einkauft. Auch bei der Arbeit gibt es kaum Reibungsflächen, da die nationalen Minderheiten vorwiegend in ihren angestammten Bereichen Landwirtschaft, Handwerk und Handel arbeiten und nur zum kleinen Teil in Fabriken und bei Behörden. Mischehen werden von beiden Seiten abgelehnt.

Im Gegensatz zum übrigen China, ist kaum ein Soldat der Volksbefreiungsarmee auf den Straßen zu sehen. Die Armeeangehörigen sind Han-Chinesen. In der Polizei sind die nationalen Minderheiten jedoch stark vertreten.

In Sinkiang hat sich starker als in Tibet, wo das Verhältnis zu den Han durch die frühere Eigenstaatlichkeit konfliktbeladen ist, unter den Einheimischen eine kooperationsbereite Führungsschicht herausgebildet. Sie hat sich einerseits in ihren Ansichten und Bräuten nicht so weit von der eigenen Nationalität entfernt, daß das Zusammengehörigkeitsgefühl gelitten hätte, und sich andererseits an die sozialistischen Lehren Pekings angepaßt. Auf beiden Seiten gibt es eine gewisse Bereitschaft, die Sprache des anderen zu lernen. Es gibt diese Bindeglieder in Sinkiang vom Kindergarten bis zur Universität, an der Werkbank und in den höchsten Regierungsetagen. Die Uiguren und andere Minderheiten stellen zwar fast immer nur den Stellvertreter, aber dieser macht kaum je den Eindruck einer Marionette. Je höher sein Rang, um so mehr scheint sich ein Minderheitenfunktionär bewußt, daß Peking und die Han-Chinesen auf ihn angewiesen sind, um Sinkiang friedlich regieren und die Uiguren, Kasachen und Usbeken dem Sozialismus näher zu bringen zu können.

ptu

Abgeordnete, die von der Feldarbeit kommen

Mamotof KurbaH 1st ein Belspiel da-
 bel'elbte Mittfiinzlger 1st der Mann des
 Verwaltungsbezlrks K-aschgar, in dem auf
 einer Flftche, ge- nauso groQ wie die
 Bundesrepublik, Knapp zwelelnhalb Millionen
 Einwoh- ner leben. Sein gegerbtes Gesicht 1st
 xnit grauen Bartstoppeln libersfit; sel-
 nen Handen 1st anzusehen, daD sie nicht nur mit
 Papier umgehen. Sein LeibwSchter driickt ihm
 noch ein gropes Sttck beschmieretes Brot als
 Weg- zehrung in die Hand, das er ins nfichst-
 beste Stuck Papier wickelt, bevor er mit etwa
 zwei Dutzend anderen Ab- geordneten seiner
 Region ins Flugzeug steigt, um zur Tagung des
 Volkskon- gresses in die
 eintausendfUnfhundert Kilometer entfernte
 Provinzhauptstadt Urumtschi zu fliegen. Das
 rauhe AuBe- re tauscht. Der Uigure Kurban
 spricht llieBend chinesisches, und Ireundlich-
 brummig laBt er die beiden auslandi-
 schen Passagiere merken, daB er auch darUber
 Bescheid weiB, was auBerhalb seiner Region
 und auBerhalb Chinas vorgeht.

Den Abgeordneten ist anzusehen, daB die
 meisten unmittelbar von der Feldarbeit
 kommen. Einer von ihnen zieht bei der
 Zwischenlandung in der Oase Aksu am Rand
 des Flugfeldes die Schu- he aus und verneigt
 sich mehrmals in- brUnstig nach Westen. Nur
 der junge Pilot lachelt verstohten Uber den
 strengglaubigen Volksvertreter des
 kommunistischen China, jedoch keiner der
 mitfliegenden Han-Chinesen, die in Sinkiang
 zuhause sind.

Diese Han-Chinesen, die nach der
 kommunistischen Machtubnahme mehr Oder
 weniger freiwillig nach Sinkiang gegangen sind,
 empfinden das Leben dort nicht mehr als
 Verbannung,

seit nicht mehr von Ideologic und Idea-
 lismus geredet, sondern ihre Arbeit ein wenig
 vergoldet wird. Insbesondere die Generation,
 die dort aufgewachsen ist, denkt kaum an
 eine RUckkehr in die Heimat der Eltern. Die
 Trennung von den Verwandten „drinnen In
 China" nehmen sie nicht leicht, und es wird
 sl- cher zu den Nachteilen gerechnet, daB In
 Sinkiang Han-Chinesen nicht unter sich sind.
 Die Hauptstadt Urumtschi, wo die meisten
 Han leben, 1st mit ih- rem wllden
 Durcheinander von riesigen Industriefeldern,
 wie von einem Erdbe- ben zerrissenen
 Gerollhalden, mit Ka- melen, Ziegen und
 Schafen auch in den HauptstraBen, mit
 einem Meer von erd- geschossigen
 LehmhUtten mit hochra- genden
 selbstgebauten Fernsehanten- nen (aus alten
 Besenstielen und Metall- abfallen vom
 Arbeitsplatz) von faszi- nierender HaBlichkeit.

Aber das Leben hier hat auch seine
 Vorteile. Das Klima ist angenehmer, die
 Wohnung groBer, das Essen bUliger und
 besser und die BUrokratie weniger kan-
 tig als in vergleichbaren Stellungen im
 Landesinneren. Niemand kummert sich
 darum, wenn eine Buchhalterin oder ein
 Lehrer in der Wohnung ein paar Huhner hSt.
 Das wurden auch viele in Peking gerne tun,
 aber dort 1st es ver- boten. Ein
 entscheidendes Plus fUr Sinkiang ist
 schlieBlich, daB die Lohne lUr Han-Chinesen
 und Einheimische um dreiBig Prozent hoher
 als im Innem Chinas sind. Eine Frau aus
 Schanghai, die vor dreiBig Jahren mit ihrem
 Mann nach Sinkiang kam, spart zusammen
 mit Tochter und Schwiegersohn fiir eine
 „Zweitwohnung" in Nanking, wo sie
 Verwandte hat. Ganz wegziehen von
 Sinkiang will sie auch im Ruhestand nicht.

CN074

B-WIRE

Q4-JUN-83 14:23

RIFT — SINO-SOVIET TRADE. ACROSS XINJIANG BORDER TO RESUME

KASHGAR, CHINA, JUNE: 4 (CND/REUTER) — EISA SHAKIR, A SENIOR OFFICIAL IN THE CHINESE CITY OF KASHGAR NEAR THE SOVIET BORDER, SAYS CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE AGREED TO OPEN TWO CROSSING POSTS TO MAKE TRADE EXCHANGES EASIER.

SHAKIR, THE CITY'S DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, TOLD FOREIGN REPORTERS EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT THE CROSSINGS WILL HANDLE STATE-TO-STATE AND N-O-T LOCAL TRADE.

THE CROSSINGS, TO OPEN JULY 1, WILL BE AT JURUGART NEAR KASHGAR IN SOUTHERN XINJIANG AND AT YINING 700 KILOMETERS FURTHER NORTH.

A SIMILAR CROSSING POINT IS BEING SET UP ON THE TWO COUNTRIES' NORTHERN FRONTIER, IN HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE, WHICH CHINESE OFFICIALS SAY WILL HANDLE ONLY LOCAL TRADE.

SHAKIR SAID CHINESE EXPORTS WILL INCLUDE FRUIT AND COTTON, AND IMPORTS WILL INCLUDE GLASS AND COFFEE. HE SPOKE TO 1 HE FOREIGN JOURNALISTS MONDAY.

CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION SIGNED A BORDER TRADE AGREEMENT APRIL 10 FOLLOWING TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS ON WAYS OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS.

DW/TW .

RIFT

— SINO cniM H-WIRE 04 JUN 83 14:24
(WITH CN74) VIET TRADE ACROSS XINJIANG BORDER TO RESUME

SUSP CRABB

REUTER - CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE
MAKING POSTS ON THEIR LONG CENTRAL ASIAN BORDER
A BREAK OF MORE THAN TWO
SENIOR OFFICIAL IN KASHGAR.
AT TURUGART NEAR KASHGAR IN SOUTHERN XINJIANG
(1440 MILES) FURTHER NORTH, WILL HANDLE
LOCAL TRADE, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER E AND
HE SAID LAST WEEK.
BEGIN ON JULY 1 PROVIDED FOR CROSS-BORDER EXCHANGES TO

CROSSING POINT IS BEING SET UP ON THE TWO COUNTRIES'
IN HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE, WHICH CHINESE OFFICIALS HANDLE ONLY
LOCAL TRADE.

RIK SOURCES IN PEKING SAID OVERALL SINO-SOVIET TRADE SET TO
TEAR TO ABOUT 800 MILLION DOLLARS.

THE STEPPED-UP EXCHANGES IS A FURTHER SIGN OF THE LIMITED
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNIST GIANTS, FROZEN MORE THAN 40 YEARS AGO
AFTER A BITTER IDEOLOGICAL DISPUTE.

TWO-SIDE MINISTERS FROM THE TWO SIDES BEGAN TALKS LATE LAST YEAR ON
WAYS OF NORMALISING RELATIONS, WITH LITTLE SIGN YET OF HAVING FOUND COMMON
GROUND.

CHINA OBJECTS TO SEVERAL MILLION SOVIET TROOPS ALONG ITS BORDER, TO THE
SOVIET MILITARY INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN, AND TO KREMLIN SUPPORT FOR
VIETNAMESE ACTION IN KAMPUCHEA.

IT SAYS THESE OBSTACLES MUST BE REMOVED BEFORE TENSION CAN BE
DEFUSED. THE CHINESE HAVE NEVERTHELESS ALLOWED A CONTROLLED THAW IN
SPORTING, CULTURAL AND NOW TRADE EXCHANGES.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SHAKIR, SPEAKING TO VISITING REPORTERS LAST
MONDAY, SAID: "WE USED TO HAVE TRADE (BETWEEN XINJIANG AND SOVIET KIRGHIZIA
JUST 120 KM (75 MILES) AWAY, BUT IT STOPPED WHEN THE POLEMICS BEGAN BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES.

NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, "STARTING THIS YEAR WE WILL BE OPENING TWO POINTS
ON THE XINJIANG BORDER — YINING AND KASHGAR — FOR NORMAL BARTER TRADE.
"WE PLAN TO SELL FRUIT AND LONG-STAPLE COTTON, AND IMPORTS WILL
INCLUDE GLASS AND CUFFEE"

— KASHGAR HAS BEEN A FLOURISHING COMMERCIAL CENTRE FOR CENTURIES
WEDGED BETWEEN THE PAMIR AND HIMALAYAN MOUNTAINS AND THE TAKLAMAKAN
DESERT, IT BUFFERS FROM POOR COMMUNICATIONS WHICH ARE ONLY NOW
BEING IMPROVED.

"THE PEOPLE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE RUGGED BORDER ARE OF SIMILAR STOCK AND MANY
UIGHURS, KAZAKHS AND UZBEKHS IN XINJIANG HAVE RELATIVES ON

THE BORDER WHEN THEY VISIT EACH OTHER THE TRIP HAS TO BE MADE!

DEPARTING 4,000 KM TO THE EAST, OFFICIALS SAID.

VIA PEKING. POTENTIALLY LUCRATIVE TRADE ROUTE, THE KARAKORUM HIGHWAY WAS
OPENED, LINKING KASHGAR WITH PAKISTAN VIA THE TERRITORY OF KASHMIR.

SAID ONE CONVOY WAS TAKING THE 4,500-METRE
TAKING COTTON TEXTILES, FARM TOOLS AND SILK TO
HISTANI MARKETS AND BRINGING BACK PHARMACEUTICALS AND SYNTHETIC

THE TRADE MOULD. MORE THAN NATIONAL. DU

Heute lacheln die Uighuren

Eine Reise zu Chinas nationalen Minderheiten an der SeidenstraBe

Gerd Kaminski

Die Ujuschi 62 mit dem Bestimmungsort Urumtschi wird aufgerufen. Von der Hauptstadt Xinjiangs aus wollen wir wichtige Stationery der alten Seidenstraße zurückverfolgen. Ostlich ist der Knoblauchgeruch, der sich in der Kabine ausbreitet, westlich die Anwesenheit der modisch gekleideten Stewardessen: „Captain Li and his crew welcome you on board... Als der Jet nach fast vier Stunden zur Stadt hinuntersinkt, fällt auf, daß die meisten Wohngebäude bloß ebenerdig sind. Die häufigen Stürme erzwingen diese Bauweise. Zwei unserer lokalen Betreuer sind Han, also „Chinesen“, die beiden anderen gehören Minoritäten an. Der Leiter der dienstfertigen Truppe, ein Kirgise, trägt den für Österreicher im Turkenjahr besonders einprägsamen Namen Sultan. In einem auf den ersten Blick introvertiert wirkenden Gesicht stehen keilförmige, dunkle Augen, die, wenn er sich in Eifer geredet hat, richtig glänzen können. Dashi, der uighurische Begleiter, sieht mit seinem markanten, gebräunten Gesicht, das von einer Adlernase beherrscht wird, und seinem offenen Lächeln einem Tiroler Skilehrer zum Verwechseln ähnlich. Beide haben gemeinsam, daß ihre Eltern hohe Kader sind und - daß sie sich an ihre Großeltern nicht erinnern wollen. Wahrscheinlich stammen sie aus kooperationswilligen Familien der früheren Oberschicht.

Auf dem Weg vom Flughafen in die Stadt bietet sich ein anderes Straßenbild als in Peking. Man sieht weniger Rades, die Verkehrsteilnehmer sind weniger diszipliniert. Autobusse ohne Bremslichter halten mitten auf der Straße, um noch Leute aufzunehmen. Bei den Kopfbedeckungen der Passanten stehen unter den Schirmmützen der Han die weißen Kappis der Hui und die reich bestickten der anderen Minoritäten hervor. Unter den Fußgängern bilden die Gleichbemißten meist Grüppchen für sich. Auf die Frage, wie es mit Mischlingen stehe, erwidern die Begleiter, sie kamen zwischen den einzelnen Minoritäten häufiger vor. Zu den Han seien die Unterschiede in den Lebensgewohnheiten zu groß, und solche Ehen würden auch von der Regierung nicht gemessen.

Nach einem Stopp im gut geführten Gastehaus kommen wir wieder ins Zentrum und wenden uns dem langgestreckten überdachten Basar zu, von dem der sandige Wind ein Gewirr von Geschrei und Gerüchen herüberweht. Wie man es vom Nahen und Mittleren Osten her gewohnt ist, preisen die Händler Spießbraten mit gegrilltem Schaffleisch an - naun der dreizehn Nationalitäten Xinjiangs an.

Ilohammedaner -, laden zum Kauf des appetitlichen Fladenbrots ein und halten hundertterlei getrocknete Früchte, Nüsse und Samen bereit. Einige Österreicherinnen, die hübsch geschnitzte Pfeifen erstehen haben, erregen Heiterkeit. Es handelt sich dabei mitnichten um Tabakzeug, sondern vielmehr um Instrumente, welche dem - durch keine Geburtenregelung beschränkten - Kindersegen der Minoritäten nachhelfen sollen. Familien mit acht oder neun Kindern sind in Xinjiang keine Seltenheit.

Am Morgen gehtes zum Himmelsee im Tianshan-Gebirge. Bald umgibt uns nur noch eine graugelbe Steppe. Zwischen sanften Hügeln taucht eine Herde von etwa vierzig bis fünfzig Kamelen auf. Auf zwei Tieren sitzen kasachische Hirtinnen. Die jüngere, noch ein Kind, trägt eine adrette rote Windjacke. Blickkontakt wird aufgenommen. Ein Lächeln springt über. Nach fast zwei Stunden ist die Abzweigung nach rechts ins Gebirge erreicht. Nahe einem kleinen Fluß stoßen wir auf drei Jurten. Zehn Kinder zwischen vier und elf Jahren kommen gelaufen. Sie tragen gutes Schuhwerk und nette Kleidung, wenn auch etwas schmutzig. Die holzeme Klapptür, welche in die Filzabdeckung eingesetzt ist, so wie bei einer der Jurten offen zu sein. NShergetretene sehen ein offenes Feuer, bunte Teppiche, ein schönes Bett und einen prächtigen Sattel. Sauber gerahmt hängen an einer Wand die Familienphotos. Eine ältere Kasachin sitzt wie eine Statue und duldet das Photographieren. Doch dann hat sie genug davon und schlägt ostentativ die Tür zu.

Der berühmte chinesische Lyriker Ai Qing hat den Himmelsee einmal mit dem steirischen Etrachsee verglichen. Der Himmelsee ist zwar größer, aber genauso unberührt, von Schneegipfeln und noch nicht ergrüntem Matten umsaumt. Auf der Rückfahrt kommen wir wieder an den Jurten vorbei. Die Väter sind mit den Herden heimgekehrt. Einige Fuchsfelle flattern im Winde, und die Kinder weisen lächelnd darauf.

Unsere Fahrt nach Turfan bringt uns direkt an die Seidenstraße heran. Lastwagen mit Militär kommen uns entgegen. Wir blicken in runde, pausbackige Han-Gesichter. Auf meine Fragen, ob Uighuren in der Armee dienen, erhalte ich zur Antwort, es seien nur wenige. Wir rasten in der Daban-cheng-Kommune, welche auch unter dem Namen „Alle vier Jahreszeiten Wind“ bekannt ist. Aus dieser Gegend kommt das beliebte, etwas schlüpfrige Volkslied, dessen erste Strophe lautet: „Wenn du heiraten willst, dann nimm mich, nur mich, auf keinen Fall einen anderen, bring jede Menge Geld mit und deine kleine

r£hw««erjndrt

"A«JCfIELN#, t

Sh^{hten} Et«PPe^{e2rJ}leWagen " Auf der [^]bnbrücke,
w?rh/7^{cb} Sⁿ wir die Ei**n- von Turfan tr^{At}
AhIV^{o?}biet Urumt*chis ?^tUon mehr, »^dem^A
gibjeBkeineVege_

*h uSSSjJHf^{kh} Verstehe nun. Wieso *igteⁿ
AusTTMK^{MuBeumvonUm,n}hige. de«^{de}, welche S[^]8?
Augenblinden beftn- 8«rn Schuu^{Anr} n " derTang^z«it
ihren Tra-

v6rschaffen soUten*»1 UnerbitUichen Wehen

bittenWhSiiS"? ^memde Griin des
NShederO»^{fUrte}u!-Von *urfan kiindigt die leuchtenrik^A
an[^]ir werden eine mit drei

leiaSSwbSShM PSeIn geschmUckte Ho_
rolen fl: g . cb^{tiifidern}@unscherSiilmit

SySThinL S1Schen SSulen ein* origineUe STfiSf
em8egangen ist. Wie sieht es mit

Volk [^]HSt^minschaff der verschiedenen
und Glaubensgruppen aus, die Turfan
oewohnen[^] der Osse giedeln
120.000

Uighuren, 40.000 Han und 18.000 Hui (mo-
jammedanische Chinesen, welche rum Teil Araber
ru Ihren femen Vorfahren ziihlen). Ha- mil, der
Direktor der ZweigsteUe des Reise- Duros, tragt die
chinesische Kappe statt dem uighurischen Kappi.
Schon in Urumtschi natte man uns versichert, daB
Parteimitglied- schaft und Bekenntnis zum Islam
unverein* bar seien, und so erzahlt uns Hamit
unum- wunden, daB er rricht mehr an den Islam
glau- be und ohne Bedenken dem guten, in Tufan
gekelterten Wein zuspreche. Meine Frage, ob es
einen eigenen Friedhof fur Parteimitglie- der gebe,
vermeint er. Es seien drei Friedhufe - einer fur die
Han, einer fur die Uighuren und einer fur die Hui.
Uighurische Parteimitglie- der wurden auf dem -
moslemischem religio- sem Reglement
unterstehenden - uighurischen Friedhof begra ben.
Weitere Fragen un- ter den anderen Begleitern
ergeben, daB un- ter den uighurischen Kadern
zumindest noch moslemisches Brauchtum lebendig
ist.

Schweinefleisch wird nicht angeriihrt, die
siebenjahrigen Knaben werden immer noch
beschnitten, und es wird dabei gefeiert.

Turfan braucht die Bereitschaft rum Zu-
sammenwirken aller Nationalitaten. Seit vie- len
Jahrhunderten ist sein kompliziertes Be-
wässerungssystem auf Zusammenarbeit ab- aestimmt.
Angeblich haben Sohlaten der ^ E^Sⁿastie bereits vor
mehr als 2000 Jah- renKanale angelegt. Diese Krieger
schutzten dfc SeidenstraBe, auf der tan Retourweg
kraf- Sae Pferde aus Zentralasien nach China im-
portiert wurden, welche die schwer gepanzer-
E?chinesi»che Ktoller* touch!*, urn den ^erttmn
Atucken der Hunnen cu wrder-

rtehen Zwei »n ehemels stretegiichen Punk* der
SeidenrtreSe felegene. vertuKne (G.ocheng und
Juohe) und heute : to NS» Turf"" » beeichtigen.
SvfmSee buddhistische Heiligtiiimer blie- Ehe"Sr
erkennbu. hi einer der Nischen ^{ben}h^rt rich sogar
noch die Silhouette des "Sort ttoonenden Buddluis
*b. Die trok. gS LufL Xinjiangs hat bewrkt, dad man

den einstigen Bewohnern buchstiihlich Aug' in Aug⁴
gegenlibertreten kann. Selbst das .

Schwarz und Weifl der Augapfel der Leichen £ C* i

des nahegelegenen Graberfeldes von Astana ist
erhalten. Der Schein der Taschenlampe der
uighurischen Fiihrerin gibt den nackten Korper
einer jungen Frau preis, deren Ge- sicht einstige
Schonheit verrat. Ihre Augen sind dem Betrachter
zugewendet und haben einen Ausdruck der
Hilflosigkeit, als ob die mehr als tausendjarige
Tote darum wtiflte, daB sie fremden Blicken
schutzlos ausgesetzt ist. Ich verlasse das Grab mit
einer Beklem- mung, die Gich fortsetzt, als wir die
Buddha- hohlen von Pazikelik besuchen. Fast ein
Jahrtausend lang haben hier verschiedene
Volksgruppen ihrer Frommigkeit durch
Schopfungen buddhistischer Kunst Ausdruck
gegeben. Dann wurde fast alles ver-

nichtet. An einigen Stellen sehen wir noch die
Kerben mitten in die Bildnisse gefuhrter Axt- hiebe
islamischer Eiferer. Anderswo haben westliche
Antiquitatenhandler Sagespuren hinterlassen.
Intoleranz und Raffgier - wie- viel haben sie schon
auf der ganzen Welt zer- stort!

Am Sonntag ist in Turfan groBer Markttag.

Das Warenangebot-ist in seiner Fiille beein-
druckend. Zwei Gruppen von Mannern-eine
sanguinische und eine misanthropische - sind
dabei, mit altertiimlichen Apparaten Eis zu
erzeugen. Wahrend die einen mit saurer Miene an
der Kurbel drehen, lachen uns die anderen
freundlich an. „Uuuuuh⁴ ertont es plotzlich. Der
Ton kommt aus einem Mu- schelhom, das ein
verwegen aussehender Bettler gerade neuerlich
an den Mund setzt.

Seinen Sack geschultert, stapft er tutend durch die
Menge. Wir besteigen wiederum unseren
Eselkarren. Laut hupend passiert uns ein Jeep, mit
dem chinesischen Zeichen fir ..Doppeltes Gluck⁴⁴
auf der Windschutz- scheinbe, unfi dann kommt
noch einer, gefolgt von einem Autobus
gutgelaunter Leute. Un- ser Kutscher folgt der
Kolonne in eine Seiten- gasse. Aus dem Bus wird
unter freundschaft- lichen Puffen der Vater des
Brautigams ge- stoBen. Es ist eine Hui-Hochzeit,
und so hat er, dem Brauch gemaB, als komische
Figur aufzutreten. An einem zerzausten Kopf-
schmuck, der ihn einem beschadigten Indi-
anerhauptling gleichsehen laBt, tragt er ein
angeheftetes Zeichen fir, J)oppeltes Gluck*.

Das Gesicht ist schwarz Oder rot bemalt. Er hat
ein zottiges Schaffell umgeworfen. Meine
Begleiterin und ich werden eingeladen, in den Hof
des Brauthauses einzutreten und an einem der
vielen Tische mitzuschmausen.

Der Brabtigam ist Koch, die Braut arbeitet in der
Landwirtschaft. Unter den Bratitge- schenken sind
ein Fahrrad und ein Kassetten- recorder zu sehen.
In einem geräumigen Zimmer sitzt neben einem
groBen Bett die Braut.

Unter einem roten, mit Blumen verzierten 'Umhang
tragt sie einen graublauen Anzug aus gutem
Material. Ihr Haar ist dauergewellt und ihr Gesicht
sorgfältig geschminkt. Mit feuchtkalten Handen
nimmt sie unsere Gluckwiinsche entgegen. Auf
dem Riickweg stoBen wir vor dem Hotel auf ein
Filmteam.

Eine Darstellerin bewegt sich unbeholfen. Die uighurische Choreographin macht einige Schritte vor. „Ein russischer Tara!“ bejahen die Filmleute unsere Frage. „Ein tatarischer Tanz!“ sagt ein Begleiter vom Reisebüro.

Eine keuchende Dampflok zieht uns in der Nacht in Richtung Liuyuan, der Bahnstation von Dunhuang. Als wir in der Frühe aufwachen, ist die Steinwüste von feinstem Sand abgelöst worden. Keine Behausung, nur Telegraphendraht stecken ein Stück Zivilisation ab. Dunhuang war nach Kutscha und Turfan der dritte Ort in China, in dem der Buddhismus Aufnahme gefunden hat. Leider sind in den Höhlen von Dunhuang von den aus der Tang-Zeit stammenden ausdrucksstarken Skulpturen nur wenige übriggeblieben. Aber die Malereien... Ihre Bewegtheit, ihre Fülle, ihre Farben! Die Wände bergen eine solche Vielfalt von Darstellungen, daß sie dem Betrachter entgegenzuschwellen scheinen. Dennoch ist nichts überladen, sondern alles wirkt durch die Freiheit und Kühnheit des Entwurfs. Aufgewühlt fährt man ins Hotel und wird dort durch folgende Ankündigung in die heutige China zurückgerufen: „Anti-que Automobile for touring the city... Camels for rent for taking photographs.“ Das antike Automobil entpuppt sich als ein der Tang-Zeit nachgebildeter Karren, der vor dem Hotel steht. Die Kamele sind Kamele.

Wir reiten auf ihnen zwischen den Dünen zum sichelförmigen Mondsee. Es gibt kein Feilschen. Bieder folgen die Kamelführer eine Art Taxiquittung aus.

Auf der Fahrt nach Jiuguang begleiten uns alte Signaltürme, welche unseren Weg entlang der Anhöhen säumen. Wir fahren nicht direkt in die Stadt, sondern biegen vorher nach Jiayuguan ab. Es ist das am besten erhaltene Befestigungswerk der Langen Mauer und liegt an ihrem westlichen Endpunkt. Die beiden Tortürme, die sich mit ihren übereinander angeordneten geschwungenen Dachern filigran gegen den Himmel abheben, vermitteln einen ästhetischen Eindruck, den europäische Festungen nicht bieten. Und doch hat Jiayuguan im 16. Jahrhundert einen Angriff der Tibeter blutig abgeschlagen. Reisende der Seidenstraße warfen hier einst Steine gegen eine der Mauern. Gab es ein Echo, so versprach dies gesunde Rückkehr. In Jiuguang ist nur noch die berühmte Weinquelle zu besichtigen, von der die Stadt ihren Namen hat. Die buddhistischen Höhlen des Wenshu-Berges und seine Tempel wurden während der Kulturrevolution zerstört. Soldaten der Volksbefreiungsarmee umstehen in ihren grünen Uniformen die Quelle, in die ein General der Han-Dynastie nach einem Sieg gegen die Barbaren für seine Soldaten Wein schütten ließ. Dann formieren sie sich für ein Erinnerungsfoto.

Lanzhou war ebenfalls eine wichtige Station der Seidenstraße. Hier wurde der Gelbe Fluß überquert. Da der nächste Tag ein Festtag ist, beherrscht die Schuljugend das Stadtbild. Die rote Fahne voran, strömen Schüler, Klassen den „Fünf-Queuen-Berg“ hinauf. Oben, beim liegenden Buddha, drängen sie sich neugierig zusammen, denn dort schlägt ein alter Mönch betend die Trommel. Nahe dem Viertel der Hui-Minorität steht, ebenfalls auf einem Berg, die 1450 erbaute Pagode des Weißen Pferdes. Neben ihr befindet sich eine kleine Halle, in die ein steinerner Sakyamuni erst vor wenigen Tagen wieder in Gnadengenommen worden ist. Vorher liebte man ihn „im Regen stehen“. Nun trägt er einen seidenen Umhang, und immer wieder kommen Gläubige, um zu beten und zu opfern. An den Wänden hängen Bilder lokaler Künstler zum Verkauf. Die Motive sind die üblichen - doch nein, dort ist ein Tibeter mit Gebetsmühle dargestellt.

Ein Tibeter in Tracht sitzt übrigens bei unserer Ankunft in der Hotelhalle. Den aufgebogenen Filzhut keck aufgesetzt, lacht er über das ganze Gesicht und fordert uns auf, neben ihm Platz zu nehmen. Er ist Delegierter zur Politischen Konsultativkonferenz der Provinz, deren Tagung in Lanzhou auf vielen Transparenten benannt wird. Dieses Forum, in dem auch Minoritäten und Glaubensgemeinschaften ihre Vertretung finden, war einst vom Bannstrahl der „Vierbande“ getroffen worden. Als wir später vor der Auffahrt stehen, tritt Maos Witwe Jiang Qing wie in Ohnmacht gefallen - in vollem Ornat ein Taoist heraus und begibt sich zu seiner Limousine. Andere Delegierte folgen - Buddhisten, Hui, Tibeter, Kasachen und Mongolen. Für einige der Minoritäten war die Seidenstraße früher kein einigendes Band, sondern Beweggrund für blutige Kämpfe mit den Han. Und heute? „Toleranz einigt mehr als Terror.“ Dies hat die heutige chinesische Führung erkannt und versucht, danach zu handeln. Die Delegierten, welche in Lanzhou getagt haben, scheinen recht zufrieden zu sein, daß man ihre Aufgaben neuerdings so ernst nimmt. Zum Zeichen des glücklichen Verlaufs der Tagung wird vor dem Hotel ein Feuerwerk abgebrannt. Später spielt der Wind mit den noch lauen Aschenresten auf dem Asphalt.

Der Autor ist Leiter des Ludwig-Boltzmann-Instituts für China- und Südostasienforschung in Wien.

FF064

B-WIRE

27-JUN-83 10:54

RIFT--SOVIET-CHINESE BORDER POINT TO BE OPENED ON JULY 1
(WITH CN-74 OF JUNE 4 AND YESTERDAY'S FF-5)

FRUNZE, JUNE 27 (REUTER)—THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA ARE TO RESUME TRADE LINKS ACROSS THEIR FRONTIER IN CENTRAL ASIA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN 20 YEARS, ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HERE.

THEY TOLD VISITING JOURNALISTS THAT A BORDER CROSSING POINT BETWEEN THE SOVIET REPUBLIC OF KIRGHIZIA AND THE CHINESE PROVINCE OF XINJIANG WOULD BE REOPENED FOR CARGO ON JULY 1.

BEGELIEV SOPOBEK, HEAD OF THE KIRGHIZIAN STATE PLANNING ORGANISATION, SAID THERE WOULD BE NO PASSENGER TRAFFIC ACROSS THE FRONTIER CHECKPOINT AT THE VILLAGE OF RIBACHI IN EASTERN KIRGHIZIA,

THE VOLUME OF TRADE WOULD, INITIALLY AT LEAST, REMAIN SMALL AND CONSIST LARGELY OF SOVIET SUPPLIES OF PETROL AND DIESEL FUEL IN RETURN FOR LEATHER GOODS, HE ADDED.

IN APRIL PEKING AND MOSCOW AGREED TO REOPEN TRADING LINKS AT TWO PLACES ON THEIR VAST FAR EASTERN FRONTIER, BUT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF A SIMILAR ACCORD FOR CENTRAL ASIA.

THE RESUMPTION OF CROSS-BORDER COMMERCE HAS BEEN SEEN AS EVIDENCE OF A THAW IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS FOLLOWING SERIOUS TENSION FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES.

THE TWO COUNTRIES BEGAN MOVES TO MEND THEIR RELATIONS LAST YEAR AND HAVE HELD TALKS IN MOSCOW AND PEKING ON HOW TO TACKLE DIFFERENCES OVER ISSUES SUCH AS AFGHANISTAN, INDOCHINA AND SOVIET TROOP LEVELS ALONG THE CHINESE BORDER.

NEGOTIATIONS ON RENEWING BORDER TRADE PREDATED THESE GENERAL TALKS. BUT THEIR RELATIVELY SWIFT CONCLUSION WAS SEEN BY WESTERN DIPLOMATS AS INDICATING A WISH ON BOTH SIDES TO MAKE TANGIBLE PROGRESS IN IMPROVING LINKS.

THE ATTITUDE OF OFFICIALS IN FRUNZE, THE KIRGHIZIAN CAPITAL, TO THE NEW FRONTIER CROSSING POINT SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE CONTINUING RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF SINO-SOVIET TIES.

ALL APPEARED KEEN TO PLAY DOWN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL LINKS AND ASSAMBЕК TOKOMBAEV, CHAIRMAN OF KIRGHIZ TELEVISION, SAID THE OPENING CEREMONY ON JULY 1 WOULD BE GIVEN NO OFFICIAL MEDIA COVERAGE.

THIS APPEARED TO SUPPORT THE VIEW TAKEN BY MANY WESTERN AND ASIAN DIPLOMATS IN MOSCOW THAT THE SINO-SOVIET DIALOGUE HAS RUN INTO SERIOUS PROBLEMS AND THAT KREMLIN LEADERS HAVE SCALED DOWN THEIR HOPES FOR FUTURE PROGRESS.

THE DIPLOMATS SAY THERE HAVE BEEN STRONG HINTS FROM BOTH SIDES THAT THEY HAVE SO FAR FAILED TO NARROW THEIR DIFFERENCES ON KEY PROBLEMS AND THAT NEITHER PEKING NOR MOSCOW HAS SHOWN ANY READINESS TO COMPROMISE FOR THE SAKE OF A BREAKTHROUGH. 1 A /

RIFT - ON SOVIET-CHINA BORDER, THE THAN IS JUST A TRICKLE *£cp*

WASHINGTON, JUL 6 (SPECIAL) - THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY JOHN *F** BURNS APPEARS IN TODAY'S NEW YORK TIMES: [

OSH, U.S.S.R. - THIS BUSTLING CENTRAL ASIAN CITY IS BARELY 100 MILES FROM CHINA, YET FOR 20 YEARS IT HAS HAD VIRTUALLY NO CONTACT WITH THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FRONTIER. CENTURIES OF TRADING, INTRIGUE AND WAR HAVE GIVEN WAY TO SILENCE, BROKEN ONLY BY THE PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS THAT EACH SIDE BEANS AT THE OTHER ACROSS THE TOWERING TIEN SHAN RANGE. ON JULY 1, HOWEVER, A SHALL BE BEGINNING WAS MADE ON RESTORING SOME OF THOSE ANCIENT TIES WHEN THE TWO COUNTRIES REOPENED TWO BORDER POINTS THAT HAVE BEEN SEALED SINCE THE IDEOLOGICAL AND TERRITORIAL RIFT BETWEEN THEM BROKE INTO THE OPEN IN THE 1960'S.

THE OPENING OF THE BARRIERS FOR LOCAL TRADING, AT A MOUNTAIN PASS AT TORUGART, 130 MILES EAST OF HERE, AND ANOTHER AT KORGAS, 470 MILES TO THE NORTHEAST, WILL NOT EXTEND TO PASSENGER TRAFFIC, AND THUS WILL NOT RELIEVE THE FORCED SEPARATION OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES THAT STRADDLE THE BORDER. NOR WILL IT MEAN ANY MAJOR INCREASE IN TRADE, SINCE THE MAJOR COUNTRY-TO-COUNTRY TRAFFIC, WHICH WILL MORE THAN DOUBLE THIS YEAR, PASSES THROUGH RAIL POINTS THOUSANDS OF MILES FARTHER EAST.

NONETHELESS, IT IS A SYMBOLIC STEP IN THE OVERALL EFFORT BY MOSCOW AND PEKING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS SINCE LAST OCTOBER, THE FIRST IN PEKING AND THE SECOND IN MOSCOW IN MARCH, HAVE FAILED TO PRODUCE ANY MAJOR STEPS TOWARD RESOLVING THEIR DIFFERENCES, AND MANIFESTATIONS OF GOOD WILL HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO SUCH THINGS AS REOPENING MINOR BORDER POINTS, STEPPING UP TRADE AND REVIVING SPORTS AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES.

LOCAL OFFICIALS HERE AND IN FRUNZE, CAPITAL OF SOVIET KIRGHIZIA, ADOPT A WARY TONE WHEN DISCUSSING THE BORDER REOPENINGS, REFLECTING THE AMBIVALENCE THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED GOVERNMENT PRONOUNCEMENTS IN MOSCOW SINCE THE UNPRODUCTIVE ROUND OF TALKS IN MARCH. SOPUBEK B. BEALIYEV, CHAIRMAN OF THE KIRGHIZIAN STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE, MENTIONED THE BORDER POINTS ONLY IN PASSING WHILE REVIEWING THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE REPUBLIC FOR VISITING REPORTERS, AND ADDED CRYPTICALLY, "YOU CAN SAY THIS IS SOME EVIDENCE OF IMPROVED RELATIONS."

A SIMILARLY NONCOMMITTAL VIEW WAS EXPRESSED BY KARYBEK M. HOLDOBAYEV, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE FRUNZE PARTY COMMITTEE, WHO DISMISSED SUGGESTIONS THAT THE GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT IN TIES WAS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO KIRGHIZIA, GIVEN ITS PROXIMITY TO CHINA AND THE MEMORIES OF BORDER CLASHES THAT HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE YEARS OF ENMITY. THE CLASHES, MAINLY IN 1969, NEVER REACHED THE INTENSITY OF THE FIGHTING ON THE AMUR AND USSURI RIVERS IN THE FAR EAST, WHERE THE DEATH TOLL WAS CONSIDERABLE.

"AS PART OF THE SOVIET STATE, KIRGHIZIA WILL BENEFIT ALONG WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE REPUBLIC," HE SAID. HARDLY A YEAR AGO, WHEN LEONID I. BREZHNEV WAS MAKING LITTLE HEADWAY WITH HIS APPEALS TO CHINA FOR A TURN TOWARD IMPROVED TIES, VISITORS HERE FOUND A MORE EMPHATIC ATTITUDE. THEN LOCAL OFFICIALS SPOKE OPENLY OF THE "THREAT" THAT THEY SAID CHINA'S MILITARY PRESENCE POSED TO KIRGHIZIA, AND THEY RECOUNTED HOW CONDITIONS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BORDER CAUSED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES TO POUR ACROSS THE FRONTIER INTO KIRGHIZIA AT THE HEIGHT OF CHINA'S CULTURAL REVOLUTION IN THE LATE 1960S. (PTO) HW6

FF138

B-WIRE

06-JUL-83 21:00

RIFT-(1)~ON SOVIET-CHINA BORDER, THE THAW IS JUST A TRICKLE

TOKOMREYCU^{CH}, MATTERS ARE APPROACHED MORE DISCREETLY, ASANBEK RECAI I cn T, V^{HEAD OF} THE REPUBLIC'S RADIO AND TELEVISION SERVICE, SINrc D?ri^{HE} BORDER SKIRMISHES AS "SMALL-SCALE MATTERS" THAT HAD LONG TMTkir nr t! F°RGOTTEN, AND DESCRIBED BORDER TENSIONS IN GENERAL AS "A TUCV THE PAST." OTHER OFFICIALS QUESTIONED ON THE MATTER SAID TCDnr5II^{ACHED} LITTLE IMPORTANCE TO CHINA'S HISTORICAL CLAIM TO SOVT ' ,rn^{AA}TORY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE PAMIR MOUNTAINS, PART OF A MUCH ,r- j!*P^{ER}CHINESE POSITION THAT PLACES ABOUT 580,000 SQUARE MILES OF SWIFT TERRITORY IN THE CATEGORY OF LAND SEIZED FROM IMPERIAL CHINA UNDER "UNEQUAL" TREATIES WITH THE RUSSIAN CZARS.

TOKOMBAYEV SAID THAT THE BORDER REOPENINGS WERE NOT SUFFICIENTLY INTERESTING TO AUDIENCES HERE TO WARRANT SENDING FILM CREWS TO MONITOR THE EVENT. INDEED, HE SAID, THERE WAS LITTLE GENERAL INTEREST HERE IN WHAT WAS GOING ON IN CHINA, APART PERHAPS FROM THE PEOPLE OF UIGHUR, KAZAKH OR KIRGHIZ ORIGIN WHO HAD BEEN RESIDENTS OF CHINA UNTIL THE 1960'S BUT HAD TAKEN UP RESIDENCE HERE AND BECOME SOVIET CITIZENS.

HE SAID HE WAS "UNSURE" WHETHER CHINA WAS STILL BROADCASTING RADIO PROPAGANDA IN THE LOCAL LANGUAGES, "BUT WE DO NOT LISTEN, ANYWAY." HE DENIED KNOWLEDGE OF SOVIET PROPAGANDA TRANSMISSIONS, BUT WESTERN MONITORING SERVICES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT SOVIET STATIONS IN ALMA-ATA, TASHKENT AND ELSEWHERE IN CENTRAL ASIA CONTINUE TO VAUNT THE HIGHER SOVIET STANDARD OF LIVING IN SHORTWAVE PROGRAMS TRANSMITTED ACROSS THE MOUNTAINS IN UIGHUR AND KAZAKH.

A! MOST EVERYWHERE, OFFICIALS QUESTIONED ON THE MATTER SAID THAT THE rocATFST THREAT THESE DAYS CAME NOT FROM PEKING BUT FROM WASHINGTON, -. Awn DRFSIDENT REAGAN'S PROGRAM OF MODERNIZING U.S. NUCLEAR ARMS. THIS 7c THP STANDARD LINE IN MOSCOW. BUT ON THE STREETS OF OSH, AN TijniisTRIAL CITY OF HALF A MILLION THAT SITS AMID ONE OF THE MOST FERTILE AGRICULTURAL AREAS IN CENTRAL ASIA, ORDINARY PEOPLE TENDED TO

REVE??£n^TqTATES'" A GOLD-TOOTHED FRUIT VENDOR IN THE OSH BAZAAR SAID, ALL AMPR I CAN REPORTER SAMPLED ONE OF HIS MELONS. "EXCELLENT," HE GIVING A THUMBS-UP SIGN.

HWG

ASIA — REUTER FEATURE FROM CHINA

(EDITORS: THE FOLLOWING IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF FEATURES FROM REUTERS' CHIEF CORRESPONDENT IN CHINA, WHO WAS AMONG THE FIRST GROUP OF FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS TO VISIT THE REMOTE CENTRAL ASIAN CITY OF KASHGAR SINCE THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN 1949.)

BY ROGER CRABB

KASHGAR, CENTRAL ASIA. JUNE 6, REUTER - A ROW OF 20 MEN KNEEL BAREFOOT ON ROUGH GRASS MATS BEFORE THE ORNATE MOSQUE DOOR IN KASHGAR, CHANTING THE AGE-OLD MOSLEM PRAYER "ALLAH AKBAR" — GOD IS GREAT.

THE SIGHT IS COMMONPLACE IN ANY ISLAMIC COUNTRY, BUT THESE MEN ARE WEARING BLUE AND GREEN MAO JACKETS AND ARE CITIZENS OF THE OFFICIALLY ATHEISTIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

THIS ANCIENT OASIS CITY, ONCE THE MOST EXOTIC OF HIGH TARTARY, WAS LONG A STAGING POST ON THE SILK ROAD FROM CHINA'S HEARTLAND TO INDIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

TODAY, CENTURIES AFTER THE LAST CARAVAN PASSED THROUGH LADEN WITH SILKS, BROCADES AND JADE BOUND FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN BAZAARS, KASHGAR REMAINS A THRIVING COMMERCIAL CENTRE AT THE VERY HEART OF CENTRAL ASIA.

WITH THE SOVIET BORDER JUST 120 KM (75 MILES) AWAY, IT IS ALSO A HIGHLY SENSITIVE OUTPOST IN CHINA'S WILD XINJIANG REGION.

NOT SURPRISINGLY THE BRITISH AND RUSSIAN CONSULATES, WHICH IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THIS CENTURY SERVED AS HAVENS FOR EXPLORERS AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT LISTENING POSTS, HAVE LONG BEEN SHUT DOWN AND LEFT TO DECAY.

I WAS AMONG THE FIRST GROUP OF FOREIGN JOURNALISTS TO VISIT THE CITY SINCE THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN 1949.

IT WAS IMMEDIATELY APPARENT THAT, DESPITE THE HAN CHINESE OFFICIALS SHIPPED IN TO ENFORCE PEKING'S POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONTROL OF THE REGION, KASHGAR REMAINS DOMINATED BY ITS INDIGENOUS UIGHUR POPULATION (120,000 OUT OF 160,000), THEIR TURKIC CULTURE AND THEIR ISLAMIC FAITH.

AND WITH THE LOYALTY OF THESE FRONTIER PEOPLES SO VITAL, THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT HAS ALLOWED THEM A RELATIVELY HIGH DEGREE OF RELIGIOUS AUTONOMY.

THE MEN TAKING PART IN THE PRAYER SERVICE AT THE YELLOW-TILED ID KAH MOSQUE, WHICH DOMINATES KASHGAR'S MAIN SQUARE, HAVE THE DEEPLY TANNED FACES AND STRIKING FEATURES OF THE TURKS WHOSE COUSINS THEY ARE.

IN THE COURTYARD, A KNOT OF MEN LISTEN TO READINGS FROM THE KORAN. BY THE ENTRANCE, A YOUNG MAN PROUDLY DISPLAYS A GREEN-COVERED COPY OF THE ISLAMIC HOLY BOOK HE HAS BOUGHT FOR 30 YUAN (15 DOLLARS) — TWO WEEKS' WAGES IN A LOCAL FACTORY.

OUTSIDE IN THE SQUARE IS A SEA OF BROWN FACES IN WHICH THE FEW PALER HAN CHINESE STAND OUT. THERE IS NOT AN ARMY UNIFORM TO BE SEEN, ALTHOUGH MANY THOUSANDS OF HAN SOLDIERS ARE KNOWN TO BE STATIONED IN THE AREA.

THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE BAZAAR WHICH SPREADS OUT LIKE THE SPOKES OF A WHEEL THROUGH KILOMETRES (MILES) OF DUSTY MEDIEVAL ALLEYS.

SET ALONG THE MOSQUE WALLS IS A ROW OF LITTLE STALLS — DRESSMAKERS, HAT AND SHIRT MERCHANTS, A DENTIST WITH FORCEPS AND A FOOT-OPERATED DRILL WHO STORES EXTRACTED TEETH IN A JAR AND USES THEM LATER TO MAKE DENTURES. BESIDE HIM IS A BARBER, SHAVING NOBLE UIGHUR FACES AND HEADS WITH DEFT STROKES OF HIS CUTTHROAT RAZOR WHILE LEAVING THE FLOWING BEARDS INTACT.

FURTHER ROUND THE SQUARE ARE FOOD STALLS, WITH PEOPLE SITTING UNDER RUDIMENTARY COTTON AWNINGS, EATING MUTTON KEBABS COOKED ON CHARCOAL GRILLS, SORBET ICES MADE WHILE YOU WAIT, AND ROUND LOAVES OF UNRAVENED BREAD. (PTO)

EF082

ASIA — (1)

B-WIRE

MANY OF THEM ARE SHIRTS LEATHER FROM SHANRI n SOALJUNES 13-19 ARE HUGE WOODEN BEDFRAMES. ON THEM ARE SHIRTS LEATHER FROM HONG KONG, SKULLCAPS, JEWELLERY AND THE

OF KASHGAR TO \$ND BOOTS PREFERRED BY THE UIGHURS, UZBEKHS AND KIRGHIZ ON^{CTA}, J^{HE GAUDY} PLASTIC SHOES WORN ELSEWHERE IN CHINA.

"HORORHn Son^{HOLDER} WAVED A COTTON SHIRT AT US CRYING IN RUSSIAN RM«?AS^{ROSHO}" " GREAT STUFF.

VIRTIIAU in, JNFLUENCE IN KASHGAR USED TO BE VERY STRONG BUT HAS ANTHncTrv^{DIS} APPEARED AFTER MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF SINO-SOVIET THFBc irA; UNTIL A FEW WEEKS AGO, WHEN THE FIRST JAPANESE ARRIVED, nnr^{ERE NO} TOURISTS AT ALL.

THROUGH THE CROWDS A BIT MORE AND YOU COME ACROSS SPICE TM OAn^{TS AND} HERBALISTS, THEIR AROMATIC WARES SPREAD OUT BEFORE THEM IN SACKS.

r., *JHEN THERE ARE THE CARPET MERCHANTS, SITTING CROSSLEGGED IN THE SHADE BUT READY TO LEAP TO THEIR FEET AT THE SCENT OF A GOOD BARGAIN. THIS IS THE LAND OF ALI BABA, CULTURALLY A MILLION MILES FROM THE AUSTERE SOCIALIST AIR OF PEKING.

NOTHING ILLUSTRATES THIS BETTER THAN THE GRIM, ILL-LIT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT STORE ON THE CORNER OF A TEEMING BAZAAR STREET. INSIDE ARE ENAMEL SPITTOONS, HOT WATER FLASKS AND PLASTIC CHRYSANTHEMUMS IDENTICAL TO THOSE YOU FIND IN SHANGHAI OR HARBIN. THE LOCALS PASS IT BY WITHOUT A SECOND GLANCE.

BUT EVEN THE BAZAAR IS UPSTAGED BY THE SUNDAY MARKET. FROM BEFORE DAMN, PEOPLE FROM THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE HEAD TOWARDS THE MARKET SITE ON THE CITY'S EASTERN OUTSKIRTS.

A SEEMINGLY ENDLESS STREAM OF LADEN CARTS PULLED BY DONKEYS, HORSES, BULLOCKS AND CAMELS KICKS UP A GIGANTIC DUST CLOUD. FROM A DISTANCE, THE BLEACHED, MUD-BRICK BUILDINGS OF KASHGAR COULD BE THOSE OF A MIDDLE EASTERN CITY. BUT THE HIGHEST POINT ON THE HORIZON WHICH LOOKS LIKE A MINARET TURNS OUT TO BE A GIANT STATUE OF MAO TSETUNG.

INSIDE THE MARKET, WHERE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE JOSTLE, YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM HUNDREDS OF DIFFERENT BOLTS OF COTTON OR SILK, BUY CONCEIVABLE PART OF A SHEEP, EAT HOT NOODLES, MEAT PASTIES OR BRAINS HOT FROM THE SKULL, OR JUST ENJOY THE ATMOSPHERE.

TO THE STREAM IS THE LIVESTOCK FAIR WHERE YOU CAN BUY A CAMEL, OR WATCH A UIGHUR COUNTRYMAN IN BLACK FROCK COAT PUT A SPIRITED HORSE THROUGH ITS PACES. A LOCAL FARMER BUYS A DONKEY FOR 180 YUAN (90 DOLLARS) AFTER LENGTHY NEGOTIATIONS ENDED BY A COMPLEX SERIES OF HANDSHAKES.

THE MAOIST CULTURAL REVOLUTION OF THE 1960'S AND 1970'S, ZEALOTS SENT NEARLY 4,000 KM (2,500 MILES) FROM PEKING

DOWN KASHGAR'S MARKET.

CLOSED FOR TWO YEARS AGO AND, IN THE WORDS OF LOCAL TOURISTS AS VIGOROUS TODAY — 1,200 YEARS AFTER THE HEIGHT OF

THEIR AS IT EVER UNITS BY

Profit motive revives ancient silk road city .

KASHGAR, Chinese Central Asia, Wed. (Rtr.)

TO get rich quick in Kashgar, it is best to become a commodity merchant...and that is official.

But if you are a fanner and can make enough money on the side after filling your state quota, you can also make good money by building up a private herd of livestock.

"When the Gang of Four were in power in Peking, there was total collectivization of agriculture and trade," said Eisa Shakir, deputy commissioner of Kashgar prefecture. "One or two goats or donkeys were permitted but that was all.

"Now we have no limits on how many animals you can own — if you can raise 100, or even 1,000, then that's fine."

Shakir was speaking to the first group of foreign correspondents admitted since the 1949 Communist takeover to this highly sensitive garrison city, about 4,000 km (2,500 miles) west of Peking and just 120 km (75 miles) from the Soviet border.

He said private enterprise boomed again in Kashgar after the pragmatic Deng Xiaoping won power in Red China in late 1978 and eased Mao Tse Tung's collectivist policies.

So who are the richest people today in this ancient city, once a key staging post on the fabled silk road between Red China, India and the Mediterranean?

"I think the richest are the businessmen, some can even afford to buy lorries," Shakir said. "By this I mean the professional traders, completely disassociated from farming."

Shakir said most of the daily commodity dealing in the area was handled by private merchants, who cram the bazaar with a bewildering array of exotic goods from spices to pantyhose.

"They know the demands of the market, they have contacts in Shanghai and Peking. They can cable their contacts and get goods here in 10 days. If you went through bureaucratic channels, you could wait a year."

Would it be true to say Kashgar's private sector was one of the most significant in Red China? "You can assume," Shakir said with a smile. He added that there were more than 10,000 professional traders in Kashgar, 1 up to 3,000 working full time and others combining trading with farming.

Better than in Comecon

He said there was greater plenty here than in the Soviet Union or parts of Eastern Europe. "Last year I went to Rumania and Yugoslavia and I saw some of their markets. They were drab."

He added: "The briskness of our market and trade is due to new policies set out by the party and government. If you go to the counties (in the surrounding countryside), business is even brisker."

Shakir, a former peasant who "joined the revolution" in 1950 a few months after the Communists' civil war victory and studied for two years in the central party school in Peking, made no secret of his contempt for the rigid collectivist policies of Mao and his disciples.

Shakir said Kashgar's historic bazaar was closed down altogether for more than 10 years in the 1960s and 1970s. "All those engaged in trade were labelled speculators.

"Only the state stores remained open, everything had to be bought through state outlets and many goods were not available."

Outside the city, though, trading continued according to age-old tradition, he said.

Was revival of the bazaar one of the most significant effects of Deng's freer economic line? "Oh yes, people love it.

"When the new policies were proclaimed in late 1978, they were at first afraid to stick their necks out. It took time, the bazaar was not revived until 1981."

Which is the best way to make money? "It's very difficult to tell, you have to be very careful to find a commodity which can be turned over very quickly to give a profit.

"Peasants sometimes have to wait a year to see a return on their investment but a trader can get his profit every day," Shakir said.

He said professional traders paid income tax of three percent as well as a business tax. The body running the bazaar, the Bureau for the Administration of Industry and Commerce, also levied a five percent turnover tax which went into the city coffers.

Are there any restrictions on trading in Kashgar? "If you were a profiteer, or dealt in drugs, then yes, but so far there have been no such cases," Shakir said.

"As long as you conduct normal business, there are no problems," the senior Communist official added.

Kashgar maintains faith

£ •* -

— C-- nr IV

'ay ROGER CRABB ^"A

'*****' ■ -* ■

ROW of 20 men Tueel om

—whipped ia loeuforcc Peking's politic- and military control of the region,

2 n

£ grass matt before the ornate mosque TCashgar remain* dominated by to * door is Katogar, Chineae Ttokcstan, ^adigcoofe* Ulghur population I dunlin* the lilaaic prayer *A«ah O jffUWJ00 oat of MO,000). their Turkic *■' Akbar" — Ood » Great. jptmrr am) their blank (ahh.

r The right u commonplace h may ~And wkh the loyalty of these froo- Iriarak country, hat thcac aoes are "tier peopiu ab vital, die central fov-

f wearing Hue Md green Mao juckcti -mame* has allowed then a relatively f- and arc dtirma <o(the officially -high degree of religious autonomy, r* acheiatk People* Republic of China. _ . A m ukiag part ia the prayer £ o««*» city, ooc toe ot toe ydtoaMfled M Kah ^

* toon exotk of high Tartary, was fcmg ^j^osque, itoiefc dominates Kaxgar's > * waging post ou toe Sflk Road from aqa«e, have the deeply tanned ij- China* heartland to Jndu and the ^ +**"1 featares of the

f van pasted through laden with rifiu, fatco to tendings fro* toe Holy brocades and fade hound for the Roran. By the entrance, a young nun e. Mediterranean bazaars. Kashgar re- jroa&y dnpbys a greca-covered -t mains a thriviag commercial centre at *jgipy of the Weak Holy Book he h* ? . toe very heart of Central Asia. fcosght for 30 yuan (SIS) — two

With toe Soviet border jutf 120 'toccks* wages ia a local factory, V away, it ■ also ■ highly Stator* * outpost in China's wfld Xinjiang re- "Outside k toe square h a tea Trow faces of

. . 1 __ . -1 „ vi ____ surprisingly the British

■ which toe few paler OULThere knot

and -glfBuan coma lairs, which ia the early £. fears of the century served * havens ^ kx explorers * well as government Y listening posts, have long been shut down and left to decay.

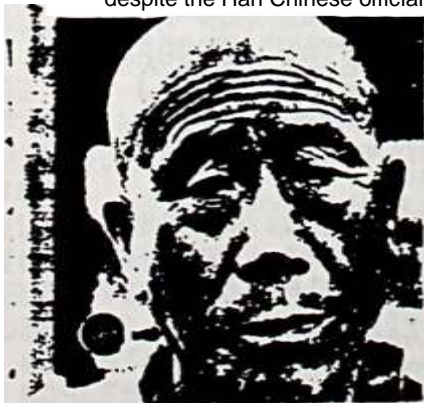
na array aaiform to be seen, although vasty thousands of Haa tokhers are known to be stttioeed in the area.

7 ^ I was among the first group of forain journalists to visit the city 1949.

This is the be ginning of the bazaar which spreads out like the spokes of a wheel through kilometres of dusty medieval alleys.

It was immediately apparent that, * - despite the Han Chinese officials

- Set along the mosque waBs it a row of little stalk — dressmakers, hat and shirt merchants, a dentist with forceps and a foot-operated drill who stores extracted teeth in a jar and uses them later to make dentures. Beside him is a barber, shaving noble Uighur faces and beads with deft strokes of his razor while leaving the flowing beards in lid.



Harsn environmental conditions fleet m inhabitants' faces

further round the square are food stalk, with people sitting under rudimentary cotton awnings, eating mutton kebabs cooked on charcoal grills, sorbet ices made while you wqjt. and round loaves of unleavened bread

Many of the stalls are huge wooden bedframes. On them are china fiem

Preferred by
 Je Uithure, Uzbeks and Kirghiz of
 the gaudy plastic goods
 elsewhere in China.

Stall holder waved a cotton
 cloth crying his Russian -
 "Horosho, Horosho" — great stuff.

Russian influence in Kashgar
 used to be very strong but has
 virtually disappeared after more
 than 20 years.

Pre-Soviet antiquity. In the
 few years ago when the first
 Japanese arrived, there were no
 tourists at all. Through the
 crowds of vendors and you come
 across spice merchants and
 herbalists, their aromatic wares
 spread out before them in sacks.

Then there are the carpet mer-
 chants, sitting crosslegged in the
 shadows but ready to leap to their feet
 at the scent of a good bargain. This
 is the land of Ali Baba, culturally a
 halfway house between the
 Serai and the air of Peking.



> Nothing illustrates this better
 than the grim, Communist govern-
 ment department store on the corner of
 a teeming Bazaar street. Inside are
 countless spittoons, hot water flasks
 and plastic chrysanthemums
 identical to those you find in
 Shanghai or Harbin. The locals
 pass it by without a second glance.

But even the bazaar is upstaged
 by the Sunday market. From before
 dawn, people from the surrounding
 countryside head towards the market
 site on the city's eastern outskirts.

A seemingly endless stream of
 laden carts pulled by donkeys,
 horses, bullocks and camels kicks up
 a gigantic dust cloud. From a
 distance, the bleached, mud-brick
 buildings of Kashgar could look like those of
 a Mid-eastern city. But the highest
 point on the horizon turns out to be a
 giant statue of Mao Tse-Tung.

Inside the market, where tens of
 thousands of people jostle, you can
 choose from hundreds of different
 bolts of cotton or silk, buy every
 conceivable part of a sheep, eat hot

A Communist Muslim. Thirty four years of
 Communist rule could not change the
 faith of the Turkestani people. Now
 Peking is more tolerant of religion as
 it wants to develop business with the
 Muslim world.

enjoy the atmosphere.

Close to the stream is the livestock
 fair where you can test-drive a camel,
 or watch a Uighur countryman in black
 frock coat and high boots put a spirited
 horse through its paces. A local
 commune farmer buys a donkey for
 180 yuan (\$90) after lengthy haggling
 ended by a complex series of
 handshakes.

During the Maoist cultural revolu-
 tion of the 1960's and 1970's, Red
 Guard zealots sent nearly 4,000
 from Peking closed down Kashgar's
 market.

It was reopened two years ago. In
 the words of local officials, it is
 vigorous today — the height of the silk
 trade as ever was —
 Reutei

ASIA—CHINESE-SOVIET ANIMOSITY AND THE CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC } <'j'~
 BY CHRISTOPHER S. WREN

URUMQI, CHINA, JUNE 26 CHYTI— TWO DECADES OF OFFICIAL ANIMOSITY BETWEEN CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE CREATED SOME STRANGE SITUATIONS FOR THE MINORITY PEOPLES DIVIDED BY THE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN CENTRAL ASIA. TWO FRONTIER POINTS WILL REOPEN NEXT MONTH FOR RESUMPTION OF LOCAL CHINESE-SOVIET TRADING. BUT THERE ARE NO PROSPECTS FOR REVIVING NORMAL CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC, CEASED OFF SINCE THE 1960S. £ , , * '

A VISIT AMONG RELATIVES SEPARATED BY THE BORDER IS A MAJOR OPERATION THAT REQUIRES OFFICIAL PERMISSION AND EPIC ROUND-ABOUT JOURNEYS TO DISTANT CROSSING POINTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE LARGE TOWN CLOSEST TO KASHGAR IN CHINA'S XINJIANG-UIGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION IS OSH IN SOVIET KIRGHIZIA, LESS THAN 200 MILES AWAY. BUT LI DIANYING, A XINJIANG OFFICIAL, SAID THAT A CHINESE UIGHUR WISHING TO VISIT A SOVIET RELATIVE IN OSH WOULD HAVE TO FLY NEARLY 10,000 MILES - FIRST EAST TO PEKING, THEN WEST TO MOSCOW AND BACK SOUTHWEST TO TASHKENT. OR HE

© COULD TAKE AN EQUALLY INCONVENIENT TRAIN TO A CROSSING IN MANCHURIA AT THE OPPOSITE END OF THE COUNTRY.

A PROFESSOR AT XINJIANG UNIVERSITY RECENTLY WAS ABLE TO VISIT A SOVIET RELATIVE, OFFICIALS SAID, AND A LANGUAGE SPECIALIST IN URUMQI HAD A VISIT FROM HIS MOTHER IN THE SOVIET UNION, BUT SUCH CONTACTS ARE RARE.

AFTER AN ESTIMATED 30,000 UIGHUR REFUGEES FLED FROM XINJIANG INTO SOVIET KAZAKHSTAN IN THE 1960'S TO ESCAPE FORCED ASSIMILATION, CHINA SHUT THE BORDER. IT WAS DELINEATED WHEN THE WEAK QING DYNASTY CEDED A CHUNK OF CENTRAL ASIA TO CZARIST RUSSIA IN THE "UNEQUAL" TREATIES OF 1864 AND 1881. CHINA HAS NOT DEMANDED RETURN OF THIS LAND, WHICH INCLUDES THE SOVIET CITY OF ALMA-ATA, BUT IT DOES LAY CLAIM TO TERRITORY ALONG XINJIANG'S BORDER WITH SOVIET TADZHIKISTAN.

TRADE, NOTABLY IN CHINESE FRUIT AND LONG-STAPLE COTTON AND IN SOVIET GLASS AND COFFEE, IS TO BE RESUMED AT KORGAS AND AT TURUGART, SAID EISA SHAKIR, A DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF KASHGAR PREFECTURE IN WESTERN XINJIANG. BUT NO OTHER IMPROVEMENT IS VISIBLE IN CHINESE- SOVIET RELATIONS IN CENTRAL ASIA. THE FORMER SOVIET CONSULATE IN URUMQI HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY A SONG-AND-DANCE ENSEMBLE AND THE ^ CONSULATE IN KASHGAR IS NOW A GUEST HOUSE FOR TOURISTS.

THE EXCHANGE OF MAIL IS SLIGHTLY EASIER. LI SAID PARCELS AND LETTERS CROSS BUT LANGUAGE IS ALSO A BARRIER. THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET HAS BEEN ALP1ED IN SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA, WHILE ARABIC SCRIPT IS AGAIN USED IN XINJIANG, AFTER NEARLY TWO DECADES OF EXPERIMENTATION WITH ROMAN LETTERS.

STILL, INFORMATION DOES GET THROUGH, SUGGESTING TO SOME UIGHURS THAT LIVING STANDARDS ARE HIGHER ON THE SOVIET SIDE. A MAN IN URUMQI SAID A RELATIVE IN ALMA-ATA HAD BOUGHT A ZHIGULI SEDAN. IT IS ALL BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO BUY A PRIVATE CAR IN XINJIANG. CHINESE OFFICIALS STRESS THE ADVANTAGES ON THEIR SIDE - AMPLE MARKETS AND RELATIVE TOLERANCE FOR MOSLEM RELIGIOUS PRACTICE.

URUMQI'S MAYOR, ISMAIL MAHSUT, SAID HE KNEW PEOPLE WITH RELATIVES ON THE SOVIET SIDE WHO ARE NOT SO WELL SUPPLIED. CHINESE UIGHURS COULD EASILY BUY A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER FOR A WEDDING, MAHSUT SAID, "BUT IN THE SOVIET UNION IT IS MORE DIFFICULT TO GET THESE THINGS. PEOPLE ALSO SAY THAT THE PRICES OF DAILY NECESSITIES ARE MORE STABLE HERE AND THAT THE PRICES ARE COMPARATIVELY LOWER." (PTO)

FF0Q6

B-UIRE

26-JUN-83 01:09

CHINESE-SOVIET ANIMOSITY AND THE ...
BROADCASTS IN THE UIGHUR AND KAZAKH LANGUAGES FLOAT ACROSS
CROWNED PEAKS OF THE TIANSHAN, DESCRIBING A HAPPY LIFE FOR
MINORITIES ON THE SOVIET SIDE. THEY EMANATE FROM RADIO
STATIONS SUCH AS "PEACE AND PROGRESS" IN SOVIET TASHKENT AND ARE
HEARD AT THE SAME MINORITIES IN CHINA. "I DON'T THINK PEOPLE LISTEN
TO THEM," SAID BAHAR RAHIM, AN UZBEK A.XJ
DIRECTOR OF XINJIANG'S DEPARTMENT OF NATIONALITIES AFFAIRS.

BUT THE BROADCASTS ARE HEARD MORE WIDELY THAN CHINESE
OFFICIALS LIKE TO ADMIT. MON-HAN MINORITIES CONSTITUTE 60 PERCENT OF THE
POPULATION OF XINJIANG, AN EXPANSE OF MOUNTAINS AND DESERTS MORE THAN TWICE
THE SIZE OF TEXAS. BESIDES UIGHURS, THEY INCLUDE KAZAKHS, KIRGHIZ,
UZBEK

AND TADJIKS, WHO HAVE THEIR OWN NOMINAL SOVIET REPUBLICS.

IN LAST YEAR'S CENSUS, XINJIANG ALSO HAD A RUSSIAN MINORITY OF 2,500
DESCENDANTS OF WHITE RUSSIANS WHO FLED THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION OR

WENT TO TRADE. THE 1964 CENSUS HAD RECORDED ONLY 600 ETHNIC
RUSSIANS

WHICH CAUSE SOME CHINESE. AFTER CONSIDERING THE POLITICAL CLIMATE,
CONCEALED THEIR RUSSIAN ANCESTRY, AS THE LAW PERMITS. TAMARA
MIKHAILOVNA SHI, WHOSE MOTHER IS RUSSIAN (HER FATHER IS CHINESE),
TEACHES RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE AT XINJIANG UNIVERSITY.
ENGLISH, UIGHUR, KAZAKH AND CHINESE ARE ALSO TAUGHT THERE.

THE BORDER HAS BEEN QUIET SINCE 1969, WHEN SKIRMISHES WERE
REPORTED

IN THE WAKE OF 'LARGER CLASHES IN THE FAR EAST. CHINA MAINTAINS UP
TO

50,000 TROOPS IN XINJIANG, ACCORDING TO WESTERN ESTIMATES,
ALTHOUGH

ONLY THE PREPONDERANCE OF SENIOR OFFICERS ON LOCAL AIRLINE

FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES, July 10, 1983

China's West Is Challenged By Ethnic Mix

By CHRISTOPHER S. WREN
10 Tbi Nw York IUM

KASHGAR, China — A Han Chinese migrant to this western Chinese region said her husband once threw a pailful of dirty laundry water out the front door and nearly splashed a local Uighur, a Meylern Who was going to the mnaqnf in pray. Uighur neighbors came around to say they considered the practice offensive, and her husband apologized.

"Uighurs are very particular about not throwing water out on the street," said the-ralgrantr^fcou-Soogyinr-15*^ we don't do that anymore."

Mrs. Zhou, who speaks Uighur so well that she works as an interpreter for the Kashgar Grain Supply Bureau, said many newcomers to this region corrected their actions "in time" after finding out that they offended customs here. But the insensitivity of other members of China's Han majority who have moved to this far western region has contributed to frictions with the area's original inhabitants.

The Xinjiang-Uighur Autonomous Region, which covers one-sixth of China, is borne not only for 6 million Uighurs and 5.3 million Han Chinese, but also for 1 million Kazakhs and 700,000 members of smaller ethnic nationalities.

49 Nationalities Live Together

Last month, Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party chief, noted during a visit to Xinjiang that members of 40 nationalities lived together in the region and declared, "Whoever forgets this will commit serious mistakes." Mr. Hu, who stopped off here on his way borne from a trip to Rumania and Yugoslavia, urged everyone in the region to work even harder for conciliation.

This has been a theme of a propaganda campaign throughout the region. mUrumsqi, the regional capital, for example, a street blackboard told passers-by in both Chinese and Uighur that "we must oppose Greet Han chauvinism and oppose local chauvinism." This was a call for opposition both to bullying by China's Han majority and to the voicing of separatist sentiments by ethnic minorities.

Here in Kashgar, a dance troupe performed a skit in which an aged Uighur praised the local Han doctor as "a model for unity."

Unimql's Uighur Mayor, Ismail Mafasut, said the campaign did not mean that ethnic problems still existed. "Xinjiang is a multinational region," he said. "Our party and Government hflirf that unity among the minorities is paramount. It's e guarantee to do <mr work well."

Heavy Influx of Settlers China historically had to subdue the Central Asian minorities to assert control over its western frontier. But the heavy influx of Han settlers in the 1950's and 1900's engendered more recent resentment.

Han disregard for local sensitivities reached a peak in the Cultural Revolution, when Maoists suppressed ethnic customs and Moslem beliefs. Official notices and documents were printed only in Chinese, and Han officials delivered speeches without translators to uncomprehending local audiences. — The policy of ethnic assimilation was not fully abandoned until 1961, when Wang Enmao, a Han general who had been respected^ »ajteng, returned as

fixed to minority officials for past mistreatment.

Today, Chinese, Uighur, Kazakh and Mongolian are back in use as the region's four official languages. But most ~of the minorities still do not speak Chi-

At Xinjiang University, classes are conducted in both Chinese and Uighur, but minority students must spend an extra year learning Chinese. Han students are not required to learn Uighur. Zhang Baoyin, the university dean, said the extra year was intended to qualify minority students for advanced study.

Hans HoM Most Senior Posts

China's central Government has brought progress to Xinjiang, from paved roads to better health care. But nans bold 52 percent of government and party Jobs and even more of the senior posts.

Xinjiang runs on Peking time for the ^convenience of the bureaucracy 2,000 miles away, so that Friday noontime prayers at mosques take place at 2 P.M. Many Uighurs use an unofficial local time two hours earlier.

Some Uighurs complain that the Hans take the best Jobs. At a textile plant in Ununqi, Han Baokun, an administrative manager, said only 10 percent of the employees were Uighur.

But average Hsuis, who live little better than the Uighurs in Xinjiang, see the minorities exempted from Peking's stringent birth control regulations. While Han couples are permitted only one child, a Uighur fanner in Kashgar, Mohammed Hussein, said he had seven children and his wife was

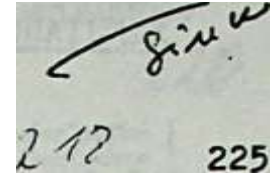
thfn'ate>^&ctober 1961, ethnic antagonisms flared in Kashgar after a Han youth shot and killed a Uighur who objected to construction of a drainage ditch through Uighur property. The police took the Uighur's body away to the morgue as evidence, ignoring a Moslem precept that the dead be buried quickly.

An angry mob broke into the morgue and carried the body to a mosque. Ram-paging Uighurs killed two Hans and bead up many others before the army was sent in to restore order.

me climate has improved enough in Kashgar, a city usually closed to foreigners, for a group of Western Journalists, the first in recent memory, to have been invited here for a tour.

The old Maoist slogans were painted over, but a statue of Mao Zedong more than 50 feet high still dominated the skyline, affronting Moslems who object to graven images.

The Warm have reason to tread carefully in Kashgar, where they comprise only a fourth of the city's flfp.000 population. They account for only 15 percent of thr- district's population of 2.4 million.



XINJIANG RELIGIOUS LEADER ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

URUNQI AUGUST 13 (XINHUA CORRESPONDENT YANG GUOJUN)
- A VETERAN ISLAMIC LEADER SAID HERE TODAY HE HAS SATISFIED
WITH CHINA'S CURRENT POLICY ON RELIGION AND HOPE? IT SHOULD
CONTINUE.

XILIPUJIANG 62 AN IMAM FOR 36 YEARS* IS NOW SERVING IN
THE DH. BB-. B , 9'173 8. 747.18. CAPITAL OF THE XINJIANG UYGUR
AUTONOMOUS REGION.

THE SILVER-BEARDED IMAM SAID THE INTERRUPTION OF
RELIGIOUS LIFE DURING THE TEN-YEAR 'CULTURAL REVOLUTION'
MADE HIM FEEL THE PRESENT NORMAL RELIGIOUS LIFE HAS ALL THE
MORE PRECIOUS.

XINJIANG HAS MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF CHINA'S 13 MILLION
MUSLIMS. MAINLY OF THE UYGUR, KAZAK AND HUI NATIONALITIES.

THE DAYANGHANG MOSQUE. BUILT MORE THAN A CENTURY
AGO, IS ONE OF THE 162 MOSQUES IN THE CITY.
AT PRESENT. THERE ARE 14,000 MOSQUES IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION.
ACCORDING TO THE REGIONAL ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION. (Ane.Le)

MUSLIMS. EACH PRODUCTION TEAM OF 200-300 PERSONS

WHILE TALKING OVER HAM AND MELONS AND GRAPES.
XILIPUJIANG POINTED AT TWO OIL PAINTINGS OF ARAB
MOSQUES. SAYING HE VISITED EGYPT FOR A MONTH LAST
YEAR. 'THE GOVERNMENT EARMARKED 10,000 YUAN TO
REPAIR THIS MOSQUE.' HE ADDED.

IN THE 20-SQUARE-METER RECEPTION ROOM, DOZENS
OF ISLAMIC SCRIPTURE BOOKS STOOD ON
BOOKSHELVES.
MANY OF HIS BOOKS WERE BURNED DURING THE 'CULTURAL
REVOLUTION'. HE SAID. BUT MANY NEW ONES HAVE BEEN
PUBLISHED IN RECENT YEARS.

AN OFFICIAL OF THE REGIONAL ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION SAID
MORE THAN 200,000 VOLUMES OF ISLAMIC SCRIPTURE, INCLUDING
80,000 COPIES OF THE KORAN IN ARABIC. HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED
IN THE COUNTRY SINCE 1980, WHEN THE ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION
RESUMED ITS ACTIVITIES. 'A UYGUR EDITION OF THE KORAN WILL
COME OFF THE PRESS VERY SOON,' THE OFFICIAL SAID?.

n
•" < Y

AnJSr-A^{OC*1} 80WHBEHT PROVIDES SALARIES TO ALU

MnS^{iiiiES 70 SO!.,E>} OF THE 15,0lti PROFESS

RELIC'iOLIS PERSONNEL IN THE REGION) ACCORDING TO
MAMAi

-RIT) DIRECTOR OF THE RELIGIOUS DIVISION OF THE
XINJIANG NATIONALITIES AFFAIRS CONN1SSI ON.
AN MAH USUALLY GETS A MONTHLY ALLOWANCE OF AROLNJ
i?0 YUAN. SUBSIDIES SPECIALLY SET ASIDE BY THE
GOVERNMENT TOTAL 725,000 YUAN EACH YEAR IN THE
REGION.

Tl4p

Pf;?, fii SO fiU.Ov^TEB 6 (- 0' 00v

YUAN To"DL'ILS OS RENOVATE KCSCUtS* MANAT SAID.

MAMA' ADDED THAT SEVERAL MEASURES HAVE BEEN
TAKEN TO HELP TRAV YOUNG RELIG10U RERSONNtt.:

- ESTABLISHING A KORANIC COLLEGE IN URUMQ1=

RJNING MORE TRAINING CLASSES POP IMAMS]w Appnirp SO
IMAMS HAVE BEEN TRAINED SO FAR*

- ALLOWING STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THP
REGIONAL I SLAM ICASSOCI AT I ON EACH TO TAKE TW
OR THREE MANIAS - ISLAMIC STUDENTS. THERE ARE NON
ONE HUNDRED MANLAS*

— SENDING 15 YOUTHS TO STUDY IN THE BEIJING
KORANIC COLLEGE AND THREE TO INSTITUTIONS IN
EGYPT.

THE POLITICAL STATUS OF RELIGIOUS PERSONNEL I°
GUARANTEED. MAMAT SAID 1,330 RELIGIOUS PERSONNEL HAVE
BEEN ELECTED DEPUTIES TO PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES AT
VARIOUS LEVELS OR MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL OR
REGIONAL COMMITTEES OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S POLITICS'
MNSIII TATIVE CONFERENCE.,

(XINHUA IN ENGLISH, AUG. 13/83) gk

Vier Tage alte Fernsehnachrichten

Chinas riesige zentralasiatische Region Sinkiang hat noch viel an Entwicklung nachzuholen
Die Entspannung zwischen Peking und Moskau gibt aber dem Grenzgebiet neuen Auftrieb

Von unserem Mitarbeiter Hans Boiler

Urumqi, im Juli Uiguren (5,0 Millionen) sowie den anderen „nationalen Minderheiten“ (weitere 47 verschiedene im Westen Chinas ist mit ihren ausgedehnten Sand-Gruppen) zu entspannen. So sind die Nicht-Han- und Steinwüsten nicht nur das größte Grenzgebiet der Familien beispielsweise von den strengen Richtlinien der Volksrepublik, sondern auch eine der strategisch zur Geburtenplanung (der berühmten Ein-Kind-Politik) bedeutendsten Zonen Zentralasiens. Weit entfernt von ausgenommen - was zu ausgesprochenem der chinesischen Hauptstadt, zu ihrer die Kinderreichtum in den Dörfern geführt hat. Ferner Kommunikation auch heute noch erschwert ist, haben sie in der Ausübung ihrer jeweiligen die Landstriche und Gebirgszüge entlang der Religionen wieder größere Freizügigkeit berühmten Seidenstraßen. Seit eh und je im Blickfeld. Insgesamt vermittelt der Augenschein - mit einer der Grobmächte gegenüber aggressivsten wichtigen Einschränkung - jedenfalls den Eindruck, Herausforderer der chinesischen Souveränität waren, daß sich die verschiedenen Bevölkerungsschichten dabei die russischen Zaren und deren in ihrer Eigenart gelten oder zumindest in Ruhe kommunistische Nachfolger verwalten lassen. Die Einschränkung betrifft die

Durch den chinesisch-sowjetischen Normalisierungsprozeß ermuntert, ist Xinjiang gegenwärtig dabei, seine Kräfte von den ausschließlichen Sicherheitserwartungen auf den wirtschaft-

lichen Aufbau zu verlagern. Per potentielle Reichtum der Region wird als enorm eingeschätzt, doch ebenso groß sind wohl die Hindernisse, die es auf dem Weg zu einer Goldenen Zukunft zu überwinden gilt.

Beim vierstündigen Flug von Peking nach Urumqi (früher Urumtschi), der Hauptstadt der Uigurischen Autonomen Region Xinjiang, läßt sich nur noch schwach ahnen, wie sich der Reisende noch vor wenigen Jahrzehnten mühsam zu Fuß, zu Pferd oder mit dem Kamel über gefährliche Gebirgszüge, endlose Steppen und Wüsten seinen Weg an die westliche Peripherie des chinesischen Reiches suchen mußte. Auch tritt kaum ins Bewußtsein, wie schwierig sich für die Pekinger Zentrale noch heute die Kommunikation mit ihrer strategisch so bedeutsamen Grenzregion gegenüber der Sowjetunion, Afghanistan, Indien und Pakistan gestaltet.

Gleichgeschaltete Uhrzeit

Schon am ersten Abend werden wir indessen gewahrt, daß diese Kommunikation tatsächlich Probleme schafft. Die Nachrichtensendung des regionalen Fernsehens informiert nämlich nicht etwa über das aktuelle Tagesgeschehen, sondern strahlt jenes Programm aus, das bereits vier Tage zuvor in Peking zu sehen war. Für die unbeschwerter dahinlebenden Genossen in Xinjiang (das heißt für jene, die nicht täglich auch noch die Radioberichterstattung mitverfolgen) wickeln sich die großen nationalen und internationalen Ereignisse also mit beträchtlicher Verzögerung ab.

Hinzu kommt andererseits die (zumindest) seltsame Regelung, daß Urumqi, das doch immerhin rund 2700 Kilometer westlich von Peking liegt, seine Zeitzone jener der chinesischen Hauptstadt anzupassen hat. Fordert hier die Pekinger Zentrale von ihren Grenzbewohnern strammen Gleichschritt, während sie sich selbst gegenüber den Untertanen mit zweitklassiger Bedienung begnügt?

Vorrechte der Uiguren

Eine solche Einschätzung würde dem wirklichen Sachverhalt wohl nicht gerecht. Vor allem in den vergangenen zwei Jahren haben die reformfreudigen Amtsnachfolger Mao Tsetungs einiges unternommen, um das Verhältnis zwischen den Han (ethnischen Chinesen, die in Xinjiang mit 5,3 Millionen nur die zweitgrößte Bevölkerungsgruppe darstellen) und den zahlenmäßig überlegenen

Armeepatrouillen, die zum Beispiel in Urumqi auch tagsüber im Menschengewimmel der freien Märkte anzutreffen sind und deutlich machen, daß die Fortschritte im Zusammenleben noch überwacht werden müssen. Dabei versteht es sich von selbst, daß es die Han, vertreten durch die Volksbefreiungsarmee, sind, die diese Kontrollfunktion ausüben. Dazu als Anmerkung: 'Das Wort "Kontrolle" haben die Uiguren bereits aus dem Englischen als Fremdwort in ihren Sprachgebrauch aufgenommen.'

Rußlands Expansion

Die zunehmende Wachsamkeit der Chinesen in Xinjiang ist freilich auch im Zusammenhang mit dem zu sehen, das in Peking traditionellerweise die „russische Bedrohung“ genannt wird. In dieser Perspektive ist etwa die Invasion Afghanistans nur die vorläufig letzte Episode des russischen Expansionsdrucks in den zentral- und südasiatischen Raum. Im vorigen Jahrhundert wurde das britische Vordringen von den Zaren zum Vorwand genommen, bedeutende Teile Xinjiangs zu besetzen, und an jener Zeit gelten noch heute rund 500 000 Quadratkilometer, von den Russen auf Grund „ungleicher Verträge“ annektierten Landes als sowjetisches Territorium.

In den dreißiger Jahren hielt es, angesichts des japanischen Vormarsches und der geschwachten chinesischen Abwehrkräfte, die sowjetische Führung erneut für angebracht, in Xinjiang Truppen zu stationieren und sich mit secessionistischen Elementen gegen Peking zu verschwören. Erst nach der Wiederherstellung der zentralstaatlichen Autorität (das heißt nach dem Einmarsch der chinesischen Volksbefreiungsarmee) und der sino-sowjetischen Verbrüderung entspannte sich die Lage, wenn auch nur für rund ein Dutzend Jahre. Das kommunistische Schisma zu Beginn der sechziger Jahre lieferte den alten Konflikt - diesmal zwischen ideologisch Gleichgesinnten - in unverminderter Schärfe wieder aufbrechen, dem noch heute nicht restlos geklärten Zwischenfall von 1962, bei dem angeblich 60 000 Kasachen aus der chinesischen Grenzregion in die Sowjetunion jüdisch wurden, folgte 1963 der von Peking proklamierte Anspruch auf den erwähnten, unter kolonialen Bedingungen abgetretenen Landstrich. 1966 kam es schließlich zu schweren bewaffneten

Rho J²⁰ⁿdersetzungen, in deren Verlauf sowjeti- "Zer un(*
^Lugzeuge tie! in chinesisches . rium eindringen,
und noch bis Ende der
nziger Jahre wurden Grenzverletzungen ge- meldet

Kleiner Grenzhandel

. Jiingster Zeit scheint nun die strategisch neikle Region Xinjiang von den Norraalisie- rungsbemilungen der beiden kommunistischen Grofim&chte zu profitieren. Nachdem noch bis zum letzten Jahr kein Handel mit der Sowjet- union zu verzeichnen war, ist fiir 1883 erstmals wieder ein Giiteraustausch in der Grdflenord- nugn von gut 100 Mijlionen Mark geplant Wie uns der Chef des Xinjianger Auflenhandelsbviros, Zhæng Yide, dazu erklarte, wird es sich um einen grenznahen, devise nfreien Warenaustausch han- deln, zu dem die Chinesen mit Baumwolle, Hop- fen, Leder so wie Leichtindustrieerzeugnissen und die Russen mit Eisen, Stahl, IXinger, Chemi- kalien und Autos beitragen. Auf die Frage, ob sie denn an den sowjetischen Personenwagen Gefal- len fanden, antwortet Zhang nach einem schnel- len, verschmitzten Seitenblick zu seinen Beglei- tem, dafi zwar zweifellos Besseres auf dem Markt sei, die Notwendigkeit des Handelsgleichge- wichts aber einen bestimmten Umfang an Impor- ten erforderlich mache. Auferdem konnten die russischen Autos bequem auf dem Landweg iiber die Grenze gefahren werden.

GroBe Rohstoffreserven

Hinsichtlich der kiinntigen Entwicklung wird in chinesisches Fvhrungskreisen gerne der Gedan- ke genahrt, Xinjiang zu einem „machtigen Roh- stoffzentrum^auszubauen! In der Tat verfügt die Region, die ein TSechstel des gesamten chinesisches Territoriums umfafi, iiber reiche Boden- schatze, deren Ausbeutung noch weitgehend in den Anfängen steckt Beispielsweisa, sollen Koh- levorkommen im Umfang von 16 Milliarden Ton- tien bereits veifiiziert worden seip; Experten sind JJer Anstcht, dafi diese nur einen kleinen Bruch- teil der wirklichen Reserveii daxstellen. Bedeu- tende Vorkommen werden auch teim Ol vermu- tet (Zielforderquote fur 1985: 4,5 Millionen Ton- nen): Terrier ist Gold entdeckt worden, was den Xinjianger Regierungschef veranlaft hat, der au- tdnoinen Region schon heute eine „goldene Zu- kunft“ zu bescheinigen. Um diesen Traum Wirk- Echkeit werden zu lassen, wird es aUerdings ge- waltiger Investitionen bediirfen, die das derzeit Verfbare bei weitem ubersteigen. Ein weiteres problem ist die bereits heute registrierte Knapp- beit an qualifizierten Fachkräften.

Immerhin diirfen die hoffnungsvollen Zu- kunftsplaner - seit zwei Jahren wenigstens - den Anspruch erheben, auf dem rechten Weg zu sein. Seit dieser Zeit namlich fhiefen vermehrte Mittel Gahrlich rund ein Viertel der Haushaltsausgaben der Region) in den Bildungssektor. Anstatt wie •frEher auf ^JugendUche mit Schulbildung“ aus dem Osten Chinas zu vertrauen, soil das Kontin- «ent der eigenen Intellektuellen vergrofiert und zum Beispiel die Zahl der Studenten, die an den 12 Xinjianger Universitaten eingeschrieben sind, Ksl985 von 14 200 auf 21000 angehoben werden.

Kirgisen zu Pferd schellen eindeutig besser dr an zu sein. Man dun &1 begegnen uns gauze Familien, die mlt Kind und Kegel, Sack und Pack ins Tal marschieren, um ihre Herden von den Hochweiden ins Tal zu bringen und ihre iesten Winterbehausungen zu beziehen.

Bei einer kurzen Rast lfidt uns ein Kirgise in sein Zelt ein, das genauso wie die Mongo- len-Jurten aus einem HolzgerQst und Filzmat- ten gebaut isL Zwei SchaJen mlt kbstlichem Joghurt machen die Runde. So wie alie Nomaden der Umgebung ist auch unser Gast- geber Mitglied einer Volkskommune, doch die Viehherde, von der ein Tell Ihm selbst und ein iTeU dem Kollektiv gehSrt, betreut seine Familie in eigener Verantwortung.

Alltag und Gebrauche scheinen sich kaum von denen der Nomaden Kaschmirs oder Aighanistans zu unterscheiden, daran hat euch die Karakorum-Strafie nicht viel geanderL Auch in den Bergdbriem baben die Kirgisen kleine Moscheen: die Feste und Hochzeiten linden noch nach alten Traditionen statL Eine Gruppe auslandischer Bergtouristen erz&hlt daB sie xniterlebt haben, wie in einem Pamir-Dorf ein Kirgise mit zwei Frauen gleichzeitig verheiratet wurde. .Nach moslemischem Recht kann ein Mann mehrere Frauen haben, nach dem Ehegesetz der Volksrepublik China ist die Mehrehe verboten. DifclSterblichk eitsrale .der Frauen bei der Geburt ihrer Kinder ist hier sehr | hoch', erklarte dazu ein uigunscher Begleiter l aus'Kaschgar. Die Kinderzahl liegt bei fdnf bis j acht pro Familie. :
 . Unser Tagesziel, der Karakuli-See. ist Acs- j gangspunkt fur Expeditionen zu den Pamir- Gipteln Konkur und Mustagata, vOn derec mehr) als 7500 Meter hohen Eiskuppen heftigc • Schneesturme fegen. Auch am FuB. in 3700 . Metern H6he, spurt man den Sauerstoffmangcl J schon. !

Ein kostspieliges Reiseziel

. Seit funf Jahren sind die beiden Siebentauser fur auslandische Bergexpeditionen zunganglich, doch wegen der hohen Kosten, die der Pekingerg Bergsteigerverband fur Betreuups Transport und .Gipfelgebuhren" verlangt, kom- men nicht allzuviele. Seit kurzem kommen auch Trekking-Gruppen, die ein bis zwei Wochen in jnntleren* Hobenlagen unter 5000 Metern bergwandern und Touren au! Pferden und Kamelen untemehmen. Eine Gruppe von Arne- . rikanern, die uns begegnet, hat 20 000 Mark ' pro Person fur 14 Tage Trekking im Karakorum ; hingeblattert

Wir sind hier 20 Kilometer von der sowje- ; tischen Grenze und 100 Kilometer Luftlinie von Afghanistan entiernL Vom Krieg dort ist nichts zu spuren, auch Fluchtlinge kommen keine uber i den kurzen, von hohen Bergen verschlossenen Grenzabschnitt mlt China.

Auf der sechsstundigen Rflickfahrt nach Kaschgar treffen wir wieder den Kirgisen, der j uns zuvor in sein Zelt eingeladen hatte. Er ist ; jetzt mit seiner Schafherde in die Stadt i unterwegs, die er in acht bis zehn Tagen ! erreichen wilL Fur ihn ist die Oasenstadt am ; Ende der Welt der Nabel der Zivilisation.

Helmut Opletal

Jenseits der Grenzlinie umstrittenes Gebiet

22 r

Ausländische Journalisten durften zum ersten Mal in das chinesisch-sowjetisch-pakistanische Grenzgebiet

^

Von Helmut Opletal (Peking)

*n> Stid5fstEdS^h?"Jfr Kaschgar men RegioJi
SiSS"11** _Autono- Asphalt dann r-^ang Mdet
der wellblechartip o^8^ es nur mehr die die sich
zuem d>n?P^* Scb otterstraBe. flusser
2erf?Vh. C^dle von Gletscher- und dann
lan«C Ausleneber_e windet stelt ££ ^JSS"1 den Pamir
hinaul- am 113ch @twa 400 Kilomete-n.

PIWslanisch** <*_

efiintr_ der -sechziger Jahre A^tfeS, en
gemein-

Sam gebaute Karakorum-Strabe folgt einer
alien Karawansroute des Seiden- nandeis, die
das traditionsreiche Kasch- gar run oen Talerr.
Behrden die Genehmigung erhalten haben,
von Hur.za und Gi- gil verbindet Offiziell wurde
die Ver- binaung erst in diesem Jahr rr.it einem
Abkommen iiber den chnes:scb-paki-
star.ischen Grenzhandelsverkehr erof1-
net vielen Stellen von Witte- rung und Erdrutschen
obwohl die StraBe schon seil des siebziger
Jahren befahren wird. Bauein- heiten der
chinesischen Armee haben such den diesen Sommer ein mehrere Kilometer langes
grenznahen Abschnitt der paicstanischen Seite
fertiggesieilt und sind immer noch dort
stationiert.

Nach Schneefailer. ur.d Bergrutschen 1st
die bis auf 5000 Hohenmeter ftih- rende StraBe
hSufig auch Woe hen und Monate hirdurch
unpasslerbar. Chine- sische
StraBenbauingenieure versuchen aber trotz des
vorerst sparlich flieBen- den Guter- und
Personenverkehrs. die Verbinaung ganzj&hrig
offen zu halten.

AM) Tag ur.serer Ankunlt in Kaschgar isl
gerade ein pakistani6cher Konvoi von neuen
buntbemalten Lastwagen nach GilgJt
zurückgefahren. Drei bis fiinf Tage braucht er
fur die Stredce. Gesamtwirtschaftch gesehen
ist der GrenzbandtJ bedeutungslos. .Die Paki-
stanis lief err. vor allem Stoffe und neh- men
Erdnusse und Gebrauchsguter mit.

Funktionire und Verwaltungsbeamte der
Grenzregion tauschen gelegentlich Besuche
aus. und in diesera Jahr sind erstroal* mehr als
hundert Uiguren aus

China iiber die Karakorum-Strabe zu ihren
Verwandter. nach Pakistan und in den
Vorderen Orient gereist. Die mei- sten haben
diese Visite auch mit einer Pilgerfahrt nach
Mekka verbunden. Auch pakistarusche
Staatsburger, die Familienangehorige in
Sinkiang haben. durfen den Grenziibergang
benutzen, fur Reisende BUS Bnderen Landern
ist die Ein- und Ausreise iiber die Karako- rum-
Strabe bisher nicht mfglich.

Wir sind die" ersten auslandischen
Journalisten. die von den chinesischen
Behrden die Genehmigung erhalten haben,
'200 Kilometer weit auf dieser Karakorum-
StraSe nach Siden zu rei- sen. Nur
gelandegangige Fahrzeuge' kdnnen die an-
strenge Meld- pficht, auch fur die
Nomadenslarr.rr. wird in chinesischer und
uigur*.'-!-. Sprache erlautert. daB die
Viehzieh*. keine Tiere jenseits der Grenze
weld- sollen, dafi sie die Msrkiemngen nic.
entfernen und verlegen durfer. und c; sie im
Grenzbereich tunlichst keir Jagdwaffen
abfeuern sollten. Wenn n< solches Verhalten
ausdrücklich w.-b: tel, dar.n wird es woh]

Die meisten StraBenarbeiter sind iibrigens
Chinesen aus dem Landesinne- ren. rur Arbeit
aufs Land verschickte Jugedliche und
Baueinheiten der Streitkrkfte. An einer Stelle in
den Bergen entsteht ein recht komfortables
n'uees Dorf mit schmucken Unterktnf- ten bus
Stein, die den Chinesen den Aulenthalt im
Grenzgebiet mBglichst angenehm machen
sollen. Ein Meines Wassercraftwerk liefert
buch Strom fQr die entlegene Gegend.

Den Hauptteil der Pamir-Bevolke-
rung stellen — so wie »uf der anderen Seite der
nahen sowjetischen Grenze — Kirgisen, die
sich auch im Sommer nicht von ihren dicken
Pelzmitzen trennen .wollen. Neben Pferden
und Ziegen zichten sie immer noch Kamele,
obwohl der Bedarf fur die Xarawanentiere
schon weitgehend zurtickgegangen 1st.

■Nur wenige Lestwagen kommeu uns -
entgegen, vdelleicht funf Oder achts an

einem Vormittag, am Dorfc'ntr. Gs:z< 120
Kilometer hinter Kaschgsr. is: «•
Kontrollpunkt der Armee. Am Schl«: baum
priifen ein chinesischer und e: uigurischer
Soldat freundhet unser Papiere. Wir
benol.ger. einer: spc-i'Jc Grenzpa3, wie ihn
auch ieder Bewohr.t der Gegend mit sich
fiihrer, mu3. Ai t hort, dafi auch ein Burger
der Sc union in unserer Gruppe mitreist. der
Soldat erstaunt auf. Wohl seil Jahr zehnten
ist kein Sowjet mehr in car G: gend gewesen.

In der Wachstube bang^, eine Vercc: nung
des Anneekommar.dos iiber b-. sondere
GrenzschutzvorkehrunE?:. . dem sensiblen
Gebiet. Neben dem >.u weiszwang und einer
strenger. Meld- pficht, auch fur die
Nomadenslarr.rr. wird in chinesischer und
uigur*.'-!-. Sprache erlautert. daB die
Viehzieh*. keine Tiere jenseits der Grenze
weld- sollen, dafi sie die Msrkiemngen nic.
entfernen und verlegen durfer. und c; sie im
Grenzbereich tunlichst keir Jagdwaffen
abfeuern sollten. Wenn n< solches Verhalten
ausdrücklich w.-b: tel, dar.n wird es woh]

Trotzdem wurden hier im Laufe d Jahre
keine bedeutenden Ewischenfsl gemeldet.
Selbst die Armee ist ir. d unwegsamen
Berglalem kaum zu aehs Nur zwei kleinere
Kasemea fallen o an dieseim Abschnitt der
Karakorum StraBe auf.

; An Gletscherabbrichen des 7700 K ter
bohen Konkur, des hoebstea Pam:

(PTO)

RIFT - (1) - THE CEIKESE/SOVIET/PAKISTANI BORI

Gipfels, vorbei windet sich die holprige Straße nun durch baumlose Bergtäler. Ein Reisender ist auf einem Fahrrad unterwegs, doch über weite Strecken muß er sein Gefährt tragen. Die Kirgisen rücheln scheinen ein wenig besser dran zu sein. Manchmal begegnen uns ganze Familien, die mit Kind und Kegel, Sack und Pack ins Tal marschieren, um ihre Herden von den Hochweiden ins Tal zu bringen und ihre festen Winterbehausungen zu beziehen.

Bei einer kurzen Rast lädt uns ein Kirgise in sein Zelt ein, das genauso wie die Mongolen-Jurten aus einem Holzgerüst und Filzmaten gebaut ist. Zwei Schälchen mit kostlichem Joghurt machen die Runde. So wie alle Nomaden der Umgebung ist auch unser Gastgeber Mitglied einer Volkskommune, doch die Viehherde, von der ein Teil ihm selbst und ein Teil dem Kollektiv gehört, bleibt bei der Familie in eigener Verantwortung.

Alltag und Gebräuche scheinen sich kaurivon den Nomaden Kaschmirs oder Afghanistan zu unterscheiden, daran hat auch die Karakorum-Straße

nicht viel geändert. Auch in den Bergdörfern haben die Kirgisen kleine Moscheen, die Feste und Hochzeiten finden noch nach alten Traditionen statt. Eine Gruppe ausländischer Bergtouristen erzählt, daß sie miterlebt haben, wie in einem Pamir-Dorf ein Kirgise mit zwei Frauen gleichzeitig verheiratet wurde. „Nach moslemischem Recht kann ein Mann mehrere Frauen haben, nach dem Ehegesetz der Volksrepublik China ist die Mehrhehe verboten. Die Sterblichkeitsrate der Frauen bei der Geburt ihrer Kinder ist hier sehr hoch“, erklärte dazu ein uigurischer Begleiter aus Kaschgar. Die Kinderzahl liegt bei fünf bis acht pro Familie.

Unser Tagesziel, der Karakuli-See, ist Ausgangspunkt für Expeditionen zu den Pamir-Gipfeln Konkur und Mustagata, von deren mehr als 7500 Meter hohen Eiskuppen heftige Schneestürme fegen. Auch am Fuß, in 3700 Metern Höhe, spürt man den Sauerstoffmangel schon als Kribbeln im ganzen Körper, das erst nach einer Stunde gemächlich wieder vergeht.

Beit fünf Jahren sind die beiden Siebentausender für ausländische Bergex-

peditionen zugänglich. doch wegen der hohen Kosten die der Pekinger Bergsteigerverband für Betreuung, Transport und „Gipfelgebühren“ verlangt, kommen nicht allzu viele. Seit kurzem kommen auch Trekking-Gruppen, die ein bis zwei Wochen in „rautleren“ Höhenlagen zunter 5000 Metern bergwandern und Touren auf Pferden und Kamelen unternehmen. Eine Gruppe von Amerikanern, die uns begegnet, hat 20 000 Mark pro Person für 14 Tage Trekking im Karakorum hingestellt.

Wir sind hier 20 Kilometer von der sowjetischen Grenze und 100 Kilometer Luftlinie von Afghanistan entfernt. Vom Krieg dort ist nichts zu spüren, auch Flüchtlinge kommen keine über den kurzen, von hohen Bergen verschlossenen Grenzabschnitt mit China.

Auf der sechsständigen Rückfahrt nach Kaschgar treffen wir wieder den Kirgisen, der uns zuvor in sein Zelt eingeladen hatte. Er ist jetzt mit seiner Schafherde in die Stadt unterwegs, die er in acht bis zehn Tagen erreichen will. Für ihn ist die Oasenstadt am Ende der Welt der Nabe der Zivilisation.

SjfeT!®

CROSSROADS STILL BUSTLES

22^

SUNRISE IN THE EAST, CHINA, OCT. 30, -r, — • n&fTSwrSnTc^
 SS^ASIONAf^unir^SLY EnDLESS STREAMS (PHULEGAP) PROCESSIONS START BEFORE
 6R^OWLING Lcu?u?EMen; BICYCLISTS COASTING DOWNHILL WITH BELLS JANGLING,
 THLRf !5S^KING FACTOR OR TRUCK. AND NOW AND THEN A
 LE^ASHESLiKE_?HEtP "

Tut J, iKE DOGS 1 "SfS^Trl. TOO, IN SHALL FLOCKS OR INDIVIDUALLY LED ON

S55^T D? VERS MAY BE WEATHERED, BEARDED HEN IN SQUARE HATS AND
 ARE WOMEN WITH COATS OR BOYS OF EIGHT OR NINE. SOME OF THE PASSENGERS
 HEADS, OTHERS WITH BROWN SHAWLS, SOME WEARING THEM ON THE BACKS OF THEIR
 FACES, OTHERS OVER THE FOREHEAD AND SOME COMPLETELY COVERING THEIR

CHIT A2^OM SEVERAL ROADS THEY HERGE INTO A TRAFFIC JAM AND THEN SPREAD
 ntrur@ N THROUGH THE STREETS AND T IELDS OF THE REGULAR SUNDAY BAZAAR
 2L,c!^E STORIED DESERT CITY OF RASHKAS, H^C^P^P^O^N^S^ O^F^T^H^E

S^T11R^c^ PEOPLES ACCOUNT FOR 0^ A^f2^S^05GUEAROUND EVERY CORNER,
 CP, JN A SOCIAL ter r n MA ^w S? ® nuonul Hiwunu cth. v^,

j? sgD| "g|l^vSi?S£f,l" J55P?Slg,5fe^0S?£;H^KASS \$r^LS

IH

BELLSi sfiddLfs' TRAD,TION6L

SEEN FROM THE DnMuilt!- fttff^X£5fl•CHINTSE NATION, ONLY A FEU PEOPLE ARE
 STANDING OUT AS^imJci ITY > THEIR CHINESE LANGUAGE Ch
 OP THE CITY'S HOSTLY UieHUR PEOPLf^ *KWIB TME MR6 «NING ft,JD OHATTING-P

T CAPTB r n Mr Ic 5 IIS HEARD U:ORD 15 "POSH" - 'MAKE WAY" - AS STILL MORE
 SCS2^nc^rj THROUGH TM E NARROW LANES AMONG STALLS.
 HFRr2s2n?Ef 1 Sf.* 000 FfO^PLE CROUD KNIFE AND HARDWARE SELLERS. BARBERS
 ^C^A^OISE; ON A BRIDGE SIT THE ALONG ONE STRETCH OF STREET. LEADING
 TMS WORK UNDER TREES OF FABRIC MERCHANTS, FRUIT SALESMEN,

e, D^ARL THERE firl ROUS "•

^ VEGETABLES AWD PE^REE

B5Ri «NINf^O^Vtr^S^OX^Ls!<fKB?YS' A VEGETABLES AWD PE^REE
 THERE IS A SECTION OF SHALL TENT RESTAURANTS SELLING BR^CAD
 luft8A «c^Aor^flncn B ON SKEUir5 ANL' TEA» AND BEYOND IS THE FIEL6 WHERE

fin 1 MnL w r^Tt I KnUuL •
 HORSEMEN RIPE UP AND DOWN ONE I ANE, TCSTING POSSIBLE
 ACQUISITIONS. MULES* TEETH ARE EXAMINED AND A PAIR OF CAMELS STAND
 TO
 ONE SIDE. THE CAMEL SELLER IS ASKING 500 YUAN (250 DOLLARS) FOR ON^
 WITH NO TAKERS BY MID-AFTERNOON.
 ONE SADDLED HORSE IS BEING OFFERED FOR 1,400 YUAN (700 DOLLARS)
 ANOTHER SELLER IS ASKING 200 YUAN (100 DOLLARS) FOR A MULE WHILE AN*
 OLDER, LESS STURDY MULE IS
 SHEEP PRICES RANGE FROM 40

ONCE THIS WAS A CROSSROADS FOR BRANCHES OF THE ANCIENT "SILK
 ROAD " THE ROUTE ON WHICH SILK, PORCELAIN, JADE, CARPETS, SPICES,
 f?FMS AND WORKS OF ART PASSED BACK AND FORTH ON CAMEL CARAVANS
 BEFORE
 DEVELOPMENT OF SEA TRANSPORT BETWEEN CHINA AND THE MIDDLE
 EAST THERE ALSO IS A SMALL BORDER TRADE WITH PAKISTAN, SAID
 MAHUTUNU, CHINA KASHGAR DEPENDS ON TRUCKS AND FIVE EDIGTS A WEEK FROM
 PREFECTURE, AM ASEA OF COMMISSIONER OF KASHGAR

KASHKORSAN PREDICTED THAT KASHGAR ONCE AGAIN COULD PI AY AW cm F AS A CENTRAL
 ASIAN CROSSROADS. HE NOTED THAI I BESIDF? ^BOWERS ON AFGHANISTAN, THE SOVIET
 UNION AND INDIA TM*5 PA, TftN>

THE BORDER WITH AFGHANISTAN. HOWEVER. IS MOSTLY MOUNTAINS AND NONE OF CHINA'S LIMITED TRADE WITH THE SOVIET UNION PASSES THROUGH HERE NOW. DESPITE SLIGHTLY WARMING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO LONG-FEUDING COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS.

THE CITY GENERALLY IS CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS NOW. THE DUSTY GREEN BUILDINGS THAT SERVED AS A BRITISH CONSULATE BEFORE THE 1949 COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN CHINA NOW ARE A CHINESE GUEST HOUSE. AND OFFICIALS SAY THE FORMER SOVIET CONSULATE ALSO HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A HOTEL.

KORBAN TOLD A GROUP OF FOREIGN REPORTERS, "WE ARE GOING TO TRY OUR BEST TO BRING THE RAILROAD TO KASHGAR BY THE END OF THE CENTURY." IT NOW STOPS IN URUMQI.

HE SAID KASHGAR ALSO HOPED TO EXPAND ITS AIRPORT, SET IN A GRAVEL FIELD BELOW NAMELESS MOUNTAINS ON THE CITY'S OUTSKIRTS, TO ACCOMMODATE BIGGER PLANES.

DESPITE ITS DESERT SURROUNDINGS. GREEN FIELDS CLOSER TO THE CITY, IRRIGATED WITH STREAMS FORMED BY SNOW MELTING FROM THE MOUNTAINS, PRODUCE WHEAT. CORN, POTATOES AND SORGHUM.

NEAR THE CITY CENTER IS A MAN-MADE LAKE, ACROSS FROM A HILL LINED WITH MUD-BRICK HOUSES AND STORES. FARTHER ALONG THE STREET, A GIANT STATUE OF THE LATE CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG LOOKS DOWN OVER A CITY PARK. STRETCHING OUT BEHIND HIM IS A NARROW STREET OF SMALL SHOPS THAT KEEP TRADE BUSTLING BETWEEN WEEKLY SESSIONS OF THE BAZAAR.

WHILE MAO SERVES AS ONE REMINDER OF KASHGAR'S TIES WITH THE CHINESE INTERIOR, OFFICIALS LIKE TO POINT OUT AN OLDER ONE TO STRESS A LONG HISTORY OF UNION WITH CHINA.

IT IS THE HIGH-DOMED, ORNATE, MOSQUE-LIKE TOMB OF IPARHAN, A UIGHUR GIRL SELECTED BY A CHINESE GOVERNMENT MINISTER AND PERSUADED TO RIDE OFF TO PEKING ON A CAMEL TO BECOME HSIANG FEI, A CONCUBINE OF THE CHING DYNASTY EMPEROR CHIEN LUNG.

SHE DIED SEVEN YEARS LATER IN 1763 AT THE AGE OF 29 AND A RED CARRIAGE BROUGHT HER BODY BACK IN A THREE-YEAR JOURNEY FOR BURIAL WITH MEMBERS OF HER FAMILY.

TH

ON KBSHGRR.

afet&pSiss-
boten H- **ci:plare <u« Verbrnm
JahrSun-J" Rriv«cn H*212"-Cn
der. Ra t uchen birr, Shvri
Und barter j Uai:St: blossen
P^ulanien" im Gef J,, „H*nd,cf als

tiberwinden - die ungeheur Verwund- barken
seiner Grenzcn.

Die Landgrenzen der Volh'-renublik China
sind iiber 10 000 Kilometer lar.g. Sie verlaufen
>on Vietnam und Indien im Suden uber die
Sowjet-Union im Wester, bis zur Mongolei
und nach Korea im Norden.

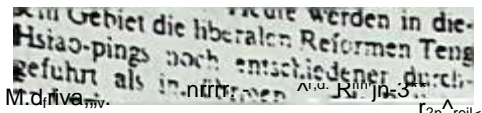
All diese Grnczgebiete sind nicht von
Chinesen betvoht, sondern von Mongo- len,
Tibetem, Kirgisen, Uiguren ur.d K?Sachfn, d't
jahrhundenlang gegen die chinesjsrhi
Herrschaft: rebekencr. und jederzeit wieder
gegen sic rebeite- ren kbnnen.

Solange diese Mwdrheiten nicht be-
friedet und assimiltit, die Grenzgcbicie

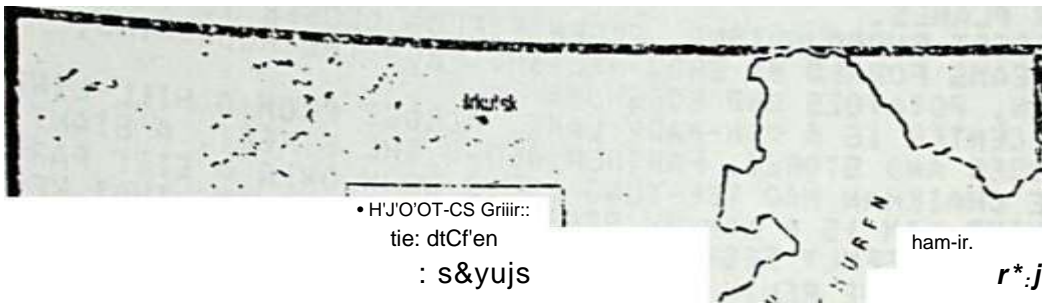
^ / "■ Hof des MoneoJen-Ch.v'A :n c:c
At.' wane. Kascl.gar war d:«mv- *ti oluhr der
Handclspia'.z. Sirm. ■. 'l:..ecken von Menscher.
und Religio'. i

Als die Seidensiratr a us Westchtni
ztijuunjen der beq'trrrrer. Seewece »ui-
gegebe". wurde vertefccn die Menschen dir
bliihende Oase in der Waste. Kasrr.* gar
versank wieder im Trcibsand laUaniaVar.
Jp.hrLundcrtdar.2 vmdc intmer wieder von
den vorbor'erer Schatzer. eTiffhit. a:e
irgendwo in di:er Wiidnii ttrcr:ben lager:
DiY.ie:u:e; acKi die sic'n act dir Sack? nach
ihn.o marhten. kehrten nie zuruck.

Im vorieen Jahrhundert wurde Kashgar
Zcncrhm von Intriger. und V. r-



r5'. Koran w*d in A Vpl,?L?neren.
Hsm-hua fcilcphTMO °3r BacI hndlung
d?r das puU c^l 4 dcr Basar *) **_
achufilicher. Ubtrl,2cnurr des *<H-



• HJO'OT-CS Grliir:..
tie: dtCfen
: s&yujs

r*:jt

Pefcinc

» v& a

iLi? - >L:.. -• v-
v* ** 's>'"
V:- N'
>» A'' *

[kasrhasr , *5.

X^'iJ C -X i te A

7i 6ETtf.

L';-

'V.

<

YV:

4 H

,t« ** v.^v2t.vf; (•
; T. ' ^ro^ieier.'0 S.

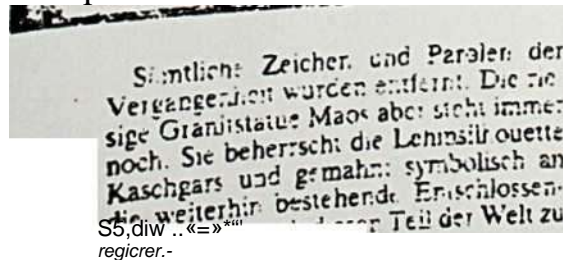
Karto* wjn- v *E'

*/At >. •. •. * **

* *T

Is-

■Jrst



nicht fest in de; Hand croS»: einct^anderter
Chinexo S' -ic a.:s dem Landtsiorjrer. nierh-'
umc?sicci«d: werdir.. wird cas chinesisch.
hjrtrc.'J nie sichr sein.

„Dir Haifte mein-r Femihe irb: in -cr Sowjet-
l'nion" sar eir Vigur;

Teesrub? von liasciigar, „at>v: ici. k: nr ■ ihr
nicht einrr.al shrh'-ribc. "U' ten C' der.r.och, la CM
nueh c.t rlic« s. -f t ubervucb.en.*

Kasthgar liegt no: 150 Kile:..??: vor. der
Sov'ietgremc. 150 Kilometer c'.fh vom
sowjeuset besetziiO Aialamstan and HW
kulGmetr.r von Pakisian em- (ernt

Einst war Kaschgar d'e e^tc Zwi-
schensrarion auf der aher: SeideostrrC*?.
Hier ruachie die Karawane Merc-' Folos Rast,
bevor sie sich auf den Wtg zum

schwörungen. Zankspiel der „Gro-
Ben Weltreiche“ England, Rußland und
China, deren Unterhändler hier das

^grobe Spiel" spieitcr. w»e der K'-srppi
urr. die He'rrsban ul-CT Zemraiasier v
sewc Reicht iimer Cir:ciis geruar.1:;
words.

Da:> zar:«ti«che RuBiand v-hpb die
Grenzen sric'- Tei:> »<-n YurVestcr. i:r-
ner v.-elter nach Os' .•». v:r. iudr-rn es
domgfi*. Mir.drri_e:CT in den .-■< Y
Reich?: iw'ckt?. u'.i- Eritcn vcii ;:;en.
der russischen Vormarf -h aufzuhal:;.;
indent sie vor. ihrer Basis> Indie n Z-'
ihven EinfuSte'eich uber Aighsii'star
hinays aur-d-hnicn. Das cijir.essscuc
R^:ch vv:dcrcm :r i'?'?: sr;n:-. He:-
bait cb.: den gara';. r» re?i?c-
neier., irdrr; esetlici:e Aufstade un;cr-
diucne. wekhe ri? Minderbiiter. irr.
Nar.cn de'. Islam geg-s Pekin' anw.tcl-
ten.

Ka^crg.. Vi'ar eh Schrr.eL'kr.-l 'v.r
DipL-Juaitn iSp':-n. n. OnV.mrr. ur.c
Ajcr.aoiogeri. korsch. r?g*reisf.5:.-?r ur.c
Abenui5err. auj urr. ve.*cu»a.*as:ti
*a.;C.,-rn.

C:tr Z .cc d? ' -r.- n^'-rr-r.
ivandc "' .v_i K?..f :• Ausgz.ag?pi)... or- Zxp-
'..ii'or.er.. Dc: beruknte' sc>w ; - dis.he
Forsch: Sven H.-dir. darn?' r-ooH rch. tun.??"
Student - Gc-ogripi- Fe'dl-v.tc v-r Rich-rotcr
c:chr ay sein;* czvitr. R n: -h l:r.v-is ■.<)
G-st dc- r.ssv«?») Rc»n>u:-. PeT.r.-v*s«.
hie: Isb,i Station. Albert von Lr Coq Actor des
Buena.- ..Ad Hrl-v' Span- :v. On:;.; xL-'l
hiY- 'hi'. Gtiv. de t:iu:-chc;i Konsub in i-
aschga- aut. Zi: >c. ha" er der.
buddhbtischen H.<lt len iii F.srxlJiu jer.e
Friskan e:;:r: vor. den?n einige warirerd drs
Zwtii'1: V.'?lkn?g' irr Berl.nor \d\Vtrkunc : -v
seum c.u-cr. ar.f-hv:' ' F i . r h c n
bvr..ba'dfT:c *s zerv.bn wurccr.

It: krrrhgar nrichte anrh Sir Aus? Stelv.
S.atiort. cc' cr tr Vi. '-i.u: sci.ht: ocr werylh:
;:;:njsk-ip;e ?-r Dv.nhuar.g nach Indier. und
'crdicYic ins Lv-ndr n:; lirir.sthe Mu: , *r
Dr:cn) ...A3' d?se At iknd? karrj r. r->rKi. r:
uiiS zu pbraubn⁴. sag: fiau Guan Yu.\ erne
chiifisich? AngrsielKc de: Provirj verv alrcni
Siruisn:.

Der clir.-ii.-ch* G-nit v r.lch* »nb« rchrgt-
Immerhir \v?..ei. aif Ct«il.e;e die e-ste.i
...Ausland r*. die ir. diese

Früher herrschten hier Gewalt, ideolo-
gischer Druck und Terror - die Kultur-
...forderte al... dieser Provinz
7000 Op^AfrU^ ind Autonomic, sp^
Sf&bnat sick mcht gc-

peking* z.c' J

gjid^rt-

ueh und Sesis vor.

V «h»YSPTail

Kf^hen Komrijl; j-sc-ben und

Sg-3S '»- -

fISJfi - SPIEGEL REPORT ON KRSHGRR ANB THE CHINESE I0RJER IN CENTRAL fISIB

MUNICH, NOU. 7 - (CND'fil) - SPIEGEL. HAMBURG WEEKLY. TODAY CARRIES THE FOLLOWING REPORT:

SPIEGEL-Redakteur Tiziano Terzani über das alte Kaschgar und die chinesische G ze in Zentralasien

Aus Lehm sind die Häuser, aus Lehm die Straßen, die Gräber und Moscheen.

Nur Mao ist aus Granit.

Eine der wenigen noch verbliebenen riesigen Stätten des Großten Sieuers raans stebr an einem Ort, an den sie am wenigsten geht. mitten in der Oase Kaschgar am Rande einer der schrecklichsten Wüsten der Weh, der Takla-tnakan, zu Fuß eines der höchsten Gebirge der Weh, des Pamir, im äußersten Westen der chinesischen Wüsten-Provinz Sinkiang.

Hier wirkt die 15 Meter hohe weiße Mao-Statue, die das mittelalterliche Labyrinth dieser ockerfarbenen Stadt mitsamt Schafen, Eseln und Kamelen überragt, großdimensional, fehl am Platz.

Die Einwohner Kaschgars sind gläubige Moslems und meidet daher inter. Got; abzubilden. Sie sind Uiguren, eine ethnische Minderheit innerhalb der Volksrepublik China, die alles verbietet, was allzu unverhohlen an die Tatsache erinnern, daß sie von der Mehrheit, den Chinesen, beherrscht und repräsentiert wird.

Die Mao-Statue wurde 1966, zu Beginn der Kulturrevolution, errichtet. Damals versuchte das 4200 Kilometer entfernte Peking, hier in Kaschgar die gleiche radikale Politik wie im übrigen Land

w[?] u T, t r f l r e d t r
schen hi<» r k. c r * a r r c n, daB die MP«

«!* E r b r a u ^ . A f P e : , A ' « r " ? j e Hauptst
Jd, c h f n , V , a h j c * b i s c r i n

Mission aber A H ^ c k k e h r t e , S e i n e
^ d e n w . - f y * < t e r o R e i c h d o r

Jeroeh ? S r w 2 j W e f l K c h c n G e b i e *

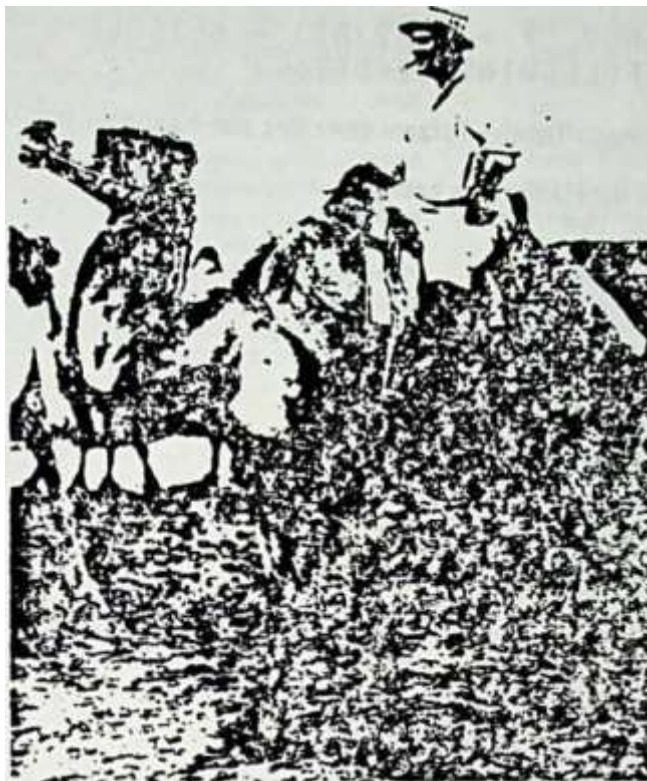
H e t t s c h a f t A b T ^ d i e " o a v v h i i , j s c n d i c I h r e
B e v f i l k o m m > G a s e A s c A ? L r u n d S i c h e r h e ? i h r ?
T 8 a l ! u n c r t a B , i c h f c r d i e s i e d a r V « * v 7 S L a n d f s <

* i n M f S i h m 5 v b , i i S « " « * K o a i r o l l e J
h a n t . i
h r _ T ' A h e ^ h i e n s i e K a s c h -

* £ T M I s ' S S ? n l " * » " " » » ' ■

Eines der Probleme war die Entfernung
Zu Beginn des 20. Jahrhunderts brauchte
eine Karawane noch fünf Monate, um die
Sirecke von Peking nach Kaschgar
zurückzulegen. Selbst heute ist die Straße am
Sudrar-ri der Wüste teilweise immer noch
unpassbar. Der Bus braucht sieben Tage.
Die kleine Zwei-Propeller-Maschine vom
sowjetischen Typ Antonow, die alle vier
Tage mit Zwischenlandung in den Oasen
Aksu und Khotan nach Kaschgar fliegt, sän-
der in der Provinzhauptstadt Urumtschi
ruht, wenn auf der ganzen Route klare
Sicht herrscht und kein Wind angekündigt
ist.

So bleibt Kaschgar die isolierteste und
entlegenste Stadt ganz Chinas. Bei der
Ankunft fühlt sich der Fremde in bibli-
sche Zeiten versetzt. Menschen und Tiere
verstopfen die Straßen. Alte Männer
in langen schwarzen Mänteln, mit ge-
webenen Barteln, reiten auf abge-
laugten Eseln, Frauen, Kopf und Ge-
sicht unerschrocken braunen Völl-
schamhaarigen, sehen herum und un-
glücklich Kinder sammeln in Stroh-



Asien-Fürther Sven Hedin
Gast des russischen Konsuls

korben die Tier-Exkremente, die als
Brennstoff verwendet werden. Die Im-
bibition im Freien, eingehüllt in Rauch-
und Duftschwaden, bieten Schisch-Keoab
und Ziegensuppe an.

Autos und Fahrräder sind selten. Als
Transportmittel für Menschen und Güter dient
eine endlose Flotte primitiver Holzkarren, von
Eseln gezogen. „Bosch - bosch - bosch“, zu
deutsch: „Platz machen, bitte, Platz“. Ist
der ständige Ruf der Fahrer. „Bosch“ ist denn
auch das erste uigurische Wort, das der
Fremde lernt.

Inmitten der Stim-
men. Gerüche. Farben
und Gesichter der
Menschen fällt es
schwer, sich zu verge-
genwärtigen. Daß dies
immer noch China ist.

Die Kommunisten
übernahmen diese Re-
gion 1949 und benutz-
ten die Oase Khotan
als Sprungbrett, um
auch Tibet an sich zu
bringen. Das einstige
„große Spiel“ um die
Herrschaft über
Zentralasien ist damit
praktisch zu Ende.
China ging vorerst als
Sieger hervor.

Die Briten sind
langst aus der Regie
verschwunden. Ihr
ehemaliges Konsulat in
Kaschgar, inzwischen
ein verfallenes Gebäu-
de, ist eine Raststai-
te der Lastwagenfah-
rer auf der Wusten-
strecke von und nach
L'rumtschi.

Di

Die Russen sind
ebenfalls abgezogen.

Der letzte Moskauer Diplomat verließ
die Stadt 1962. Das alte russische Konsu-
lat, von dem aus Konsul Petrowski über
20 Jahre konspirierte, um Sinkiang für
das zaristische Rußland zu erwerben,
wurde in das „erste Gastehaus“ am Plat-
z verwandelt.

Die Sowjet-Union gilt heute nicht mehr als
unmittelbare Gefahr. Die Beziehungen
zwischen Peking und Moskau haben sich
nach der Aufnahme der Normali-
sierungskontakte verbessert, so daß
Kaschgar heute niemand mehr befürchtet,
ein plötzlicher Angriff oder eine

ptc

Infiltration könnten bevorstehen. Im Gegenteil. „...die Grenze ist sehr ruhig“, so Abdullah Rahim, Vize-Verwaltungschef der Provinz. „...die Sowjets schicken ihre Spione nicht mehr ins Land.“

Selbst die fctzende Rundfunkpropa-

ganda, welche die Sowjets jahrzehntelang über einen Sender in Samarkand nach China strahlten, wurde eingestellt. Am deutlichsten ist j. Kasehaar über Kurzwellensender die Deutsche Welle zu empfangen.

Der Grenzhandel, fast 20 Jahre lang vdlhg unterbunden, floriert wieder In August 1982 öffnete die Kreisverwabu von Kaschgar einen Grenzposten für oc:

Warenaustausch mit Pakistan. Und am 1. Juli dieses Jahres wurde ein khnlischer Handelsposten an der Grenze zur Sowjet-Union eröffnet. „Wir haben vom Handel mit unserem Nachbarn nichts zu fürchten“, sagt Eisa Schakir, stellvertretender BQrgermeister von Kaschgar.

Peking bat am ehesten seine eigenen Bürger zu fürchten. Denn das Verhältnis zwischen den Mindetheiten und den Chinesen ist schwierig geblieben. Vor zwei Jahren erst wurde in Sinkiang eine Gruppe uigurischer Dissidenten entdeckt, die in der ganzen Provinz einen Aufstand gegen die chinesische Herrschaft plan-

ten: „Wir wollen uns selbst regieren. Wir wollen nicht beherrscht werden.“

Im Januar dieses Jahres enthielt die Pekinese „Volkszeitung“, die in Kaschgar eine „kontrollierte Ausgabe“ veröffentlicht worden sei. Die Ausgabe brachte damals keine Einzelheiten, die Beamten in der Stadt hüllten sich auch heute noch in Schwärze. Die Bezeichnung „konterrevolutionär“ aber bedeutet ein Aufbegehren gegen den Status quo, mithin gegen die chinesische Herrschaft über diesen Raum.

Im Kreis Kaschgar leben zwei Millionen Uiguren, nur 300.000 Chinesen. Obwohl viele Direktoren, Manager und Vorsitzende Uiguren sind, stellt sich bei Gesprächen schon nach wenigen Minuten heraus, dass der eigentliche BoB ein Chinese ist für gewöhnlich nur der stellvertretende Director. Trotzdem blicken die Uiguren ständig fragend zu ihm auf, ob sie auch das Richtige sagen. Er antwortet auf die heiklen Fragen.

Durch diese Machtmischung wurde das Ressentiment der Uiguren gegen die Chinesen am Leben gehalten. So kann ein kleiner Vorfall jederzeit in großen, gefährlichen Brand entfachen.

Im April 1980 zum Beispiel die Ermordung eines jungen Uiguren durch einen Chinesen in Aksu Rasschnktauale aus, die zwei Tage und zwei Nächte lang andauerten. Dabei griffen Uiguren-Banden chinesische Häuser an und plünderten chinesischen Besitz.

Zu einem ähnlichen Vorfall kam es am 31. Oktober 1981 im Stadtzentrum von Kaschgar. Eine Gruppe uigurischer Arbeiter sollte auf der Straße vor einem von Chinesen geführten staatseigenen Geschäft einen Graben ausheben. Es kam zu einem Streit, in dessen Verlauf ein Chinese auf einen der Uiguren schoß und ihn tötete.

Daraufhin rotteten sich Tausende von Uiguren zusammen, in der Stadt entstand ein Chaos, zwei Chinesen wurden getötet. Schließlich rückte eine Armee-Einheit eingesetzt werden, um der Gewalttätigkeit ein Ende zu setzen und die verfeindeten Lager zu trennen.

1981 machte sich Teng Hsiao-ping selbst auf eine Inspektionsreise durch die Provinz. Während seines neuntägigen Besuchs konnte er sich selbst überzeugen von der unverhohlenen Abneigung vieler Uiguren, selbst in der Provinz-

2%

Xgierunj

SPIE CIEL KEPP

RT ON<Kft\$HGftfc* _____

Udcn zu kaufen gab. „Die Wiedereroff- nung des Ba<:rs“, so der steilver.retende Burgermcisin Eis* Schakir. „hal das Lebcn in de: Stadt cr.tscbcidend veran den. Fast de: ganze Handel beet jelzt in prvaier Hand -

In Kaschga: leben 3000 ganztagsbeschäftigte und 7000 nebenberufliche Händler, dtc nicht nur einheinr-che Pro* dL'N»e feiioieier.. sorerm innerhaP. ven zchr Tagep. auch a'l^ bischafkn kdn- n^r,, ss?.s cs in Sch.vphai unrt Peking gtbt. Schak-r: „Das is' fur allt von Vor- leil, denn avi oem Instan/enweg daun es eir Jaht, bis die Waren in Kaschga: einrefien.“

Der .Instanzenweg*4 ist inrwjschen auch iii der Landwinschaft ausgeschal- tet Die landwirtschaftlicher- Voli.skom- it.v.nen, denen sich die Uiguren v»id'r- setr. hatten, sind abeschafft Die Bau- emfamilien hestellen dos ihnen zugeteil* tt Lend jetzr ir eigencr.er Initiative

D«e Production ist st:t:ier beträchtlich gestiegen, n.ithin auch das Einkomme:: der Uigurtr.. „Dif Menschn4*, behaup- tet eir. R'firrungsangestcllur. ..haber. jstr. das Gsfuh!. Hen inner eif: ner. Angetegenheitcn zu scin.“

Norh v.-'chtiger fiir ere einheirjurr.? Bfvdikr-jng tit. daS die Kommunisl* scat l .>nr: ir,z'i\$chen die Religion, den Islam. toL.v.-.: Die Jo-Kah-Mosche-c im Ztntrurr. d : jl-en Siad>. die im Zuct dei Kuiu'o'-.nor. gesth.'->sen und von d r. Potgrrdistec verwistet vurdc, ist rtsiaar.tn. Jaiulieh erhalien 20 Glau-

kerung diescr Provinz betrachtet den Komn.'- .ismus als jQngstes Nebcnpro- duk. d.; cnmesischen Hemchaft - und der Islam ais Sammeilvscken der rebel- lierenden Mindrheiten. um eben d;ese Herr-chab zu bekampfen.

Eine ^er heiiitslen Stattcn in Sin- kiemp.' ?ruher Pilger aus der gesamten Pro- - iiii locktc, liegt an einem ver- schv.. t .. n On. acht Kilometer ostlicr. von Ka;hear. Pei Tagesanbrjch. v-enr. der blasc Mond noch am Himrnei stehi und die Sen.ot hinter den zittenden Pappeln auf^eh.; bie»e: die grimgrkachchte Keppel de* Galoan-Mau- sokums mit ihren vier Mmaretts cinen der zauberhaftesten Anblicke Zentral- astens.

Von weuem schon ist das Gemurr.e! der Giaubigen zu horen. Sie beren ver dem H ilzgelander. das den Zugang zum Mausoleum vers pent. „Es ist ein histon- sches Denkm4 , f«?gt Aisan Umar, dt: Betrcuer d?< Mausoleums. „wir halter, es geschlossen, um es zu scnuLten.4*

Der Bau is; restauriert, gleichze., _ aber in eine An Museum verv-ano'el: ver den , uas der Besuchtr rur mil Eh irinskane hetreten kann.

Gaidar., ein mehammedanisrher H:-i- liger. vervandeUe Kaschgarien in einen theok- atiscnen S.aat. ir. dem er und seme Ange.iorigc-j di? Herrschaft besa- Ben. Hi srarb 1691. fur die Uigurs n Kationalheld und rehgt:i-er Fur.rer zugleich.

Dir. Chincsen saber; es heuie lieber. u-enn die Menschen nicht mehr an ihr. dachicu. sich nicht daran ennnener dSL diese; prachnollc De.nkmal mohanne- dar.isu'ner Architektcr rur finer Uiguren und dcsssn Nachkommen em'chtet wur* de, die Kaschgar -egieren. Die Chine- sen mochten fie be.: d:3 der Be^utr.. : sK'h cirifr kienen. tr.bedcotenden Grab- star..0. untr den 72 Grahmsilem zuwer. d;t, di*- sich in der Kuppel he finder.

Dieses Grab 'st leer, dac Museumjst!. fortati ..Grab der duuender, Konkub'

licfi liv...r.?ar^int^ter den Pa*ic.h.r h°he e i n D i e e uf^nc,cheF_ **nd' der n ^? Avno<r. t te^nJ^hie,ien

| «S5E?»

der Tei-Wi fur

^^zugewinnen D?,E*d^u,kf^n..nt L1^ Acht zu geben. r Eifo g^Ahetm ih n

Im Mojngengrauen treffen auf der gro- Sn ri?r.ac^adj Untcrha,n dei LehmUip. pen der Stadt aus dkn Richer-V. scr.ie' endiose Kzrawarien von fo .,- schen und Ksrren, E«!n Pferden. Kc- nieJtn und Schafen eh Innerhalb weni- ger Siunder versammelr. sirh et-a 50 000 Mcnschen Sie kaufer und \er- krufen. sie essen und arhnten c.irr schlendem einfach umber au- der Suche nach einem Geschäft.

AUe Waren Zentrasiens sind zu ha- ben: Messer au: dem berui.mserr Knsch-

ij-Stahl (firnf Mark). Led.r'r'ticfe) (32 lark) und bestickt Kappchen (aebt lark't. SatteJ und fcohe schwarze Sami- jte rnit rotlxhem Kerzrand Teppiche, upfervaren und Gewurze mi! 100 ver- hieder.er: Dfiften.

Ein YSLmel ist fu: 300 Mark zu haben. D Ese) fur 234. ein Schaf fur 40 Mark.

Fir'ee Leute verkaufen frische Maulbee- ^ *«/i#re betreiben ihr oeverbe un Freien' Barbiete. die Lhren Kunden nut F rln hhtzcnden Rastermessern den gr0Gf S r Lhna^te mil fuBgetne- K^pf seh . • Hemdenmacher und Af^n.cn. Krauerdoktoren und

SU^A;«de. Darvischer. junge Mao- Goidscli^o flirbtcn Aucenbrauen chen mJ» ^^ar^dic m aEr Sonne sitzen SS mi' altern Z^itungspapier Zip-

S«^n ^Kulturrevolution hatte dicsem D^c ^'-ILn ein abruptes Ende ge- hunten Tretben « muQten sjch rnit

es in den staatbehen

Jem begnugen.

bige die Eriawhris zu emer Pugerreisc nach Mekka Eine islamische VereirJ- gurtg rur Ausbildung junge: Geistlicher v.-urde gegruudei.

In den 92 Moschc-en. die Ln letzterZeit alkin in Ka>chgai wieder dffneten. dui- fen die Mcnschen jederzeit ein und au:- gel-er. beten und eu:e;r Predigcr zuho- ren. der aus der. Koran best, ode* den in den Hdfen versammelier. Bertlcm eir. pa?r Munzen geben

Der Irr.arr, Cl.ar- r. Karadschi. 80. ist •wiedrt ein geurtitetes Oberhaupt der Gemeinde und vird von den kommuni- stischen Behörden akzeptien ^Die Doktrin der Komrounistichtm Pane;44, so der Imam, „ist zu-ar rait dem Isiam nicht vereinbar. die chinesische Partei jedoch tolerien unsere Rebgionsaus- ubung.44

Toleranz allein abet genutzt vielleicht nicht, weil die eine Ideologic im Grunde die andere ausschlieSt. Das ist beiden Seiten sehr wohl be^mBt. Ein Angestell- ter der Provinzregierung sagt denn auch: „Man muB wfehlen, welcher. Weg man ge'nen mill. Man kann nicht mil einem Bein kn Islam und mit dem anderen im Sozialismus stehen.“

„Nur ein Herz“, so auch der Imam. „hat Allah dem Menschen gegeben. Der Mensch muB sich also fur diesen oder jenen Glauben entscheiden. Er muB eni- weder an den Islam oder an den Korn- munismus glauben.44

Der grundlegende Widerspruch ist in Sinkiang besonders fuhlbar. Die Bevol-



heißen, - und das hat folgende Geschichte:

Mamrisim, eine habsche Uigurin, war mit einem Hodscha verheiratet, einem Herrscher Kaschgaris. Als die Armee des chinesischen Kaisers Tschien Lung 1755 in die Region einfiel, eine Million Menschen tötete und erneut die chinesische Herrschaft über Kaschgar errichtete, wurde Mamrisims Gemahl, sie selbst als Gefangene an den kaiserlichen Hof nach Peking geschickt, um dort als Konkubine zu dienen.

Als der Kaiser Tschien Lung sie sah, verliebte er sich in die Uigurin, Mamrisim jedoch widerstand seinem Werben. In Abwesenheit des Kaisers befahl dessen Mutter der Gefangenen, sie solle nicht tun. So erbanete sich die „Duftende Konkubine“ mit einem Seidentuch am

„Mondwindort“ in der Verbotenen Stadt.

Der Kaiser war bei seiner Rückkehr über das Geschehen aufgebracht und gab Anweisung, Mamrisims Leichnam in der kaiserlichen Grabstätte zu bestatten, neben seinem eigenen, 80 Kilometer westlich von Peking.

Die „Duftende Konkubine“ aber hat auch in Kaschgar ein Grab. Dort werden dem Besucher sogar der Sarg und der Wagen gezeigt, in dem der Kaiser angeblich Mamrisims Leichnam ihrem Volk zurückschickte.

Die Uiguren überliefern die Geschichte von der Duftenden Konkubine von Generation zu Generation - als Beispiel chinesischer Grausamkeit und Unaufrichtigkeit. Der Mausokumsführer dagegen erklart den Besuchern: „Die Liebe des chinesischen Kaisers zu diesem uigurischen Mädchen ist ein Beweis für die lange Geschichte der Einheit der Rassen in China.“

„Wo liegt das Grab von Jakob Beg?“ fragt der Besucher. Jakob Beg stellte sich Mitte des vergangenen Jahrhunderts an die Spitze einer Moslemrebellion gegen die Chinesen, hatte eine moderne Armee auf und errichtete ein Festungnetz um den Anner, aus dem chinesischen Mutterland zu widerstehen. Er nannte sich selbst „Vater und Held“ und rief Kaschgar als einen unabhängigen Staat auf der Grundlage des Islam aus. 1877 wurde er vergiftet, ein Jahr darauf sein Staat von den Chinesen beseitigt.

„Früher lag sein Grab hier“, antwortet der uigurische Mausoleumswächter und zeigt auf eine nicht gekennzeichnete Stelle auf dem Boden. „Es gab aber zu viele Gräber. Da wir gern ein paar Bäume anpflanzen wollten, wurde das

Grab Jakob Begs 1978 beseitigt. Seine Gebeine jedoch liegen hier noch, in zwei Meter Tiefe.“

Ein chinesischer Beamter hat eine andere Erklärung: „Jakob Beg war ein Separatist. Er spielte eine schreckliche Rolle in der Geschichte. Die Menschen wollen ihn daher lieber vergessen.“

Mit der Zeit könnte sie ihn in der Tat vergessen, denn Bücher über Sinkiangs Geschichte vor der kommunistischen Herrschaft gibt es nicht. Die Kinder in den Schulen lernen nichts über die Vergangenheit ihres Landes. Nur an der Universität dürfen die Studenten, so der chinesische Beamte Wu Dongyao, „über die negative Rolle schlechter Elternteile wie Jakob Beg diskutieren“.

Im Gegensatz zur Kulturrevolution, welche die Minoritäten zwingen wollte, sich rasch zu assimilieren, scheint die neue Politik auf eine langsame und langfristige Entwicklung zu setzen.

In Kaschgar gibt es heute uigurische Schulen neben den chinesischen. Eine Uigur-Familie, die beschließt, ihr Kind in eine chinesische Schule zu schicken, gibt ihm damit naturgemäß die Chance einer besseren Erziehung, mithin auch besserer Berufsaussichten.

Auf dem Sonntags-Basar ist in der farberprächtigen Menschenmasse kein einziger Chinese zu sehen. Die Chinesen kaufen lieber im sterilen, aber ordentlichen staatlichen Magazin ein, das wie im Inneren Chinas. „Laden der hundert Produkte“ heißt. Hier findet der Käufer die gleiche Therrao, Aschen und Spucknapfe, die gleiche Seife und die gleichen Bücher - wie in Sjangbai oder Kanton.

„Sie mögen nicht, was uns gefällt. Sie mögen uns nicht“, bemerkt ein junger Uigure, der betont: „Ich spreche zwar chinesisch, bin aber kein Chinese.“

Bei Unterhaltungen mit Uiguren, wenn kein Chinese zugegen ist, kommt das Gespräch stets sofort auf die Chinesen. „Sie mögen kein Schafffleisch, sie tanzen nicht, sie singen nicht. Sie... sie.“ Dieses „sie“ ist der Maßstab für die Distanz, die diese beiden Völker immer noch trennt.

abgeräumte Erde haufenweise auf einen großen Lastwagen lädt.

„Sie benutzen diese Erde als Dummheit“, sagt ein junger Arbeiter, der das Geschehen beobachtet. „Die beste Erde liegt dort, wo einst die Ställe standen. Vor wenigen Tagen wurden Knochen und andere Dinge ausgebagert. Die Bauern behielten nur die Metallgegenstände, einige waren aus Gold.“

Der Lastwagen, beladen mit der Erde und den Relikten der alten Stadt, verschwindet in die Wüste. In der Ferne zeichnen sich im Dunstschleier der Hitze die Umrisse der Baracken ab, in denen die chinesischen Siedler wohnen. Im Umkreis der Baracken liegen die Felder, die sie der Wüste erneut abringen und die bebaut werden müssen.

In diesem Gebiet leben 60 000 chinesische Einwohner. Weitere folgen unruhlich. Obwohl die liberale Politik Teng Hsiaoping die Minderheiten so viele Kinder erlaubt, wie sie möchten, während die Chinesen hier wie im übrigen Land nur ein Kind haben dürfen, werden die Uiguren zwangsläufig langsam, aber sicher in die Minderheit gedrängt.

Einige uigurische Kinder, die den Islam ablehnen und an Parteischulen studieren, zeigen bereits ganz auf China. Weitere werden aus der Masse uigurischer Jungen und Mädchen hervorgehen, die jetzt bereits in moderner Schulform, die rote Fahne der kommunistischen Ju-

gend-Organisation schwenkend, unter den traurigen

• Blicken

und verschleiener

neben chinesischen

Kindern vor der Id-Kah-Moschee marschieren.

|

• Männer

f - Frauen

„ Die sieben Kinos der Stadt

zeigen den gleichen Film wie die Kinos im übrigen China, in chinesischer Sprache. Die Fernsehsendungen, aus Peking - einschließlich der Nachrichten mit funftägiger Verspätung sind ebenfalls chinesisch - einige Sendestunden auf uigurisch am Wochenende ausgenommen.

Kaschgar selbst weist bereits erste Anzeichen des schleichenden chinesischen Einflusses auf, der dem Land den Fortschritt bringt.

Die neuen Gebäude der Stadtverwaltung sind im chinesischen Stil erbaut. Vor dem Eingang mancher Häuser plätschern, wie in den Gärten von Sutschou, Springbrunnen über Gestein. Auf einer kleinen Insel inmitten eines hübschen Sees in den Außenbezirken wollen die Chinesen eine Pagode errichten:

! Das Stadtbild erhält, wie ein junger Uigure sagt, einen weiteren „chinesischen Anstrich“. +

Ww Xinjiang Provinca China's Minorities Enjoy New Freedom

from 80v- girls learning traditional folk dances
ues with 'rrA. TM *** music that echoed the rhythms
kre in Chln^if^kf !* Baghdad and Istanbul more than

suits wcun bl^A^Wue
China, but alvwy**^s J^lrou8hout
colorful AT*U^rs@itlonal and
rm^/?' *ofU' <*.
j Karst, v the Uighurs,
l x !^hs- and other Central

Asian people* who live in Xinjiang.
Chuut s westernmost provlne^
musicians play auch Chi- n^e
standards as "Sing a Song of recuse for
the Chinese Communist Party Congress."
but they bring audiences to their feet with
folk baliads recalling the deeds of the
ancient heroes of Central Asia.
Movies from Peking and Shanghai can
be seen at local cinemas, but the most
popular are moody films imported from
neighboring Pakistan. And Xinjiang's schools,
which for 30 years have emphasized the
region's place in a unified China, are new
beginning to focus equally on . the history
and culture of Central
f Asia.
|_r •qjve years ago, you would hoi have seen
this." said Abdul Karim. Baodin. principal
of the Kashgar Teachers College in
southern Xin-

**Anything not Chinese was dis-
couraged, even banned. Now, there
is recognition by the parly and the
government thst cultural diversity
does riot conflict will, political loy-
alty. This has brought tremendous
•changes for us." ' ' •
The once intense pressure, on
Xinjiang's minorities to adopt the Chinese
language and life style has been relaxed
Xinjiang's once nominal regional
autonomy is beginning lo have practical
meaning with the appointment and
promotion of many more officials from
local nationalities and the adaptation of
raofr of China's overall policies to fit Xin-
jiang's needs and customs. \
U Boeegnized Xiaarttlas : >-
Economic reforms and increased
government investment have brought
substantial growth over the last four
years, and Pfking Ir now promising more
help, for lauw development in the ntv
decades. 1 •^People here regard this ac a
new era," said Bakher Rakhiin, a senior
official of the Xinjwctg Nationality Affairs
Commission, "and 1 think

that is true of the national minor!
ties throughout China today." ..V <
• China has 55 recognised minori-
ties. numbering more than 67 mil-
lion people. Although .they const!-,
tute less than 7% of the country's r
total population of 1 billion, they
occupy nearly 60% of Us territory .
(Xinjiang alone accounts for a abrtli .
of China; it is roughly as large «■*.
Alaska), including many strategic J
border regions. " * V '

Some minorities are dose to <h* V
Han. or ethnic Chinese, hi language
and customs, but most are not
Xinjiang's 12 Central Asian nation-
alities. who actually account lor
60% of the region's 13 million
people, ere largely Muslim, speak
Turkic languages and have a great
affinity with similar groups la
neighboring Afghanistan, India, Pa-
kistan, Mongolia and the Soviet
Union. -

'There has been traditional
friendship between the Han and the
Higher, Kazakh and other peoples
of Xinjiang, but that does not mean
we arc the same nationality" Rak-
him said. "Thiy fact was Ignored,
during the (13G6-1S76) Cultural
Revolution, the 10 years <H chaos-
and much damage was done to the
relations between ua." .
The policies of the Maoist radicals

during the Cultural Revolution
amounted to forced assimilation, the
Communist Party newspaper Peo-
ple's Daily acknowledged recently,
pronouncing them "a tremendous
catastrophe for the national rainori-
ties."

In the belief that the minorities
had been as siTrulated, or soon would
be, the authorities closed their fg>e-
cial schools, reduced the use of
! minority languages in government, :
! ■. business and the press, prohibited
| many songs and dances as national-
! istlc and stopped production of Rems
J such as traditional clothing, carpet^ i
band even felt hats and furbooU. \ ?:

"Assimilation may conic, but ft
m
, ___ <lal in Kashgar YemarTed/Thip • V
r. cannot be hurried or forced. We
' . have leaiTied that lesson. Today, the
■ bulk is development, and this is beat '
Hfcnp with the .energy apd WfeiViX;

Advice huge ertmt, tli vaat pestuws t^ns
of .ptpb«UM| :

FF0<2

ASIA-

china TRIES TO

B-UIRE

14-DEC-83 08:14

AVOID MINORITY TENSIONS

KASHGAR

25° TSE-TUNG

DEC. 14 <AP>— A GIANT STATUE OF THE LATE CHAIRMAN

"NOT HUCH FI cr nn!?^ VISITORS TO KASHGAR THEY ARE STILL IN CHINA. BUT TRYING TO CHANGE?' AND CHINESE AUTHORITIES SEEH TO HAVE STOPPED

A DIFFPRPwrcEVnR"PRESENT BILLBOARDS AND POLITICAL STUDY SESSIONS HAVE COMMUNTQTL!ATHER THAN FEATURING THE LATEST EXHORTATIONS FROM CENTRAi TurS5TY HEADQUARTERS, THEY ARE HORE LIKELY TO DWELL ON A DOMINANT L^ErT' THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA'S 67 DPDrcK\$NAPEOPLE AND THE MINORITY NATIONALITIES WHO ACCOUNT FOR ' *•urDr^Tj OF CHINA'S ONE BILLION PEOPLE.

A UAH n WE ARE THE MINORITY NATIONALITY," SAYS ZHOU SHUNYING, 4C; RIIDCA,, , MAN WHO WORKS AS AN INTERPRETER IN THE PREFECTURAL GRAIN iirruinp ^ KASHGAR, WHERE MORE THAN 90 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE ARE UIGHURS, A TURKIC PEOPLE.

WHAT THAT MEANS, SHE TOLD VISITING REPORTERS, IS THAT WHEN SHE HA(HER MOSLEM UIGHUR NEIGHBORS OVER FOR DINNER, SHE IS CAREFUL WHICH PC': SHE COOKS IN, AND SHE DOESN'T THROW DIRTY WASH WATER OUT ON TO THE STREET IN FRONT-

• BORROWING A POT FROM THE NEIGHBORS IS THE SUREST WAY OF REASSURI;; MOSLEM GUESTS, WHO DON'T EAT PORK, THAT THEY ARE NOT EATING FROr. A POT THAT EVER HELD PORK.

HER HUSBAND'ONCE VIOLATED MOSLEM CUSTOMS BY THROWING DIRTY WATER ON THE ROAD, CONSIDERED A SIGN OF DISRESPECT, BUT THE PROBLEM WAS SOLVED BY SWIFTLY CLEANING IT UP, SHE ADDED.

IN THE 1966-76 "CULTURAL REVOLUTION" THAT BROUGHT CHAOS THROUGHOUT CHINA, LEFTIST RADICALS TRIED TO FORCE THE MINORITIES TO ABANDON THEIR CUSTOMS, DESTROYED 'MANY OF -THEIR MOSQUES AND SEIZED RFLIGIOUS WORKERS ON CHARGES OF SOWING DISCORD OR PROMOTING THE "FOUR OLDS" — OLD IDEAS. CULTURE, CUSTOMS AND HABITS.

RAHAR AN UZBEI WHO IS AN OFFICIAL IN THE SINKIANG PROVINCE NATIONALITIES DEPARTMENT IN URUKGI. TOLD REPORTERS THAT IN THOSE TTMFq HE WAS SENT FOR THREE YEARS OF FORCED LABOR IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.

1 wnu NEWCOMERS TO THIS REMOTE NORTHWEST PROVINCE ARE TOLD NOT TC OACC IN FRONT OF MOSLEMS AS THEY KNEEL TO PRAY AND NOT TO SHOW THE ? rni cc OF THEIR FEET AS THEY SIT ON A RUG IN A KAZAK YURT.

S r u T N A ' S LEADERS WANT STABILITY, UNITY AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE •ATrni'S MODERNIZATION DRIVE. ANOTHER REASON FOR CURRENT EMPHASIS ON NATIUM_a^ TUC MTWnRTTTFq lq THAT HOST LIVE IN STRATEGIC BORDER AREAS

EXPECTING THE MINORITIES IS THAT MOST L REBI IN AREAS RICH IN NATURAL RESOURCES.

ANDti CTHKIANG, MINORITIES ACCOUNT FOR 60 PERCENT OF THE 13 MILLION

I, c TVING IN A PROVINCE THAT TAKES UP ONE-SIXTH OF CHINA'S LA^J! AREA AND HAS BORDERS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, MONGOLIA, AFGHANISTAN

LAND AND

INDIA• UIGHURS, THERE ARE HUI, MONGOLIAN, KERGEZ, XIBO, TAJIK, nailR TARTAR, KAZAK, MANCHU AND RUSSIAN PEOPLE.

UZBEK* JN SINKIANG'S WESTERN CORNER, MISS ZHOU SAYS THE KAN!

INt CAT IN FRONT OF THEIR MOSLEM NEIGHBORS AND CO-WORKERS WHILE D° *°ARi FASTING DURING RAMADAN. (PTO)0%

ASIA—(1)—CHINA TRIES TO AVOID MINORITY TENSIONS

HER UIGHUR NEIGHBOR, ABLA SABIRI, 52, SAYS THERE ARE NO CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN THE HANS AND THE UIGHURS, BUT THE TWICE-A-WEEK POLITICAL STUDY SESSIONS ARE LIKELY TO FOCUS ON CHINA'S NATIONALITY POLICIES "IN ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE UNITY." </r

SABIRI AND MISS ZHOU BOTH SAY MORE UIGHURS ARE LEARNING TO SPEAK CHINESE AND MORE CHINESE TO SPEAK UIGHUR.

ONE DIFFERENCE, HOWEVER, IS THAT SABIRI HAS EIGHT CHILDREN AND HISS ZHOU HAS ONE. WHILE HANS ARE TOLD TO HAVE ONLY ONE CHILD PER COUPLE IN LINE WITH CHINA'S POPULATION CONTROL POLICIES, THE MINORITIES ARE ENCOURAGED — BUT NOT COMPELLED — TO PRACTICE FAMILY PLANNING.

IN URUMQI, BAHAR SAID MORE AND MORE MINORITY PEOPLE ARE BEING PROMOTED TO LEADING POSITIONS IN THE PROVINCE.

SINKIANG HAD 3.00P_ MINORITY PEOPLE SERVING AS OFFICIALS IN 1949, THE YEAR OF THETOMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN CHINA, AND NOW HAS MORE THAN J7Q,.QQQ^ COMPARED WITH MORE THAN 180,000 HAN OFFICIALS IN THE PROVINCE; HE SAID. PROVINCIrefIVERNOR ISMAIL AMAT IS A UIGHUR.

ONE PROBLEM IS THAT THE MINORITIES HAVE LAGGED BEHIND CULTURALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, BUT MORE ARE BEING TRAINED FOR LEADERSHIP, BAHAR ADDED.

IN PEKING, YANG JINGREN, MINISTER OF THE STATE NATIONALITIES AFFAIRS COMMISSION, TOLD THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE PEKING REVIEW, "IN THE COURSE OF THE MODERNIZATION DRIVE, THE STATE WILL PROVIDE ENORMOUS ASSISTANCE FOR THE MINORITY PEOPLES TO SPEED UP THEIR ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT."

BAHAR SAID THERE ARE SOME MARRIAGES BETWEEN HANS AND MINORITIES BUT THEY ARE NOT ENCOURAGED BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT ARI5E FROM DIFFERENCES IN RELIGION, CUSTOMS AND LANGUAGE.

SOME SUSPICIONS STILL REMAIN. A CHINESE DRIVER SAID HE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF HE ACCIDENTALLY HIT A MINORITY CITIZEN WHOSE NEIGHBORS MIGHT SEE IT AS DELIBERATE.

IN 1981, THE COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER PEOPLE'S DAILY REPORTED EARLY THIS YEAR, A HAN YOUTH IN KASHGAR KILLED A UIGHUR IN AN ARGUMENT. AS UIGHURS PARADED WITH THE BODY, A MELEE BROKE OUT AND TWO HANS WERE KILLED AND MANY INJURED, IT SAID.

BAHAR TOLD REPORTERS, "THAT WAS NOT A QUESTION OF A NATIONALITY f DISPUTE, BUT A CRIMINAL CASE."

MAMUTUOFU KORBAN, COMMISSIONER OF KASHGAR PREFECTURE, SAID THE HAN AND AN ACCOMPLICE HAD BEEN JAILED, AND "A SMALL NUMBER OF BAD PEOPLE SPREAD RUMORS AMONG THE MASSES AND BEAT SOME PEOPLE. THEY ALSO WERE JAILED."

EFFORTS TO WHIP UP NATIONALITY FEELINGS WERE IN VAIN, HE SAID, AND "WE SOLVED THE PROBLEM."

ASKED WHY NO ONE WAS EXECUTED, KORBAN SAID THE WRONG-DOERS WERE PUNISHED ACCORDING TO LAW.

CHINA CURRENTLY IS IN THE MIDST OF A NATIONWIDE CRACKDOWN ON CRIME, WITH TOUGHENED PUNISHMENTS, AND FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC ANALYSTS ESTIMATE 5.000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EXECUTED ON CHARGES OF MURDER, ROBBERY AWTTAPE.

IN CENTRAL KASHGAR, PROMINENT POSTERS IN UIGHUR AND CHINESE REPORTED THE LATEST LOCAL EXECUTIONS — NINE CONVICTED KILLERS AND A RAPIST.

THEIR NATIONALITIES NEARLY MATCHED KASHGAR'S ETHNIC MIX — EIGHT UIGHURS AND TWO_H2jis* INCLUDING THE RAPIST.

OVERALL, SOCIAL ORDER IS GOOD, KORBAN SAID.

"THE PEOPLE FEAR NOTHING, EVEN AT NIGHT," HE DECLARED. LA/ f\

Chinese win a long struggle against sand, wind and heat

By Michael Parks

temner*, China (LAT) - Summe
S2P ?rcM?n 115 deSrees_ and some
tunes higher, 40 days at a time. The sun bake:
ard as concrete. Howling
numcane-force winds can bury houses to their
rooftops in sand and gravel. Rainfall averages
less than two-thirds of an inch « year.

Yet, Turfan produces China's best cotton,
its most succulent melons and sweetest table
grapes. An oasis in the southern Gobi desert,
this region is winning its centuries-long strug-
gle against the sand, wind and heat, not only
surviving but prospering in one of the world's
most forbidding environments.

Part of Turfan's success is due to the 16
million trees planted in shelter belts here over
the last 20 years to hold back the desert, and
part is due to the modern agricultural techni-
ques China has begun to teach the oasis'
Uighur farmers to boost their crop yields.

But the reason that Turfan has survived at all
is an underground irrigation system developed
2,000 years ago to bring mountain water
without evaporation across the desert to the
villagers' fields, vineyards and
orchards.

"We look around and see all the different
settlements, some of them once mighty cities,
that have died and even disappeared over the
centuries, but here we still are," said Reyim
Tohti, a Turfan district official. "That probably
would have been our fate — to be strangled
and then buried by the desert — were it not for
the karez."

Karez are the 972 underground canals in Turfan and
two neighboring countries that bring water from
the edge of the flame mountains to the 5,800-
square-mile oasis and its
400,000 people.

The hand-dug tunnels, six feet in diameter,
become in effect, underground streams fed by
the runoff from melting snow in the mountains.
The tunnels run an average of 145 feet beneath
the surface of the desert, with some as deep
as 295 feet before eventually delivering water to
the surface of the desert depression, where
irrigation ditches carry it to the fields and
shelter belts of the oasis. "Only when we tried to
improve on the

karez system did we appreciate what an
engineering marvel it is," Tohti said, "we could
not do better."

Chinese Army engineers, wanting to tap
more of the mountains' tremendous water
resources, built 10 long aqueducts and 18
reservoirs in the oasis' three counties — only to
find that most of the water was evaporating
before it could be used for irrigation.

The army engineers then decided to copy the
ancient karez technology, digging more of the
underground canals and lining them with
concrete to prevent evaporation, but this only
diverted water from the existing canals and took
fertile land out of cultivation since crops cannot
be planted on top of a karez for fear of diverting
their water from downstream irrigation systems
or fouling the tunnels with root systems.

In the end, the engineers could only dig more
wells — altogether, 3,000 — within the oasis to
recover water that had come from the
mountains at even deeper levels or had
returned to the ground after being used in
irrigation.

Shelter belts, however, are now recognized
as essential for not just Turfan's but all of
Xinjiang's development. The region's top
political leaders are giving them a high a
priority as grain growing used to get or oil and
coal exploration get no's.

Turfan feels that it has already achieved a
large measure of success — first, in surviving
while other oases have disappeared and, sec-
ond, in prospering to the point where per-
acre yields of cotton, grapes, melons and other crops
are 2 to 4 times what they were two or
three decades ago.

The tall rows of trees also give people a
measure of confidence that they can control or
at least shape their environment, that they can
build as well as destroy.

"Before, we were afraid of the wind," Tohti
recalled. "When it came, the land would be filled
with sand. People could not go outside, often for
days. The crop would be covered overnight —
literally smothered in sand and gravel."

Turfan is hit by 40 to 50 major wind storms a
year, a third of which have the strength of
hurricanes and hurl sand and gravel about with
the impact of shotgun pellets.

sy&'u'S' *

^ MOSCOW

AND PEKING SEE NEW PROFIT IN SILK ROUTE

FOLLOWING

APPEARED IN THE LONDON OBSERVER, MARCH 3Q

ANDREW WILSON

* Alma-Ata

^from

Wind blows

from the East, across the guttering mountains that grade the capital of the Kazakh Republic, one fancy one hears a distant tapping.

It is the sound of workers on the international frontier repairing the 30-year-old ruin of Soviet-Chinese relations.

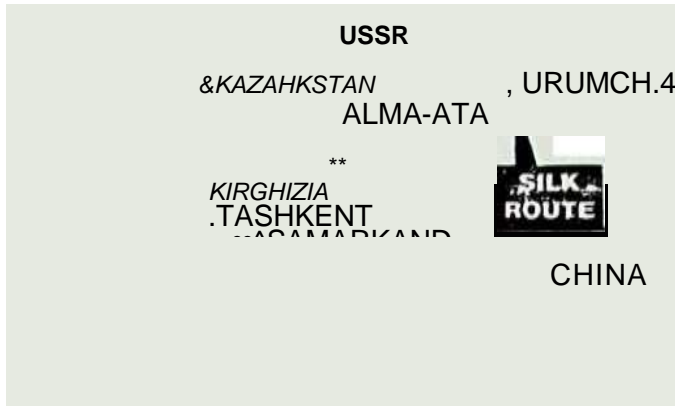
Next month Vladimir Petrov, head of Moscow's Intourist agency, will fly to Peking to discuss the reopening, for Western and Japanese visitors, of the ancient 'silk route' by which cloth, jewels and precious balms were brought from China to Byzantium and Europe.

If the plan succeeds, for the first time since the war, tourists will be able to travel overland across the great wastes made famous by Marco Polo during his thirteenth-century stay at the court of Kublai Khan.

Buses will take them from Alma-Ata to the frontier town of Korgos, where they will pass into the care of China's Intourist counterpart. More immediately, while new accommodation is being prepared, they will be able to fly from the Kazakh capital to the Western Chinese city of Urumchi.

The Intourist initiative is just one reflection of the fresh look which Mikhail Gorbachev sought to impose on Soviet foreign and domestic policy at the recent Party congress in Moscow.

There are other signs that the campaign launched from Moscow is beginning to



file the sands of the Central Asian republics.

In a quick tour of three of them — Uzbekistan, Kirghizia and Kazakhstan—I have heard frank admissions of failures, ranging from serious shortfalls in the cotton harvest (due to wrongly designed machinery) to hasty and ill-conceived housing design (heat-conducting concrete instead of porous brick).

In Kazakhstan the party has yet to produce a suitably qualified local son to replace its discredited head, Dunmukhamed Kunayev. It has meanwhile shown willingness by removing the latter's brother from a top post in the republic's Academy of Sciences.

But there may well be some justice in Soviet complaints that, here as elsewhere, the Western Press picks selectively on admissions of failure, while ignoring the system's achievements.

Certainly Central Asia has seen a stupendous economic and social transformation in the past 70 years.

In 1917 these steppes and mountains were inhabited by a virtually illiterate popula

tion, living in romantic but often abject poverty.

Today, in Tashkent (population 2 million) the old silk route is transected by a Moscow-style metro, and a 200-acre botanical garden miraculously evokes, in what was once semi-desert, the illusion of a Buckinghamshire woodland.

Cotton may be down, and the vertical-spindle picking machine a ghastly failure, but out at Parkent they are smelting tungsten and molybdenum with solar energy.

Already Central Asia has the superficial trappings of a Soviet 'sunbelt,' with an increasing emphasis on the electronics, aircraft and machine-building industries that echoes its climatic counterpart in the southern and western United States.

With the non-Russian population of the Soviet Union steadily overtaking the Russian, and Uzbek, Kirghiz and Kazakh women vying in hundreds for the title of 'heroine-mother' with 10-child families, these fruitful republics could by the end of the century play a totally unforeseeable role in the life of the nation.

FF092
ASIA —

rut-1A-,, B-WIRE
CHINA S PARLIAMENT TO GIVE MINORITIES

14-MAY-84 12:53
MORE RIGHTS

PEKING (WIRE) (C# 46, F#73)
NATTNWAIRKI '7, NH1
MAI (DPA) — DIF
DIE VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA WILL DEN
IHRER MINDERHEITEN IM LANDE MEHR AUTONOMIE BEI DER VERWALTUNG
UMDNEHMERGEBIETE GEBEN. WIE AM MONTAG IN PEKING MITGETEILT
SOLL DER NATIONALE VOLKSKONGRESS (PARLAMENT) BEI SEINER AM
UENFTAG BEGINNENDEN TAGUNG EIN ENTSPRECHENDES GESETZ BESCHLIESSEN.

ES SOLL DEN 55 OFFIZIELL ANERKANNTEN MINDERHEITEN DAS RECHT GEBEN...
IHRE SITTEN UND GEBRAUCHSWEISEN ZU WAHREN UND IHRE EIGENEN SPRACHEN ZU
BENUTZEN. AUSSERDEN SOLLTEN SIE MEHR SELBSTAENDIGKEIT BEI DER
WIRTSCHAFTSPLANUNG IN IHREN REGIONEN BEKOMMEN. WICHTIGE POLITISCHE
ENTSCHEIDUNGEN BLEIBEN WEITERHIN DER ZENTRALREGIERUNG IN PEKING
VORBEHALTEN.

EIN WEITERER PUNKT AUF DER TAGUNGSORDNUNG WIRD DIE VERABSCHIEDUNG
EINES WEHRDIENSTGESETZES SEIN. NACH INOFFIZIELLEN INFORMATIONEN SOLL
EINE NEUORDNUNG DES WEHRDIENSTES UND DER DIENSTZEITEN IN DEN
VERSCHIEDENEN TRUPPENTEILEN VORGENOMMEN WERDEN.

DIE 16TÄGIGE SITZUNG DER DELEGIERTEN AUS ALLEN TEILEN CHINAS
BEGINNT AM DIENSTAG IN DER GROSSEN HALLE DES VOLKES IN PEKING MIT
EINEM BERICHT VON MINISTERPRAESIDENT ZHAO ZIYANG UEBER DIE
REGIERUNGARBEIT IN DEN VERGANGENEN ZWOLF MONATEN. NACH OFFIZIELLER
ANKUENDIGUNG WIRD ZHAO SICH AUCH ZU DEN VERHANDLUNGEN MIT
GROSSBRITANNIEN UEBER DIE KUNFTIGE VERWALTUNG HONGKONGS AUSSERN. DIE
VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA WIRD MIT ZUSTIMMUNG GROSSBRITANNIENS IM JAHRE 199;
DIE SOUVERAENITAET UEBER DIE GESAMTE HONGKONG-REGION UEBERNEHMEN.

LD

Vorzugsbehandlung

im Reich der Mitte

2 r

China hoHert seine Minderheiten

Von KARL KRANZLE, Peking

-Aia die Chipolach© Volkampublik oerheitenpolitk vor allem auch un- ter
 gegrrlndet wurde, gab «• im ganzen Land dem Gesichtspunkt vextddl-
 312 Manga, die auch heute noch die gungspolitischer Erwkungen ne-
 kleinste der inage- earat 56 nationalen *ehenwerden.

MLnderheiten Chinas bilden. Obschon die Mit Selbstbehauptung und Auto-
 damals vom Aussterben bedroht waren, nomie ist in China gemeint, dafl die
 hat ihre Zahl aich aeither beinahe Sitten und Brfiuche der Minority ten von
 verdoppelt Sie leben nun auch nicht mehr der Majority reapektiert und geschiiirt
 in liber pinem Dut- aend Wailer, awiachen werden. Wer Minderheit angehort, soli
 denen ea fast eine Kommunikation gab, seine Sprache sprechen, seine
 son- dem in vier nahe beieinander lie- KW»i«WIT»g und aainen Schmuck
 genden Gemeinden. tragen, seine Religion eusiiben und - im

Fiir die Kommunistische Partei Chinas
 ist das ein Beispiel, das den Geist und den schied zur Han-Mehrheit - mehr als nur
 Erfolg ihrer Minder- heitenpolitik ein Kind pro Famflie haben diir- fen.
 illustrieren aoll Um die nationalen Hinzu kam in jingster Zeit eine
 Minderheiten geht es auch auf dezn gewisse Sonderbehandlung im ;
 gegenwartig in Peking tagenden wirtschaftlichen Bereich. Jahre- lang
 Volkskongrefl, vor dem ein entsprechender waren zum Beispiel Tibeter
 Geset- zesentwurf liegt Darin ist im Detail Mongolen gedr&hgt und in ein-
 festgeschrieben, was die chinesi- sche Fallen gezwungen worden, 'Weizen zu
 Verfassung in Form einer all- gemeinen pflanzen, obwohl dieser bei ihnen
 Absichtaerklarung ent- schlecht gedeiht und 1ns- besondere
 halt die Tibeter Kaupt&ch- . lich von Gerste

Ob Chinas Minderheiten sich leben. Auch in dieser Hinsicht ist die
 wirtschaftlich, politisch und kultu- rell chineaische Min- • derheitenpolitik nun
 wirklich zu behaupten venno- gen, hangt elastischer ge- : worden.
 freilich in erster Linie vom Willen der Von Partei- und Regierungsspre-
 politischen Fiih- rung und von der chem wird die Minderheitenpolitik
 Mentaktat der Han-Mehrheit und erst in geme ideologisch verbr&mt. Diskri-
 zweiter >4nie von neuen Gesetzen ab.-Oo- minierung vertrage sich nicht mit dem
 _en Verabschiedung durch den Geist des Sozialisxnus, sagen sie. In
 Volkskongrefl ist eine reine Forma- den vergangenen dreieinhalb

^Mit zwclf Millionen bilden die Zhuangs die
 groflte, mit knapp eoo die S^gs die k^inste gefolgt Es gab ein dauemdes Zickzack.
 nahonak Minderheit Daneben, gibt ea Tib*
 ter Uiguren, Mongolen, Manchus j
 Knreaner x^m nur die bekann-

^T ipwetcri erhaben ist, mufl die Min-
^{uber iedcn} erheitenpolitk vor allem auch un- ter
 dem Gesichtspunkt vextddl-
 gungspolitischer Erwkungen ne-
 werden.
 Mit Selbstbehauptung und Auto-
 nomie ist in China gemeint, dafl die
 Sitten und Brfiuche der Minority ten von
 der Majority reapektiert und geschiiirt
 werden. Wer Minderheit angehort, soli
 seine Sprache sprechen, seine
KW»i«WIT»g und aainen Schmuck
 tragen, seine Religion eusiiben und - im
 Unter-

strange Mafletibe angekft und ge-
wisse Vorzugsbehandlungen zur
Anwendung gelangen soil ten.

Neben den erwthntn militari- i sc
hen gibt es noch andere, wirt-
schaftliche Interessen, die Chinas ¹
V&hrung (Or ihre Minderfaeltenpoli- 1
tik in Rechnung stellen mufl. Die_^
Gebiete, in denen Mongolen, UiguTI
Ten, Manchus, Koreaner und Zhuangs
leben, Bind relch an natQrli- chen
Ressourcen und RdhstoShn.

Worn Peking seine ehrgeizigen ;
Plane zur Modemiiierung des Lan- l
des auch nur teilweise in die Tat
umsetzen will, setzt dies zun&chst |
einmal die Entwidung der unter- '
entwickeltesten Regionen voraus.
Die damit vebundene Absicht einer
starkeren Integration der na- j tionalen
und Minderheiten sollte der Han-Mehrheit
um so lekhter Men,

! als es ihr langst vor der Griindung l
der Volksrepublik China in ihrer |
langen Geschichte immer wieder '
gelungen war, Widerspriichliches zu
absorbieren und Fremdartigea zu
aaamilieren.

srsssK

Provent^er chtaesiKhen GetajrA-

' MUlioneo ^gehSmi" einmal diesen Bfldungsrtokrt^i.
beseitigen, dann fUhrten Bile an-

ess/ags---SSsgvi^s

bewohnten

^achige Tageszeitung jghina

^^iekfirtere chinesische Foliti- Ver
postulieren, dafl bei der AuS- von
Schiilem und Studen- Minderheiten an
Mit- • £I^id^ochschulen weniger

Penning up China's ^w

great north-west

the pergola dt2Sy »uiches from
toned tfieviiWl¹, ^rayim in*

aSas¹, ?tB
ssrtiS^s

from ASSih thcn • ?°P kilometres
PaMatu Sov. eJ border in the Pahtakli
people's commune in the
remote Chinese region of
h * " minority " races of
Turkish origin fiTe^impk-
IISu-^f th?i Policies of their political
leaders, decided 4,300 kilometres
away in Peking.

The director of the flourish- ing
commune, Ismayil Urayira, is
obviously proud of his statistics and
the lead his commune is playing in
the developing of China's great
north-west.

For all the washing machines,
motorbikes and economic reforms
are part of Peking's drive to develop
China's most remote and sparsely
populated rreyiiMPS - Iniiang. iyjr)£h-
ai. Gansu.

Between them, the three
provinces account for more than a
quarter of the Chinese land mass.
They are populated by less than 4
per cent of the country's one billion
people. In some areas up to 40 -
percent of the population are the eth-
nic minorities of Jiu-kish back-
and Islainfi.JEflB tut
H5?T3aiTyirves Ve governed

The region once contained the
string of oasis towns that made UP
the Chinese link in the ancient silk
road which

MB?^the'time^the Communists

fn' i949Co^the^trading^n route^as

5T8. tsfn.

VITE remaining communities

ha^d'on's¹¹southern cities, with

£&« *

trade;, . north-west re-

Today, ia_gest undeveloped fwln
CWna lacking modem

industries, skilled personnel,
and the capital resources of
exploit their natural resources.
development.
the governor of Qinghai, Huang Jing Bo, an urbane, 65-

Despite this, the Chinese
leadership has declared that
this area is to be the focus of
China's economy by the end of
the century. To this end mas-
sive subsidies are being pro-
vided for the provincial gov-
ernments to develop their
infrastructure and begin ex-
ploiting their natural re-
sources. Skilled technical and
managerial personnel are being
assigned to the remote towns,
a flow of free labour in the
form of prison inmates is
being kept up, and active mea-
sures are being taken to en-
courage foreign investment in
the area.

Last year, the two proteges
of the ageing Chinese leader,
Deng Xiaoping, both made
tours of the north-west. It is
these men, Hu Yaobang, gen-
eral secretary of the Chinese
Communist Party, and Zhao
Ziyang, the Prime Minister,
who — if all goes according to
Deng's master plan — will be
running the country as these
provinces come into their own.

The development of the re-

67-year-old who was reinstated by
Deng after 11 years in gaol
during the cultural revolution,
considers that absolute opposi-
tion to reforms no longer ex-
ists. He says only that there
are still many who believe that
the changes should be imple-
mented more slowly than the
central Government's pro-
gramme for the province
allows.

During last year's tour of
the region, Hu Yao Bang and
Zhao Ziyang stressed that the
country would be looking
toward the great north-west as
the twenty-first century ap-
proached. Preparation work for
this day should be completed
by 1990, if this plan is to be
realised, the leaders said,
j Because the area has been
so poor for so long, this prepara-
tion involves the building of
massive amounts of infrastruc-
ture. Already Qinghai has r-
cently completed the building
of a 834 kilometre railway be-
tween the provincial capital,
Xining, and the next largest
town, Golmud.

----- A massive hydroelectric
region is not simply a means of power station is under con-
expanding the Chinese econ- struction, and the province's
omy, for the isolated north-i next project is an international
west's administration has been : airport which will link it di-
one of the slowest to accept 'redly with Hong Kong,
the reforms of Deng Xiaoping The Government is also keen
and shake off the conservative for the region to tap into the
influence of the "leftism" resources of the industrialised
that ruled Mao's China. nations of the West and Japan.
It was only in 1977 that the , Gansu province has already,
Gansu provincial admimstra- run a big publicity campaign
tv, 0* . 11 ♦iStuP nfd * < PrnvtNjlf w lto attract foreign investors and
r-nm JTi is awaiting the outcome of an-

s• s Sjj iir-SMSswsuS'swa

itvsvstem^the cornerstone of Injiang province is talking to
S n S T f e . TM 0 1 " S ' L H 2 » S " * J r . 5

more linked a peasant's effort fS2ii«lia1S5j>P^SfS' a?

to his income, was introduced
in Gansu only last year, and is
being practised by only 11 per *£i'w. SSL ^ SoVlet
cent of the province's rural Union and Pakistan, iltv, S£Sg
households, compared to nearly Meanwhile, the bulk of assis*
universal acceptance elsewhere tance is coming from the Chi*
in China. nese central Government,

Earlier this year, a report whose directives first raised
by the Qinghai provincial the programme of rapid eco-
party committee dated that nomic development for the.
leftism " was the chief ob- region,
stacle to the province's

-f

HAD BE SUE, C1 IN THE ORSIS CITY OF TURFRN CONFIRMED THERE
 BEOELOPTwr HITH JAPANESE. FRENCH RND BRITISH FIRMS ON
 MOST OF TS^cWINE PRODUCTION IN THEIR LUSH +GRRPE URLLEY+ WHERE
RAISINS. E OUTPU7 OF 1,250 TONNES OF GRfIPES ftRE DR3EI) FOR

FOR IT^cTⁱ, CHIEF QI fILS0 Sfl ID XINJIANG PLANNED PROCESSING PLANTS
 RICH DEPOSITS OF PETROLEUM, COAL AND EDIBLE SALT.

GFfiPgvrVn OFFICIALS SAID A FRENCH FIRM, COMPRGHIE GENERALE
 sn FOD^{8UE} HftS INVOLVED IN OIL EXPLORATION IN THE REGION BUT
 THERE WflS NO FOREIGN INUESTMENT IN THE OIL BUSINESS HERE.

*INJ IANG PLANS TO PRODUCE ABOUT FOUR MILLION OF AN ESTIMATEI
 »HiiOHRL OUTPUT OF SOME 102 MILLION TONNES OF OIL THIS YEAR. WU
 cvD^G OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE SAID THIS FIGURE WAS
 EXPECTED TO MORE THAN DOUBLE BY 1990 AND INCREASE FJUE-FOLB TO
 ^MILLION TONNES BY THE YEAR 2000.

“ONE PROBLEM FOR FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN THINKING OF INVESTING
 HERE IS THE OAST DISTANCES GOODS MUST BE CARRIED OOVER SOME OF
 THE WORLD’S MOST INHOSPITABLE TERRAIN -- THE GOBI AND TRKLA
 MAKAN DESERTS AND THE TIANSHAN MOUNTAINS.

AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN PLANNING A FRUIT CANNING PLANT IN
 KASHGAR BETWEEN THE TAKLA MAKAN AND THE PAMIR MOUNTAINS
 EVENTUALLY CALLED OFF THE PROJECT BECAUSE THE LOGISTICAL
 PROBLEMS WERE TOO HUGE.

NO SUCH PROBLEMS APPEAR TO AFFECT THE XINJIANG TIANSHAN
 WOOLLEN SPINNING AND UEAVING COMPANY, SITUATED IN URUMQI CITY,
 THE HUD OF XINJIANG’S ROAD, RAIL AND AIR LINKS AND CLOSE TO THE
 MOUNTAIN PASTURES OF THE SHEEP AND GOATS WHOSE WOOL IS TURNED
 INTO TOP-QUALITY WOOLLENS AND CASHMERE GARMENTS.

THE THREE-MILL PLANT, WHICH STARTED PRODUCTION TWO YEARS
 AGO, IS 51 PER CENT OWNED BY THE URUMQI MUNICIPALITY. TWO
 KfiNG BUSINESSMEN HAVE 38 PER CENT OF THE STOCK AND THE’
 OSAKA-BASED JAPANESE TEXTILE GIANT TOYOBO HOLDS 11^DPER CE

ADMINISTRATOR WANG BAGKUN SAID IT SOLD GARMENTS
 COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE, ITALY, SINGAPORE
 RND AUSTRALIA IN ITS FIRST YEAR. THIS YEAR’S ORDERS ALREADY
 cvr-EEE EIGHT MILLION DOLLRRS.

URUMQI MAYOR ISMAIL MEHSUT TOLD REPORTERS SOME
 FOREIGNERS
 MAD RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF MORE TEXTILES AND TOURISM JOINT
 UENTURES IN THE CITY ITSELF.

BUT POTENTIAL INVESTORS ARE BELIEVED TO BE WATCHING
 rftPE^cULLY THE TIANSHAN KNITWEAR VENTURE’S PROGRESS TO SEE HOW
 TT’S MANAGEMENT COPEs UITH TRAINING A LARGELY UNSKILLED WORK
 FORCE TO USE SOPHISTICATED MACHINERY, AND HOW MUCH COOPERATION
 IT RECEIVES FROM THE TRADITIONALLY LETHARGIC CHINESE

BUREAUCRACY .

CHINA'S MILD WEST HOPES TO ATTRACT FOREIGN BUSINESS
INVESTMENT (FEATURE)

BY ROGER CRRBB

^ ^

URUM9I. CHINA- JUNE 9, REUTER - THE REMOTE AND RUGGED
WESTERNMOST REGION OF XINJIANG IS OPENING ITS DOORS TO THE
WORLD

WITH THE HELP OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

ONE JOINT BUSINESS VENTURE; A KNITWEAR FACTORY SET UP IN THE
NORTHERN CITY OF URUNQI WITH HONG KONG AND JAPANESE BACKING- IS
ALREADY HELL UNDER HAY. WINNING ANNUAL EXPORT ORDERS OF OVER
EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE BEING JUST THE TIP OF AN IMPOSING FOREIGN
INVESTMENT ICEBERG IN THE REGION.

coy\$

GUO. SECRETARY OF THE REGION'S COMMUNIST PARTY
OVERSEAS CAPITAL BY 1385 TO HELP TAP THE RICH NATURAL
OF THE REGION. ONE-SIXTH OF CHINA'S TOTAL AREA. WHICH BORDERS
THE SOVIET UNION. MONGOLIA. AFGHANISTAN AND KASHMIR.

prcTiiiDf-rc
N I - W I I I - I

IN A RECENT INTERVIEW- 01 SAID THAT OVER THE NEXT TWO AND A
HALF YEARS THE REGION COULD BE INVOLVED IN 22 PROJECTS WITH
BUSINESSMEN FROM JAPAN; KUWAIT. ITALY. AUSTRALIA- WEST GERMANY-
THE UNITED STATES AND HONG KONG.

HE SAID FOREIGN INVESTMENTS TOTALLING 101.2 MILLION DOLLARS
,WOULD BACK SIX JOINT VENTURES. 12 COMPENSATORY TRADE PROJECTS
AND FOUR PROJECTS USING FOREIGN LOANS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE
PLANT! TO PRODUCE WINE. SYNTHETIC AMMONIA- TEXTILES. NONFERROUS
AND RARE METALS..ANIMAL FODDER AND LEATHER GOODS.

HE SAID THE PROGRAMME WOULD START WITH SIX PROJECTS' LATER
THIS YEAR. THE MAIN ONE BEING THE BUILDING OF A FERTILISER PLAN
FUNDED BY LOW-INTEREST LOANS FROM KUWAIT. THE PLANT IS DUE TO
OPEN BY BY 1935- PRODUCING 520.000 TONNES ANNUALLY.

OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS REGIONAL AUTHORITIES WILL
COOPERATE WITH JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN TO EXPAND TWO EXISTING
PRINTING AND DYEING MILLS. UPGRADE ONE COTTONSEED PROCESSING
PLANT AND BUILD A NEW ONE. HE TOLD THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER CHINA
DAILY.

+UE EXPECT TO HAVE MORE FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN HELPING US TO
RUN SUGAR REFINERIES. CANDY PLANTS AND WINERIES AND TO GROW
PEACHES, FRUIT AND GRAPES + THE NEWSPAPER QUOTED HIM AS SAYING

FELLING, 25 ORRESPONDENT DIETMAR SCHULZ

^ yf

E'N^LBRAM?^E Wli S1E J j^{BRA}) EJNER TRAEGT IM PLENARSAAL EINE PRAECHTIGE
 3 **000** A^{LES} OEWAND ALS KOPFSCHMUCK BELIEBT 1ST, EIN ANDEREfc
 ZUM HnS?^{GEOR}ONETEN'iS^{ALIH}N ALS NONGOLE AUSWEIST. ES SIND ZWEI VON
 PARI AU^{NATSE}NDE IN DCL^A\$^{TIONALEN} CHINESISCHEN VOLKSKONGRESS, DER BIS
 "RLAMENT ZU DEN «CD^{AA}G TAGT. DIE REIDEN GEHOEREN IM CHINESISCHEN
 E*^{NES} DER DFM unSr2F^{ERN} DER NATIONALEN MINDERHEITEN CHINAS.
 "JNDERHEITEN KRncci?^{GRESS} VORLIEGENDEN NEUEN GESETZE WIRD DEN
 SIEDLUNGSGBETfTC rrl^{RE} AUTONOMIE BEI DER VERUALTUNG IHRER
 WICHTIGEN FRircu^{GEBEN}. DIE PEKINGER ZENTRALREGIERUNG, DIE IN
 WILL DAMIT 7.IM *n\$^{BER} DIE ENTSCHEIDUNG UND DAMIT DIE MACHT BEHAELT,
 VIELVOELKFDCTA*\$^{BBAU} DER INNENPOLITISCHEN SPANNUNGEN IN IHREM
 J)A5 NFiiC I?^{AT} SEITRAGEN.
 IN VERSrPttTsr^{ET2} S^oLL FESTSCHREIBEN, WAS .IN DEN VER6ANGENEN.JAHREN
 1tn?0RITApii?,^{Ei}^{EN} NINDERHEITEN-GEBIETEN PRAKTIZIERT WIRD. DIE
 UIRTsmrTin,-5^{OLLEN} HITSPRACHE BEI DER OERTLICHEN "T—
 PEKINR¹FBrAcby^{HG} BE,^{<0}N^{ME}N-OND..BERATEN KOENNEN, UL.WELCJtIIE^R_FORH IN
 ZLIKFRuNT;\$^r?^{ENE} GESETZE 6EAENDERT 'UNIOUF'DIE REGIONALEN BEDUERFNISSE
 PDCArucu¹ r WERDEN. SIE SOLLEN IHRE KULTUR BEUAHREN, IHRE ALTEN
 cnii w,A,yND schr^IFTEN WEI tER BENUTZEN DUERFEN. WE AELTERE GENERATION
 Krrhruihv^{eE2}WUNGEN WERDEN, HOCHCHINESISCH ZU LERNEN. ALLERDINGS 1ST
 HOCHCIUNSSISCH, AUCH PUTONGHUA GENANNT, PFLICHTFACH IN DER SCHULE~
 WER ES ALS ANGEH0ER1GER EINER NATIONALEN TTCNDERHEIT ZU ETWAS
 BRINGEN WILL, 1ST OHNEHIN SCHON HEUTE GEZWUNGEN, SICH DAS
 HOCHCHINESISCH ANZUEI6NEN. AM ZENTRALEN INSTITUT DER MINDERHEITEN IN
 PEKING, DER WICHTIGSTEN HOCHSCHULE FUER ANGEHOERIGE DIESER VOLKSSTAEMME,
 WIRD DER UNTERRICHT HEIST MEHRSPRACHIG ERTEILT, DOCH 1ST DAS STUDIUM
VON PUTONGHUA OBLIGATORISCH.
 AN DEM INSTITUT LERNEN ZUR ZEIT MEHR ALS 3 000 STUDENTEN. SIE
 WERDEN DIE KUENFTIGE FUEHRUNGSSPITZE IN DEN LOKALEN UND REGIONALEN
 GREMIEN DER MINDERHEITEN SEIN.
 DIE WURZELN FUER DIE SPANNUNGEN ZWISCHEN DEN MINDERHEITEN UND DEN
 SOGENANTEN HAN-CHINESEN, DIE 94 PROZENT ALLER STAATSBUEGER DER
 VOLKSREPUBLIK AUSMACHEN UND HEUTE AUCH IN PEKING DIE MACHT AUSUEBEN,
 RFHEN TIEF. DIE HAN-CHINESEN HABEN SICH HAEUEFIG WIE KOLONIALISTEN IJ1
 CTGFNEN LANDE BENOMMEN UND DIE MINDERHEITEN UNTERDRUECKT. BIS HEUTE
 CMDFTNDEN SICH VIELE HAN-CHINESFfTDEN ANGEHOERIGEN DER MINDERHEITEN
 rcrFNUEBER HAUSHOCH UEBERLEGEN UND ZEIGEN DIES DEUTHCH. DER PARTEICHEF
 unW TIBET MUSSTE ERST VOR WENIGEN TAGEN DIE HAN-CHINESEN fFACHDRUECKLICH
 LirrnRDERN SICH NICHT ALS HERRSCHER AUFZUSPIELEN: "WIR MUESSEN MIT '
 ScM NTCHT-KOMMUNISTEN IN TIBET.PARTNERSCHAFTLICH ZUSAMMENARBEITEN."
 - NEUE GESETZ BETONT DIE POLITI5CHE EINHEIT DER
 unFRHEITENREGIONEN MIT DEN UEBRIGEN .LANDESTEILEN. DIE DEN
 TTAFTEN ZUGESTANDENE AUTONOMIE, SO WURDE VOR DEM VOLKSKONGRESS
 KINTM* REDEUTE KEINE EIGENSTAENDIGKEIT NEBEN DER ZENTRALREGIERUNG.
 BEI^{r2} CPPETTATTSTENBEWEGONGEITST "PEKING STETS MIT GROSSER HAERTE BE^e£rrfiMREN
 IN DER NEUEN CHINESISCHEN VERFASSUNG HEISST ES V⁰ .lcuFRSTAENDLICH: VILLE
 AUTONOMEN RE6IONEN SIND UNTRENNBARE UN^cTMNDTEILE DER VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA.'
 5^1-Vr TROESSTE NATIONALE MINDERHEIT IN CHINA BILDEN DIE ZHUANG IN
 ruTMA MIT ZWOELF MILLIONEN ANGEHOERIGEN, DIE KLE1NSTE MINORITAET, DI!
 SUEDCHINH NUR 800 ANGEHOERIGE. INSGESAMT SIND ES 50 MILLIONEN
 HEZHEA^U DIE DIESEN VOLKSSTAEHMEN ANGEHOEREN. GEMESSEN AN DER EINEN HENSCHENT «
 NSCHEN IN GANZ CHINA MACHEN SIE NUR SECHS PROZENT DER
 MIL«J?RFVOELKERUNG AUS.
 GESAMTBEVUtL oFFIZIELL 55 NATIONALE MINDERHEITEN IN CHINA
 BIS"" VIELE DAVON HABEN FUER IHRE 5IEDLUN6SGEBIETE AUTONOMEN r^NERKANNI . *
 VERABSCHIEDUNG DES GESETZES WERDEN AUCH DIE MANDSCHUS STATUS, "g go|_CHES
 AUTONOMES GEBIET VERFUEGEN. (PTO) SL/
 UEBER^{E1}

DIE MANDSCHUS WAREN EINST DIE HERRSCHER IN PEKING^t AUCH DER LETZTE KAISER CHINAS WAR EIN MANDSCHU. SEIN BRUDER, DER 77JAEHRIGE PU JIE, SITZT HEUTE ALS DELEGIERTER IM NATIONALEN VOLKSKONGRESS. ER IST NACH EIGENEN WORTEN GLUECKLIQH UEBER DAS NEUE GESETZ, DASS DEN MANDSCHUS NACH VIELJAHRIGER POLITISCHER VERFOLGUNG UND MISSACHTUNG WIEDER IHRE RATIONALE IDENTITAET BRINGEN WIRD.

- ---"FRUEHER HABEN VIELE - AUS ANGST VOR REPRESSIONEN - IHRE ZUGEHORIGKEIT ZUR MANDSCHU-MINDERHEIT GELEUGNET. JETZT SIND ES SCHON VIER HILLIONEN, DIE SICH DAZU BEKENNEN. IHRE ZAHL WIRD IMMER GROESSER. INSGESAMT GIBT ES NOCH HINDESTENS FUENF HILLIONEN MANDSCHUS",

BERICHTET PU JIE, DESSEN MEMOIREN IM NAECHSTEN JAHR ERSCHEINEN SOLLEN. DER ABBAU DER SPANNUNGEN ZWISCHEN DEN MINDERHEITEN UND DEN HAN-CHINESEN IST. FUER PEKING AUCH AUS MILITAERISCHER SICHT UEBERAUS WICHTIG. DIE MINDERHEITEN SIEDELN MEIST IN CHINAS GRENZREGIONEN ODER IN GEBIETEN WIE TIBET UND DER STAND GEGEN DIE PEKINGER HERRSCHAFT GERECHT HAT. INSGESAMT BILDEN 37 PROZENT DER CHINESISCHEN GRENZGEBIETE VON ANGEHOERIGEN DER MINDERHEITEN BEWOHNT.

DIE REGION AN DER GRENZE ZU VIETNAM IST DIE HEIMAT VON MEHR ALS EINEM DUTZEND VERSCHIEDENER STAEMME. IHRE SIEDLUNGSGEBIETE SIND DURCH DIE STAATSGRENZEN WILLKUERLICH ZERSCHNITTEN. DIE POLITIK IN PEKING UND HANOI HAT SIE ZU FEINDLICHEN BRUEDERN GEMACHT. GLEICHES GILT FUER CHINAS NORDWESTEN, WO DIE KASACHEN, UIGHUREN UND ANDERE VOELKER BEIDERSEITS DER CHINESISCH-SOVIETISCHEN GRENZE SIEDELN.

IN DIESEN STRATEGISCH WICHTIGEN GEBIETEN KANN SICH PEKING AM ALLERWENIGSTEN SPANNUNGEN ZWISCHEN DER UR-BEVOELKERUNG UND DEN TEILS FREIWILLIG, TEILS ZWANGSWEISE ANGESIEDELTEN HAN-CHINESEN LEISTEN.

AUCH TIBET BLEIBT EIN SOZIALPOLITISCHES GEBIET. OBWOHL PEKING ZU RECHT DARAUF VERWEISEN KANN, DASS ES VIEL ZUM AUSBAU DES SCHUL- UND GESUNDHEITSWESENS, DES VERKEHRS UND DER INDUSTRIE BEIGETRAGEN HAT, FORDERN VIELE TIBETER NACH WIE VOR IHRE SELBSTAENDIGKEIT. SIE HABEN DEN EINMARSCH DER CHINESISCHEN TRUPPEN IM JAHRE 1950 IN TIBET NICHT

VERGESSEN.

WIE IN TIBET HAT SICH DIE PEKINGER REGIERUNG IN DEN LETZTEN JAHREN AUCH IN ANDEREN LANDESTEILEN BEMUEHT, DURCH BETRAECHTLICHE FINANZIELLE UNTERSTUETZUNG AUF WIRTSCHAFTLICHEM UND SOZIALEM GEBIET DIE MINDERHEITEN ZUFRIEDENZUSTELLEN, AUCH KRITIKER DER CHINESISCHEN MINDERHEITEN-POLITIK ERKENNEN DIES AN.

VIELFACH WAR DIESE UNTERSTUETZUNG EINE ART WIEDERGUTMACHUNG FUER JAHRELANGE MISSWIRTSCHAFT UND POLITISCHE UNTERDRUECKUNG. SO VERLANGTE BEISPIELSWEISE DIE DAMALIGE PEKINGER FUEHRUNG IN DEN SECHZIGER UND SIEBZIGER JAHREN, IN TIBET UND IN DER INNEREN MONGOLEI WEIZEN (ANZUBAUEN, OBWOHL DAZU WEDER DER BODEN NOCH DAS KLIMA GEEIGNET SIND. HUNGERSNOETE MIT EINER UNBEKANNTEN ZAHL VON TODESOPFERN WAREN DIE FOLGE.

WAEHREND DER "KULTURREVOLUTION" WURDEN ZEHNTAUSENDE VON ANGEHOERIGEN DER MINDERHEITEN POLITISCH VERFOLGT, INS GEFANGNIS GEWORFEN ODER HINGERICHTET. DIE JETZIGE PEKINGER FUEHRUNG HAT DIESE EXZESSE OEFFENTLICH ZUGEGEBEN. SL/

(THE ABOVE WILL APPEAR IN THE FEATURES FILE.)

Sinkiang yesterday and today *in*

By A.J.B. AWAN

Recently, on a sunny, and somewhat dusty afternoon, I found myself in Khotan, one of the oldest cities of Sinkiang. We had flown in from Urumchi. This is not how people normally arrived, in the old days. If the traveller was coming in from the north, or from the east, he arrived with a caravan of big, double-humped Bactrian camels, horses and donkeys, having left, invariably, many of his animals dead in the end-less desert, of Takla Makan. If he came from the west, he came over snow-covered mountain passes, romantically called the 'Bam-i-Dunya' or. The Roof of the World, a veritable sea of snow-covered peaks stretching in every direction, as far as the eye can see.

2 si And if the weary traveller was coming in from somewhere in the south where, "In the trans-Indus regions of Kashmir; sterile, rugged, cold and crowned with gigantic ice-clad peaks, there is a slippery track reaching northward into the depression of Chinese Turkestan which, for all time, has been a- recognised route connecting India with high Asia. It is called The Karakorum Route. It is perhaps the ugliest road to call a trade route. Not a tree, not a shrub exists, not even the cold, dead beauty which a snow sheet imparts to highland scenery." But I descended from the skies, in a twin-engined Bushian plane, after a five hour bumpy ride from Peking.

Sinkiang, or The New Dominion is really The Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region of the Peoples' Republic of China. It is bordered by Mongolia on the northeast, the Soviet Union on the northwest, Afghanistan and Pakistan on the south and by the Chinese province of Kansu on the east. Of course, this has somewhat changed

as the area known as Wakhan, of the Badakhshan province of Afghanistan, is now, for all practical purposes, a part of the U.a.S.R.

Sinkiang has an area of about 635,800 sq. miles and a population of about 8,000,000 the biggest ethnic group being the Uighurs, MusEms of Turkic stock, engaged predominantly in agriculture.

Geographically, Sinkiang could be divided into five regions. In the north are the Northern Highlands extending along the Mongolian border, the major range being the Altai Mountains. South of this is the Dzungzrian Basin, or Dzungaria, an area of 270,000 sq. miles, opening out in the east into the Gobi Desert and in the west, through the beautiful Ili Valley, towards the Soviet Union. On the south, this Basin is bounded by another chain of mountains The Tien Shan, also called The Heavenly Mountains. But the best known part is the Tarim Basin, south of the Tien Shan. Mountains fringe this basin in a horse shoe; Tien Shan in the north, the Pamirs in the west and Kun Lun in the

b««\veen^hStolc£ji^{TMS}J^h^^h^* <InKUnc

it is bordered by swelling hills, about 500 ft. high, whilst above the lake, or 19,000 ft. above the sea, and covered with perpetual snow, from which never failing source the lake is supplied."

Stasis⁷⁵

The open end of the horse shoe is in the east. Open in the sense that the Tien Shan in the north and the Kun Lun in the south do not meet, but ingress is otherwise blockea by the formidable salt marshes of like Lop Nor which is the reported testing area of Chinese nuclear experiments.

This is where the stone boun- ary pillars, put down ninety years ago by the Pamir Boundry Commi- «sion may, still be standing if somebody could hazard a trip to go and check . Here also the Amu Darya, or the Oxus, which once formed the boundry between what was then Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, comes out, in two branches, from Lake Zor Kul and Lake Chak- maktin. Lake Zor Kul also called Sir Kul and Lake Victoria, has been visited by many well-known travellers in the past including the Chinese pilgrim, Hiuen Tsang.

Chpt. John Wood of the Indian Navy have never seen or tasted anywhere. Grape- another; Hami of the sweet melons, Turfan, described it thus, 'At five 0' Clock in the vines were in plenty and melons of all Kucha, Aksu in the north; Miran, Niya, Kerya, afternoon of the 19th February, 1838, we varieties smelling of musk and bursting with Khotan and Yarkand in the south till the two roads ultimately met at Kashghar after which the caravans split up again, either towards the north to golden Samarkand and Bukhara or towards the south to Balkh, the Bactria of the Greeks, of which, alas, little remains now except the name. And on to Merve they toiled and to Hamadan, the Ecbatana of the Medes and the Greeks, of times before Christ.

Bam-i-Dunya, or The Roof of the World, while before us lay stretched a noble but The king of the Sinkiang melons is the frozen sheet of water, from whose western end 'Beshak Shirin,' a super melon which would issued the infant river of the Oxus. This fine excel the best in the world. Its skin is so lake lies in tha form of a crescent, about delicate that its juices ooze out. The valleys fourteen miles long from east to west by an in the mountains are beautiful and this is how average breadth of one mile. On three sides Skrine, British Consul General in Kashghar in 1922, describes one

of them which he called The Happy Valley.

A mile from camp we topped a rise and saw before us, filling the whole of the valley right up to the foot of the black precipices, a fine forest of tall firs, their • deep shadows contrasting perfectly with the brilliant snows behind, and with the white foaming flood of the river in the foreground. The trees, some of which must be more than 100 feet high, are like tall, slender Wellingtonians. . . .We

K* sd up the moraine which we y lost at 13,000 ft. amidst a tumbled waste of boulders. Here we sat on the last bit of dry grass for half an hour, basking in the sun with a magnificent array of peaks towering above us on every ride. Far below us we could see the forest and the milk white glacier streams.'

The famous Silk Road of 2,000 years ago, coming all the way from Lanchow in the middle of China, entered the open end of the horseshoe of Takla Makan on the east ride of Lop Nor, split up into two the north road fringing the south of Tien Shan, and the south road fringing the north of Kun passing Lun, through one prosperous oasis town after another; Hami of the sweet melons, Turfan, Kucha, Aksu in the north; Miran, Niya, Kerya, Khotan and Yarkand in the south till the two roads ultimately met at Kashghar after which the caravans split up again, either towards the north to golden Samarkand and Bukhara or towards the south to Balkh, the Bactria of the Greeks, of which, alas, little remains now except the name. And on to Merve they toiled and to Hamadan, the Ecbatana of the Medes and the Greeks, of times before Christ.

Munich, November 9, 1984 (RLR-PS/N. Kocaoglu)

The northwestern province of China, Sinkiang-Uyghur Autonomous Region, which is called Eastern Turkistan by its Muslim nationalities has been for some time under investigation by Chinese Communist Party officials, according to an article in Guangming Ribao of August 16. A special report was given to the Science Institute of Sinkiang following an investigation headed by Fang Yi, a CP member, who has travelled and conducted inspections in various parts of the Sinkiang province.

In his report. Fang Yi described the vast depots of various minerals such as uranium, gold, sulphur, and copper as well as oil and natural gas reserves, but she said that little has been done to exploit and develop these rich natural resources. Fang Yi indicated that he has met with senior officials of the Sinkiang CP including the first secretary Wang Enmao (a Chinese) and Ismail Amat (an Uyghur), to discuss the issue of developing a mineral industry in the region.

In order to accomplish this objective, Fang Yi said the following shortcoming must be overcome: "For industrial development: we need good scientists and know-how. Unfortunately, Sinkiang has only few scientists. We have to double their number by educating new scientists. We need to send some of our young scientists to foreign countries. Sinkiang should be able to send students and scientists abroad."

During the time the investigating group was conducting its inspection, the Central Committee of the Sinkiang CP also discussed* the issue of industrial development at its plenary session August 11, in Urumchi, the capital of Sinkiang province. According to a report, published in Renmin Ribao on August 12, the Central Committee admitted many shortcomings, and mistakes in efforts toward industrial development of the region. The CP Central Committee listed several serious defects in economic construction plans as follows:

...not enough has been done to implement the central policy of opening up to the world and enlivening the domestic economy; and we are very far, both in ideology and in practical work, from accomplishing the general task and goal of building Sinkiang into an important Chinese economic construction base in the 21st century. The existing base figures for total value of industrial and agricultural output are low. The region is vast with rich resources, and has superior features for developing economic construction.

"ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF

AY

The unnecc
 - "'necessary dependence of the In committ^{tee}
 directive given by the c^tral 9o^@^g CP central ldness
 criticized at the meeting, ^he SlnKi ^g enough * s
 blamed its local officials for not A?al Committee larized
 in economic development reforms. ldlY tackled ssued by the
 also admitted that they have fSinkiang,
 new things without a cenbr ^_^ .nornic developmen tcoming.
 officials in Peking on the econ the main sho
 and have identified this failure

China's sprast *ssue is related to new attempts to decentralize recently onomic
 system. In accordance with the new reforms the local ?S^UnCed by the China's CP
 Central Committee in Peking, dence i K P officials in Sinkiang have advocated
 more indepen- n handling the regions economic development.

th t- en<^, the Sinkiang CP Central Committee maintained
 at Sinkiang is a multinational area where conditions are complex, so it
 is essential to be cautious and steady in everything we do," Renmin Ribao of
 August 12. This statement reflect- both the attitude that directives given
 by the officials in Peking may not always prove to be adaptable to
 Sinkinag's economy, and that local officials who claim to know their region
 better than their colleagues in Peking, should have more independence in
 governing the economic development of their own region.

(END)

1 r r ^ \bullet / / r r ^ * i \bullet /
Sink

2.55

ASIA-FIRST SECRETARY OF SINKIANG PARTY CALLS FOR UNITY

Munich, September 13, 1984 (RLR/N. Kocaoglu)

F. 598

Wang En-Mao, the first secretary of the Communist Party of the Sinkiang-Uighur Autonomous Region has discussed the importance of unity between the native Muslim nationalities and the Chinese in an interview with the Peking daily Renmin Ribao. Sinkiang, which is called "Sharqiy Turkistan" (Eastern Turkestan) by its Muslim-Turkic nationalities, is the northwestern province of China and has been the scene of many tensions and violent clashes between Muslims and Chinese. Wang En-Mao, who is Chinese, was first secretary of the Communist Party of Sinkiang province from 1954 until he was removed in 1969 in the latter stages of the Cultural Revolution. He was brought back as first secretary (succeeding another Chinese, Wang Fen) in 1981, apparently with the specific task of reducing ethnic tensions.

Partly because of the huge resources of oil, coal, gold, and nonferrous and rare-earth metals, but far more in order to stabilize a region of doubtful loyalty on China's frontier with the Soviet Union, the Peking leadership has always favored and encouraged sending more Chinese to this province. There are now 5 million Chinese in Sinkiang, where they constitute approximately 42 percent of the total population. The rapid increase in the number of Chinese moving into the province has, in turn, inflamed the existing nationality tensions there. This explains why Wang En-Mao singled out the importance of "unity" as the first step in the development of this region:

Sinkiang is a multinational province. When Sinkiang was liberated, there were thirteen different nationalities in the region. Now there are more than forty nationalities. Because of this, unity is an essential question for Sinkiang. Without unity our province cannot be developed.

During his interview, Wang En-Mao mentioned the presence of the Chinese in this historically Muslim land. He said that the Chinese had been brought to the region to develop its economy. Wang En-Mao argued that the expertise of the Chinese was needed in the economic development of Sinkiang. He said that he himself had spent more than twenty years in Sinkiang. The Chinese, he claimed, had brought their own experience, technology, science.

(.710)

1. Renmin Ribao, July 23, 1984, p. 2.

() ASIA FIRST SECRETARY OF SINKIANG PARTY CALLS FOR UNITY

• sy)

And manpower to Sinkiang ...
 Muslim nationalities should call on both the native
 He said that we must be aware of the main difficulties:

The differences in their cultures
 and beliefs are not
 easily smoothed easily. Even
 brothers tight with each other. We have to try to
 help the various nationalities to understand each
 other better.

According to Wang En-Mao, the number of native cadres in various fields needs to be increased in order to ease the tension between Muslim nationalities and the Chinese. He claimed that in the last ten years more than 20,000 members of the native population had joined the Communist Party. Wang En-Mao expressed the hope that these native Communist Party functionaries would promote the unity and friendship between the Muslim nationalities and the Chinese.

Speaking at a special meeting with representatives of the Chinese armed forces in Urumchi on January 27, 1984, Wang En-Mao appealed to the Chinese armed forces stationed in Sinkiang to improve relations between Muslims and Chinese.

He repeated calls for unity from a senior member of the

r

2. Wang En-Mao January 29

1984.

FL. i^h

Munich, November, 13, 1984 (RLR-PS/N. Kocaoglu) -

A number of Soviet citizens have been visiting relatives in the Sinkiang-Uyghur Autonomous Region, in the north-western province of China, according to recent reports in the Peking's Daily, Renmin Ribao. Muslim-Turkic nationalities including Kazakh, Kirgiz, Uyghurs, Uzbeks, and Tajiks claim both sides of the Sino-Soviet border in Central Asia as their native homeland. These Central Asians who have a glorious history and culture were subjected to Russian and Chinese invasions in the 18th and 19th centuries which paved the way for the partition of Central Asia into two parts: Soviet and Chinese Central Asia. The relations and communications between the Central Asians living on each side of the Sino-Soviet border have diminished over the years.

An article dated October 11 in Renmin Ribao, mentions that the present visitors from Soviet Central Asia are of Kazakh, and Uyghur nationality. They are, reportedly, young people visiting parents or relatives whom they had left in their native places in China 20 or more years ago. According to Chinese figures, approximately 60,000 people crossed the Sino-Soviet border into Soviet territory in 1962. Although the paper omits details regarding the reasons of this exodus, there have been many movements and migrations of peoples in Central Asia in its long history. In the twentieth century, for example, mass migrations between the Soviet and Chinese areas of Central Asia were intensified due to political and economic factors. During the Basmachi armed struggle in the 1920s and the collectivization in the 1930s in Soviet Central Asia, several hundred thousand Kazakhs, Uzbeks, Kirgiz, and Tajiks fled to Sinkiang which is called "Eastern Turkistan" by its nationalities.

In reverse, many Kazaks and Uyghurs in Sinkiang fled to Soviet Central Asia when Communists took power in China in 1949. After 1949, there have been mass crossings from Sinkiang into Soviet territory as a result of many uprisings among the native Muslim nationalities of Eastern Turkistan and the bloody suppression by the Chinese forces. The last such mass exodus referred to above was recorded in 1962 following another rebellion in the Hi district.

The Soviet press since has featured this mass exodus as a clear example of the hard life in Chinese Central Asia. The Renmin Ribao article of September 7, however, claimed that many of those who had fled to Soviet Central Asia in the 1962 exodus appear to regret their action because of the poor treatment they have been given in the Soviet Union.



(PTO)

According to the Chinese press, Soviet Central Asian tourists have been visiting various parts of Sinkiang for stays from up to 2 months during the past several years. However, the Chinese press reports that because of limited contacts between Central Asia and China, the development of strong relations on either side, however, is still a face. Greater improvement in relations which depends on the status of the difficulties at present.

(END)

€



MISTREATMENT OF MINORITY INTELLECTUALS IN SINKIANG 2 ^®

- Yang Sheng Chun, a senior member of the Chinese Communist Party, claimed that minority intellectuals in China's northwestern province Sinkiang are continued to be abused. His report on the present conditions of minority intellectuals appeared in the Peking's daily Renmin Ribao which propagates Chinese CP policies.¹

According to Renmin Ribao article, the CP member Yang • ——— Shang Chun was 'send .to Sinkiang-Uyghur Autonomous Region last May. He has carried out his investigation in the southern parts of the province, especially focusing bn the city Aksu which is not too far from the Tien Shan mountains and the Soviet Central Asian borders.

After his field study which lasted from May 3 to 21, Yang Sheng Chun came to conclusion that "the problems of the intellectuals in the front borders have not solved accordingly." In his report to the correspondents of the Renmin Ribao, Chun gave several examples of the mistreatment that he has discovered.

For example, many specialists with a college degree are being forced £0 work in menial jobs which do not require a higher education. An agriculture specialist, he found, working in the repairment of the water pipes. A research analyst who is- specialized on the problems of minorities has become a secretary. The machine engineers are employed as various kinds of collectors. Doctors are working in the field of water energy. "These strange situations," said Yang Shen Chun, "struck our attention."

These examples of the misuse of the educated class, however, is not only related to the Muslim minorities that live in Sinkiang (Eastern Turkistan), but rather applies to the general situation in all over China. The Chinese Communist Party chairman Hu Yaobang has recently reiterated that China roust make* better use of Its intellectuals if the nation is to make progress

¹ Renmin Ribao, 26 June 1984, p. 2.

(PTO)

in ' 1 **ter**ernization

- -

^ 60?

Hi

and specials ^{66 #} needs more people with a high education
 the **count** ^r zation a wide range of disciplines to carry but
 leadership ^{S m0^}ernizat*on Plan. The present Communist Party
 China' ^ is now more concerned about the mistreatment of
 every ^{sma}H number of intellectuals at the hands
 of local officials many of whom have little education. Of course,
 Yang Shen Chun's appeal must be reviewed together with the CP
 and Hu Yaobang's recent remarks on the same question. But,
 what makes CKurv's appeal noteworthy is the strategic importance
 of Sinkiang for the Chinese leadership.

Sinkiang has a long boundary with the Soviet Union. The
 Sino-Soviet borders keep apart the Turco-Muslim nationalities
 who share rather the same group of Turkic languages and cultures.
 The Uzbeks, Uighurs, Kazakhs, Kirghiz, and Tajiks are found on
 the both sides of the Sino-Soviet borders. The Peking leadership
 is aware of the Soviet propaganda directed towards the Turco-Musli:
 nationalites in Sinkiang. Because of the past mistreatment of
 this border region and its people, Sinkiang is vulnerable to
 Soviet influence. Yang Shen Chun also reminded the importance
 of Sinkiang in his conversation to the Renmin Ribao. He said
 that the number of intellectuals among the minorities in Sinkiang
 is very small. He blamed the local officials in the misuse of
 this small number of minority intellectuals.

Yang Shen Chun's report also indicated that there are visible
 shortcomings in the education of minority intellectuals. Many
 of them, he claimed, are not well educated. The sad story, as
 he said, even when a bunch of intellectuals who were graduated
 from special colleges for the minorities come to Sinkiang, they
 can not find jobs appropriate to their expertise and education.
 "This is called blackmail" Yang Shen Chun emphasized. He said the
 local officials who are "leftists" are blackmailing the educated
 minority cadres. According to Chun, "leftist thought and the
 minority intellectuals must not be compared. Because intellectuals are
 of science." His this remark seems to address the local
 officials who judge the minority intellectuals not according to
 their education or expertise, but according to their ideological
 position * _____

2 "Chinese Intellectuals * Status Uncertain#" CND special from
Bong of **September 7, 1984.**

KASHGAR, CHINA, NOV. 28 — A SECOND TINY TRADING POST HAS QUIETLY OPENED ON WHAT IS THE LONGEST AND ONE OF THE TENSEST BORDERS IN THE WORLD: THE 4,300-MILE-LONG LINE DIVIDING CHINA AND SOVIET UNION.

A LOCAL OFFICIAL IN KASHGAR HAS CONFIRMED THAT RUSSIAN TRUCKS BEGAN BRINGING STEEL AND CEMENT INTO CHINA LAST MONTH AT KORGAS, JUST ACROSS THE BORDER FROM THE SOVIET TOWN OF PANFILOV. '

THE KORGAS CROSSING IS THE SECOND BORDER CROSSING TO BE OPENED BETWEEN CHINA AND SOVIET UNION IN THE LAST YEAR. THE FIRST BORDER TRADING STATION, TURUGART, OPENED LAST NOVEMBER.

BOTH CROSSINGS WERE TO HAVE OPENED SIMULTANEOUSLY, BUT THE KORGAS CROSSING WAS DELAYED FOR REASONS THAT CHINESE LEADERS WOULD NOT EXPLAIN.

EXCEPT FOR POSTAL TRAFFIC, THE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR 14 YEARS. FARTHER EAST OF HERE, GUNFIRE WAS EXCHANGED ALONG THE INNER MONGOLIAN BORDER IN 1969 AND AGAIN IN 1978, WHEN SOVIET HELICOPTERS AND BOATS CARRYING TROOPS ACTUALLY PENETRATED CHINESE TERRITORY BRIEFLY.

THE TURUGART AND KORGAS BORDER STATIONS WERE REOPENED AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS HELD BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES LAST MAY. ALL TRADE AT THE CROSSINGS IS BY BARTER, WITH THE RUSSIANS TRADING STEEL, CONCRETE, AND VOLGA BRAND AUTOMOBILES FOR FRUIT, CHIEFLY GRAPES AND MELONS, AS WELL AS LEATHER JACKETS, THERMOS FLASKS AND JAPANESE-MADE RADIOS. THE TRAFFIC AT THE TURUGART CROSSING POINT AMOUNTS TO ABOUT 100 TRUCKS A DAY, ALL APPARENTLY FROM RUSSIA INTO CHINA. A CHINA NEWS AGENCY REPORT SAID THE TWO SIDES ARE DIVIDED BY A BRIDGE 52 FEET LONG AND 26 FEET WIDE, WITH CUSTOMS HOUSES ON EITHER SIDE OF THE HUOERGUOSHI RIVER.

THE REPORT SAID "BRIDGE TALKS FULL OF POLITICAL FLAVOR" ARE OCCASIONALLY HELD IN THE CENTER OF THE BRIDGE.

"IF EITHER SIDE WANTS TO MEET THE OTHER, THEY FIRST HOIST A RED FLAG AT THE SENTRY POST. IF THE OTHER SIDE AGREES TO MEET, THEY ALSO HOIST A RED FLAG," THE REPORT DESCRIBED.

"THEN, THE REPRESENTATIVES AND INTERPRETERS FROM BOTH SIDES IMMEDIATELY MEET AT THE CENTER OF THE BRIDGE. ACCORDING TO PROTOCOL, BOTH SIDES SALUTE EACH OTHER AND BEGIN THE TALKS."

FOREIGNERS ARE NOT ALLOWED NEAR THE BORDER CROSSINGS, BUT SMALL EVIDENCES OF THE SINO-RUSSIAN TRADE POP UP IN THE PICTURESQUE GREAT BAZAAR OF KASHGAR, THE CAPITAL OF THE XINJIANG AUTONOMOUS REGION 100 MILES TO THE SOUTH.

IN A BOOTH NEAR THE LORDLY ID KAH MOSQUE, A JEWELRY MERCHANT WAS SEEN SHADING HIS HANDSOME OLD HAND-WROUGHT SILVER AND TOPAZ BROOCHES FROM THE SUN WITH A RECENT SOVIET MAGAZINE ADVERTISING INDUSTRIAL LASERS. OLDER SIGNS OF CHINA'S JILTED LOVE AFFAIRS WITH THE SOVIET UNION ARE ALL OVER TOWN, CHIEFLY IN MASSIVE, NEOCLASSICAL STYLE BUILDINGS BEARING DATES FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE 1950S. THESE COLOSSI LOOK VERY OUT OF PLACE AGAINST THE MUD BRICK BUILDINGS, GLAZED TILE MINARETS AND WINDING LANES OF THE ANCIENT CITY THAT ONCE WAXED FAT WITH THE FABULOUS WEALTH OF THE SILK ROAD.

THE OLD YELLOW BRICK RUSSIAN CONSULATE IN KASHGAR HAS BEEN TURNED INTO A GUEST HOUSE, AND THE EVEN OLDER BRITISH CONSULATE WAS BEING USED IN 1980 AS A HOSTEL FOR LONG-DISTANCE TRUCKERS. ASKED ABOUT IT RECENTLY, A LOCAL BUS DRIVER SAID HE HAD NO IDEA WHERE IT WAS OR IF IT STILL EXISTED.

CHINA BROKE WITH RUSSIA IN 1960 AND TODAY CITES THREE MAJOR OBSTACLES TO IMPROVED RELATIONS: THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN, SOVIET SUPPORT FOR VIETNAM, AND THE MASSIVE SOVIET TROOP BUILDUP ALONG CHINA'S NORTHERN BORDER, WHICH INCLUDES AT LEAST 144 SS-20 MISSILES WITH TRIPLE NUCLEAR WARHEADS.

SOME OF THIS MASSES STRENGTH THREATENS XINJIANG, ONE OF CHINA'S MOST STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT REGIONS, BORDERING FOUR COUNTRIES. IT CONTAINS CHINA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING SITE AT LOP NOR. NEAR THE MYSTERIOUS SANDSWEPT RUINS OF LOU LAN, A HAN DYNASTY GARRISON TOWN DATING FROM THE SECOND CENTURY A.D. IN THE HEART OF THE TAKLAMAKAN • DESERT. XINJIANG ALSO CONTAINS A NUMBER OF NUCLEAR MISSILE LAUNCH SITES WHOSE WEAPONS ARE TRAINED ON MOSCOW. (PTO)

Ar031
ASIA --

UN SECOND BORDER^

2B-NOV-84 08:27 Y*.j

IT IS PROOF OF HOW CROSSING BETWEEN CHINA AND -----
 XINJIANG REGION IS YHA
 GOVERNOR QUIT
 ZI ANDR OMT ZZ a TH6T5CI»ICALLY IMPORTANT THE CHINESE THINK THE
 CHINESE riJ OFFICEFOMnY£?EL IPTLY yani <ED THE LOCAL NATIVE-BORN
 UNPOPULAR⁰ HARD-BITTEN nu^{R_u} E#RS 6G0 ftND REPLACED HIM WITH AN ETHNIC
 POPULATrni BUT MIS APPniWTw?J, LITfrRY MAN NAMED WANG ENMAO. WANE IS NOT
 10 ENTRUST^{S6°} PERCENT SHOUS TH6T> EVEN TMOUGH XINJIANG'S
 MOST^{U_nJ} IT TO ANYBOnv clrr^{lc} MINORITIES, THE CHINESE ARE UNUILLING
 Tnn^Sil OF THE BORnpp°rLF, XCEPT ONE OF THEIR OWN.
 Ip^{GG} MES INDIA, !? ER°NTS THE SOVIET UNION, BUT XINJIANG ALSO
 UMS1?K^{ISTA}N. THE ONI NARROW, OUTSTRETCHED FINGERTIP OF
 MUNJIRAB. TRADE RPTLiccSTMER BORDER TRADING POST IS WITH PAKISTAN AT
 OVER DLRS 500 nnn » »r^{XINJI#NE} AND PAKISTAN AMOUNTS TO A LITTLE A'

FARDESPIT^{frRGE^}TRSDINGVTNER?1 0EFICI6L SA1D> "A1<ING PAKISTAN, BY ;

UNION 1 n r 0 F TWO BORDERS CROSSINGS WITH THE SOVIET
 THEIR'COMMUNIST NEIGHBOR!ILL SPEftK IN TERHS °f POSS1BLE WAR WITH^
 KAQuRAd^{L£n£!^N}DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE OF .THE
 QnvicT ATTAPU^{UR^A} TALKS VAGUELY OF "PREPARATIONS" IN THE EVENT OF A
 L,AW;Ei ATTACK ALONG THE BORDER, ALTHOUGH HE SAID NO MAJOR INCIDENTS
 HAVE TAKEN PLACE. /

"WE HAVE MADE PREPARATIONS FOR YEARS," HE SAID. "SO FAR THERE HAVE BEEN NO MAJOR INCIDENTS, BUT NO ONE CAN ASSURE THE SOVIET UNION WILL ALWAYS BEHAVE LIKE THIS.

"THE SOVIETS'PUSH A POLICY OF HEGEMONISM. WE HOPE FOR THE BEST, PUT IF THEY COME HERE, EVERYBODY WILL KNOW, AND WE ARE PREPARED fU MEET THEM," ABU LAJANG SAID. AD/

RIFT—CHINESE WEEKLY REPORTS "UNPLEASANT SCENES" AT SOVIET BORDER

PEKING, DEC. 1D (AP)—BORDER POST OFFICERS IN NORTHWEST CHINA MEET THEIR SOVIET COUNTERPARTS ABOUT A DOZEN TIMES A YEAR TO NEGOTIATE DISPUTES AND "OCCASIONALLY THERE ARE SOME UNPLEASANT SCENES," A CHINESE NEWS REPORT SAID MONDAY.

THE REPORT IN THE WEEKLY PEKING REVIEW ALSO SAID THAT IN SEPTEMBER, BORDER GUARDS DISCOVERED SOMEONE TRYING TO SMUGGLE CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS OUT OF CHINA. IT GAVE NO DETAILS.

THE ARTICLE DESCRIBED LIFE AT THE BORDER TRADING POST OF KORGAS, REOPENED IN 1983 AFTER A 20-YEAR GAP DURING WHICH SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS WERE SEVERELY STRAINED.

KORGAS IS IN CHINA'S XINJIANG UYGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION, BORDERING SOVIET KIRGHIZIA.

EVERY DAY SOVIET TRUCKS CARRYING SOME 20 TONS OF GOODS CROSS THE BRIDGE JOINTLY BUILT IN 1980 TO STRADDLE THE KORGAS RIVER, WHICH SERVES AS THE BORDER CROSSING POINT.

THE TRUCK DRIVERS NEVER STAY OVERNIGHT, BUT PAUSE FOR LUNCH AND SHOPPING, THE REPORT SAID. ALL TRADING ACTUALLY TAKES PLACE ON THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE BORDER.

OFFICIALS MEET ON THE BRIDGE WHEN INCIDENTS OR PROBLEMS OCCUR.

"IF ONE SIDE WANTS TO MEET THE OTHER, IT WILL HOIST A RED FLAG OVER THE OBSERVATION TOWER NEAREST THE BRIDGEHEAD," THE ARTICLE SAID.

"IF THE OTHER SIDE AGREES, IT WILL HOIST ITS RED FLAG IN RESPONSE."

OFFICERS SALUTE AND SHAKE HANDS WHEN THEY MEET. THE CHINESE CENTER FOR FORMAL TALKS IS A VILLA FURNISHED WITH LANTERNS, TAPESTRIES, PAINTINGS AND CALLIGRAPHY, AND THE FLAGS OF BOTH COUNTRIES STAND AT THE END OF THE MEETING ROOM, THE ARTICLE SAID.

AFTER THE TALKS, GIFTS ARE PRESENTED AND A DINNER HELD.

"DISAGREEMENTS, OF COURSE, ARE QUITE COMMON," THE ARTICLE SAID, WITHOUT MENTIONING SPECIFICS. THE SOVIETS SOMETIMES DISPLAY ANTI-CHINESE LITERATURE IN THEIR MEETING ROOM, IT SAID.

KORGAS NOW HANDLES 50,000 TONS OF GOODS A YEAR, AND IS ALSO THE ROUTE FOR VISITS BY RELATIVES CROSSING THE BORDER.

SINO-SOVIET TRADE HAS RAPIDLY EXPANDED SINCE THE COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS BEGAN POLITICAL NORMALIZATION TALKS IN 1982, RISING FROM 300 MILLION DOLLARS THAT YEAR TO ABOUT 700 MILLION IN 1983, TRADE IS EXPECTED TO REACH 1.05 BILLION DOLLARS THIS YEAR AND GROW ANOTHER 35 PERCENT IN 1985.

THE CHINESE ARE BUYING MACHINES, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, BUILDING MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS, WHILE SOVIET PURCHASES ARE MOSTLY FOODSTUFFS, TEXTILES AND CONSUMER GOODS SUCH AS THERMOS BOTTLES.

THE TWO COUNTRIES REMAIN STALEMATED ON WHAT CHINA CALLS THE THREE MAJOR POLITICAL OBSTACLES: THE SOVIET TROOP BUILDUP ALONG THE CHINESE BORDER, KREMLIN BACKING FOR VIETNAM'S OCCUPATION OF CAMBODIA AND THE SOVIET PRESENCE IN AFGHANISTAN.

SOVIET VICE PREMIER IVAN ARKHIPOV, A TRADE SPECIALIST, IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT PEKING IN THE COMING WEEKS, BUT A DATE HAS NOT BEEN FIXED,

HE CANCELED A PLANNED TRIP LAST MAY. HE WOULD BE THE HIGHEST-RANKING KREMLIN VISITOR HERE SINCE 1969. LA/ *jjj*

FF056

B-WIRE

SECOND REGIONAL AIRLINE^{84 15:41}

ASIA — CHINESE TO INAUGURATE

205

PEKING, DEC. 29 <AP> - NORTHWEST CHINA'S XINJIANG AUTONOMOUS REGION WILL INAUGURATE ITS OWN AIRLINE JAN. 1, THE STATE-RUN CHINA NEWS AGENCY (ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE) ANNOUNCED SATURDAY.

THE XINJIANG AIRLINE COMPANY WILL BECOME THE SECOND REGIONAL SERVICE SINCE THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT THE STATE-RUN CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION OF CHINA, THE NATIONAL AIRLINE MONOPOLY, WOULD BE REORGANIZED AND SPLIT UP.

A REGIONAL AIRLINE COMPANY ALREADY HAS BEEN SET UP IN XIAMEN, A COASTAL CITY IN SOUTHEAST CHINA, BUT IS NOT EXPECTED TO START OPERATIONS UNTIL SOMETIME IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1985.

THE CHINA NEWS AGENCY SAID THE XINJIANG AIRLINE, ESTABLISHED BY THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, WILL HAVE NINE ROUTES OPERATING OUT OF THE CAPITAL OF URUMGI TO NORTHWEST CHINESE CITIES.

THE REPORT DID NOT SAY HOW MANY AIRCRAFT THE CARRIER WILL USE OR PROVIDE OTHER DETAILS. CD



Qina's Forgotten Province Spins Dreams of Better Days

By Christopher S Wren

XINING, China — Qinghai, this remote province, larger than France, has more yaks than people.

And its 4.9 million yaks - one-third of the world's yak population — and 3.9 million humans arc together outnumbered by the sheep. 13 million of which graze in the cold, windswept pastures. Then there is salt. Qinghai Province has enough salt, more than 53 billion tons, to meet the world's needs for the next 2,000 years. In central Qinghai they build roads, even houses, with it. But now, emboldened by China's open door policy of commerce with the West, Qinghai wants to be known for more than just yaks, sheep and salt, though its remoteness has made it harder to put the message across.

"We haven't done enough propaganda," said Guan Qmguo, the deputy director of Qinghai's Foreign Relations and Trade Department. "The other provinces have been faster than us. We seem to be a bit slow."

Qinghai's demand for a piece of the acun suggests how far Deng Xiaoping's open door policy has progressed since it was begun a half dozen years ago. At first, investment opportunities were restricted to four special economic zones along China's southeast coast. Last May preferential treatment was extended to 14 other coastal cities and the island of Hainan.

The more backward Chinese interior has complained about being left out, so now provinces like Qinghai are being permitted to seek their own outside contacts.

Few areas of China have been as overlooked as Qinghai, which was closed to foreigners until 1983. While most Westerners have never heard of it, many Chinese think of it as their country's Siberia.

The government has encouraged young Chinese to move there by appealing to their patriotism and by offering higher wages and a month's home leave every two years. Still, the province is so sparsely populated that couples in



Qinghai are allowed two children, as compared with just one in most of China.

Qinghai — the name means blue sea, after the 1,790-square-mile (4,600-square-kilometer) lake in its northeast — is wedged between the mountains of Tibet and the deserts of Xinjiang and Gansu. Most of the province lies above 10,000 feet (3,000 meters), with snow-covered peaks rising to 20,600 feet. From the glaciers of Qinghai originate the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers.

Before the Communists fought their way here in late 1949, Qinghai was dominated by Moslem warlords and populated mostly by nomads. Today nearly two-fifths of its inhabitants are ethnic minorities, not only Tibetans, Mongolians and Huis but also Salar and Tu, groups rarely encountered outside Qinghai.

When the Chinese party chief Hu Yaobang visited Qinghai in 1983, he called it "a dormant treasure house" because of its virtually untapped resources, which include potash, asbestos, magnesium, lead and zinc. According to Qinghai's deputy governor, Ga Bulong, 100 million tons of oil have been verified under the salt flats of the Qaidam Basin.

"They call us the potential rich man," said Ma Zhike, deputy secretary general of the provincial government. "Because transportation is inconvenient, not many foreigners come here, but once they come, they find it has real potential."

The development of Qinghai is part of a larger plan by Beijing to build up the strategic northwest,

which borders the Soviet Union. During his inspection tour in 1983, Hu exhorted inhabitants to "exploit Qinghai with the will of the Foolish Old Man."

In the folk parable popularized by Mao Zedong, the old man was not foolish at all, but so persistent in digging away the mountain in front of his house that two angels were sent to carry the mountain away. In Qinghai's view, if it starts the task, maybe Western companies will come to finish it.

While other parts of China are crippled by energy shortages, 99.9 percent of Qinghai's hydropower potential remains untapped. A major hydroelectric power dam at the Longyang Gorge of the upper Yellow River, begun in 1976, will be finished in 1986, with five more dams to follow.

But Qinghai must figure out how to get its resources out of the province and Western investors in. It is dependent on an overloaded railway network to carry products to the sea. Passengers are served by a daily train that takes five hours to meander 145 miles from Lanzhou to neighboring Gansu province to Xining, Qinghai's capital.

The state airline has all but ignored Qinghai. "Once people get in, they have no way to get out because there is only one flight a week," said Ma.

Rather than submit to such neglect, the provincial government is planning to create its own link with the rest of the world. "Yes, we want to set up our own airline, then we can set up our own routes," said Guan. "At present we can only go to Peking once a week, but later we can go wherever we want."

While the rest of China looks to the Pacific region, Qinghai, with its substantial Moslem population, hopes to buy some planes to fly to the Middle East via Pakistan. It is considering flying sheep to the Arab countries where Islamic laws prohibit the consumption of frozen meat.

Xining's existing airfield is too small to accommodate anything beyond short-haul propeller-driven aircraft. So the authorities are surveying ground for a new, larg-

TIBETAN AFFAIRS COORDINATION OFFICE "

POSTBUS 1270
3500 BG UTRECHT THE
NETHERLANDS



Workers making carpets at a factory in Xining.

er airport 20 miles outside Xining. A major airport has already been built at Golmud, in the Qaidam Basin of central Qinghai.

Qinghai's inaccessibility is partly psychological. Private traders from the rest of China do a flourishing business ferrying in goods by train for resale in Xining's busy private markets. On a recent morning stalls offered oranges from Canton, apples from Shandong, pears from Hebei and Western apparel from Shanghai.

It is on the more official level that Qinghai's potential gets slighted. Its sheep produce probably the finest wool in China, acclaimed for its softness and durability. The province recently bought several hundred thousand dollars worth of British sheep-

shears. But Xining's major carpet factory works at half capacity, according to its party secretary, Gu Xranchen.

"We visited the carpet factory in Lanzhou and (they said that they had too many customers," said Gu. "We don't have enough, even though their wool is not as good as ours."

Recently Qinghai acted as host at a conference to introduce Western businessmen to several development projects worth \$1 billion. It is a sign of Qinghai's predicament that the conference was held in Xi'an, a city 425 miles (683 kilometers) southeast of Xining, because, Guan explained, "the communications to Xi'an are still too inconvenient for motorists."

By Lees H. Sun

KASHGAR, China—On the dusty, sandy roads in China's westernmost city, the language that is heard most often above the jingle of the bells on the donkeys is not Chinese but Uighur, a mixture of Turkish and Persian. Five times a day, the call of the muezzin pierces the air and the donkey carts are tethered as their drivers, heeding the call to the faithful, head for nearby mosques.

Here in China's strategic northwestern province of Xinjiang, 60 miles from the Soviet border, the presence of the Uighurs (pronounced way-gurs), a Turkic people of Moslem faith, is dearly felt. In fact, the Uighurs, who make up 60 percent of this city's 180,000 population have more in common with their brethren on the other side of the border than with their comrades in Peking, 3,500 miles to the east.

Xinjiang, China's largest province, is home to 40 of China's 55 minority groups that together make up only 6.7 percent of the country's population. In Xinjiang, the Uighurs are the dominant majority, composing almost half of the region's 13 million people.

Relations between the minorities and the Han Chinese, who make up the vast majority of the country's population, have historically been uneasy here. The Han Chinese are named for the Han dynasty that laid the foundation for the Chinese empire more than 2,000 years ago.

For decades the Peking government has been sending Han Chinese to outlying regions like this one to develop the areas economically and assimilate the minorities into Chinese culture. In recent years, however, the government has moved to ease tensions between the Han Chinese and other ethnic groups by guaranteeing the rights of members of minority groups. Today the minorities have equal rights under the law and within the Communist Party.

But despite these efforts, by August 1981 relations between Chinese and Uighurs in Xinjiang had deteriorated so badly that China's most powerful leader, Deng Xiaoping, traveled from Peking to Xinjiang to help mediate the political infighting between Chinese and Uighur members of the provincial ruling committee, diplomats said. (Ken.

According to the September 1981 issue of the Hong Kong Communist magazine Cheng Mire, Deng discovered an "unsteady situation." The magazine said Uighur dissidents had planned a province-wide uprising against Chinese rule, using the slogan, "We want self-rule and don't want to be colonized." Peking's response to the communal fighting and ethnic group demands

to replace the Communist Party leader with Gen. Wang Enmao in November 1981.

Wang has helped bring the region under Communist control after the party came to power in 1949, and his moderate and pragmatic policies reportedly have earned him support among the people.

Now, as Xinjiang prepares to tackle an ambitious modernization plan to transform China's wild west into China's California by the end of the 21st century, much of its success will hinge on its leaders' ability to achieve ethnic unity and political stability.

The easing of tensions on the Sino-Soviet border in recent years and the reopening of two border posts in Xinjiang for the resumption of trade between the two countries has also allowed the region's leaders to devote more energy and time to internal stability.

In a recent interview, Wang, the province's top political and military leader, described relations between the Han Chinese and the minorities as "very good," a marked improvement from 1982, when he noted that there were still "serious problems."

Although local residents say there has been no more of the violence that pitted Uighurs against Chinese in 1960 and 1981 in

at least two Xinjiang cities, there is a feeling of wariness. "Small frictions," caused by misunderstanding over customs and traditions and the inability to communicate, are common, local residents say.

On a recent Sunday, a group of about 20 Han Chinese youths crowded in front of one store, some smoking cigarettes, as listening to western pop music blaring from a large cassette recorder. Not a single non-Chinese went near them. Instead, they steered clear of the group, some even crossing to the other side of the street to do their shopping.

The misunderstanding and prejudices are particularly common among the younger generations of Han Chinese and Uighurs. There have been instances, for example, when young Han Chinese intentionally have mood in front of praying Uighurs to offend them.

"The Chinese youths who do this look down upon the Uighurs. They do this because they like to pretend that the Uighurs are kowtowing to them," one source said.

When Uighurs are in a funeral procession, it is considered a sign of respect for approaching cyclists to dismount, but many of the younger Han Chinese either do not

Pro

^ better n, .x
 <>>id. *r w c* ' <<ose not ^
 Accent • 1 the #ou <<e

^****1 for XinlPn?e de the "rted haVe a to* tim/St
 """"V- They J^ditions of life here ry 2 t0
 torsber to addition they d*! C T*ce ** #ources "id.
 P'rofessionallyL^L^!D_tk_bccome frustrated toe
 latest infnrr^f _lhey &re ^ from
 «n WW^E
 caused by unrest ^ u Y're cashes <Unt, nf cu , .
 *tuong the former resi-

SijtsrSP5*^

£SS 250 "to* northeast of
 wshgar Government offices were taken over and
 officials attacked before order was restored.
 Although all of China's different I national
 minorities are equal under the law, they usually
 have a much lower standard of | living than the
 Han Chinese.

*Yes, in reality there are still disparities
 (between the Han and the minorities] because
 they are not equal economically," said

•ecretary Wyig. "And where there are dis-
 parities (in income], there will be friction."

China has had a history of quelling the
 central Asian minorities to assert control over its
 western frontier. Despite the high- minded policy
 on minorities, Communist | leaders have long
 encouraged and sometimes forced migrations of
 Han Chinese settlers to the so-called autonomous
 regions— aet up to allow the ethnic groups some
 degree erf freedom and a chance to maintain their
 traditions—to dilute the ethnic influences and
 ensure central control over China's troubled
 borders.

This was especially true in Xinjiang, where
 the Uighurs and other Moslem minorities have
 long-standing ties with the Turkic people in
 the Soviet Union. Part of the province was
 ruled by a Soviet-sponged semiautonomous
 regime before the Qonununist takeover of
 China in 1949.

Since 1949. more than 5 million Chinese
 have been brought to Xinjiang from eastern to
 help assimilate the Uighurs, Kazakhs Kirghiz
 and Mongols. These ethnic rroups tre
 considered to be among the most rebellious
 minorities in China.

The integration effort began in 1958, with
 the founding of rural communes, curtailment
 of private plots and attacks on re- Sion
 specifically Islam. Discontent among the
 ninoriUes was reflected in the exodus f more
 than 60.000 Kazakhs across the ^o'to Soviet
 Kazakhstan in 1962.

7 The assimilation effort reached its peak n •• 'during the
 Cultural Revolution from 1966 // . y
 • to 1976 when the Arabic alphabet was out/ - lawed in favor d
 tb? Lstis SipludeC; mosques were closed and turned into
 work;

•hops, Moslem classics were burned, r\$-
 i strictions were imposed on the number of <
 aheep minority peasants could raise, and Han
 officials delivered speeches in Chinese j \ without
 providing interpreters. ' i

In 1981, ethnic tension flared in Kashgar ;
 when a young Uighur peasant who was dig- j
 ging a ditch got into a fight with a Han Chin^ I
 ese. Neither was able to speak the others (
 language. In a fistfight the Han was beateb by
 the stronger and bigger Uighur. Aa- ; gered,
 the Han went into his store, took oit his
 hunting gun and shot the Uighur. '•

While the police searched for relatives of !
 the dead peasant, an angry mob took thie body
 and paraded it through the streets. |
 The mob killed two Hans and beat maijy
 others, according to a report last year in the !
 Communist Party newspaper People's Dal- j
 ' ly-

Wang said the dead Uighur's father, wljo -
 was supported by his son. received compea-
 sation from the government The dead IR- . ghur'6
 sister, who was also supported by i her brother,
 was given a job in a school Jh

• the city, he said. The funeral costs were paid by
 the state. The Han and an accomplice were
 execute. \, according to ,

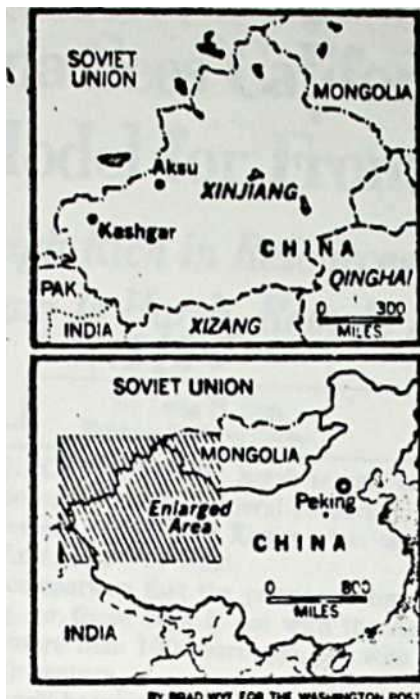
Hong Kong newspapers.

Since 1978, Peking has tried to |
 ensure ethnic rights and religious freedom and
 elevate minority group members to leadership
 positions. .

Now the head of each of the region's 80
 counties is a member of , an ethnic minority, said
 Baharj

: Rahim, an official working on mi- j
 1 nority affairs. The Arabic alphabet j
 is back in use and there is no longer j
 a limit to the number of sheep a I
 peasant can raise.

In addition, the government has
 begun allowing people to make the
 pilgrimage to Mecca required of
 devout Moslems, and relatives from



the other side of the border have been allowed to visit Xinjiang. Those who have relatives in the Soviet Union also have been allowed to visit there, officials said.

Emphasis has been given to education, with quotas of up to 60 percent set aside for minorities entering the region's colleges. Since 1982, the regional government also has given rewards to those who have contributed to ethnic unity during an "ethnic unity month" each year.

Some of the minorities who now hold party and leadership posts are among those who most insistently deny that any tensions exist.

When told that some minority leaders in the United States resent what they call tokenism, Abdul Ahet Mohamraedjan, Kashgar's deputy mayor for trade and finance, replied angrily: "I have power, I have a post and I have responsibility. This is not like the United States."

But here in Kashgar, despite all the talk about ethnic unity, there is no formal program for the Han Chinese to learn minority languages, although there are many programs to teach the Uighurs to speak Chinese.

Pragmatists like Wang acknowledge that there are many problems. As Xinjiang tries to increase its industrial and agricultural output five-fold over 1980 by the end of this century, it will have to rely heavily on skilled workers and technicians from the interior.

To hire them here, Wang said, the region this year began giving material incentives. Those with a college education will automatically

receive a one-step increase in wages when they first arrive. Every three years after that, another increase is guaranteed. The wage incentives are significant because they are a marked departure from the past, when the Han settlers were told that the glorious task of building up the border area was enough compensation for their work.

Cedi Wakaz, 67, a Uighur, said he does not have many complaints. A retired shepherd, he spends most of

his free time taking care of the mosque across from the Abakh Hoja mausoleum, the holiest of pilgrim resorts in southwestern Xinjiang.

On a recent Sunday afternoon, « his chores completed, he was relaxing in the sun on a straw mat.

"I was born here. I have a wife and two children and two grandchildren," he said. "We all live together. Life is not bad. I have five *mou* (sixths) of an acre of land, four sheep and six chickens. I have ; enough for myself."

U.S. News & World Report; by Lena H. Sun

China Sees California A Model for Frontier

*Although Rich in Resources,
Xinjiang Is a Remote Land*

By Lena H. Sun
Washington Post

C

URUMQI, China—With its harsh terrain of mountains and deserts and rich mineral resources, Xinjiang is likened to America's Wild West.

But the comparison that the province's top officials are striving for these days is not with the American frontier of more than 100 years ago, but with that of the late 20th century.

"Xinjiang will become China's California," said Wang Enmao, first party secretary and the region's top political and military leader.

Wang, 71, toured California, Texas and Arizona in October. Interviewed here in the provincial capital of Urumqi (pronounced "ooloomoo-"), meaning "fine pasture" in Mongolian), he said that China's development will probably follow that of the United States, proceeding from east to west.

Xinjiang, formerly spelled Sinkiang, (pronounced Shin Jeehng) means "new frontier" in the ancient language of the region. It is the largest province in the world.

from Peking each year. Measures of education rank it 20th among China's 29 provinces and autonomous regions, local officials say.

Within the province lies a vast ocean of sand in which entire caravans have been known to vanish without a trace. Stories about the hardships of life here are common.

But China's top leadership is trying to change all that. In 1983, Premier Zhao Ziyang and Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang toured the region and targeted it to become one of China's most important development areas in the next century.

From now on, we must place the development of Xinjiang on the agenda of the construction of the entire country," he said.

But because the central authorities are unwilling to invest in an area whose potential has yet to be verified by output, officials in Xinjiang, like those all over the country, are pinning many of their hopes on foreign aid to provide them with the much-needed investment, technical personnel and equipment.

In the key area of oil, where Xinjiang's reserves are thought to be formidable, Wang particularly hopes to attract foreign investment.

Touring recent U.S. Xinjiang's top leader held three rounds of talks with officials from the San Francisco-based Bechtel Corp. in Xinjiang was negotiating the world's largest contract, but that deal is not yet at the contract stage. Bechtel's senior manager scheduled to go to Urumqi on Monday, he said.

He said the talks but said, "Any contract that would be signed will be on a very large scale."

Asia, led by China, has become the most promising area for major projects because of its resources and industrial development plans, of Bechtel's past projects, Wang indicated that he hoped Bechtel might be able to do for Xinjiang what it did for Saudi Arabia's Wahba & Corporation's oil relationship with the Saudi government in massive projects.

Bechtel representatives in Peking and Hong Kong were unavailable for comment despite repeated efforts over several weeks.

Although most of China's oil production comes from fields in the northeast, U.S. oil deposits thought to be in Xinjiang are thought to be the most promising.

Bechtel representatives in Peking and Hong Kong were unavailable for comment despite repeated efforts over several weeks.

Although most of China's oil production comes from fields in the northeast, U.S. oil deposits thought to be in Xinjiang are thought to be the most promising.

Bechtel representatives in Peking and Hong Kong were unavailable for comment despite repeated efforts over several weeks.

Although most of China's oil production comes from fields in the northeast, U.S. oil deposits thought to be in Xinjiang are thought to be the most promising.

Bechtel representatives in Peking and Hong Kong were unavailable for comment despite repeated efforts over several weeks.

Although most of China's oil production comes from fields in the northeast, U.S. oil deposits thought to be in Xinjiang are thought to be the most promising.

Bechtel representatives in Peking and Hong Kong were unavailable for comment despite repeated efforts over several weeks.

Although most of China's oil production comes from fields in the northeast, U.S. oil deposits thought to be in Xinjiang are thought to be the most promising.

CALIFORNIA . . .

■g~ ATtS,, "5

^k-rance equipment. -

cCv/ar'if v ' milUon ioan from
tv' ri. or. ld. @fWi' the ieP on k ex*
JLr
J'idi' *y* -product!>. legs than 4
Perce 'i c, « China's jirRpSfyrTKbttrt^

A...urj;g s coal reserves are be:
hew* to be among the largest in
the country, Chinese officials said,
but of an estimated 1.6 trillion tons
of r.o?J deposits, only 16 billion tons
h&v< tv.en verified, they said. The
region also' has mineral deposits,
ringing nickel, iron, manganese
<nc aluminum, and gold has been
discovered in 56 of the region's 80
counties.

Pat the most sophisticated ex-
traction method so far has been
panning, said Xia Ri, chief of the
economic research division of Xin-
jiang's Economic Research Center,
a regional think tank. The total but-
put of goll is about oneton.Qear,
he said. By comparison. a mine m
rj,« SovielCnTon' with

geolof
conditions similar to those in Xin-
ji^i-i produces 85 tons a year.

China's centra) authorities have
mads clear that they will ndt be in-
vesting heavily in Xinjiang until the
iniYbolructure is bujlt up, _
^utn oroor to develop Xinjiang,
we
have to give priority in develop-
.ient of the coastal provinces and
cities before the priority goes to the
west," explained party secretary
Wang. "The same thing happened
to California."

Under Xinjiang's circumstances,
foreign assistance is even more im-
portant, local officials say. To at-
tract more foreign investment, Xin-
jiang has devised a plan that would
give foreigners more favorable con-
ditions for investment than are
available in uieih lgnlytouted8peaaJ '
economic zones and coastal cities,
local officials said. These would in-
clude tax breaks, lower transpor-
tation fees and substantially lower
prices for land and leasing, they
said.

The plan is awaiting *approval* by
the state council.

But despite optimistic forecasts
and ambitious goals, provincial lead-
ers say they *realize that* the devel-
opment of Xinjiang *is severely*

f>opulated region largely dependent
An agriculture and animal husband-
ty—is no" easy task.
Transportation, vital to an ex-
panding economy, suffers because
there are few roads, railways
energy-efficient vehicles. The re-
gion has only one major railway,
Which runs east-west and ends jn
fJrurhqi. Kashgar, the westernmost
<:ity in China, has no railroad con-
necting it to Uriimqi, more'tiari
600 miles to the northeast. Instead,
'ft must rely on trucks and five,

flights a week from Urumqi <OL
products from China's lntenoj.

~CTa land where it may rain twice
a year, the fields nearly all depend
_on Irrigation with .water from gla-
cier-fed rivers. But waste of water
antT major irrigation problems im-
pair agriculture and hinder large-
scale programs. .

x In Xinjiang, the news from the
official Communist Party newspa-
per, People's Daily, comes a day .
late. Those people in Kashgar who
have television sets watched the
Oct. 1 national day celebrations two
days later, thanks to a videotape
broadcast in Urumqi.

**" There is realistic potential for
development in petrochemicals,
said one western analyst, but Xin-
jiang lacks proximity and access to
markets, and, in oil, it lacks a major
pigeine^

The logistics are pretty formi-
dable," the analyst said. 'It's not
exactly the economic ljeartland of
China." Said another analyst, "It's
more like Alaska {than California}
but, unliKeTUaalca, Xinjiang is
land-
locked

Even with special advantages for
foreigners, Investors are more like-
ly to bead to other parta of China
with more favorable Infrastructure,
SCPE

272

China's leaders have set an overall
modernization goal of quadrupling the
country's 1980 GNP by the year
2,000. Xinjiang is so far behind the
rest of the country that to catch up, it
will need to increase its output five-
fold, party secretary Wang said.

A large part of that task is now
being assumed by the Xinjiang Pro-
duction and Construction Corps, a
2.25-million-strong force that makes
up nearly 17 percent of the region's 13
million population. Although it
remains a reserve force for defense of
the borders, the corps, nearly all Han
Chinese, has been responsible for the
construction of much of the area's
new urban housing, factories,
transport and communication
facilities.

Officially set up as a special unit of
the People's Liberation Army in 1954,
it was disbanded in 1975 during the
turmoil of Mao Tse-tung's 1966-1976
Cultural Revolution. It was revived in
1982 and last year it accounted for
nearly one-fourth of the total output
for the region.

Wang said he knows that Xin-
jiang's turn will come in time.

"Xiqjiang has great potential.... If
we are to develop, we can do much
better than California," he •aid

6

ASIA — CHINA HOPING TO INCREASE SETTLEMENT IN WESTERN REGIONS

HONG KONG. JAN. 18 (SPECIAL/REVZIN) ~ CHINA, WHICH EXPECTS TO HAVE ANOTHER 200 MILLION PEOPLE BY THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, HOPES THAT RURAL TOWNS AND THE SPARSELY POPULATED WESTERN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY WILL ABSORB MOST OF THE POPULATION INCREASE.

AN ARTICLE IN THE RECENT ISSUE OF PEKING REVIEW MAGAZINE SAYS THAT, DESPITE EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE EACH COUPLE TO HAVE ONLY ONE CHILD, CHINA'S POPULATION WILL REACH 1.2 BILLION BY THE END OF THE CENTURY.

CHINA, THE WORLD'S MOST POPULOUS NATION, ALREADY HAS ABOUT ONE BILLION PEOPLE. THE EXPECTED SIZE OF THE INCREASE — 200 MILLION — IS ALMOST EQUAL TO THE PRESENT POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHINA'S POPULATION PLANNING POLICIES HAVE RESULTED IN A DRAMATIC DECREASE IN THE RATE OF GROWTH. BUT THE ONE-CHILD POLICY HAS RUN INTO OPPOSITION, ESPECIALLY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. IN MANY AREAS, RURAL FAMILIES CAN NOW HAVE TWO CHILDREN.

THE PEKING REVIEW ARTICLE SAID "THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHINA'S POPULATION IS EXTREMELY UNEVEN."

IT SAID THAT, IF A LINE WERE DRAWN FROM HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE ALONG THE SOVIET BORDER IN THE NORTHEAST TO YUNNAN PROVINCE NEAR VIETNAM IN THE SOUTHWEST, ONLY 6 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION WOULD BE WEST OF THE LINE.

THE POPULATION DENSITY OF THE WESTERN HALF OF CHINA IS LESS THAN EIGHT EVEN PEOPLE PER SQUARE KILOMETER. IN SHANGHAI, A CITY IN THE EAST OF 12 MILLION. THE DENSITY IS 1,913 PER SQUARE KILOMETER.

THE ENTIRE EASTERN PROVINCE OF JIANGSU HAS A DENSITY OF 590 PER SQUARE KILOMETER.

PEKING REVIEW SAYS, "PAST EXPERIENCE HAS PROVED THAT THE SPARSELY POPULATED REMOTE AREAS WELCOMED THE MIGRATION OF PEOPLE FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY TO EFFECT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT."

IT POINTED OUT THAT, IN 1949, CHINA'S THREE NORTHEASTERN PROVINCES HAD A TOTAL OF 30 MILLION PEOPLE. BY 1982 THERE WERE 100 MILLION IN THAT REGION, AND 30 MILLION TO 40 MILLION OF THE INCREASE WAS A RESULT OF MIGRATION.

SAID THE MAGAZINE, "CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THIS GROWTH RATE, THE POPULATION IN THE FOUR WESTERN PROVINCES AND AUTONOMOUS REGIONS CAN ACCOMMODATE AN INCREASE OF 60 MILLION IN THE NEXT THREE DECADES."

BUT SOME MIGRATION TO REMOTE AREAS OF CHINA HAS BEEN BECAUSE OF JOB ASSIGNMENTS. AMERICAN JOURNALIST FOX BUTTERFIELD, IN HIS BOOK "ALIVE IN THE BITTER SEA," COMMENTS ON THAT SITUATION.

"THE LEFT-WING MAGAZINE CHENG MING IN HONG KONG ONCE ESTIMATED THERE ARE EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE IN CHINA WHO HAVE BEEN FORCED TO LIVE SEPARATED FROM THEIR SPOUSES BECAUSE OF THEIR JOBS, TWO MILLION OF THEM CADRES AND SIX MILLION ORDINARY WORKERS AND OFFICE EMPLOYEES. THERE IS NO OFFICIAL RATIONALE FOR IT, EXCEPT THAT IS THE WAY LABOR OFFICES HAVE DECIDED TO ASSIGN PEOPLE, FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE STATE," BUTTERFIELD SAID.

IT WOULD NOT BE A SIMPLE MATTER TO ENCOURAGE WORKERS TO VOLUNTARILY MOVE TO SOME OF THE RUGGED, REMOTE REGIONS OF WESTERN CHINA.

THE PEKING REVIEW ARTICLE ALSO NOTES THE UNEVEN DISTRIBUTION BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.

"THE POPULATION IS CONCENTRATED IN A FEW BIG CITIES, WHILE THE RURAL TOWNS AROUND THEM, WHICH ARE THE COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION CENTERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, HAVE NOT DEVELOPED AS THEY SHOULD," THE ARTICLE SAYS.

IT NOTED THAT SINCE 1978, WITH THE RAPID INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, THE "TOWNS HAVE RECEIVED NEW VITALITY AS POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CENTERS AND THEIR POPULATIONS HAVE INCREASED RAPIDLY, TOO."
(PTO) BG/

FFOBB ASIA
(t)

B-UIRE
CHINA HOPING TO INCREASE SETTLEMENT

IB-JAN-85 12:06
IN NESTERN REE IONS

THE PEKING REVIEW ESTIMATED THAT, IF EACH RURAL TOWN COULD DOUBLE ITS POPULATION TO 40,000, THEY COULD ACCOMMODATE 130 MILLION PEOPLE BY THE YEAR 2000 — SOME 70 MILLION MORE THAN THEY DO TODAY. ANOTHER 53 MILLION COULD BE ABSORBED BY SMALLER RURAL TOWNS, IT ESTIMATED.

CHINA IS MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT TO INCREASE SERVICE-RELATED INDUSTRIES AND LIGHT INDUSTRY IN RURAL AREAS. THIS IS PARTLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE DECOLLECTIVIZATION OF AGRICULTURE HAS LEFT MILLIONS OF PEASANTS UNDER-EMPLOYED. B6/

Munich, March "8 - (CND/EC) -'following' appeared in "today's DIE
VELT, "Preiraum fuer Chinas Moslems"

Von JOHNNY ERLING

Für seine modernisierten Minderheiten, so heißt derzeit die Botschaft der chinesischen Presse, scheue Peking weder Muhe noch Kosten. Aus 22 der 29 chinesischen Provinzen, in denen islamische Glaubige anzutreffen sind, wird ständig über religiöse Feiern und restaurierte Moscheen berichtet 70 wieder zugelas-

* sene lokale islamische Organisationen vertreten dort die Belange der Glaubigen.

Seit 1985 wird in Urumqi, der Hauptstadt der Provinz Sinkiang, an einer islamischen Predigerseminar gebaut. Nach chinesischen Angaben gibt es in Sinkiang heute 14 000 geöffnete Moscheen und sieben Millionen Moslems. Yinchuan, die tausendjährige Hauptstadt der Minderheitenprovinz Ningxia, soll nach einem Bericht der Pekinger Tageszeitung „China Daily“ sogar zu einem „wahrhaft moslemischen Zentrum“ mit eigener Koran-Universität ausgebaut werden. Ein neues zwölfstöckiges Hotel im islamischen Stil mit 200 arabischsprachigen Angestellten soll dort künftig „islamische Touristen“ anlocken. Neun Handelsorganisationen haben sich bereits darauf spezialisiert, die Provinz mit Kleidung und Nahrung nach religiösem Brauch zu versorgen.

Selbst im „Schnellzug“ von Peking nach Yinchuan wird seit Januar auf der zweitägigen Bahnfahrt die neue Wertschätzung Chinas für den Islam demonstriert. Ein spezieller Speisewagen „Heim der Moslems“ mit ausgebildetem Küchenpersonal soll dafür sorgen, daß keinem Moslem mehr im Jahr des Ochsen- oder Schweinefleisch oder auch nur die „unsaubere“ Zubereitung in einer gemischten Küche zugemutet wird.

Mehr als 30 Millionen?

Offiziell rechnet Peking zwar noch immer mit der Zahl von etwa zehn Millionen Islam-Anhängern im ganzen Land, die es nach 1949 ermittelt haben will. Aus den unvollständigen Angaben der heutigen islamischen lokalen Organisationen - selbst in Peking gibt es 160 000 Mohammedaner - ergibt sich allerdings ein anderes Bild. Mindestens 30 Millionen Moslems vor allem in den Provinzen Sinkiang, Ningxia, Gansu und Qinghai leben heute in China. Wahrscheinlich sind es aber weit mehr,

denn bereits in den vierziger Jahren wurde von 50 Millionen gesprochen.

Doch nicht wegen ihres - an der Gesamtbevölkerung gemessen - eher geringen Anteils gesteht Peking seinen Moslems einen immer größeren Spielraum zu. Die dünnbesiedelten Minderheitengebiete in Chinas Norden mit islamtreuer Bevölkerung waren wegen der gemeinsamen Grenze mit der Sowjetunion schon immer strategisch wichtig.

Seit der weltweiten Renaissance des Islams, besonders durch die Ereignisse in Iran, mußte Peking erkennen, welche nationale Sprengkraft im Islam liegt. Obwohl der chinesische Islam keine fundamentalistischen Strömungen kennt, einst sogar das Judentum integrierte - Chinas Juden wurden Moslems mit blauen Haaren genannt - scheiterten alle kulturevolutionären Unterdrückungsmaßnahmen und Sinsierungsversuche. Denn die Minderheitenreligion erwies sich in China als eine Nationalitätenreligion.

Bei mehr als zehn chinesischen Minoritäten sorgt der Islam für ihren inneren Zusammenhalt. Über die eigentlichen Moslems, die Hunderte hinaus, die mit etwa sieben Millionen die wichtigste Volksgruppe bilden, gilt dies für die Uiguren, Kasachen, Tataren, Kirgisen und Usbeken.

In Fachaufsatzen wird derzeit an die gelungene Integration der Moslems in der Ming-Dynastie im 17. Jahrhundert erinnert, die dem Aufblühen Chinas zugute kam. Dagegen habe die Diskriminierung und Unterdrückung in der Zeit der Manchu im 19. Jahrhundert zu fünf blutigen Aufständen geführt. Damit wird auch auf die chaotische Zeit der Kulturrevolution angespielt, als Peking den Islam gewaltsam unterdrückte und sich in den sechziger Jahren immer wieder Unruhen einhandelte. In Kashgar, einstiges Handelszentrum der Seidenstraße, das sich das Aussehen eines orientalischen Basars erhalten hat, erinnert daran noch eine 15 Meter hohe Mao-Skulptur.

Der Islam kam aus Arabien und Persien nach China - im Zuge der offenen Handels- und Wirtschaftspolitik der Tang-Dynastie im 8. Jahrhundert. Heute, so will es Peking, soll die Entwicklung auch umgekehrt wirken. Die offenen Türen weisen in den arabischen Raum.

Den Auftakt bilden die seit 1979 wieder erlaubten Mekka-Besuche chinesischer Moslems. 1984 erreichte

die Zahl der Pilger, von denen die meisten die beschwerliche Reise auf eigene Kosten, zum Teil auch über Stationen der ehemaligen Seidenstraße machten, die Rekordhöhe von 1200. Mit Genugtuung verzeichnete Peking, daß der Vorsitzende der islamischen Wehliga, Aziz Ibn Baz, bei einem Empfang für die Pilger die Islampolitik Chinas lobte. Die Ausstrahlung dieser Worte auf die arabische Welt ist für China wichtig.

Pekings nationale islamische Gesellschaft hatte bereits in den fünfziger Jahren ihre Mekka-Touren mit aktiver Nahost-Politik und Abstechern nach Ägypten, Syrien und Libanon verbunden. Die heutigen Mekka-Delegationen führt der Weg nach Kuwait, zu dem Peking ein besonders herzliches Verhältnis entwickelt hat.

Die Araber im Visier

Während dieser gemäßigte Ölstaat der Volksrepublik Vorzugskredite einräumt (1983 circa 150 Millionen Dollar) und künftig in der olverarbeitenden Branche kräftig mitwirken will, ernten die Chinesen umgekehrt Devisen durch harte Arbeit. In Kuwait arbeiten acht chinesische Vermittlungsbüros, die bislang, wie „China Daily“ berichtet, „mehrere 10 000 chinesische Arbeitskräfte“ vorwiegend im Baugewerbe vermittelten. Eine noch weiter gehende industrielle Zusammenarbeit und großzügige Kreditierung vereinbarte jüngst in Peking der kuwaitische Öl- und Finanzminister Azibi Al Sabah. Unter Mitwirkung Tunesiens wurde dabei die erste chinesisch-arabische Gesellschaft gegründet.

Für den Ausbau der Zusammenarbeit mit den arabischen Staaten werden nun auch den Minderheitenregionen Chinas größere Freiheiten im Außenhandel gewährt. Peking ermunterte die Provinz Ningxia, eigenständige Handelskontakte zu anderen islamischen Ländern zu suchen.

Auch im Grenzhandel, ob an der chinesisch-sowjetischen Grenze oder von Kashgar aus nach Pakistan, wirkt sich die Liberalisierung aus. Dabei setzt Peking darauf, daß im Rückfluß über offenere Grenzen und liberalisiertere Religionspolitik der Fundamentalismus keine Chance hat. Moslems in Kashgar meinen dazu: *Juti Khomeinis Islam haben wir nichts im Sinn.*

FF138

B-WIRE

14-APR-85 23:07

ASIA — PAKISTAN TO HELP CHINESE MUSLIMS

<rt*~

ISLAMABAD, APRIL 14 (UPI) — THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT WILL ASSIST MUSLIMS IN CHINA IN TRAINING CLERGY AND RENOVATION OF MOSQUES AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID SUNDAY.

THE OFFER WAS MADE BY THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS MAQBOOL AHMAD AT A MEETING WITH A CHINESE MUSLIM DELEGATION HEADED BY HAJI HUSSAIN HEIBOLI, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AHMAD ALSO OFFERED TO SUPPLY RELIGIOUS BOOKS FOR SINKIANG PROVINCE.

HEIBOLI SAID THE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT WOULD "FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE BROTHERLY TIES BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND CHINA, PARTICULARLY THE MUSLIMS." DU



"Douglas S. Mackieman, Killed by Gunfire, Tibet 1950." So reads one inscription on the Memorial Plaque on the west wall of the State Department's Diplomatic Lobby honoring members of the Foreign Service who have died in the line of duty. These words only hint at a tragic adventure.

FRED DONNER

ONLY TWO FOREIGN SERVICE

members have died in

China

Of despite the historically large number of China posts and the numerous natural and manmade disasters associated with nearly 200 years of Sino-American relations. Strangely enough, both were men named Mackiernan. Charles P. Mackiernan was appointed a student interpreter in China on March 10, 1911, and died at Chungking of black smallpox on May 28, 1916. Douglas S. Mackieman, with whom this article is concerned, was appointed a consular clerk at Nanking in May 1947 and then a vice consul at Urumqi, also known as Tihwa, in May 1948. Born in Mexico City in 1913, he graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where his studies took him to Cuba and Puerto Rico. Later he served as an Army Air Corps officer in Alaska and China. His wife and year-old twin son and daughter were trying to get permission to join him in Urumqi when the post was closed in 1949. Seven months later, he was dead.

The Sinjiang region, of which Urumqi is the capital, had a de facto separate Chinese government during World War II and by 1948 was "in the throes of what virtually amounted to civil war," according to contemporary press accounts. On August 7, 1949, John Hall Paxton, consul at Urumqi and a true old China hand who had grown up there as a missionary kid and served at seven China posts prior to Urumqi, sent a telegram to the State Department. He was prepared to stay, he said. The post's current

~~Fred Donner is a terrorism watch officer in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. He earned a master's in modern Chinese history at the University of Minnesota.~~

supplies would last six months and he could get more. He also would maintain radio communications with the department. If the consulate had to be closed, he suggested a temporary office at Kashgar (now Kashi), 900 miles to the south.

Unknown to Paxton, the U.S. mission in Nanking was urging the department to close Urumqi, and a decision was finally made to close the post to the public. Vice Consul Mackieman, however, would be left behind until conditions made it impossible for him to remain. Thus began two arduous overland escapes from China for the post personnel.

First, Paxton was ordered to leave with his wife and another vice consul named Dreesen. In order to ensure the safety of some local employees who apparently could not be airlifted out, the party left by vehicle for Pakistan.

Besides the Paxtons and Vice Consul Dreesen, the group consisted of three White Russian consulate employees and their wives and six children, and one other employee. They left Urumqi on August 16. Nine days later, after passing through the Iurian Depression, the Karakoram Pass, and the town of Asqu, the party arrived in Kashgar.

In the course of an 18-day rest there, the entire trip was completely revised. The vicissitudes of the civil war caused the local authorities to recommend the destination be changed from Pakistan to India, and the group complied. Passports and papers for the non-Americans were secured, and 14 caravaners and many horses, donkeys, and camels were hired. Eight more travelers joined the party, including the grown daughter of the anti-Communist former provincial governor, her two teenage brothers, a military officer who was a friend of her family, the caravan owner, an Indian merchant, an interpreter, and a driver.

The party headed southeast for Yarkand with vehicles and animals. After they had passed through Karghalik, they were forced to abandon their vehicles at Pusar. The group of travelers and caravaners now numbered around 40, with about 60 animals. They passed the Dusty Pass, the Tiznaf River, the Yengi Dawan, also known as the New Pass,

and the Yarkand River, and arrived at Kokat, the last China post, on September 28.

As the Paxton party crossed China, Frank Bessac, a Fulbright scholar, arrived at Urumqi. He was to have attended the University of Peking but was forced to travel west when the city and all of North China came under Communist control. At Urumqi, he found the only other American, Vice Consul Mackiernan, "whose unpleasant job it was to close down the office if and when the Communists actually began occupying the province."

By the end of September, the province of Sinkiang had been turned over to the Communists without a fight. That signaled the second overland evacuation. Bessac helped Mackieman burn documents, and on September 27 they pulled out of the city in a jeep headed south. By arrangement, three White Russian friends joined them enroute. They shortly abandoned the jeep and, for the next seven months, the five men journeyed on a route that took them straight south from Urumqi to Lhasa, Tibet, by way of the Kunlun Mountains, enroute to India;

W HILE MACKIERNAN WAS just getting started, the Paxton party's political travails were over. The

physical impediments to their trip, however, were just beginning in earnest. They had to climb the Karakoram Pass and then the Sasser Dawan Pass. They finally arrived at Kurl Pass on October 1. On October 20, they ascended the Khardong Glacier and arrived in Leh the next day. Here, the caravaners bid the travelers farewell and turned around to trace their route back to Sinkiang. From Leh, the travelers were flown to Srinagar and New Delhi. They arrived in New York on November 19. Their story can be found in detail in *Overtime in Heaten Adventures in the Foreign Service* by Peter Lisagor and Marguerite Higgins.

As the Paxtons waited comfortably in the United States, Mackiernan's party traversed the Takla Makan Desert and, by December, were approaching the

guages—English, Chinese, and Mongolian. "I will not. I am an American." The Tibetans were taken aback by this performance and brought the third White Russian, who was only wounded, from a tent to stand by Bessac.

The White Russian, whose name was Zvansov, told Bessac that the gunmen had surrounded the tent, evidently afraid of a possible ambush by the travelers. The first shots had not hit anyone, but forced them from the tents. Rather than return the fire, Mackiernan had argued for his companions to show friendly intentions, even at that stage.

The survivors, escorted by the border

guards, started for Shentsa, another military outpost. Enroute, two horsemen flying the official red flag emblem of Tibetan couriers caught up with the party. One showed Bessac two documents: entry permits for Mackiernan and his party. Haranguing the now shamefaced border guards, one courier offered Bessac a gun and pointed at the guards. "There was nothing to be gained by that. I refused," Bessac later said. The guards were sent under arrest to Lhasa while Bessac and Zvansov recuperated further before proceeding there themselves.

Heinrich Harrer, an Austrian and former Olympic athlete for Germany who

had become a valued foreign personage at the Royal Court in Lhasa after escaping from British internment in India during World War II, rode out with a high official to greet the Bessac party. He and Bessac became friends, and Harrer is not as admirably reserved as Bessac in telling the Mackiernan story. In a book he wrote entitled *Seven Years in Tibet*, he states that Bessac and Zvansov were insulted, threatened, and robbed even after the shootings while they were enroute to the next outpost. The Lhasa authorities were horrified by the news, and while in Lhasa, Bessac was received twice by the Dalai Lama.

The six Tibetan border guards who killed Mackiernan and his two friends were sentenced to mutilation and lashing—capital punishment was not part of the Buddhist Tibetan legal system. "The leader was to have his nose and ears cut off. The man who fired the first shots was to lose both ears. A third man was to lose one ear, and the others were to get 50 lashes each. The men receiving the lesser sentences, it developed, had argued with the leader against shooting." Bessac, who had already refused an opportunity to kill all six of them, asked that the sentences be reduced to lashing. According to Harrer, Bessac was asked to


be present at the execution of the sentences to ensure there was no deception. Bessac said, "I watched and enjoyed the whole proceeding and took the pictures...." The leader and the man who fired the first shots received 200 lashes apiece. The third man received 50 and the other three 25 each.

It took until July for Bessac to get Tibetan assurances of proper burial for Mackiernan and the two White Russians. Harrer's book tells of three wooden crosses which stand over the graves in the Changthang region of Tibet. A month later, Bessac and Zvansov finally completed the trip to India.

- On October 18, 1950, J. Hall Paxton received a Superior Service Award for "outstanding qualities of planning, patient negotiations with Chinese authorities, perseverance in keeping the party together, and successful efforts in inspiring associates in critical associations." These phrases are gross understatement for a man who led a party of about 40 persons of both sexes and assorted nationalities, ages, and backgrounds through incredible circumstances for over two months and 1600 miles in western China and the Himalayas without losing a life. Douglas S. Mackiernan received a posthumous Superior Service Award. Q

China: Xingjiang's Muslims fight assimilation moves

The influx of Han Chinese into the Turkic Muslim province of Xinjiang is only one of China's new policies aimed at wiping out the dominant Muslim culture there. Will the mass demonstrations held by Muslims help give the

 Among the most hopeful signs for Muslim minorities in China in the last few years has been the emergence in the early 1980s of new policies for the substantial number of mainly Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang province (see *Arabia*, December 1984). This historic territory, formerly called Eastern Turkestan, may be a far-flung outpost of Islam to some, but few would deny that it has been for several centuries the strategic pivot of Asia. Connected to the Russian and Afghan parts of the larger Turkestan, Xinjiang is a potential catalyst for change for the whole region and, by implication, for the mighty empires which contain and surround it.

Is this promising picture fading? The latest information from Xinjiang suggests new policies which originally caused considerable optimism among the Muslims there are being abandoned or reversed.

What makes these departures surprising is that they formed the basis for more productive cooperation between the dominant Han Chinese and Muslim minorities at a time when Chinese perceptions of the threat from Soviet actions in Central Asia, particularly from Afghanistan, had increased significantly. The new policies of the early 1980s appeared designed to meet this threat by- giving China's own Muslim minorities greater power in their own regions and by- setting in motion economic forces which would improve living standards. Happy Muslim minorities in China, it was thought, would make poor targets for Soviet propaganda which seeks to destabilise the region for its own purposes.

The new social and economic policies, by their very nature, could only be effective over the "long term, although some immediate gains, especially in agriculture, were evident. It is hard to imagine even the most sanguine Chinese planner believing that the brutal imperial legacy- of their subjugation of these minorities could be quickly washed away, regardless of how benevolent the new measures were. The memory of oppressed peoples is usually long, and within empires it tends to be constantly

reinforced. Most Turkic Muslims of Xinjiang remain deeply suspicious of Chinese intentions, if not openly hostile, despite some social and economic gains. The problem for the Chinese is, in many respects, as much one of generations as it is of specific policies.

But whether the new policies? Eastern Turkestanis travelling outside their country have recently had some revealing, and occasionally, chilling tales to tell. Take the sensitive issue of inter-marriage of Muslims and Han. For example. Prior to 1950, Chinese law specifically forbade such marriages. This law has now been rescinded, and inter-marriage is officially encouraged. Incentives are said to include cash payments to Han girls to relocate in remote villages where they are expected to catch a Muslim husband. To make them more physically appealing to a potential Uighur or Kazak spouse, the young Han women often undergo plastic surgery at the government's expense. Young Muslim men are also promised cash payments and better jobs in the cities if they marry Chinese girls. Children of these marriages are always registered as Chinese.

Another very personal liberty that also appears to have been taken away is the right to large families. "Planned parenthood", that is, state intervention in the act of childbearing, has been practised in Xinjiang since the mid-1970s, but only among the Han Chinese. Turkic Muslim minorities have until recently been conspicuously and publicly exempt from strong population control measures aimed at bringing down China's birthrate. Now the concept of one-child families is being urged on the Turkic Muslims, who traditionally opt for larger families of five or more children. Currently Chinese public documents claim that planned parenthood programmes are voluntary and that objectives can be attained through "education and propaganda". Eastern Turkestanis doubt, however, that the Chinese authorities will let it rest at that.

Arguably the most sensitive issue between the Eastern Turkestanis and the Chinese is that of Chinese citizenship. Many of the Muslims who lie in complaint among the minorities who usually

QOVPrnMUSU?S UndQr aUaCk*the
*u., menJ.s campaigning to force
In r_KaSSml,aUon^ovc right)
wlli to.get their culfuro

* *has a'so P'acod a nuclear
testing ground In Xinjiang.

constitute majorities in their own regions, I
at least before the Vlan arrive — that i
dominant nationalities arc flooding their |
territories and diluting, their national ,
culture is a common one in the context of
empires. In the case of Xinjiang, native
Muslims estimate that Vlan Chinese arc
being moved into their regions at the rate
of at least 200.000 a year. Already some
parts of Xinjiang, including several
important chics which traditionally have
had native
majorities, now have Han
majorities, and the Haul is increasing. In
the past three decades, the number of Han
Chinese in Xinjiang has increased from
about six pci cent to more than forty per nlav
cent today.

At stake is more than the clash of two
slinglv contentious national cultures.
What tiles Muslims most is ih.u the
t lur.csc ate taking al I o| ihe pit it | |,«|»s

| especially those'in the developing high-
| technology and manufacturing industries.
. They sec the Chinese rush to exploit
Xinjiang's vast resources — gold,
uranium, copper, coal and oil among
other strategic deposits — as a flagrant act
of imperialism. Moreover, by sending in
their own work force the Chinese
conveniently delay the day when they will
have to spend heavily to develop native
human potential in a variety of highly-
skilled areas.

After paying a lot of lip-service and an
occasional worthy gesture to the concept
of federal power-sharing with the Muslim
and other minorities of the Chinese state
.....

lieijing has once again fallen hack on the classic
colonial practice of placing natives in public positions
while retaining real * power in the hands of Chinese
sent in from the mainland. Xinjiang's Turkic Muslims

explain these apparent turn-about as
Machiavellian •When the Han wore still
cl

trying to recover from *their* disasterous
Cultural Revolution and wanted to secure
their *frontier*, *they promised us*
everything and even gave us a few scraps,"
a Uighut intellectual remarked recently.
Another echoed this sentiment and asked.
"What can they possibly be thinking in
Beijing?" adding, "We arc told that the
new leadership is sophisticated, many
were even persecuted during the Cultural
Revolution themselves. But how can what
they arc doing in Xinjiang be thought of as
enlightened? With a few concessions, our
grievances would lessen considerably. As
grieva they cannot count on the loyalty
it is now,... —i.. F_{nr} the Chinese, this
of our people. For
frontier with the Soviets is anylliiiiig hut
.... .. and the *fools* in Beijing who are

secure lor our people are only
making P_uifv

making it worse."

But what concessions? In addition to returning
to the policies of the early 1980s mentioned earlier,
two other measures seem to be on everyone's mind.
The first is practical: limit the flow of Chinese into
Xinjiang and segregate tlipse who do come into their
own cities. In fact, at least one well-known city in
northern Xinjiang i« made up largely of people 'with
manufacturing skills from Shanghai. Here would
seem to be a model to examine. The second
concession is purely symbolic: change the name of
Xinjiang back to Eastern Turkestan. What could
possibly be wrong with "The Eastern Turkestan
Autonomous Region"? This bit of symbolism by itself
would improve Han- Muslim relations.

A.new'and more delicate issue could bring all of
this to a head. The Chinese have brought more than
their people and culture to Xinjiang: they have also-
brought a nuclear testing ground. Recent evidence
strongly suggests that radioactivity has been poorly
confined to the test area, at Lop Nor in the Gobi
Desert. Since 1976 statistics of early death and
cancer among Muslim adults and deformities in new-
born children have piled up. Some crops on the edge
of the test area are withering. The Chinese admit that
some kind of problem exists, but they arc reticent to
pin blame directly on their nuclear tests.

Several large demonstrations against the
nuclear fallout threat have been staged by Muslims
recently in Urumqi (the Xinjiangcapital) and in Beijing
itself. Last December, for example, Urumqi was the
site of two mass demonstrations specifically against
further nuclear testing, but it would be truer to say the
demonstrators' anger was with Han encroachment
on Muslim life. Chinese sources put the number of
demonstrators at 10,000-15.000 on each
demonstration. Eastern Turkestanis who witnessed
them or took part claim nearly 100.000. On 23
December, up to one thousand Muslim students from
Xinjiang marched on Tiananmen Square in the
centre of Beijing to protest against further nuclear
tests in their homeland.

The Muslims of Xinjiang arc learning the
international vocabulary of protest. Talk of nuclear
accidents brings visions of United Nations'
committees, international tribunals and foreign anti-
nuclear groups. This is the kind of international
attention Chinese policy cannot withstand. Chinese
leaders have done much to improve their public
image throughout the world in the past five years. If
international public opinion perceives that the
Chinese are exposing hapless colonial subjects to
their nuclear testing this new image will not last long.
The answer to this tricky public relations problem is
less testing and less colonialism.

< f

PROM THE BALTIMORE SUN, JULY 9, 1985

CHINA'S MUSLIMS RETURN TO MOSQUES

By John E. Woodruff
Peking Bureau of The Sun]

KASHGAR, China — Silay Da Mullah sat cross-legged on a broad portico as windblown mulberries gently thudded onto a rattan roof and he counted off the rights Xinjiang province's Ulghure and other Muslim peoples have regained since the cultural revolution:

□ O Mullahs, the religious leaders of the province's thousands of mosques, are no longer jailed or forbidden to preach.

□ Copies of the Koran, the Muslim bible, are no longer routinely confiscated or burned on the spot by rampaging teenagers.

□ Mosques that had been turned into schools, factories and storehouses are now back in the hands of the religious. Some congregations have received payments for the decade or more that they were thrown out of their mosques.

Growing numbers of Xinjiang Muslims are being permitted — and finding the means — to make the pilgrimage to Mecca, some 2,500 miles southwest of China's farthest western city.

SUay Da Mullah himself was among some 100 Muslims from Xinjiang who were permitted to make the haj (pilgrimage) to Saudi Arabia — nominally required of all Muslims at least once in their lifetimes — in 1982, as China began to open the door to the pilgrims. Last year, the number grew to 1,200.

But the repression of the Cultural Revolution years fell especially heavily on Muslim people all over China, and it has left scars that seem to heal only slowly here and elsewhere.

Mullahs in many (paces spent years in jail. Dozens in this city spent a year or two in labor "schools," and two were confined for more than 10 years, SUay Da Mullah said in an interview last month.

These are serious questions from history, and we have been careful 'noUaJansUgaic-auak-tatuoany OtHratnif ahnutJafftuyhe mullah - said, when asked how many Muslim religious leaders in Kashgar were beaten by Red Guards or by their keepers during confinement.

Hundreds of thousands of China's Muslim households were visited by Red Guards who ransacked their houses, confiscating or burning the Quran and carting off any religious objects that could not be destroyed on the spot in many places, even ere taken, because Muslims themselves for their daily prayers.

The repression that Muslims faced across China was of a piece with that inflicted on all of the religious. Buddhists, Catholics and Protestants all were hounded, and lost control of their places of worship, many of which were destroyed or damaged beyond repair. ■ Reugkxu worship has been re

covering steadily. In recent years as the Communist Party seeks to "thoroughly negate the Cultural Revolution" but to Xinjiang, the recovery is

colored by special conditions. Like Buddhism in Tibet Islam in Xinjiang has the apodal flavor associated with the non-Chinese people*

who practice *. The dominant people here in China's remote western deserts are the Ulghure, a Turkish-speaking and Turkish-looking minority who have more in common with their Mediterranean cousins than the Han Chinese. They eat different foods, wear different clothing, have different marriage and child-rearing customs, and look and think more like the Middle Easterners than the sources of culture.

SUay Da Mullah made a point of mentioning that most of the Red Guard teenagers who came to his house on several occasions to confiscate his books were themselves fellow Ulghures.

But other Ulghure, interviewed out of the hearing of Chinese officials, express a resentful awareness that the Cultural Revolution was a Chinese affair, that the religions of minority nationalities like the Uighurs, Tibetans and the Muslims became victims only by the coincidence that they lived in China.

We did not question the fact that China owns Xinjiang, one ekieny gigantic holiday gatherings that now school teacher as many as 20,000 worshippers to the mosque and the

now the Chinese themselves say streets in Xinjiang, unlike Christian cities and they are

they say. In Jakarta from the Bonin on the portico, opposite where totting, and said it had been from Pakistan.

are Korans printed in now. In Shanghai to Muslims are

Wit's permitted to attend mosque in 1965," the vendor asked as he arranged daggers at a market stall, "then why did they tear apart the mosques and spit on the mullahs in 1966? What did our mullahs have to do with Liu Shaoqi and all the politicians Mao hated? Now, how can they come around and tell us everything is all right?"

For China, this residue of bitterness spotted across the desert cities of the ancient Silk Road is more than just a problem of placating a religious or ethnic minority.

Xinjiang's oases have long been centers of international trade as well as domestic tension. For centuries, Chinese and Russian rulers have used the ethnic minorities that live on both sides of their 2,000-mile border as means to intrigue against each other. In 1930, a Russian-sponsored splinter group briefly controlled Xinjiang. Chinese and Soviet troops dashed on the border here.

The Communist Party takes the question of religious rights in Xinjiang very seriously, a provincial government representative said during a one-week visit by an American correspondent based more than 2,000 miles away in Peking, the national capital.

Religious practices of Muslims, as of other faiths in China, are all "under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party," they are being revived.

But Muslims have some privileges that other faiths, particularly Christians, are not given.

They can, for example, have the help of translators outside China, a privilege strictly denied to both Catholic and Protestant Christians.

SUay Da Mullah's mosque, the main Friday mosque in the center of Kashgar, was able to accept a

615,000 cash donation last year from a visitor. The first

Uighur and the Tibetans became its members. The first Uighur only by the coincidence that they lived in China.

loudspeaker system that carries the imam's words to the faithful during China owns Xinjiang, one ekieny gigantic holiday gatherings that now school teacher as many as 20,000 worshippers to the mosque and the

now the Chinese themselves say streets in Xinjiang, unlike Christian cities and they are

they say. In Jakarta from the Bonin on the portico, opposite where totting, and said it had been from Pakistan.

are Korans printed in now. In Shanghai to Muslims are

Sovjet-Oeigoeren weten

Door onze correspondent RAYMOND VAN DEN BOOGAARD

ALMA ATA. 15 juli — De verbetering van de Sovjet-Chinese betrekkingen wordt met bijzonder interesse gevolgd door de ongeveer zes miljoen volksoeigoeren die door de Sovjet-Chinese grens van hi in de Chinese provincie Xinjiang worden gescheiden.

Niet dat de Chinese vice-premier Yao N'ilin, die vorige week Moskou bezocht ter gelegenheid van een nieuw handelsakkoord, de Oeigoerse nationale zaak daar aan de orde zal hebben gesteld.

Maar op de Markt van Alma Ata, hoofdstad van de Sovjet-republiek Kazachstan (waarsluitingsnummer 14S.001) van de Sovjet-Oeigoeren wonen, blijkt dat zelfs de recente bescheiden verbetering van de relatie Moskou-Peking in het Sovjet-Oeigoerse volksbesluit zijn uitwerking heeft. „Wij hebben daar geen „verwanten”, zeggen afwezig twee zusters, broers die op de markt hun jonge aardappelen te koop aanbieden. Niet langer is het, als in de jaren van de Chinese Culturele Revolutie en de openlijke Sovjet-Chinese vijandschap, gepast om openlijk de onderdrukking van de Oeigoeren in Xinjiang aan de kaak te stellen.

Belangstelling

Maar dezelfde zusters vroegen wel te hebben gehoord dat er jaren over en vee reisjes over de grens worden georganiseerd, die

voor hen eerst sinds 1962 de mogelijkheid zouden bieden om verwanten aan hen zijde te gaan bezoeken.

Het voor 1962 in Alma Ata gevestigde Chinese consulaat wordt nog niet hropend. Wel vertellen functionarissen van de Kazachse Academic van Wetenschappen over plannen voor wetenschappelijke uitwisseling met Xinjiang, en plannen voor de publikatie van literatuur van hen zijde. Een Oeigoerse functionaris aan het Kazachse ministerie van buitenlandse zaken heeft vorige week in een van de Moskoue communicaties met belangstelling een passage over „culturele uitwisseling” gelezen, en denkt dat daar misschien de sleutel ligt voor meer contact tussen de Sovjet-Oeigoeren en de zes miljoen in China.

Minamjhan Abdrazjanov, plaatsvervangend hoofdredacteur van de Oeigoerse krant Kommunist Toedi, meent echter dat het voorshands nog wel meevalt met de uitstapjes over en weer. „Daarvoor moet je een uitnodiging hebben, en dat loopt allemaal via de ministeries van buitenlandse zaken in Moskou en Peking”, legt hij uit. Toch heeft ook hij onlangs een collega van de andere kant gesproken.

De Oeigoeren vormen slechts een van de vele Centraalaziatische volkeren die door de oude rivaliteit tussen het Chinese en het Russische rijk aan beide kanten van de grens terecht zijn gekomen. Bij de volkstelling van 1959 bedroeg het aantal Oeigoeren in de USSR slechts 95.000. Maar in de jaren van de Chinese

„Grote Sprong Voorwaarts” vluchtten tienduizenden Oeigoeren voor de Handdrukking naar de Sovjet-Unie, over wat toen nog de „vriendschapsgrens” genoemd werd. In 1970 waren er in de Sovjet-Unie 173.000 Oeigoeren, een toename van 82,1 procent.

Na de breuk tussen Moskou en Peking ging de grens hermeets dicht. „Toen wist er gemiddeld nog maar eentje per jaar hiernaartoe te komen”, vertelt een Oeigoerse functionaris in Alma Ata. Die ene werd in de Sovjet-Oeigoerse pers dan uitvoerig geïnterviewd, om de lezers ervan te overtuigen hoe goed ze het hadden.

Ook de nieuwe onderdrukking in Xinjiang tijdens de Culturele Revolutie werd in die pers breed uitgemeten. De propagandaoorlog echoot nog na in de opmerking van een jonge Oeigoer op de markt van Alma Ata „dat de Chinezen al onze architectuur hebben vernield”. Warn de Oeigoeren zijn een van de weinige niet-nomadische volkeren in dit gebied en zijn daar trots op.

Vanuit China werden de Sovjet-Oeigoeren destijds bestookt met vele uren radiopropaganda per dag. „Daar werd weinig naar geluisterd, het was zulke domme propaganda, na een of twee keer wisten de mensen het wel”, herinnert een Oeigoer-functionaris zich. Maar deze wetenschap weghield de Sovjet-zijde er niet van om de Chinese uitzendingen te storen en van haar kant ook een bijdrage te leveren met vele uren in het Oeigoers, waarin het geluk en de welvaart der Sovjet-Oeigoeren

225



van voSksgenoten in China

bcurde o^dndcr^bn^C H^{ong}Cn¹ Dal &^{cr}
Sovjci-scbied o^d CrC mel cen op
station? dat Do¹ S⁷ Aⁿ0 Crd radio¹
Tockrest in Skm van Oost-voor Vini e⁵n, andre
benaming
Tuk a¹s) hecllc¹Cn dc in
Xmhno k r^{CC}n rcbelle¹nstation in Ainjang zelf
te zjn.

zaam om over de Oejgoern aan gene zijde van de grens te spreken, sinds Moskou en Peking weer in gesprek zijn geraakt. „Ons vaderland is hier”, zegt een oude Oejgoerse boer op de markt van Alma Ata, die overigens als jongen heeft meegeholpen Polen te bevrijden en ook Stalingrad en Kiev heeft gezien.

hervormingen in China bedoeld wordt.

Vinnig

Verdwencn is de propaganda-oorlog van wcleer. Volgens bronnen in Alma Ata kijken veel Sovjct-Oejgoeren in de grensstreek naar de Chinese films met Oejgoerse ondertitels op de televisie van Xinjang, maar de Oejgoerse radiouitzendingen in de USSR vinden nu voornamelijk op de fm plaats, zodat er geen onnodige uitstraling naar vreemd territorium plaatsvindt.

Al zijn de Sovjct-Oejgoeren nog steeds aanzienlijk welvarender dan de Xinjang-Oejgoeren, voor de Oejgoerse boer op de markt van Alma Ata is, bewust of onbewust, het ontbreken van zelfstandigheid en een vrije markt aan Sovjet-zijde een dagelijkse realiteit.

Op vinnige toon begeeft de Polen-bevrijder zich in een discussie met een passerende Tataar, die hem van „speculate” beschuldigt. „Dat zijn niet alleen maar je eigen aardappelen”, zegt de Tataar, doelend op de bepalingen in de marktwetgeving, die een boer verbieden om andere producten dan die van zijn bescheiden lapje grond te koop aan te bieden. En als een buitenlandse toerist op de markt een foto van hem wil maken, verkeert de Oejgoerse boer aanvankelijk eveneens in de veronderstelling dat het gaat om iemand van de politie, die hem als speculant het leven zuur wil maken.

Twintig kinderen

Ais volk gins het de Sovjct-Oejgoeren in dezelfde jaren daad-

Tn¹«clj;k voor de wind¹ Tussen 19/0 en 1979 nam hun aantal nu dankzij natuurlijk aanwas, met 22 procent toe. Want de Oejgoeren hebben met vele andere Aziatische volken in de USSR een geboortexplosie gemeen. „Ik heb al negen kinderen maar ik ga nog door”, vertelt een Oejgoerse boerin op de markt geamuseerd. Nog drie denkt ze, dan is het welletjes wat haar betreft. ofschoon er in haar dorp in de grensstreek heel wat gezinnen zijn met twintig kinderen.

Bij de volkstelling van 1979 gaf 86,1 van de Sovjct-Oejgoeren het Oejgoers als eerste taal op. de kennis van het Russisch als tweede taal stee van 35,6 procent in 1970 tot 52,1 in 1979. In Alma Ata staat een Oejgoers staatsrecht Do krant Kommocnism Toedi wordt als een van de „em>ge *!*) tionale kranten in de USBk niet in Cyrillisch, maar in Arabisch

In Kazachstan — de republiek heeft 2600 kilometer grens met China — heeft men zich al enige tijd voorbereid op de vorige week overeengekomen uitbreiding van de Sovjct-Chinese handel, vertelt de voorzitter van het staatsplanbureau in Alma Ata. Aan de grens zijn nieuwe garages voor vrachtauto's gebouwd, alsmede een hotel en woonhuizen.

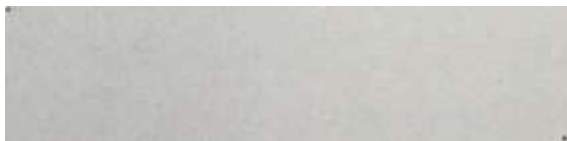
Maar die contacten lopen via Moskou en tekenend voor de nieuwe situatie van de Sovjet-Oejgoeren is, dat zij — voor zover dat in Alma Ata valt na te gaan — onkundig zijn van de recente vrijheden voor de Oejgoerse boeren in Xinjang, die nu op grote schaal in de gelegenheid worden gesteld zelfstandig voor de vrije markt te produceren.

„Wij doen niet aan inmenging in interne Chinese aangelegenheden”, zegt de redacteur van Kommocnism Toedi op de vraag of hij veel aandacht besteedt aan de nieuwe economische politiek in China. Op aandringen van een functionaris naast hem zegt hij dat de krant misschien wat „centrale materialen van Tass” heeft gepubliceerd, daarbij overigens de indruk wekkend niet precies te weten wat er met economische

«c jaren hebben zich
Pier in de international con-

VJVI

ter c



CHINA'S MUSLIMS RETURN TO MOSQUES

By John E. Woodruff
Peking Bureau of The Sun

KASHGAR, China — Sflay Da gjoua Buddhists. Catholics and Prats-
Mullah sat cross-legged on a broad estants all were hounded, and toot
portico as windblown mulberries ! control of their places of worship.

gently thudded onto a rattan roof and he counted off the rights Xin-
jiang province's Uighure and other Muslim people. They have
regained the cultural revolution:

□ Mullahs, the religious leaders of the province's thousands of mosques, are no longer Jailed or forbidden to preach.

□ Copies of the Koran, the Muslim bible. are no longer routinely confiscated or burned cm the spot by rampaging teenagers.

□ Mosques that had been turned into schools, factories and storehouses are now back in the hands of the religious. Some congregations have received payments for the decade or more that they were thrown out of their mosques..

Growing numbers of Xinjiang Muslims are being permitted — and finding the means — to make the pilgrimage to Mecca, some 2,500 miles southwest of China's farthest western city.

Stlay Da Mullah himself was **W**hen some 400 Muslims from Xinjiang were permitted to make (pilgrimage) to Saudi Arabia — nominally required of all Muslims at least once in their lifetimes — in 1962, as China began to open the door to the pilgrims. Last year, the number grew to 1,200.

But the religious repression of the Cultural Revolution years fell especially heavily on Muslim people all over China, and it has left scars that seem to heal only slowly here and elsewhere.

Mullahs in many places spent years in Jail. Dozens in this city spent a year or two in labor "schools" and two were confined for more than 10 years, Stlay Da Mullah said in an interview last month.

"These are serious questions from history, and we have been careful not to investigate or ask too many questions about them." the mullah said, when asked how many Muslim xehglous leaders in Kashgar were beaten by Red Guards or by their keepers during confinement

Hundreds of thousands of China's Muslim households were visited by Red Guards who ransacked their houses, confiscating or burning the JCoren and carting off any reUgtous objects that could not be thahoycd on the aset in many places, oven taken, because Muakma

• them far their dally prefers.

r--n* nr**** «<> *>>! ""
faced across China was of * p*«* with that inflicted on all of the reU-

many of which were destroyed or

covering steadOy.tn recent years as the Communist Party seeks to Thoroughly negate the Qiltura] Revolution.' but in Xinjiang, the recovery la

colored by special conditions.

Like Buddhism in Tibet Mam in Xinjiang has the special flavor aaso-' dated with the non-Chinese peoples

who practice ft.

The dominant people here in China's remote western deserts are the Uighure. a Turkish-speaking and Turkish-looking minority who have more in common with their Mediterranean cousins than with the Han Chinese. The Chinese write in different characters, eat different foods, wear different clothing, have different marriage and child-rearing customs, and look and think more like East Aslans and less like the Middle Easterners who are the sources of Uighur culture.

Stlay Da Mullah made a point of mentioning that most of the Red Guard teenagers who came to his house on several occasions to confiscate his Koran* and warn against religion were themselves fellow Uighurs.

But other Uighure. interviewed out of the hearing of Chinese officials, express a resentful awareness that the Cultural Revolution was a Chinese affair. that the religions of minority nationalities like the Uighurs and the Tibetans became its victims only by the coincidence that China controls the lands where they live.

I've did not question the fact that China owns Xiqjtang." oot elderly gjgantc holiday ^therlngs that now school teacher said as he klbbttzed bring as many as 20,000 or 30,000 at a curbside checkers game. Tkit -worshippers to the mosque and the now Jhe Chinese themselves my mrceta around It - ibqLJggTr. wrong ^4P\$twethuy. I Koran*, unlike Christian bfbles, -end they apologise for the tramfe be Imported from outside China.

7-Met P

..... ..*

f Tf It's permitted to attend mosque 'In 1985" a vendor asked as he arranged daggers at a market stall, "then why did they tear apart the mosques and spit on the mullahs In 19667 What did our mullahs have to do with Liu Shao gi and all the politicians Mao hated? Now, how can they come around and tell us everything Is all rightT"

For China, this residue of bitterness spotted across the desert ddes of the ancient Silk Road Is more than Juat a problem of placating a religious or ethnic minority.

Xinjiang's oases have long been centers of international as well as domestic tension. For centuries, Chinese and Russian rulers have used the ethnic minorities that live on both sides of their 2,000-mile border as means to Intrigue against each other's control of remote frontier territories. As recently as the 1930s. a Russian-sponsored splinter group briefly controlled Xinjiang. As recently as 1969, Chinese and Soviet troops clashed on the border here.

The Communist Party takes the question of religious rights in Xinjiang very seriously" a provincial government representative said during a one-week visit by an American correspondent based more than 2,000 miles away in Peking, the national capital.

Religious practices of Muslims, as of other faiths in China, are all "under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party," now that they are being revived.

But Muslims have some privileges that other faiths, particularly Christians, are not given.

They can, for example, have the help of their co-religionists outside China, a privilege strictly denied to both Catholic and Protestant Christians.

So Sflay Da Mullah's mosque, the main Friday mosque in the center of Kashgar, was able to accept a \$15,0^0 cash donation last year from an Arab visitor. The first \$10,000 went to buy new prayer parts of the mosque, especially the loudspeaker system that carries the

that imam's words to the faithful during China owns Xiqjtang." oot elderly gjgantc holiday ^therlngs that now school teacher said as he klbbttzed bring as many as 20,000 or 30,000 at a curbside checkers game. Tkit -worshippers to the mosque and the now Jhe Chinese themselves my mrceta around It - ibqLJggTr. wrong ^4P\$twethuy. I Koran*, unlike Christian bfbles, -end they apologise for the tramfe be Imported from outside China.

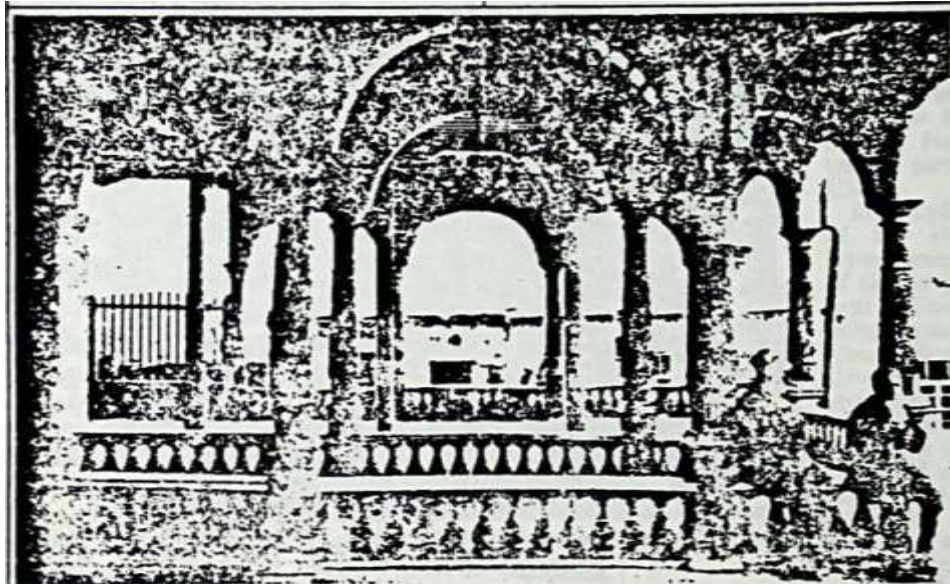
Bdsy Da Mulsh said. He pointed to a Korea on the portico, opposite where -" -we was Wtting. and said It had been brought from p. There are Kerens printed in now. Iso." be added. In MbaL Christians and Muslims are ^treated equally — Shanghai is f- noat Chinese btbfes ere

ASIA - THE UNEASY PEACE IN CHINA'S OIL PROVINCE
Munich, July 11 - (CND) - following appeared In
THE BUSINESS WEEK, JULY 15, 1985

A young musician blows scratchy notes on a tarnished saxophone. His features identify him as Uighur (pronounced WEE-gur), a member of the Central Asian people who once ran this part of the world. Next to him a tall Han Chinese strums a riwapu, a central Asian banjo. Dangling Christmas tree lights cast green and red hues across the faces of dancers moving clockwise around the crowded floor. The local Communist Party secretary, a bald

Han Chinese, who now run this region.

More than 80 years after its Communist takeover, Xinjiang remains one of the poorest areas of China. Since it took charge in 1949, Beijing has pumped little money into the region. The government spent \$500 million to subsidize the area's industry in 1984, but Xinjiang's infrastructure remains so feeble that factories can't get enough oil even though producing fields lie only a few hundred miles away. Most Han Chinese still



THI CHINESE WORK HARD TO OIYE THE IMPRESSION THAT UIGHUR I HAVE RQUAL STATUS

Han Chinese, tangoes with a scowling Chinese girl. A somber Uighur girl, with her hair in long Toily braids, is pushed around the floor by a mustachioed Central Asian.

The Friday night dance put on by the Karamay Oil Dept, for its employees— most of the population of this oil town in China's 'Wild West'—is in full swing. Although dancing parties are not common, the scene otherwise typifies life here in what Beijing calls the Semi- Autonomous Xinjiang Uighur Region, in the northwest corner of China along the Soviet border. Han Chinese colonizers, shipped in from the east over the past four decades, live side by side with the Uighur, Kazak, and other non-Chinese people who make up 60% of the population. At the party, everyone seems to get along pretty well. But make no mistake: The guests are here only by invitation of the

dream of going home to more civilized cities such as Tianjin and Shanghai. And the non-Chinese can only follow instructions from Beijing and hope their age-old customs will somehow fit into the Communist state plan.

MUTTON AND BAOCLS. Hardship has made Xinjiang's Han Chinese more open to strangers than people tend to be in more cosmopolitan eastern China. A middle-aged man pushing his bicycle in the capital city of Urumqi invites me into his home for a cup of tea. He was sent to Xinjiang with the army 20 years ago to work as an engineer at Lop Nor, China's mysterious nuclear test site. His wife is with him, but his five-year-old son is in faraway Tianjin with grandparents. "I still think of home often," he sighs. "But I live here now."

Years of propaganda about Communist equality and friendship have not translated into reality in Xinjiang. The

Han Chinese tend to look down on the Uighurs and disdain their customs and Xiang customs. Many Chinese abhor the Uighurs and bagels.

Si Mayi, by their Moslem upon. The Uighurs have lower status than Chinese journalist admits. China has been so closed that their brains have developed more slowly than the Han Chinese people's." Han Chinese in Urumqi avoid Uighur sections of town such as Erdaoqiao, the thriving marketplace.

The market's chaotic vitality and color are a far cry from Beijing's drab, state-run stores. The Uighurs are natural merchants. Donkey-drawn carts piled with melons, Middle Eastern spices, and brightly patterned rugs cram the muddy street. A beggar boy's song drifts through the market as merchants haggle cheerfully with customers. A shish kebab salesman, hawking his spicy wares, asks if I am Russian. When he realizes I am an American, he gives a thumbs-up sign of approval. Nearly half a million Uighurs live in Urumqi, making up 40% of its population. Many live along alleys where dirt-smeared children play and an occasional sheep wanders by. Unlike the Chinese, who seldom wear jewelry or colorful clothes, Uighur girls don fake ruby earrings and bright bandanas. Old men in black cossack boots and mink-rimmed prayer hats talk outside mosques. Wives, in drab skirts and lumpy brown stockings, do their wash in the alleys. Their tiny, two-room houses are usually dimly lit and equipped with a table, a stove, and a platform that serves as bed and sofa. But rich Asian rugs pad the walls and platform.

Xinjiang's minorities have not taken kindly to Chinese control. Only years ago, in the ancient town of Kashgar, on the Soviet border, a fight between Han Chinese and Uighurs flared into a full-fledged riot fought with stones and knives. The political instability is particularly painful to Beijing because of Xinjiang's proximity to the Soviet Union. Says one China expert based in Hong Kong: "Xinjiang is a powder-keg. It could blow at any time."

As recently as 1979, a group of Uighurs fought to set up a separate Turkistan state. "Everything was tense," recalls Xia RL, deputy director of Xinjiang's economic research center. "If a Uighur was hit by a car, it became a major incident." According to Chinese in Urumqi, Wang Feng, Xinjiang's party secretary at the time, was not strong enough to control the military and quell the destructive "class struggle" of the Cultural Revolution. That upheaval was especially hard on Xinjiang's Moslems: All the mosques were closed, and Uighurs worshiped secretly at home.

The southern part of Xinjiang remains the most resistant to the Chinese presence. Nomadic Uighurs who have been forced to farm since "liberation" resent the Chinese bitterly. "They wouldn't even spy on a Han Chinese," says Colin A. Rees, a British oil expert working in Xinjiang's Taklimakan desert, which is said to be sitting on one of the world's largest untapped pools of oil. Few Chinese live in the sparsely populated desert region, adds Rees, but each village has a Chinese public security bureau and a contingent of Chinese soldiers stationed there.

SMOKING A JOINT. The Taklimakan desert is so remote that Western oilmen send a local ahead to warn villagers that strange-looking aliens are on the way. To make peace, the foreigners sit and smoke a joint with the Uighurs, who grow fields of marijuana mostly for their own consumption.

In the past few years, the government



has relaxed some of its more repressive policies, easing political and ethnic tensions. Written minority languages, along with Chinese, are once again taught in the schools, and the mosques have reopened. The Chinese work hard to give the impression that Uighurs have equal status. Although in every work unit, the party secretary—the No. 1 leader—is Han Chinese, the manager is usually a minority member. The same "equality" carries over into government: Wang En Mao, a Han Chinese, is Xinjiang's party secretary. But Xinjiang's chairman, Si Mayi, is a Uighur.

Many Uighurs take a pragmatic approach to politics these days. As long as they can worship, honor their customs, and make money, they shrug at politics. Commerce lies at the heart of Kashgar, which is Uighur. A rug merchant in town proudly shows off his two-story wooden house. He built it two years ago for \$3,500, a small fortune anywhere in China. Where did he get so much money? He sold his old Xinjiang rugs to Chinese buyers from Beijing.

BY DORINDA ELLIOTT
Hong Kong Correspondent Elliott is one of the few U. S. journalists to visit Xinjiang.

,Ux.

y»llv
oodi

The fable has it that Hong Kong is a three-legged stool with its legs in London, Peking and Hong Kong. If one leg is removed, it must topple. Britain relinquishes sovereignty over Hong Kong, after 156 years, in 1997. Meanwhile, one of the world's greatest socio-economic experiments is being attempted.

The world's most populous nation - which so recently emerged from an uncompromising search for fundamentalism under the Cultural Revolution - is to absorb the place which has taken to describing itself as "the bastion of free enterprise".

It is to do so while guaranteeing that the "essential freedoms" of Hong Kong continue for at least 50 years after it regains full authority.

For its part, China is displaying every willingness to embrace much of the lifestyle the people of Hong Kong cherish.

It goes far deeper than the "open door" economic policies of today's Chinese leadership, which is encouraging western industries to bring in their capital and, more important, their technologies.

Anyone who visits Shanghai, as I did recently, finds ordinary people fascinated by Hong Kong and eager to extract any information about what it is like.

For Hong Kong people, the situation is entirely different. They feel that they know and understand China much better than the rest of the world.

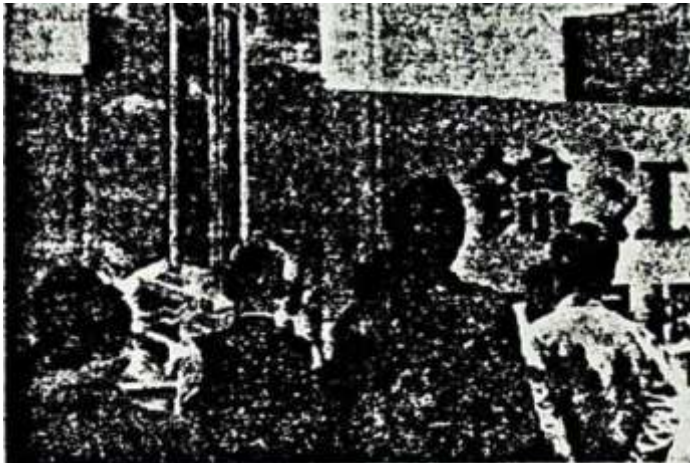
For many of the Hong Kong businessmen who were in Shanghai last month as part of the Hong Kong economic and trade mission, it was yet another homecoming. They, or their parents, forsook Shanghai when the Communists took power in 1949. They translated their business experience into thriving industries which have put Hong Kong among the world's top 20 trading communities.

When I met Mr Francis Tien at his hotel, he was taking tea with an old school friend, gossiping and joking in the way that old acquaintances do when they meet only occasionally during almost 40 years.

Dr the Hon Francis Y Tien, OBE, LL.D. (Hon), D.S.O.S.C. (Hon), FRCSE (Hon), FCFI, FHKIE, JP, has been honoured repeatedly by Britain, particularly for his commitment to promoting trade and encouraging vacations! training, and as a member of Hong Kong's legislative council. But he is known worldwide as "Mr Trousers".

China embraces the Hong Kong lifestyle with enthusiasm

By John Lawless



Wall potters in Shanghai tell citizens about the city's latest luxury hotel development

"I left Shanghai in 1947 and went to the UK," he says. "The original intention was to come back to my job as a mechanical engineer in a generating station when of the Shanghai Power Company, dealing with steam turbines." He had been studying at Trafford Park, Manchester, and found himself back in Hong Kong when China went communist.

He introduced revolutionary techniques for cutting and making trousers only - working on the principle that he could compete with more experienced manufacturers, specialized in trousers because "you can go topless in life, as a man or woman, but you cannot do bottomless".

His company, Manhattan Garments, now produces 6,000,000 pairs of trousers a year and Tien was given a civic welcome back to Shanghai last month as one of three leaders of the mission. It brought with it 90 manufacturers, from all of Hong Kong's major industries, and could

'Soviet-built exhibition centre been more accommodating.

Mr Tien recognizes that Hong Kong faces some stiff challenges. For all its proclaimed worldliness and business sophistication - its 5.5 billion-plus - are the ones who will have to gradually learn about electoral freedoms. For the first time, there will be a vote for the members of the Legislative Council, the law-making body. Others, among them the Governor, Sir Edward Youde, acknowledge that Hong Kong is also undergoing particularly its civil service, a process of "China-ization" within its own ranks. The agreement, he points out, rays that Hong Kong has a chief executive drawn from among the Hong Kong people.

Beijings about to change the Skyline again when the Bank of China (BoQ) builds itself a 72-storey Hong Kong headquarters, for US\$260 million. It is the almost-finished expensive Hong Kong

Bank Group's new head office by 31. storeys.

But it is welcomed as another -diin*of communist determination to keep Hong Kong the world's third most important financial centre, prosperous.

It is estimated that, in the past four years, China has invested US\$5 billion in Hong Kong

The range is remarkable. At Days Bay, the Guangdong Nuclear Investment Company, a Hong Kong-China * Joint venture, h to build a US\$3.5 billion power plant

Hong Kong will take most of .the electricity produced, just as it already gets 44 per cent of its fresh water, 45 per cent of imported foodstuffs and 33 per cent of bought-in consumer goods from China.

Figures to be released shortly will show that China has just become Hong Kong's biggest trading partner, overtaking the US.

Miss Lydia Dunn, chairman of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and one of the territory's most prominent politicians,* who is now being tipped as a candidate for Hong Kong's first Chinese Governor, says that China accounted for 8.9 per cent of the colony's total trade in 1977.

"In the seven years after it embarked on the four modernization programmes China's proportion of Hong Kong's total trade expanded steadily to 21.4 per cent in 1984."

Miss Dunn adds: "China finally pulled ahead of the US in January and February, with a 25.4 share, considerably larger than the US share of 20.6 per cent."

The response to the Shanghai exhibition - where the emphasis was on displaying machinery and not China's billion-plus - are the ones who can make goods, gather and trying to aell the goods themselves - was said to be equally impressive.

Some Chinese economists believe, however, that in the long-term, even Hong Kong's exceptional air and sea facilities, and its financial, light manufacturing and trading expertise, will not sustain a process of involvement throughout China.

within its own it would become the important centre for southern China, while other coastal cities now being opened up would largely be the preserve of foreign multi-nationals.

Yangtse river).

ASIA - MR HOSHBAR'S SOCIALISM

Munich, July 19 (CND) - following appeared In
THE ECONOMIST, JULY 20, 1985

mOMAΘOMWΘMOACBffWUHUMa .t*:- ; b-y."> .c,,Ur

. The word from Peking to go easy on ^Gnjiang's capital, Urumqi, with his econorak reforms has not made much nomics degree 26 years ago. He chuckles impact on Xinjiang, the vast region in at the suggestion that, on the expiry of •the far west of China. Most of Xinjiang's land contracts of 15-30 years between the -population of 30m are Uighurs, Kazakhs farmers and die state, the government and other Moslems, practical people might try to reclaim the land and its | more interested in the land on which ' animals. Only if die fanner leaves the l they graze their animals than in econom- area must he hand bade die land.

* ic theory. Up in the cool meadows away from *
| Farty officials obediently repeat the the capital, in the shadow of the Tian-
! dogma that all "means of production", than mountains, Mr Hoshbar, a Kazakh '
including land, still belong to the state, herdsman, stands outside his yurt, the
even though under the "responsibility" round felt tent be shares with his wife '
system individual families have the right - and eight children. (Kazakhs, like others '
* to decide how best to use die land. But 'of China's minorities, can have more . they
do not say it with conviction. In than ooe child.) Scratching his bead, he
Xinjiang the line between state and pri- explains that to him socialism means that
■vatc ownership is fading fast. . after a bad winter the state will replace
According to Mr Xie Haiping, a direc- ' animals that have died and then let
him tor of Xinjiang's economic research cen- ..off the taxes he would otherwise
pay tre, tracts of land, which are often huge when be sells his stock in the
autumn.

¹ in this horse, cattle, sheep and camel Last year Mr Hoshbar made 500 yuan
country, can be handed OD to the next ' (about 5174 at the official exchange
neration and even leased to another rate), 300 of them at riding displays for
ly. "Rent", once a taboo word in tourists farther up the valley. As for his
.. China because of its feudal associations, two bones, five cows and 20 sheep, he is
is used freely. m no doubt: "The state gave them to me,
Mr Xie came from south China to and they're mine."

1245/85

China plans train link with Soviets along ancient 'silk road'

PEKING, Wed. (Rtr)

CHINESE goods may once again flow to Europe along the ancient desert 'silk road' through Soviet Central Asia, but by train instead of camel, the *China Daily* reported today.

China is planning to build a rail line to link up with the Soviet system across the border of China's remote north-western Xinjiang region, in the latest sign that the tensions between

the two communist neighbours are easing, the paper said.

It said Xinjiang had just opened a third post for cross-border trade with the Soviet Union, at Tacheng in the north west of the province, which has been sealed since the Sino-Soviet dispute became intense 20 years ago.

"Our drive to open up to the outside world will be directed to the West," the paper quoted a senior

regional government official, Niu Qiyi, as saying.

He said the Soviet Union wanted Xinjiang's light industrial goods. "At least 15 million sheep are needed by the Islamic countries in the Mid-east every year," he added.

Local officials said they now hoped to trade overland with Eastern and Western Europe and the Mid-east.

So far China and the Soviet Union

have a rail link across their borders only in the extreme east at the frontier of Heilongjiang and Siberia. Another line joins the two across Mongolia.

Peking and Moscow last week clinched a \$14 billion five-year trade pact, signalling a major increase in their economic relations, although their political ties are still abnormal.

The long closure of the local border

with the Soviet Union was a hardship to many of Xinjiang's Turkic-speaking Uighur, Kazakh and other people who have relatives in and links with the Soviet Central Asian Republics.

The region is also upgrading its highway across the border with Pakistan, which will be able to carry 30-tonne trucks next year, *China Daily* said. So far one border town is open to trade with Pakistan.

s'. <c / % . 1 . i 9 n r

Hu bid to develop Sinkiang

PEKING, Aug. 18 (AFP) — Communist Party boss Hu Yaobang has announced preferential conditions for foreign investments in the remote, mineral-rich northwestern region of Sinkiang, to open it up to the outside world.

He urged all nationalities there to work together to make it one of China's most powerful economic centers, New China News Agency (NCNA) said yesterday.

Ethnic Chinese make up less than half the 13.81 million people in the economically backward autonomous region, three times the size of France.

The party general secretary "called for opening Sinkiang still wider to the rest of the country on the one hand and to the rest of the world on the other," NCNA said. He had visited the region in late July and early August.

"Preferential terms within the framework of unified state policies will be granted to foreign investors," Hu had said on his third visit to Sinkiang since 1957.

He said the province still had "a good way to go," before reaching the level of prosperity of the more developed regions in eastern China.

NCNA said that during his second visit there in 1983, the party chief had stressed Sinkiang's economic potential, along with the whole of northwestern China, and predicted the area would take off economically at the end of the century.

The ethnically Turkish Uighurs are the most numerous of Sinkiang's 40 nationalities at 5.95 million, while 5.3 million ethnic Chinese Hans live there.

The province is undeveloped despite abundant natural resources such as oil, natural gas and coal which are not exploited because of lack of money and technical and human resources.

9.8. 1985 - A.M.

)
a. 73

chin **A** se ww

woos investments

PEKING, Sun. (AFP)

COMMUNIST party boss Hu Yaobang has announced preferential condition for foreign investments in the remote, mineral-rich north western region of Sinkiang, to open it up to the outside world.

He urged all nationalities there to work together to make it one of China's most powerful economic centres, New China News Agency (NCNA) said yesterday.

Ethnic Chinese make up less than half the 13.81 million people in the economically backward autonomous region, three times the size of France.

The party general secretary "called for opening Sinkiang still wider to the rest of the country on the one hand and to the rest of the world on the other," NCNA said. He had visited the region in late July and early August.

"Preferential terms within the framework of unified state policies will be granted to foreign investors," Hu had said on his third visit to Sinkiang since 1937.

He said the province still had "a good way to go," before reaching the level of prosperity of the more developed regions in eastern China.

NCNA said that during his second visit there in 1983, the party chief had stressed Sinkiang's economic potential, along with the whole of north western China, and predicted the area would take off economically at the end of the century.

The ethnically Turkish Uighurs are the most numerous of Sinkiang's 40 nationalities at 5.95 million, while 3.3 million ethnic Chinese Hans live there.

The province is undeveloped despite abundant natural resources such as oil, natural gas and coal which are not exploited because of lack of money and technical and human resources.

The region borders the Soviet Union, Mongolia, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Meanwhile, *The People's Daily* has accused rural party officials of "telling lies" that exaggerate the living standards of peasants, who, it said, barely make enough money to survive.



Hu Yaobang



ASIA - CHINA'S WESTERNMOST CITY A FORLORN BUT STRATEGIC OUTPOST

BY JIM HANN LOS
ANGELES TIMES

KASHI, CHINA. JULY 22 - FOR THOSE AMERICANS WHO DREAM OF GETTING AWAY FROM THE CROWDS AND TO THE OTHER END OF THE WORLD, KASHI MAY BE THE PLACE.

THE
WORLD'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN RANGES, THE PAMIRS, AND ONE OF ITS MOST FORBIDDING DESERTS. THE TAKLIMAKAN.

THERE ARE NO RAIL LINES HERE. THE TAXIS ARE HORSE-DRAWN CARTS. THERE IS NO MCDONALD'S. EITHER, AND THE MAIN TOURIST ATTRACTION IS THE TOMB OF A LOCAL GIRL WHO MADE GOOD - LUE-EAVORITE -CONCUBINE -OF A 16TH-CENTURY_EHPERPR. THE LOCAL AIRSTRIP IS SURROUNDED ONLY BY THREE APHTTtrSTAmj5 TWtrI* COUPLE OF DONKEYS BRAYING ON THE SAND.

FOR CENTURIES. KASHI WAS A CITY OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE, ONE OF THE MAIN STOPPING POINTS ON THE SILK ROAD CARRYING TRADE BETWEEN CHINA AND WESTERN EUROPE. THAT ERA ENDED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEA ROUTES TO EUROPE.

NOW, IN A DIFFERENT WAY, KASHI SEEMS TO BE A STRATEGIC LOCATION AGAIN. WITHIN 200 MILES OF KASHI. A&JL CHINA'S BORDERS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. PAKTSTCrTr AND 'VAUATffITrfIPb H AN IS T AN.

TRAVEL OUTSIDE KASHI IS STRICTLY REGULATED. THE KARAKORAM ROAD, WHICH RUNS THROUGH SNOW-CAPPED PEAKS FROM KASHI SOUTH TO PAKISTAN.

HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR YEARS TO EVERYONE-EXCEPT CHINESE AND PAKISTANI NATIONALS.

OFFICIALS OF BOTH COUNTRIES SAY THAT THEY HOPE THE ROAD WILL BE OPENED TO THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS LATER THIS YEAR. BUT FOR NOW, THE CHINESE FINE "TOURISTS WHO TRr TO CEEVE RUSH! BY-ROAD. AND PAKISTANI OFFICIALS IN PEKING WILL NOT ISSUE VISAS TO FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WHO ASK TO CROSS THE BORDER.

«WE KNOW MANY OF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TRAVEL ACROSS THIS ROAD," A PAKISTANI DIPLOMAT IN CHINA TOLD ONE CORRESPONDENT THE OTHER DAY.

•AND WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO BE ABLE TO GO. SO THAT YOU CAN SEE THAT THERE ARE NO ARMS MOVING ALONG THIS ROAD. BUT WE ARE NOT SUITE READY YET. "

CHINA HAS DENIED SOVIET ACCUSATIONS THAT IT PROVIDES ARMS AND TRAINING FOR AFGHAN GUERRILLA GROUPS, BUT A MOUNTAINEER WHO RECENTLY CLIMBED ONE OF THE PEAKS SOUTH OF KASHI TOLD THE Lff§ ANGELES TIMES HE COULD SEE CHINESE MILITARY VEHICLES MOVING SOUTH ALONG THE KARAKORAM

R06D\$T?TC

NESE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY IS LESS OBVIOUS IN KASHI, THE ONLY TOWN OF NOTE NEAR THE BORDER AREA, THAN IT IS IN URUMQI, THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL 700 MILES TO THE EAST-NORTHEAST.

AND ON THE WHOLE, DESPITE ITS LOCATION, KASHI IS STILL A FORLORN AND SLEEPY PLACE.

THE SOVIET CONSULATE, WHICH CHINA CLOSED IN 1962, HAS BEEN TURNED INTO THE KASHI OLD JidiEL, AN ESTABLISHMENT TMffTTfTCTNEVER MAKE THE MICHELIN IUUKIS'rStrfDES?

A CENTURY AGO, THE CONSULATE HAS THE SCENE OF MUCH INTRIGUE AS RUSSIAN AND BRITISH OFFICIALS-VIED FOR INFLUENCE IN CENTRA ASIA. NOW, THE NEARLY EMPTY -HOTEL IS OCCUPIED BY A HANDFUL OF TOURISTS, VISITING COMMUNIST PARTY CADRES AND WHAT MAY WELL BE CHINA'S LARGEST SPECIES OF COCKROACH - A TWO-INCH-LONG CREATURE THAT LOOKS LIKE AN ARMADILLO:

LIFE IN KASHI IS INDEFINITE. NO ONE KNOWS WHEN THE WIND BLOWING ACROSS THE TAKLIMAKAN DESERT WILL GATHER ENOUGH STRENGTH TO KICK UP A SANDSTORM, TURNING THE SKY TO A HAZY YELLOWISH-BROWN. WHEN THAT HAPPENS, THE SINGLE DAILY ROUNDTRIP FLIGHT TO URUMQI - THE PLANE IS A

SOVIET ANTONOV 24 - IS CANCELED, AND THE APRICOT SELLERS PACK UP FOR HOME. (PTO)

AC137

ASIA - (1) CHINA'Q uce?^JfiRE

22-JUL-85 21 :14

NA S WESTERNMOST CITY A FORLORN BUT STRATEGIC OUTPOST

UNPOPULAR SECOND LANGUAGE. THE CYRILLIC INFLUENCE OF THE BUILDINGS TESTIFIES TO THE RUSSIAN ENGLISH. RESIDENTS ARE BEGINNING TO STRUGGLE WITH

CELEBRATION, A CITY OFFICIAL POINTED TO A "HE IS THE BRIDE."

CONTAINS TWO STRUCTURES OF NOTE. ONE IS A TAI I A2U ISOLATE CHAIRHAN MAO TSE-TUNG. IT IS AT LEAST 25 FEET CACT' ?S D JOWER S OVER MUCH OF THE REST OF THE CITY. IT FACES ~NOT cniAcn, i SACUSTOMARY » BUT WEST. PRESUMABLY TO EMPHASIZE HIS SUPPOSEDLY STRONG FEELINGS FOR CHINA'S WESTERN FRONTIERS. . AnfJbE 2IHER NOTEWORTHY BUILDFNG TS THE ID AL KAH MOSQUE. THE LARGEST MOSLEM PLACE OF WORSHIP IN CHINA. INSIDE THE MOSQUE. THE WHITE-BEARDED CHIEF IMAM, SALAr-JIArNOLA, 71, SAID PROUDLY THAT MORE THAN IO MOSLEMS FROM KASHIHRADE THE PILGRIMAGE THIS YEAR TO MECCA IN SAUDI ARABIA.

MAKING THE PILGRIMAGE BY THE KASHI ROUTE IS FAR FROM CERTAIN. A YEAR AGO, -400 TO 500 CHINESE-MOSLEMS.-ARRIVED IN PAKISTAN TOO LATE FOF THE SPECIAL FLIGHTS AND NEVER MADE IT TO MECCA.

BECAUSE MOST ORDINARY CHINESE ARE ALLOWED TO GO ABROAD JUST ONCE IN THEIR LIFETIME, MANY WHO MISSED THE FLIGHT DECIDED TO WAIT IN PAKISTAN AND MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE THIS YEAR. CHINESE RELIGIOUS OFFICIALS WERE SENT TO PAKISTAN TO PROMISE THE GROUP THAT THOSE WHO CAME HOME WOULD BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE A SECOND TIME, AND MOST OF THEM

RETURNED. uhLR£ LIFE CHANGES LITTLE, VIRTUALLY ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY CAN BE A SOURCE OF ENTERTAINMENT.

A FFU DAYS AGO, AT THE END OF A PERFORMANCE OF TRADITIONAL ASIAN DANCES, THE AUDIENCE WAS ASKED TO TAKE PART. ADRIAN HYLAND, A YOUNG AUSTRALIAN TRAVELING IN CHINA, ROSE AND JOINED THE REVELRY, H ABUS COLLECTING FOOTAGE FOR A SPECIAL PROGRAM ABOUT PROVINCE TO BE SHOWN THIS FALL.

WIGHT IN HIS HOTEL, HYLAND FOUND HIMSELF UNABLE TO SLEEP BECAUSE OF FLOUD NOISE IN THE NEXT ROOM. FINALLY, HE WENT OVER TO ASK

FOR grille UFRE ABOUT 30 PEOPLE IN THERE," HE SAID LATER, "SITTING IK TELEVISION SCREEN, WATCHING A RERUN OF MY DANCING AND

MSJS UPMMIOUSLI.-

Munich, August 26 - (CND) - following appeared in THE FAR

EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, AUGUST 29, 1985

By Nicholas Danziger In Kashgar

It was nothing short of a miracle that the party setting out from Gilgit in northern Pakistan suffered no more than lost vehicles and injuries on the three-day journey to Kashgar. We had all the ingredients for a disaster: tired drivers and vehicles in terrible mechanical shape attempting to negotiate the treacherous Karakoram or Friendship Highway in arctic conditions. This highway stretches from Pakistan to China over the 4,700-m high Khunjerab pass. Gas fires were kept burning inside the cabs and we survived on beans, dried fruits and tea. I crossed into Xinjiang in November, with the bi-annual Pakistan Government convoy which brings dried fruits, cigarettes and medicines to be bartered for oil lamps, quilts, herbs and local products. This crossing had never before been attempted in winter.

On my first day in Kashgar I awoke well before dawn to find the Xinjiang minority people, or Uighurs, sleeping on the dirt road, their donkeys and carts beside them, under a blanket of snow! They lay on the ground wearing nothing more than large sheepskin coats and hats and slept huddled together under sheepskin blankets. Even before sunrise a steady procession of donkey carts, horse carts and camels made its way towards the bazaar.

The people look similar to Afghans (some even have names testifying to their origin — Abdul Rahman "Afghani" Nur). Turks and peoples of the Mediterranean, and their language is full of words from Farsi, Turkish and even a few words of Dari, Arabic, English and Russian. Not only are their language and appearances quite different from the Han Chinese, but their way of life and food bear no similarities. The Sunday bazaar is an explosion of commercial activity with few Hans in sight. One can buy camels and carpets, hire artisans or eat kebab sprinkled with aromatic spices and skewered on bicycle spokes over hot charcoals. It is the Central Asia of another age, the 20th century having made little impact. However, all that is fast changing as the Han Chinese threaten to swamp the Uighurs by sheer numbers and transform their culture into folklore.

New-found freedoms have not changed the deep-rooted resentment

a Uighurs and other minorities — including Kazakhs, Kirghiz, Tajiks, Tartars and Uzbeks — of the Han Chinese. They regard the Han as foreigners and colonisers, and talk about them in the same way as the Afghans do about the Russians, referring to them as kafirs (infidels). They view everything

the Hans do with suspicion, even the new reforms, which allow minorities to trade for themselves on the free market. "This" says one Uighur "is because they don't provide jobs for us. ■ so we are eliminated from the job market."

To be sure, the government has elevated many Uighurs to the position of cadre simply to show, by way of statistics, China's policy of creating equality for the minorities. The positions of power are still held by Hans. Some Uighurs even harbour resentment against Chinese Muslims, the Hui, be-

cause they have adopted the Chinese language and script.

There is also friction between the Uighurs themselves. In the cities many send their children to Chinese rather than Uighur schools. There they learn the language of the coloniser, which is their only hope of climbing the social scale into the professional classes. This educated class — considered to be traitors by many Uighurs — view their people as backward and barbaric. The traditional Uighurs in turn find the Hans equally barbaric: in one Uighur restaurant I visited, a Han spat a bit <>! bone out onto the floor (something

Uighurs do themselves) eliciting cries of indignation: "Infidel!" "How dare you!" "Out! Out!" They were about to forcibly eject the man when the cook interceded

It is the steady influx of Han Chinese (estimates vary between 100,000 and 200,000 Han coming to Xinjiang every year) that poses the biggest threat, however; ever. The central government actively encourages Hans to move to the northwest to help develop the remote and undeveloped region by offering "hardship money," which in some cases is double the pay in other, non-minority, areas. It is not modernisation, as such, that

sssS-aSgsiSe

949 «heKc \c a λ0r i*ies. and Vcc us,nS
sheer wicght'of nCn Cnricd oul b> urcΛ speak for th?m f
■ Umbers. The fig. ^ars the pereemae'«? S^hc P»« ^
Population of vh!"Inn [Hans in ,hc *0 40.2% while th^
r^u r,sen *rom have dropped from 7? «yJ,JEhur, number's —
with Othor ■ 0lo Onl> 44.5%

thi'N'callTdU- h'e ^"ntvin i fheUie^hhe n°Ph^N Pa«o?

Xmjiang!

tifnV ? refer 10 Urum£ji. *he cap»-

al of the province, as Kafir city, due to ine Han s
overwhelming presence feight to one), whereas
cities with less Hans such as Kashgar and Yarkand
are referred to us ' clean cities."

There is little contact between Uighurs and
Hans. They eat in different restaurants, shop in
different places — Uighurs in the bazaar and at stalls.
Hans ! at non-descripl department stores. At the
theatre in Kashgar, during an evening of minority
song and dance, there was not a single Han to be
seen. All films, on the other hand, even the few
movies about Uighur life, are dubbed into Chinese.

The proportion of minorities in schools does
not correspond with their percentage of the
population In Xtn- nane minorities represent 60% of
the population, but at primary schoo they make up
only 52% of the total and

^2.5% at the secondary level. Smaller minorities
such as the Tajiris, should . the) attend school,
are forced to leant ¹ Uighur as there are no Tajik
textbooks, but, as for all minorities, Chinese is
taught as a "foreign language.** The Hans do
not learn Uighur. "It's for the minorities'to learn
Chinese,** said one Han cadre, a sentiment
shared by most Hans.

This chauvinism is ubiquitous. For
example, at Kashgar bus terminus all the
notices are wntten in Chinese but not all are
written in Uighur. Han ticket l sellers are unable
to speak Uighur, re- * suiting in much confusion
and anger on both sides. To make matters even
more complicated, in 1976 the Hans decided to
change the Arabic script and introduced
romanisation; however, they discovered it did
not work, so in 1982 they reverted back to the
Arabic script. As a result total confusion has set
in and many literate Uighurs can only read a
few publications.

In their bid to unify the country the Hans
have even tampered with time. Despite the fact
that Peking is several thousand kilometres from
Xinjiang they are considered to be in the same
time zone. Naturally, the sun does not au-
tomatical!) follow such decisions. To
compensate for this. Uighurs have their own
time, two hours behind Peking: when arranging a
rendezvous one must ask, "Xinjiang time or
Peking time?"

Uighurs tend to stick to the former l while
government offices open and | dose according
to jhe latter. |

The Hans are trying to promote the | Uighur
arts with several song-and- l dance troupes but
this is aimed at \ tourists rather than the
Uighurs. Rarely does a troupe visit the remote
cities, yet ¹ during the tourist season there are
almost daily performances for foreigners. Uighur
music is performed spontane

ously. usualh at festive occasions. It loses
much when it is stage-managed. | Xinjiang,
being at the crossroads of the trade routes,
was influenced by many different cultures,
and music as well as dance pre-date Islamic
times. As in northern Pakistan, instruments
once used by shamanists. the *sapbax* (a
wooden stick with rings attached to create a
shaking sound), *nagir* (drum) and *somay*
(pipe), are still played. The

dancing has been influenced by Indian forms, though after the Mogul conquests the body movements were eliminated. The music sounds similar to that played in Turkey today, and there is even some East European influence stemming from the time of the Ottoman Empire. Nearly all of the Chinese instruments came through Central Asia during the Tang dynasty.

242

Handicrafts are moving from functionalism to folklore. What was once part of minority culture is now viewed by the Chinese as a good foreign-exchange earner. Exquisite carpets with Islamic designs and vivid colours are being sold to foreigners. Other traditional items such as the *abduvar*, a pitcher with delicate repousse work, are giving way to plastic versions.

Educated Uighurs are afraid to speak openly and refuse to comment on sensitive matters. But, like all minorities, Uighurs are fiercely proud. There are communes boasting that "we have no Hans here, only Muslims. Uighurs often refer to Xinjiang as Sharik Turkestan or East Turkestan; others, particularly in the south, talk of Uighuristan. There is simmering discontent even in the Han bastion of Urumqi. Some Uighurs speak of going to Pakistan to buy weapons and fight the Chinese. Ahmet Jon, a Uighur partisan, who had fought the Kuomintang, serves as an inspiration. _

| This certainly does not mean that the Chinese have a full-scale rebellion on their hands, but with the opening up of Xinjiang the government has been forced to admit that several incidents have occurred. In July 1980, the Aksu incident was reported'. This had occurred three months earlier when friction between the People's Liberation Army and minority nationalities caused the deaths of "several hundred" soldiers and civilians. In 1982 an article in the *People's Daily* spoke of "preventing disputes between nationalities in Xinjiang." Here it was stated that between October 1981 and March 1982 certain disputes had arisen in succession throughout Xinjiang, which had been taken care of in a "timely and satisfactory manner." The October incident refers to widespread rioting after an Uighur was killed by a Han, causing four deaths and hundreds injured.

way to Peking to receive permission.

The main unifying force is Islam and at Friday prayers most mosques are packed with worshippers. Despite this, many Uighurs are unclear about the concepts of Islam and are helped by visiting foreign Muslims who are only too happy to elucidate and proselytise. Pakistani trader, Sudanese student, or Egyptian tourist, all regard the Uighurs as their brothers. The resurgence of Islam coupled with the growing links with and visits to Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Turkey and the Soviet Union are increasing dissatisfaction and desire to emigrate. Many now dream of going to Saudi Arabia on the Haj or to visit friends and relatives in Turkey — they often end up staying there. One is told that the Turkish Government is worried by this influx, as the Uighurs' vehemently anti-communist stand makes them ideal recruits for the ultra-right-wing Grey Wolves.

Independence is out of the question, but minorities should be granted real autonomy, the right to govern their own affairs. In the case of Xinjiang, it looks as if a rich and diverse culture which survived for more than 700 years will be relegated to the history books. D

The impossible odds do not stop most Uighurs from dreaming of an independent Turkestan, which would include their Muslim brothers in Soviet Central Asia. They view the Soviet Government with equal mistrust, having been devastated by the forced separation of their families. One Kazakh Woman had not seen her parents in 22 years even though they only live 36 km away. Yet even now that family visits are allowed she must travel all the

Nicholas Danziger has spent 18 months travelling from Europe to China overland along the Marco Polo route.

17/85

F-600
288

ASIA—THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE XINJIANG UYGUR AUTONOMOUS REGION •
Munich, September 26, 1985 (RLPS/Alptekin)

China is preparing for *the* celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of Xinjiang Wei Wu Er Zi Zi Chu, or the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on October 1, 1985. But the Turkic Muslims of the region (Eastern Turkestan) have very little to celebrate. The decision to set up the Autonomous Region . rather than fulfilling promises of self-determination made by Mao, was against the Turkic Muslim's wishes. .

At the sixth Congress of the Chinese Communist Party in 1945, Mso Zedong announced that after a communist takeover in China, the peoples of Mongolia, Tibet, and Eastern Turkestan would have the right to self-determination and the choice between full independence or the establishment of federated republics within the framework of a federalist China.¹ But Mao denied these peoples the possibility of full independence after seizing power.

Faced with this situation, the Turkic Muslims of Eastern Turkestan asked to form a federated republic. Mao also rejected this request calling it a "demand hostile to history"² and he upheld " that Eastern Turkestan had always been an inalienable part *of* an indivisible China, even before it was liberated; therefore there would be no sense in dividing China into federated republics."³

In order to justify their domination of Eastern Turkestan, the Chinese claim that this country was annexed to China 2000 years ago. It is true that China, in order to control the silk road, staged invasions of Eastern Turkestan as early as 104 B.C.⁴, but they were each thwarted by the native population,³ and the total period of Chinese rule as a result of 6 invasions over a period of 855 years was only 157 years.⁶ After the defeat of the Chinese in 751 A.D., Eastern Turkestan remained independent for 1000 years until its conquest by the non-Chinese Manchu rulers,⁷ who gave it the name "Xinjiang", It was officially annexed to Chinese territory on 18 November 1884.⁶ -

(PTO)

*SIA- <1>

THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE XINJIANG -----

j >&C'

When it h

!n the possih???? apparent that Mao was taking this hard line requested th*t u of repubhc status, the Turkic Muslims historical ^ancbu name "Xinjiang" be changed to the acceptable fTM6,, MEaster'n Turkestan", or if that was not *hd decided j ° u^uristan." Mao also rejected this request people , eat^ to form an autonomous region for all the P e living in the area.

The J
sutomony program for the introduction of regional formula? jlor non"Chinese peoples in Eastern Turkestan was Affair n at t*ie Second Enlarged Session of the Nationalities the pS ^OITlm'ission in December 1951® and finally ratified by x cent^al Government Council on August 8, 1952.® It

. e^aw three types of autonomous units; a unit inhabited by a single national minority; a unit with one large majority and several local minority units, having sub-autonomous status; and a unit with several minorities, none of which was in the majority.¹⁰

In February 1955 a special committee was created to prepare for the regional autonomy of Eastern Turkestan, and in August the provisional government adopted a resolution calling for such regional autonomy. The First Eastern Turkestan Provincial Peoples Congress approved the resolution in September 1955 and dispatched it to Peking, where the State Council and the Standing Committee of the National Peoples Congress approved it on September 13, 1955. As a result the Xinjiang Wei Wu Er Zi Zi Chu, or the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, came into being on October 1, 1955.

The creation of the region contradicted Mao's former turn that there is no need to divide China into federated ⁰¹ ublics because China has been a single, united land from rC l'est times. It also allowed for divisive policies aimed atthe Turkic Muslims of Eastern Turkestan.-

The newspaper Xinjiang Ribao wrote in its December 14, 1960 issue people's Republic of China, the Chinese share of the population is Q4 per cent. We are for the fusion of - *he peoples in China. This process must fe based on a single nation.This nation



UJ MORE)

307

is the Chinese nation. We have to increase the number of marriages between the Chinese and the nationalities. Nobody should try to prevent this process.

Mao accordingly pursued a policy of systematic assimilation of the Turkic Muslims into the Chinese population. Under the pretext of cultural reform the Chinese Communists eliminated the traditional Arabic script used for almost 1000 years. Some 370,000 books written in this script, including the Holy Koran, Hadith, and other religious works which Mao claimed to be "remnants of the past", were destroyed.¹¹ Mao's socio-economic reforms, drove 96.6 per cent of the Turkic Muslims into 30,000 communes.¹² Turkic Muslims were forced to marry Chinese, and 30 to 40 per cent of children born came from mixed marriages.¹³

Under the pretext of unification of national education, schools operated under the Islamic Wakf (Islamic Foundations) were closed and the children of Turkic Muslims transferred to other schools that taught only Marxism, Leninism, and Maoism.¹⁴ Claiming that attendance at Mosques, Islamic gatherings, and Koran recitations "hindered production," the Chinese Communists prohibited the Turkic Muslims of Eastern Turkestan from fulfilling their religious duties.¹⁵ Throughout Eastern Turkestan 29,000 Mosques were closed¹⁶ and more than 54,000 clergy members were arrested and tortured or used for forced labor.¹⁷

The Turkic Muslims of Eastern Turkestan staged 58 major revolts against the Chinese Communist's assimilation policies between 1954 and 1968.¹⁸ Between 1950 and 1972, some 360,000 Turkic Muslims involved in these struggles were executed.¹⁹ More than 100,000 fled to neighboring countries²⁰ and more than 500,000 were driven into the 19 hard-labor camps in Eastern Turkestan.²¹

Since the death of Mao there has been a measure of liberalization, mostly in the fields of economics, culture, and religion, although the teaching of religion is still forbidden,²² but it appears that these measures have not satisfied the Turkic Muslims. A number of armed clashes with their roots in the desire of the Turkic people for self-rule, have been reported in Eastern Turkestan since that time.²³ Although Eastern Turkestan is an "autonomous region", the Chinese government still holds the reins of power.²⁴

(PTO)

ASIA-(4) -THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE XINJIANG....

3. Ibid.
4. Wolfram Ebergard, History of China, Ankara 1947, pp. 93-109; Owen Lattimore, Pivot of Asia, Boston 1950, p.50; M.E. Bugra, Dogru Turkestan Davasi, Istanbul 1954, p.24.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Lattimore, op. cit.
8. Xinhua, August 12, 1952.
9. Survey of China Mainland Press, Hong Kong, August 14, 1952, No. 394, p.12.
10. East Turkic Review, op. cit.
11. Yusuf Han, Sotsiyalistik Kazakistan, January 14, 1976.
12. Sinkiang Ribao, November 25, 1959.
13. Victor Louis, The Coming Decline of the Chinese Empire, New York, 1979, p.96.
14. Clyde-Ahmad Winters, Islam in the Peoples Republic of China, Hing Kong 1979.
15. Shen Ping Wen, Chinese Communist Criminal Actes in Persecution of Religions,
16. Los Angles Times, December 1, 1983.
17. Ibid.
18. I. Y. Alptekin, Dogu Turkistan Davasi, Istanbul 1973,p.154. ~
19. Kommunizim Tugi, March 14, 1974.
20. Newsday, July 26, 1982.
21. Chen Shu Ping, The Chinese Communist System of Reform Through Labor, Taiwan, April 1978.
22. **Peter Morrison (ed.), Religion in Communist Lands, Vol.12, No, 3, Winter 1984.**

(PTO)

l«.w,

SI-(5) THE BOTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE XINJIANG...*

Jc*

IP* Ssuter. April e. 19B2j The_Washin3tonjSSt - ePtember 11,
1981; Per Tagesspiegel, Septembe

24. **Per Spiegel**. November 1983; The_Baltimoi^l^l»_9f^Ji1985.

9. 1985TThiFi; Eastern Economi^iySvTAu^^ 29i

25. The Far Eastern Economic Review, August 29, 1985.

26. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, May 11» 1983.

27. Rin Min Ribao, March 29, 1984.

28. Ibid., April 26 1984.

29. Beijing Review, No. 8, 1982.

30. Far Eastern Economic Review* op.

31. Ibid.

32. Ibid

letters from Turkic Muslims

S-E^Tastern^ArXest^0an to thfir relatives abroad.

34. Ibidj.

(END)

Peking keen on developing Jo Xinjiang region

By Anthony Barker

PEKING, Oct. 2 (R) — China has combined its national day this year with special celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary since Turkic-speaking Xinjiang on the Soviet border was declared a minority autonomous region.

Several Chinese leaders traveled there to attend events such as a mass parade and firework displays that were judged too lavish for the capital yesterday's 36th anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

China sees the vast but underdeveloped territory in the far northwest — under and out of Peking's control for 2,000 years — as a great hope for development in the next century.

"Foreign scientists have described Xinjiang as one of the three unconquered frontiers in the world, along with the Amazon basin and the Sahara," Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang said during a visit there in August.

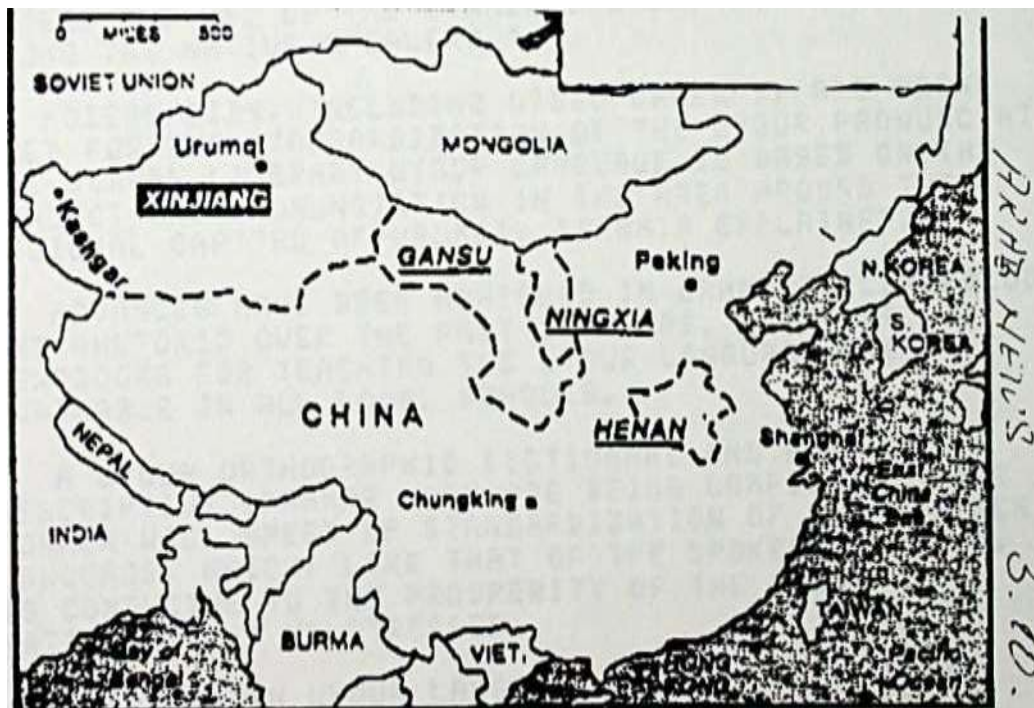
Xinjiang — where Islam is the major religion — has brought China serious internal security problems and clashes with neighbors. In 1969 several dozen Chinese troops were killed in a battle with Soviet forces.

Chinese Communist troops took over Xinjiang in 1949, signaling defeat for those in the area who had struggled for an independent "East Turkestan."

In 1955 Peking declared it an autonomous region for Uighurs, who then formed the majority of Xinjiang's people, but resettled with troops, political exiles and other Chinese to alter the area's ethnic makeup and consolidate its hold.

Now Uighurs make up only 45 percent of the 13 million population and Chinese about 40 percent, with Kazakhs, Tartars and nine other groups making up the rest.

Despite increases in the numbers of locally-born officials, less than half of the



MUSLIMS: The largest concentration of Chinese Muslims, according to 1982 census, is in Xinjiang. Other areas include Ningsia, Gansu and Henan.

region's 400,000 officials are non-Chinese, according to the New China News Agency (NCNA).

Between 1966 and 1978 China violently persecuted Muslims.

Such policies have resulted in ethnic clashes. In 1962, 60,000 Kazakhs crossed the border into the Soviet Union. The latest serious riots by minorities broke out in the early 1980s.

However, yesterday's celebrations stressed reconciliation and the development of the rich mineral resources of Xinjiang.

The China Daily quoted veteran Communist Party leader Wang Zhen as reading out a message from the party's central

committee which said Xinjiang was now enjoying the best period of unity between its peoples since 1949.

The message added: "Strengthening unity would guarantee economic takeoff in Xinjiang."

NCNA quoted Wang as telling a conference that Xinjiang had to step up development of its mineral resources and strive to become one of China's main suppliers of industrial raw materials.

"The region will also continue to strengthen cooperation with Japan, the Soviet Union, and the Western Asian and Eastern European countries," regional party chief Wang Enmao said.

*

V

* UYGUR LANGUAGE BEING STANDARDIZED ; i?0 6

"URUKQI, OCTOBER 25 (XINHUA) — ft PRONUNCIATION GUIDE HAS JUST BEEN DRAFTED AS PftRT OF THE EFFORTS OF THE XINJIANG AUTONOMOUS REGION TO STANDARDIZE THE UYGUR LANGUAGE. ACCORDING TO LINGUIST IBRAHIM MUTI. \.

■AND THE COMPILATION OF ft 30,000-UORB STANDARD UYGUR PRONUNCIATION DICTIONARY IS UNDERWAY." SAID IBRAHIM. €6. WHO IS A RESEARCH FELLOW AT THE LANGUAGES INST1TQTE OF THE XINJIANG ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES.

THE UYGUR LANGUAGE Is'sPOKEN BY SIX MILLION UYGURS. MOSTLY LIVING IN THE XINJIANG UYGUR AUTONOMOUS - REGION. THE EXPERT SAID. "SPEAKERS' OF THE LANGUAGE ARE ALSO FOUND IN THE SOVIET UNION. TURKEY. SAUDI ARABIA, AFGANISTAN AND PAKISTAN."

HE POINTED OUT: "ONLY WHEN ft NATIONALITY HAS A STANDARDIZED LANGUAGE CAN IT MAKE GREAT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS. THATS WHY UE MUST HELP SPREAD THE USE OF THE STANDARD UYGUR LANGUAGE AMONG THE NATIVE SPEAKERS."

MODERN RIDS. INCLUDING VIDEO CAMERAS, ARE BEING USED FOR THE STANDARDIZATION OF THE UYGUR PRONUNCIATION.

ThE VODERN LITERARY UYGUR LANGUAGE IS BASED ON THE DIALECT AND PRONUNCIATION IN THE AREA AROUND THE REGIONAL CAPITAL C'F URUKGI. IBRAHIM EXPLAINED.

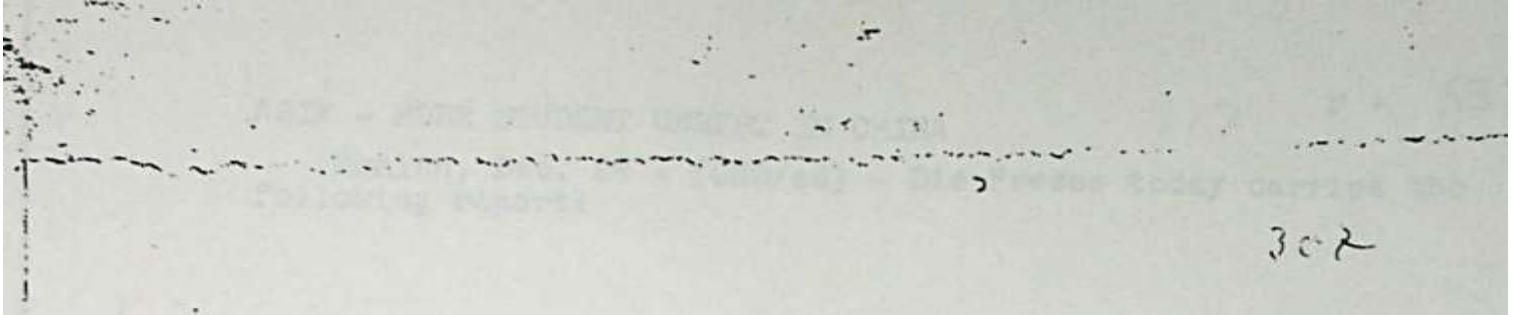
ADVANCES' HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN GRAMMAR, LEXICOLOGY AND RHETORIC OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS. GRAMMAR TEXTBOOKS' FOR TEACHING THE UYGUR LANGUAGE ARE AVAILABLE IN ALL LOCAL SCHOOLS.

A UYGUR ORTHOGRAPHIC DICTIONARY AND A UYGUR DESCRIPTIVE GRAMMAR BOOK ARE BEING COMPILED. "THE FORMER WILL SPEED UP STANDARDIZATION OF THE WRITTEN ! LANGUAGE, WHICH, LIKE THAT OF THE SPOKEN LANGUAGE. ? IS CONDUCTIVE TO THE PROSPERITY OF THE UYGUR NATIONALITY." HE STRESSED. i f

THE WRITTEN UYGUR LANGUAGE HAS A LONG HISTORY. BUT IT WAS NOT UNTIL THE 11TH CENTURY THAT IT ADOPTED THE ARABIC ALPHABET. THE MODERN UYGUR LANGUAGE TOOK SHAPE AROUND THE TURN OF THE 19TH CENTURY. I

■INVOLVED IN THE RESEARCH ON THE ANCIENT UYGUR LANGUAGE ARE SCHOLARS IN DENMARK. FRANCE. FEDERAL GERMANY. TURKEY. THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES. AS WELL AS CHINA." HE SAID. I

HE WENT ON: "WE LOVE OUR OWN LANGUAGE AND REGARD IT AS PART OF THE CULTURAL TREASURE HOUSE OF THE CHINESE NATION." j ' '* ----- -- • • • • ~ '



FF176 B-WIRE 22-NOV-85 14:24
RIFT—CHINA REHABILITATES KAZAKHS WHO FLED TO THE SOVIET UNION (W/CN-71)

PEKING, NOV 23, REUTER—CHINA HAS OFFICIALLY FORGIVEN AND REHABILITATED THOUSANDS OF ITS TURKIC-SPEAKING MINORITY PEOPLES WHO DEFECTED TO THE SOVIET UNION FROM NORTHWEST CHINA IN 1962, AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER SAID.

MORE THAN 50,000 MEMBERS OF CHINA'S KAZAKH MINORITY FLED FROM THE XINJIANG REGION TO SOVIET CENTRAL ASIA IN 1962 AFTER CHINA BEGAN COLLECTIVISATION IN THE AREA, ACCORDING TO CONTEMPORARY CHINESE AND WESTERN ESTIMATES.

ABOUT 14,000 KAZAKHS WHO JOINED THE MASS EXODUS MJLL NOW BE ALLOWED TO CONSIDER THEMSELVES AS CHINESE CITIZENS OR AS CHINESE PEOPLE OF FOREIGN NATIONALITY. THE SHANGHAI WEN HUI BAO SAID IN AN EDITION REACHING PEKING TODAY.

THE GROUP PARDON ALSO AFFECTS MOST OF THE 2,000 PEOPLE WHO WERE HELD RESPONSIBLE ALTHOUGH THEY REMAINED IN THE ILI KAZAKH AREA AFTER THE MASS DEFECTION, IT SAID.

THE XINJIANG OVERSEAS CHINESE OFFICE AND "OTHER RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS" HAD DECIDED TO CANCEL POLICE RECORDS WHICH LABELLED THE 2,000 PEOPLE AS "MEMBERS OF CLIQUES CONNECTED WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES."

IT WILL ALSO COMPENSATE THEM FOR THEIR ECONOMIC LOSSES DURING THE TIME THEY WERE TREATED AS TRAITORS, THE PAPER SAID.

CHINA BLAMED THE DEFECTION OF THE KAZAKHS, A LARGELY-NOMADIC MOSLEM PEOPLE, ON SUBVERSION BY SOVIET SPIES AFTER THE TWO FORMER ALLIES SPLIT IN THE EARLY 1960S.

THE WEN HUI BAO SAID 211,000 PEOPLE FROM XINJIANG NOW LIVED IN THE SOVIET UNION, BUT IT DID NOT SAY HOW MANY HAD LEFT SINCE THE COMMUNIST VICTORY IN CHINA IN 1949.

THE NON-CHINESE PEOPLE OF XINJIANG INCLUDE UIGHURS, KAZAKHS, UZBEKS, TATARS AND OTHERS WHO ARE RELATED TO GROUPS IN AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN, THE SOVIET UNION AND TURKEY.

CHINESE OFFICIALS NOW RECOGNISE THAT RADICAL ECONOMIC POLICIES AND LEFTIST ATTACKS ON ISLAM CONTRIBUTED TO DISSATISFACTION AMONG ETHNIC MINORITIES IN THE 1960S AND 1970S WHICH BROKE INTO SEVERAL REBELLIONS.

CHINA HAS RELEASED AND REHABILITATED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF VICTIMS OF POLITICAL PERSECUTION OVER THE PAST 11 YEARS, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE 1976 OVERTHROW OF MAO TSETUNG'S RADICAL FOLLOWERS AND DENG XIAOPING'S RISE TO POWER IN 1978. LA/

ASIA - MORE STUDENT UNREST IN CHINA

Munich, Dec. 24 - (CND/ad) - Die Presse today carries the following report:

Neue Studentenproteste in China Wirkt Pekings Propaganda nicht mehr?

Von unserem Korrespondenten KARL KLANZLE

PEKING. Trotz intensiver Anstrengungen der chinesischen -Staats- und Parteiführung, weilere Protestkundgebungen zu' verhin- dem, ist es in der Nacht auf Montag in Peking zu einer neuen Demonstration gekommen. Demonstriert haben diesmal 200 bis 300 Studenten der Hochschule für nationale Minderhei- ten. Ihr Protest richtete sich gegen Kernwaffenversuche in der Provinz Xijiang.

Die im Nordwesten Chinas gelege- ne, an Pakistan und die Sowjetunion grenzende Provinz ist die Heimat der Uiguren, einer islamischen Minder- heit. In dem dünn besiedelten, aus Wüsten und Steppen bestehenden Xinjiang testen die Chinesen seit Jahren N uclearwaffen.

Der studentische Protest ist aus zwei Griinden bemerkenswerl Eine Zeitlang hatte man den Eindruck, als habe die Pekinger Führung die Lage wieder im Griff. Monatelang war es in China zu einer Welle von Demonstra-

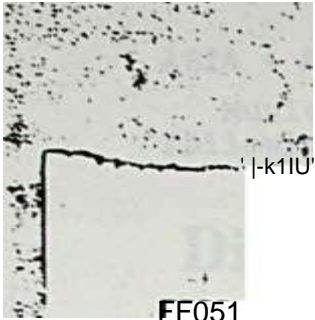
tionen gekommen. Zur Erinnerung an den 50: Jahrestag einer grofien antijapanischen Revolte hatten Studenten für den 9. Dezember landesweite Manifestationen angekündigt ge- habt Es passierte aber nichts. Die po- litische Führung hatte es verstanden, mit den Mitteln der Oberzeugungsar- beit, der Propaganda und der Andro- hung von Sanktionen Ruhe imd Ord- nung wiederherzustellen. Die jüing- ste Demonstration freilich zeigt, daß die Dinge sich doch nicht wirklich beruhigt haben.

Bemerkenswert ist der studentische Protest auch deshalb, weil die chinesische Führung sich geme in der Rolle einer Friedensmacht pra- sentiert Peking stellte sich auf die Seite der Friedensbewegung und zeigte sich solidarisch mit Staaten wie Neuseeland, die den USA die Stim bieten und aus dem Pazifik eine kernwaffenfreie Zone machen wol- len.

Demonstriert worden ist in China in den vergangenen Monaten aber auch gegen schlechtes Essen an den

UniversitSten, gegen die Verteue rung von Schulmaterialien und gn gen die ..Wirtschaftsinvasion Ja pans". Einmal forderten Demon stranten, die in den sechziger Jahrer aufs Land geschickt worden warer. daß man sie endlich in die Stadt zu riickkehren lasse, und ein anderma: ging es um die freie Wahl des Arbeit* platzes. Ob diese Kundgebungen je- desmal spontanen Charakter hatten ist jedoch nicht zu sagen.

Geme namlich werden Studente in China manipuliert und mifi braucht. In den sechziger Jahren mo- bilisierte Mao Zedong die Jugend gegen die sogenannten „Revisionisten." und gegen seine Widersacher. Be; den jüingsten antijapanischen De- monstrationen hatte man wieder den Eindruck, Vertreter einer konservati- veren Fraktion innerhalb der Füh- rung benutzten die studentische Un- zufriedeneheit im Kampf gegen der. Reformkurs. Im Fall der Proteste gegen die Kernwaffenversuche in Xinjiang scheint der Verdacht einer sol- chen Manipulation freilich nicht sehr begründet



FF051

IS3

|-k1IU" WHU'WM'S^ __yt'

"*VH

f.*

B-WIRE

24-DEC-85 12:35

ASIA—LEADERSHIP CHANGE REVEALED IN XINJIANG (WITH CN-29)

PEKING, DEC. 24 (AP) — THE STATE-RUN PRESS TUESDAY REPORTED THE REPLACEMENT OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE REMOTE AUTONOMOUS REGION OF XINJIANG UIGHUR. A MOVE WHICH CHINESE SOURCES SAID HAD CAUSED EARLIER STUDENT PROTESTS CALLING FOR HIS REINSTATEMENT.

ABOUT 1,000 STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED IN THE REGIONAL CAPITAL OF URUMQI DEC. 12 TO PROTEST THE REMOVAL OF GOVERNOR ISMAIL AMAT AND DEMANDED HIS REINSTATEMENT, STUDENT SOURCES SAID.

THE PROTESTERS ALSO DEMANDED GREATER REGIONAL AUTONOMY AND EXEMPTION FROM FAMILY PLANNING POLICIES, THE SOURCES SAID.

ETHNIC STUDENTS FROM XINJIANG ALSO GATHERED IN PEKING'S MAIN SQUARE, TIANANMEN, ON SUNDAY TO PROTEST NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE NORTHWEST REGION, SITE OF THE LOP NUR TESTING GROUND WHERE CHINA EXPLODED ITS FIRST ATOMIC BOMB IN 1964.

XINJIANG'S NEW GOVERNOR, TOMUR DAWAMAT, WAS ELECTED AT A RECENT REGIONAL PARTY CONGRESS IN XINJIANG, THE OFFICIAL COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER PEOPLE'S DAILY (RENMIN RIBAO) REPORTED TUESDAY.

LIKE AMAT, DAWAMAT IS FROM THE UIGHUR MOSLEM GROUP, WHICH MAKE UP ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF XINJIANG'S 11 MILLION PEOPLE.

"FORMER GOVERNOR ISMAIL AMAT WILL RECEIVE A NEW APPOINTMENT ' THE PAPER SAID WITHOUT ELABORATING. IT DID NOT EXPLAIN WHY HE HAD

PEKING^{BEE} A^A DECLARED XINJIANG AN AUTONOMOUS REGION IN 1955, GIVING ITS MINORITY POPULATION A LARGE DEGREE OF RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL FREEDOM. THE REGION HAS A HISTORY OF DISCONTENT UNDER CONTROL OF THE MAJORITY HAN CHINESE. LA/

ASIA - AUSTRIAN DAILY ON CHINESE STUDENTS* UNREST

Munich, Dec. 27 - (CND/ad) - today's DIE PRESSE carries the following report:

Die jungen Rebellen mit den Mao-Mützen In China verstärken sich Studentenproteste

Von unserem Korrespondenten KARL KLANZLE

PEKING. Wenn sich in letzter Zeit in China jemand eine Mao-Mütze aufsetzte, dann war es mit Bestimmtheit ein ausländischer Tourist. Unter Chinesen selber war diese Kopfbedeckung aus der Mode gekommen. Jetzt sieht man die Mütze plötzlich auch wieder an Universitäten. Chinesische Studenten tragen sie zum Zeichen des Protestes.

Bereits mehrfach innerhalb von ein paar Tagen haben Studentenunruhen die Fernsehnachrichten dominiert. Das ist in diesem Land ungewöhnlich. Gezeigt wurden freilich keine Demonstrationen, obschon es in den vergangenen Monaten vereinzelte Kundgebungen gegeben hatte.

Was das Fernsehen zeigte, waren Stelldicheins zwischen Parteiveteranen und Studenten. Manchmal redeten achtzig Veteranen einen ganzen Tag lang auf ein paar hundert Studenten ein, denen der Unterschied zwischen Patriotismus und einem ehrgeizigen Nationalismus, die Führung der Partei und Gehorsam beizubringen versucht wurde.

Im KP-Organ „Volkszeitung“ hieß es zum Beispiel, Studenten bekämpften fälschlicherweise vieles Ausländische „unter dem Mantel des Patriotismus“. Patriotisch sei jedoch, was

dem Aufblühen Chinas diene, eben der Import neuer Technologie.

Alle diese Belehrungen haben einseitigen präventiven Charakter. Als Studenten in den letzten Wochen gegen Japanischen Militarismus*¹ und die Überschwemmung Chinas mit japanischen Waren demonstrierten, trugen sie auch Transparente mit sich, auf denen Bereicherung, Amtsmißbrauch, Inflation und Korruption kritisiert wurden - Erscheinungen, die die Demonstranten in einen direkten Zusammenhang mit der Reformpolitik brachten.

Eine Studentin, deren Vater und Mutter in Armee und Partei hohe Ämter bekleiden, meint mit Bezug auf den wiedererwachten Aktivismus: „Da kommt noch einiges auf uns zu.“ Vorherrschend ist im Augenblick jedoch die Meinung, der Protest sei noch relativ milde. Würde nicht befürchtet, es könnte zu einer sprunghaften und unkontrollierten Entwicklung kommen, wäre jetzt freilich kurzfristig gefordert worden, die Partei müsse den Dialog aktivieren.

Außer dem Dialog stehen ihr noch Instrumente zur Verfügung, die es in liberalen Gesellschaften in diesem Ausmaß nicht gibt. Obschon die Kontrollen etwas gelockert worden sind, bestimmt zum Beispiel immer

noch die KP, wofür nach Abschluß eines Studiums welchen Job erhält. Da überlegt mancher Student es sich wohl zweimal, bevor er an einer Demonstration teilnimmt. Plausibler war bisher die Vennutung, die politische Führung konnte eines Tages von „Rechts“ unter Druck geraten. Zehntausende von Chinesen studieren im Westen. Kehren sie zurück, dann haben sie Erwartungen, die trotz Chinas begrenzter Liberalisierung enttäuscht werden und zur Forderung nach noch weitergehenden Freiheiten führen müßten. Aktiv geworden ist jetzt aber vor allem die studentische „Linke“.

Der studentische Protest kommt nicht wie der Blitz aus heiterem Himmel. Dennoch wäre es falsch, darin bereits den Beginn einer neuen Kulturrevolution zu sehen. Im wesentlichen treffen noch heute die Ergebnisse einer Umfrage zu, die vor ein paar Monaten an zehn chinesischen Universitäten durchgeführt wurde. Nur gerade sechs Prozent der befragten Studenten identifizierten sich mit der Behauptung, die Steigerung der wirtschaftlichen Leistungsfähigkeit müsse im Dienst des Sozialismus stehen. Das Interesse an westlicher Literatur, Musik und Technologie war unvergleichlich viel größer als das Interesse am Marxismus.

324

FF028

B-WIRE

27-DEC-85 06:27

ASIA —2,000 DEMONSTRATE IN XIAN AFTER GANG FIGHT MURDER OF MOSLEM PEKING. DEC 27 (AP) - THE MURDER OF A MOSLEM IN A STREET FIGHT WITH HAN CHINESE LED TO A PROTEST DEMONSTRATION BY 2,000 MOSLEMS IN THE ANCIENT CAPITAL OF XIAN ON DEC. 15. CITY AUTHORITIES SAID FPJDA SIX HAN CHINESE ARE IN CUSTODY IN CONNECTION WITH THE KILLING AND A MANHUNT IS ON FOR OTHER SUSPECTS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE XIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE SAID.

THE FIGHT BETWEEN MEMBERS OF XIAN'S MOSLEM HUI MINORITY AND HAN CHINESE MAJORITY OCCURRED ON THE EVENING OF DEC. 14 IN DAPIYUAN STREET, THE OFFICIAL SAID.

"THE NEXT DAY 2,000 OR SO HUI PEOPLE DEMONSTRATED FOR TWO OR THREE HOURS. THEY LEFT AFTER OFFICIALS PERSUADED THEM TO DISPERSE," SAID THE SPOKESMAN WHO DECLINED TO GIVE HIS NAME.

HE SAID THE HANS INITIATED THE FIGHT IN RETALIATION FOR AN EARLIER ATTACK IN WHICH A KUNG-FU ATHLETE WAS BEATEN UP BY SOME MOSLEMS.

"AFTER HE RECOVERED AND LEFT THE HOSPITAL, HE GATHERED A GROUP OF PEOPLE TO SEEK REVENGE THAT NIGHT AND THE GANG FIGHT FOLLOWED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THERE ARE ABOUT 50,000 MOSLEMS IN XIAN, A WALLED CITY OF 2.5 MILLION PEOPLE IN NORTH-CENTRAL CHINA WHICH SERVED AS THE NATION'S CAPITAL UNDER 11 DYNASTIES. THERE IS A HISTORY OF MOSLEM UNREST IN CHINA UNDER COMMUNIST RULE.

THE PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION IS THE 10TH REPORTED IN CHINA SINCE SEPT. 18 WHEN 1,000 STUDENTS PROTESTED AGAINST JAPAN IN PEKING'S TIANANMEN SQUARE. MOST DEMONSTRATIONS INVOLVED STUDENTS COMPLAINING ABOUT JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS, RISING PRICES, CORRUPTION AND CAMPUS CONDITIONS. GG

• om

Nucur Rogierungschef in Xinjiang Dor oEjährike 1 orour Dawamat 'uirido .ml' der vrcgczogenon 4.Tni?ung dor VI. VolksUongrosr-es nos Air. on omen Gc-bictes Xinjiang zum neuen Vorsit- zer.dcn dor Volksregierung von Xin- jianggewahit (RMHB. 2-5.12.85). Er lost den 49iähriqvn Isno.il Aral in riioFon' Ami ab, Ivjido Politiker gc*- hbren dor XII.ZK dor KPCh an.

Der Wechsol on der Rcgiorungsspit- zc von Xinjiang hat wnhrschoinlich politische Grunde: Ismail Amat zahlt zu den Gewinnern der Kultur- revolution, wahrend Tomur Dawa- nat in der Kullurrevolution ge- stürzt wurde. Ismail Amat hatie Ende Oktober 1985 bereits seinen Posten als stellvertretender Partei- sekretar von Xinjiang verloren. Hingegen war Tomur Dawamat auf Plata 2 der Parleihierarchie von Xinjiang aufgestiegen. Nachfolgr von Tomur Dawamat als Vorsitzen- der des Volkskongresses von Xinjiang wurde der 53iährike Amudun Niyaz, der gleichzeitig stellvertretender Parteisekretar von Xinjiang ist. Ende Oktober 1985 war bereits die Partciführung von Xinjiang neu beseizt worden (s. C.a., Oktober 1985, U12). -sch-

'(15)

Mehrcre Demonstrationen uiguri- scher Studentcu Si u den ton. der uigurischen Nationa- litat dcmonstrieren im Dezerr.bor 1985 mindestens fiinfmal gegen eine Fortsetzung der Atomversuche in Xinjiang. Allein in Urumqi, der Hauptstadt des Autonomen Gebietes Xinjiang, fander. am 9., 12. und 19.Dezember drei Dcmonctrator.cn stall, an denen sich rund 2.000 S;u- dcnten beteiligt haben sullen. Da- bei scllen nicht nur die Einstellung der Atomversuche auf dem Atomver- suchsgclande Lop Nor sondern auc'n eine Verbesserung der Ausbildung fur nationale Minderleitsn, cine Liberalisierung der staatlichen Familienplanung und die Wieder- einsetzung des gestürzten Regie- rungshcfs und stellvertretenden Parteisekretars von Xinjiang, Ismail Amat, gefordert worden sein. (Reuter, 1.1.86, und AP, 2.1.86, in: BPA, Ost- Informatio- nen,2.u. 3.1.86)

In Beijing demonstrierten am 22.De- zember zwischen 200 und 400 Stu- denten aus Xinjiang auf dem Platz vor dem Tor des Himmlischen Frie- dens (Tiananmen) gegen die chine- sischen Atomversuche in ihrer Hei- mat. Darüber hinaus forderten die

CHINA aktuell

nr

uigurischen Studentcn, die in Beijing am Zentralen Insiiut fur national? Minderheitcn studieren, das Ende der Verschickung von chi- nesischen Strafgefangenen nach Xinjiang, eine groGere politische Mitsprache der Einheimischen sowie eine Liberalisierung der staalli- chen Geburtenplanungspolitik. Bei der etwa zweistündigen Protest- kundgebung erklärten uigurisebe Studenten gegenüber westlichen Journalisten, dafidie Atomversuche zu Klimaveränderungcn, einer Schrumpfung der Ernteertrage und zunehmenden Gesundheitsproble- men gcführt hatten. (Reuter, 23.12.85, in: FA7., 24.12.Ef.; AP, 23.12.85, in: NZZ, 24.12.65: DIF KELT, 24.12.65; Le Monde, 24. u. 25.12.85; AFP, 26.12.85, in: NZZ, 28.12.85) Auf dem leslge-lande von Lop Nor hat die VRCh seit 196-1 min- desur.s 25 Atomversuche (zumcist oberirdiscb.) durchgeführt.

Schiefllich demonstrierten am 2G.DcZcmher 1985 ir. Shanghai meh- rere hundert Studenten aus Xin- jiang gegen die Alor.lests in iluer Heirr.at sowie gegen dio dortigen chinesischen Gefan.icnenlager. Zu- glcieii forderten sie mchr Autonomic, und eine 1 oc-kerung der Gebmtcn- kontrolle für die Minderhenen in Xinjiang. (AFP, 25.12.S5. ir: NZZ. 2\32.85; AT, in: HIT, 27.12.65)

Sol lien die Brrichte yuslirir.n. nach denen bei den Demon st rati oner, in Urumqi nach die Vied': cir.. zur.g des gesturzten Ismail An.ru ge- fordeil wurde, so keinnie dies dr.rauf hindeulen, dafl der eigeni- liche Hintergrund für die Protest- aktionen von Studenten aus Xinjiang in den jungsten Vcrnrricrun- gen in der polnischen Fuhrur.g in Xinjiang zu surhen ist. Hierfür gibt es allerdmgs keinc weiteren Hin- weise.-sch-

ASIA - W. GERMAN DAILY COMMENTS STUDENTS' UNREST IN CHINA

Munich, Dec. 27 - (CND/ad) - Frankfurter Rundschau today carries the following editorial:

V.,-.

Auffallend gelassen

In Xinjiang, wo China unter dem Wüstenboden seine Atombomben testet, werden die Bevölkerung — und das sind vor allem Uiguren — regelmäßig untersucht. Es gibt keinen Grund zur Besorgnis, kommentierten Sprecher des Außenministeriums die Demonstration der Uiguren in Peking. Die Studenten aber fragten die Führung; denn sie waren keineswegs von den Sicherheitsvorkehrungen überzeugt

wurde. den Uiguren eine Antwort zuge-

Der disziplinierte Aufmarsch einer betroffenen Minderheit mag ein Grund für die bisherige Konzilianz der Pekinger Führung sein, die sich sichtbar bemüht, frühere Fehler in ihrer Minderheitenpolitik zu korrigieren. Es gibt aber auch Anzeichen dafür, daß man allmählich anerkennt, was es bedeutet, nicht mehr abge-

III laVan FS ngifcZnl HI tqi I ■ MI*-

sind eingehüllt in den Mantel des Staatsgeheimnisses. Nur selten dringen Informationen nach außen.

dien ständig über Greenpeace Oder die weitweitere Friedensbewegungen. Informieren, der für sich das Recht auf engagierte Stellungnahmen zur Nuklearpolitik der beiden Supermächte in Anspruch nimmt, muß es auch hinnehmen. daß die eigene Bevölkerung Fragen stellt, auch wenn das nicht wenige Funktionäre verdrießt. die noch im Bewußtsein einer „eisernen“ Gesellschaft leben. Aber die Führung scheint das gelassener zu setzen.

- ***,,>■ *etf —^Peking)

Erstaunlich ist nicht nur, daß zum erstenmal eine Anti-Atomtest-Demonstration in China bekannt wurde, sondern ebenso, wie die Behörden darauf reagierten. Das Außenministerium erkannte die Fragen der Studenten indirekt als berechtigt an. Der Vizebürgermeister Pekings schloß eine Bestrafung der Demonstranten kategorisch aus. Vor allem aber"

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG ' 1

Test-Demo in China

In Xinjiang, wo China unter dem Wüstenboden seine Atombomben testet, werden die Bevölkerung - und das sind in der großteil der autonomen Regionen Chinas vor allem die Uiguren - regelmäßig untersucht. Es gibt keinen Grund zur Besorgnis, kommentierten Sprecher des Pekinger Außenministeriums die Demonstration der Uiguren in Peking. Die Studenten aber stellten ihre Fragen an Chinas Führung, denn sie waren keineswegs von den Sicherheitsvorkehrungen überzeugt. Wie sollten sie auch? Um Chinas Nukleartests deckt sich der Mantel des Staatsgeheimnisses. Selten nur dringen öffentliche Informationen nach außen, so etwa Erinnerungsreportagen an die Ex-

Lesion der ersten chinesischen Atom-
Lora be 1964 bei Lopnor. Erstaunlich aber ist es nicht nur, daß erstmals eine Anti-Atomtest-Demonstration in China bekannt wurde, sondern ebenso, wie die chinesischen Behörden darauf reagierten. Das Außenministerium erkannte indirekt die Fragen der Studenten als berechtigte Sorgen an, der Vizebürgermeister Pekings schloß eine Bestrafung der Demonstranten kategorisch aus. Vor allem aber wurde den Uiguren eine Antwort zugesagt. Es gibt also Anzeichen, daß die Pekinger Führung allmählich erkennt, was es bedeutet, nicht mehr abgeschlossen zu leben. Ein Staat, dessen Medien beständig über Greenpeace Oder die weltweiten Friedensbewegungen informiert, der für sich das Recht auf engagierte Stellungnahmen zur Nuklearpolitik der beiden Supermächte in Anspruch * nimmt, muß es sich auch gefallen lassen, daß die eigene Bevölkerung Fragen stellt. Dies verdrießt nicht wenige Funktionäre, die noch im Bewußtsein einer „eisernen“ Gesellschaft leben. Die Pekinger Führung scheint das gelassener zu sehen. Wenn China auf Reformkurs bleibt - und alles deutet darauf hin wird man sich auch dort ar. die Nachrichten über Demonstrationen gewöhnen müssen. Dann erst gehört die eiseme Gesellschaft der Vergangenheit an.

?/€\$'

er/

China hit by unusual series of protests

By Mark O'Neill

PEKING (R) — Street demonstrations in China, including the first known protests against nuclear tests, indicate a groundswell of discontent despite five years of growing prosperity. Western diplomats said on Friday.

They said the protests, reflecting a wide range of grievances, had been met with a restrained attitude from the central government.

But some of the issues now being debated in the streets were highly sensitive, the diplomats said, and if the protests continued the government's tolerance could not be taken for granted.

In the past week, students from the Muslim Uighur minority have mounted street demonstrations in Peking and Shanghai to oppose several government policies in their home province of Xinjiang on China's strategic border with the Soviet Union.

Earlier, starting in September, students in Peking and other cities staged protests against rising food prices, official corruption and what they saw as excessive Japanese influence on China's economic development.

In April, scores of former Peking residents exiled to remote provinces during the Cultural Revolution nearly 20 years ago picketed the city hall for permission to return to the capital to live.

They appealed directly to Deng Xiaoping, China's top leader and architect of the

current economic reforms.

"That demonstration was put down firmly! but tactfully and there seems to have been no further reaction," one Western diplomat said. "Peking's policy seems to be to deal carefully with these protests and not with a heavy hand."

The first sign of Uighur unrest was on

Dec. 12. About 1,000 students demonstrated outside the Xinjiang regional government headquarters in Urumqi demanding a halt to nuclear tests at the Lop Nor facility in the Gobi desert. 450 km to the southeast.

They also called on Peking to stop dumping convicts in their remote desert region and to relax harsh birth control measures affecting the region's seven million Muslims, more than half the total population.

Ten days later, several hundred Uighur students made similar demands in a demonstration in Peking, prompting the Foreign Ministry to issue a statement defending its nuclear policy.

China exploded its first atomic bomb at Lop Nor in 1964 and has since developed a range of land and submarine-based nuclear missiles.

The Foreign Ministry said that, while the Chinese government wanted nuclear weapons banned and destroyed, "in the present international situation, it is necessary to conduct a small number of nuclear tests to safeguard China's security."

A spokesman said repeated checks had shown that no harm had been caused to the health of the inhabitants of Xinjiang.

"It is most unusual for the Foreign Ministry to issue a statement in response to a street protest such as this," one Western diplomat said.

But the reassurances did not appear to pacify other Uighur students in Shanghai, who blocked the city's main shopping street on Thursday, waving banners saying "Stop nuclear testing" and "Don't turn Xinjiang into a concentration camp."

No police action was reported in any of the demonstrations.

But while the Chinese leadership seems united on the necessity to test nuclear weapons, the diplomat said, the earlier anti-Japanese demonstrations raised issues at the heart of Deng's open-door policy and reflected opposition voiced even in high Communist Party councils.

The protesters demanded an end to what they called "the second Japanese invasion," meaning the huge level of imports from Japan, as well as official corruption and sharp hikes in food prices.

The leadership took the protests so seriously that it sent two of its rising stars, Li Peng and Hu Qili, to lobby student leaders to defuse potentially explosive tensions.

Ten years ago, such protesters would not have been dealt with so lightly. Tie added.

Handwritten notes in the right margin: "X", "A", "5851", "81", "88".

ASIA —UNHAPPY UIGHUR STUDENTS SAY NO MORE NUCLEAR PROTESTS

PEKING, DEC 29, REUTER - UIGHUR STUDENTS AT A PEKING COLLEGE WHO DEMONSTRATED A WEEK AGO AGAINST NUCLEAR TESTS IN THEIR HOME PROVINCE

SAID TODAY THEY HAD MET TWICE WITH CHINESE LEADERS AND WERE DISSATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS.

BUT THE STUDENTS, WHO BELONG TO A TURKIC-SPEAKING PEOPLE IN THE REMOTE NORTHWESTERN PROVINCE OF XINJIANG ALONG THE SINO-SOVIET BORDER, SAID THEY WOULD NOT PROTEST AGAIN.

"WE HAVE MADE OUR GESTURE AND THAT IS ENOUGH" ONE SAID.

ABOUT 100 UIGHUR STUDENTS HELD A SIMILAR DEMONSTRATION IN SHANGHAI ON THURSDAY, DEMANDING A HALT TO TESTS AT THE CHINESE NUCLEAR FACILITY AT LOP NOR, LESS THAN 500 KM FROM THE REGIONAL CAPITAL URUMQI, AND TO THE SENDING OF CONVICT LABOUR TO XINJIANG.

THURSDAY AT THE CAPITAL'S MAIN SCHOOL FOR RACIAL MINORITIES. THEY WERE ATTENDED BY ABOUT 500 UIGHUR STUDENTS ON THE ONE SIDE AND BY MORE THAN TEN SENIOR-GOVERNMENT-REPRESENTATIVES ON THE OTHER, INCLUDING OFFICIALS FROM THE JUSTICE MINISTRY AND PARTY'S UNITED FRONT DEPARTMENT.

"THE MEETINGS LASTED ABOUT FIVE HOURS. THE TALKING WAS NEARLY ALL DONE, THROUGH AN INTERPRETER BY THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

WHO GAVE US ANSWERS TO OUR DEMANDS. BUT WE WERE NOT SATISFIED WITH THEM," THE STUDENT SAID.

HE SAID FURTHER MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WOULD BE HELD.

NONE OF THE STUDENTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED OR PUNISHED FOR TAKING PART IN THE DEMONSTRATION, HE SAID.

THE STUDENTS IN THE CAPITAL HAD NO CONNECTION WITH THE UIGHURS IN

Sialing

By Richard Ehrlich
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON
TIMES

KASHGAR, China—A caravan of shaggy, dark-brown camels emerges from a choking dust storm. Bearded, turbaned men with parched faces stagger by in tattered black knee-high boots, drearily following the fabled footsteps of Marco Polo across one of the world's worst deserts.

This is Kashgar, at the western tip of China's westernmost political subdivision, Xinjiang Autonomous Region.

East of here is the Gobi, where man and beast struggle to stay alive in temperatures that can soar to 116 degrees and plunge to -20 degrees. The ancient Silk Road ribbons through these dead landscapes of western China, a miserable region that locals ominously call Thk-lamakan — "enter and you can never return."

Kashgar is China's last town on the old Silk Road before it winds 200 miles southward along the border of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan and climbs the Pamir Mountains into northern Pakistan. Once a nest of international intrigue and assassination carried out by spies, diplomats, rebels and foreigners, Kashgar still resembles Central Asia at the time of the Koran.

Many of Kashgar's Moslem women veil themselves with brown veils draped completely over their heads. Mysteriously, though their faces are hidden, the women still recognize each other in the chaotic bazaars.

Many houses are dank, mud hovels connected by a labyrinth of lanes and tunnels. Too poor to afford cars, most people travel twisting streets piled stop creaking wooden carts pulled by big-eared donkeys.

In the dusty, unpaved markets, men argue over the prices of locally made daggers, boots, carpets and fur caps. Others hammer red-hot steel on anvils to make tools and horseshoes, as if the Industrial Revolution were just beginning.

Sundays in Kashgar are much like Sundays in the Middle Ages. A weekend market brings thousands to trade skins, clothing, food and animals. In a clearing, burly men take turns testing riding horses at a thundering speed, while nearby dozens of Bactrian camels await buyers. The most comical sight is that of prospective customers astride mischievous donkeys careening through the crowd, sending people running and shouting in all directions.

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping claims he wants to modernize Kash-

"So many Chinese people come to Xinjiang. The economy now favors only the Chinese.

They get the jobs. Uighurs have no jobs

Kashgar and the rest of Xinjiang. But the communist plan is not solely for the benefit of the local non-Chinese Moslems who live here.

Instead, Peking wants millions of Han Chinese to move into Xinjiang, become the majority, and reap vast profits in minerals, petroleum and other natural resources, diplomats and analysts say.

China announced yesterday the appointment of Tbrnur Dawamat as the new governor of Xinjiang, replacing Ismail Amat. The motive for the shift was unclear. The People's Daily said Mr. Dawamat, 58, was chairman of the provincial legislature.

Several hundred students from

Xinjiang, demonstrating in Tiananmen Square against Chinese nuclear testing at the Lop Nor facility in Xinjiang, told a journalist there that they were also demanding that Mr. Amat be reinstated in the post he has held since 1979.

One of the most important reasons to build up Xinjiang is that the region forms more than 1,200 miles of strategic frontier with the Soviet Union. During the 1930s, both Peking and London feared Moscow had plans to seize the region, which was already being manipulated by Russia's puppets, according to Western historians.

If the Soviets ever roll their tanks into Xinjiang, China's hold on adjacent Inner Mongolia will become difficult and Peking itself would be vulnerable, military analysts say.

Currently, there are no visible signs of unusual tension between the two communist giants. The only invasion of Xinjiang is by Han Chinese

sent to the province in such huge numbers that soon they will outnumber the Moslems living there, according to official census figures.

Seven of the 12 non-Chinese groups who live in Xinjiang are Moslems, most of whom speak Turkic languages and use Arabic script on some signs and publications.

These groups include the Kirgiz and Kazakh — known in Russia as Cossaks — along with the Tajik, Uzbek and occasional White Russians who fled during purges in their homeland. Some Xibei, or "Northeasters," also live here, transplanted from China's distant northeast 300 years ago to form a border guard. They still speak Man-chu.

The most populous Moslem group is the Uighur, who cleverly use extensive irrigation to grow fruit, wheat, cotton and rice in the towns of Xinjiang — in reality, little more than oases. Anthropologists say their faces mix Indo-Iranian and Mongoloid features.

Such ethnic distinctions may soon be academic.

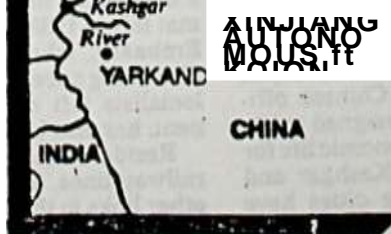
Xinjiang's population was 4.9 million in 1949, including only 300,000

Han Chinese. Since then, about 5 million Han Chinese have poured in, bringing the total population to more than 11 million. The Uighurs and Kazakhs were the province's biggest majority before the communists came. Now Peking labels them "ethnic minorities."

Non-Chinese, unhappy over the influx of strangers, suffered further during the communists' disastrous 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, which halted nomads, collectivized farming, destroyed mosques and tried in other ways to exterminate their culture. Western sinologists have said that about 7,000 people were killed in Xinjiang for political offenses.

XINJIANG:

China's desert wastes



Map by E8 Haddock / The Washington Times

18

Z1' C*A...

-''j



m

- ^.^sen mem *>*n?

*

""

- Jon from ti?e S^{den} and Uber.
- bur, whodeLSSJ^r^tUi-

.-mZS? «SX*

%

h“fC^{er}ΛjⁿΛ“ce Kn>UP
 , Xinjiang Th?S^ⁿPeople?me,D
 onlW? economy now favors
 UiEhur^kCh! ^^{bet} *** jobs.
 uighurs have no jobs, no good non.es,
 *o many sleeping in the , street Many
 Uighurs are in prison ■ ■ . Pities," he said
 during an inter- | view in his home, ↑
 "Uighurs are angry; the)¹ haw a very
 miserable life. The Chinese have a good
 life, good food, high ; buildings. Uighurs
 must learn Chinese to progress, but the
 Chinese cannot speak the Uighur
 language," he added, asking not to be
 identified because he feared imprisonment
 for his news.

"We want to fight, but we have no
 guns. Now it is very hopeless. People
 *ie poor Many, many Uighurs have lost
 their customs and changed to Chinese
 customs," the Turkish Party member
 said.

He claimed his group had "thou-
 sands" of members, but it was im-
 possible to determine if he was exag-
 gerating. He admitted the group was
 "underorganized" and had no foreign
 assistance because his group finds
 crossborder operations impossible.

The most recent outbreak of hos-
 tilities between Chinese and1 Uighurs
 erupted in 1981 when a

Chinese shot and killed a Uighur Sg a
 quarrel over digging a K Thousands of
 Uighurs ram- SSd for hours, killing two
 Chinese P"sL- the army calmed the two
 croups and meted out lengthy Terms
 Western reports said. pⁿib relieve'the
 tension, Mr. Deng uickly allowed
 mosques to reopen ^q i rlnlaced several
 Chinese offi- SJs'ft move was designed
 to Ub- J cultural and economic life for
 Ttiphurs Since then, Kashgar and 2J£J5
 other Xinjiang ones haw ^{*cv*!r}oen^{ed} to
 foreign tounsts, and ^JbSSeen China and
 Pakistan r^ac^d «ls5^mP^{ovcd}* bringing new

Tburists stay in hotels that are
 monuments to Kasghar's turbulent
 history. The Soviet Embassy, from
 which the czar's representatiws plotted
 to control Xinjiang, has been a hotel
 since the last Russian diplomat left in
 1958. The former British Embassy,
 where explorer Peter Flemming once
 stayed before the colonialists left the
 Indian subcontinent, has also become a
 hotel.

Residents and officials say roads,
 railway lines, airport facilities and other
 links to the outside world haw been
 upgraded, thus improving life in
 Xinjiang, an area the size of West
 Germany, France and Italy combined.

Bai Chengming, a Xinjiang official,
 said the province intends to export
 grain, textiles, light industry and other
 locally produced products to the Soviet
 Union. Xinjiang would like to import
 steel, building materials, motor vehicles
 and farm chemicals from Russia, Mr.
 Bai said.

The railway line that connects the
 rest of China with Xinjiang's capita
 Unimqi is to be extended west to join a
 Soviet railway at Alatau Pass, Chinese
 officials said. "It should bring prosperity
 to us, as it is expected to help boost
 trade between Xinjiang and Central
 Asia, the Middle East and Europe," a
 Xinjiang railway official said.

Zo - . / 9\$-^ Dissatisfied with talks results ^.

Xinjiang students decide to shun protest

PEKING, Dec. 29 (R) — Uighur students at a Peking college who demonstrated a week ago against nuclear tests in their home province said today they had met twice with Chinese leaders and were dissatisfied with the results.

But the students, who belong to a Turkic-speaking people in the remote northwestern province of Xinjiang along the Sino-Soviet border, said they would not protest again.

"We have made our gesture and that is enough," one said.

About 100 Uighur students held a similar demonstration in Shanghai on Thursday, demanding a halt to tests at the Chinese nuclear facility at Lop Nor, less than 500 kms from the regional capital Urumqi, and to the sending of convict labor to Xinjiang.

One Peking student said meetings were held Wednesday and Thursday at the capital's main school for racial minorities. They were attended by about 500 Uighur students on the one side and by more than ten senior government representatives on the other, including officials from the Justice Ministry and the Communist Party's United Front Department.

"The meetings lasted a total of five hours. The talking was nearly all done, through an interpreter, by the government officials who gave us answers to our demands. But we were not satisfied with them," the student said.

He said further meetings with government officials would be held.

None of the students had been arrested or punished for taking part in the Peking

demonstration, he said.

The students in the capital had no connection with the Uighurs in Shanghai and did not know about their demonstration, he added.

Meanwhile, Public Security Minister Yuan Chongwu said in a report published today that China will punish hijackers, four days after China revealed the hijacking of a Soviet airliner to northeastern China.

Yuan's interview with the magazine *Peking Review*, released by the official New China News Agency, did not mention the hijacking of the Soviet airliner.

He said: "China is most concerned about air piracy and will punish hijackers severely."

The Chinese Foreign Ministry reported the hijacking Wednesday and said the passengers and crew had been returned safely to the Soviet Union. The fate of the hijackers was not known.

Yuan said coordinated efforts among various departments were needed to combat hijacking and noted that China had signed international conventions concerning air piracy.

"We have taken measures such as demanding the necessary documents from ticket buyers, luggage checks and various on-board safety measures," he said.

The Soviet Antonov 24 made a forced landing in a pasture in Heilongjiang province in China's far northeast near to the Soviet border Dec. 19. The passengers and crew were returned to the Soviet Union on Dec. 21, the Foreign Ministry said.

In another development, China has launched what it described as a new model of missile escort vessel, a pro-Peking daily reported in Hong Kong today.

The vessel was launched yesterday in the eastern port city of Shanghai, where it was built by the East Shanghai Shipyard, according to the report in the newspaper *Wen Wei*

Po.

The newspaper said the vessel incorporated China's most advanced electronic technology and weapons systems, but gave no further details about the ship.

FF005

B-WIRE

31-DEC-85 02:04

ASIA - CHINESE AUTHORITIES TAKE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
MILDLY BY MICHAEL BROWNING KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

PEKING. DEC. 31 - SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY IS BREWING AMONG
CHINA'S UNRESTFUL STUDENTS.

IN THE PAST 3 1/2 MONTHS, AT LEAST NINE DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN
HELD IN CITIES THOUSANDS OF MILES APART, OVER ISSUES AS DISPARATE AS
NUCLEAR TESTING, BIRTH CONTROL, LOUSY CAFETERIA FOOD, EARLY CURFEWS
AND THE GLUT OF JAPANESE-MADE GOODS FLOODING CHINA'S MARKETS.

WESTERN OBSERVERS SEE NO COMMON THREAD TYING THE
DEMONSTRATIONS TOGETHER AND DO NOT RELIEVE THE STUDENT UNREST
PRESAGES MAJOR UPRISINGS IN CHINA. THEY ALSO CONFESS THAT THEY
ARE PERPLEXED AT CHINESE AUTHORITIES' TOLERANT ATTITUDE TOWARD THE
STUDENTS THUS FAR — AND WONDER HOW LONG IT CAN CONTINUE.

THE DEMONSTRATIONS ARE REMARKABLE ENOUGH IN THEMSELVES.
DISSENT IS RISKY. BUSINESS, AND ARTICLE 159 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW OF
CHINA PREScribes A JAIL SENTENCE OF AS LONG AS FIVE YEARS FOR
"ASSEMBLING A CROWD TO DISTURB ORDER." COUNTERREVOLUTION IS AN
EXTREMELY BROAD

CRIME IN CHINA, ONE THAT CAN DRAW THE DEATH PENALTY IF THE
** CIRCUMSTANCES ARE ESPECIALLY ODIUS.

SO IT IS ALL THE MORE SURPRISING THAT CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAVE TAKEN A
MILD, ALMOST CONCILIATORY, LINE TOWARD THE STUDENTS. INSTEAD OF
CALLING OUT THE POLICE AND HAVING THEM ALL ARRESTED, GOVERNMENT
REPRESENTATIVES SEEM AT PAINS TO AVOID A SHOWDOWN, COAXING THE
STUDENTS TO CALM DOWN, RATHER THAN ORDERING THEM TO SHUT UP OR
FACE THE CONSEQUENCES.

DURING A DEMONSTRATION THURSDAY IN SHANGHAI, SEVERAL HUNDRED
STUDENTS OF THE UIGHUR (PRONOUNCED UEE-GOR) MINORITY NATIONALITY
MARCHED DOWN THE FAMOUS BUND, THE GRAND WATERFRONT BOULEVARD,
DEMANDING AN END TO NUCLEAR TESTING IN THEIR HOME PROVINCE OF
XINJIANG IN NORTHWESTERN CHINA. POLICE ACTUALLY STOPPED THOUSANDS
OF COMMUTERS TO LET THE UIGHURS MARCH.

THE SHANGHAI DEMONSTRATION WAS THE THIRD TIME THAT THE UIGHURS
HAVE DEMONSTRATED IN TWO WEEKS. ON DEC. 12-13, CROWDS OF ANYWHERE -
FROM 1,000 TO 10,000 UIGHURS DEMONSTRATED IN URUMCHI, CAPITAL OF THE
XINJIANG AUTONOMOUS REGION.

THE LOW FIGURE IS FROM CHINESE AUTHORITIES. THE HIGH FIGURE
COMES FROM UIGHUR STUDENTS WHO TURNED OUT FOR A SECOND
DEMONSTRATION ON DEC. 22 IN PEKING'S TIANANMEN SQUARE - HEAVENLY PEACE.

STUDENTS IN PEKING SAID THEY WERE PROTESTING CHINA'S NUCLEAR-
TESTING PROGRAM AT THE HUGE LOP NOR PROVING GROUND, ON THE
SOUTHERN RIM OF THE TAKLAMAKAN DESERT. THEY ALSO DEMANDED MORE
UIGHUR REPRESENTATION IN XINJIANG'S GOVERNMENT, AND AN END TO THE
STRINGENT CHINESE BIRTH-CONTROL PROGRAM.

WHILE THE UIGHURS, WHO ARE MUSLIMS, THEORETICALLY ARE ALLOWED
TO HAVE THREE CHILDREN (MOST CHINESE ARE LIMITED TO ONE), THE
STUDENTS SAID MANY UIGHUR WOMEN ARE FORCIBLY STERILIZED AFTER GIVING
BIRTH TO

THFLLR-JSECf1NJ) IUL

"IN THE CASE OF THE UIGHURS, THE CHINESE HAVE TO BE PRETTY
CAREFUL," A WESTERN DIPLOMAT SAID. "XINJIANG HAS A LONG HISTORY AS A
HOT SPOT AND THE MINORITIES UP THERE OUTNUMBER THE CHINESE.

----- "SURE, THEY COULD STOMP DOWN ON THE DEMONSTRATORS IN PEKING
AND

SHANGHAI, BUT WHEN THE NEWS GOT BACK TO XINJIANG, THEY COULD HAVE
MAJOR TROUBLE ON THEIR HANDS."

OF XINJIANG'S 13 MILLION PEOPLE, 60 PERCENT ARE NON-CHINESE, MOST
OF THEM UIGHURS.

--- THE AUTHORITIES MIGHT HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THE UIGHUR DISCONTENT
FOR THE MOMENT, BUT THEY CLEARLY DO NOT WANT THE SITUATION TO SPREAD. NOT A
WORD

ABOUT THE DEMONSTRATIONS HAS APPEARED IN CHINESE PRINT PRESS
OR ON TELEVISION, AND THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE IN SHANGHAI REFUSED
FRIDAY TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE DEMONSTRATION THERE BEYOND

FFOO&

ASIA - <1) CHINESE
MILDLY

B-WIRE

31-DEC-85 02:09

AUTHORITIES TAKE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS

SEPARATELY. OBSERVERS SEE THE UIGHUR DEMONSTRATIONS AS COMPLETELY

SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM A SERIES OF STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS THAT BEGAN IN LATE SEPTEMBER IN PEKING.

UNDERLYING CONNECTION BETWEEN THE TWO ■ A DIPLOMAT SAID ■ "UNLESS MAYBE THE UIGHURS GOT THE IDEA TO DEMONSTRATE FROM THE PEKING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, ■

* THE PROTESTS BEGAN OVER A 10 P.M. LIGHTS-OUT CURFEW AT THE UNIVERSITY, WHICH STUDENTS SAID CUTS INTO THEIR STUDY TIME. THEY WERE ALSO DISPLEASED WITH THE POOR QUALITY OF FOOD AT THE PEKING UNIVERSITY CAFETERIA.

AS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION OF MANCHURIA

CAME LAST SEPT. 18, THE PROTESTS TOOK ON A DISTINCTLY ANTI-JAPANESE TINGE. STUDENTS COMPLAINED THAT JAPANESE GOODS WERE FLOODING CHINA, DRIVING IT OF ITS FOREIGN

JAPAN FAILED TO EXCHANGE RESERVES. THEY SAID THAT ACCOMPLISHING WHAT MILITARILY IN WORLD WAR II. IT WAS

ACCOMPLISHING ECONOMICALLY

IMPOVERISHMENT OF CHINA.

HENGDU COLLEGE WHERE

OTHER STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN XIANG AND CHONGQING (CHUNGKING). WHAT INTRIGUES WESTERNERS IS THAT

THESE STUDENTS — AN EXTREMELY LUCKY AND PRIVILEGED ELITE IN CHINA — ONLY 3 PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GO ON TO

SHOULD BE COMPLAINING SO MUCH.

"THIS IS THE CREAM OF CHINA'S YOUNG PEOPLE," THE WESTERN DIPLOMAT SAID. "THEY ARE GETTING INTO THE PEKING UNIVERSITY, LIKE BEING ACCEPTED TO HARVARD, YALE, MIT AND CALTECH. ALL ROLLED INTO ONE. THESE ARE THE AMBITIOUS AND NEPOTISM THAT PERMITS THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF

COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS TO WIGGLE INTO UNIVERSITIES, DENYING ORDINARY CHINESE STUDENTS OF THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

AND THUS DEPRIVING AFFORDS HERE.

"COLLEGE EDUCATION IS MUCH AS IT IS PERSONAL," THE

"I . . . BUT IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW FAR "

SAID "BUT IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW FAR " THE " THE THEY CRACK DOWN

not ideal

Graham Eamahaw

MUSLIM STUDENTS AT Urumqi's main university don't have too much spare time these days. They have to attend extra ideological classes aimed at defusing discontent which led to unprecedented street demonstrations last December.

Several thousand students of the Uighur nationality marched through Urumqi, capital of China's remote northwestern region of Xinjiang. Among other things, they were protesting against nuclear tests being conducted in Xinjiang and the dumping of criminals from other parts of China in labour camps there.

Similar protests were also organised by Uighur students in Peking and Shanghai — a reminder that 36 years after Chinese Communist troops marched into what was then Chinese Turkestan to head off an Uighur independence movement relations between the two races remain less than ideal.

Uighurs, a Turkic Muslim people who live throughout Central Asia, still make up 45 percent of the 13 million people in the Xinjiang (new frontier) region despite massive government-sponsored migration of ethnic Chinese over the past three decades.

They are startlingly different from the Chinese in looks, languages,

Y

sonality and the two races seem to mix little.

The government officially encourages friendship and unity between the different nationalities, but officials throughout the region said that intermarriage is actively discouraged.

"We don't like people of various nationalities intermarrying," said senior official Mahmut Silim in the city of Urumqi. "There are many problems with such marriages — different languages and customs. In a few cases, intermarriages have been permitted, but some of these resulted in divorces."

An increasing number of Uighurs are being given senior positions in the government of Xinjiang, but the local Communist Party chief is a Han Chinese, and so far virtually all the soldiers to be seen in the region.

Xinjiang's vice-governor Tohti Sabir, an Uighur, said relations between Uighurs and Han Chinese were better than they had ever been. He dismissed the student demonstrations last year as the product of a lack of understanding on the part of immature students.

"They just don't understand the situation," he said. "They were all very young students who had only just entered university."

Mahmut Silim rejected the students' criticism of the policy of sending criminals to Xinjiang

-n m/v

frv

City sights through minorities' eyes

by Li Yan

During the tourist season, Beijing receives 300,000 people from other parts of the country every day, some of them from the remote grasslands and border regions.

Loulou, a round-faced Tibetan of 25, came to Beijing with his father to see the sights.

Back in Qinghai Province, the family owns five cows, 200 sheep, and cultivated 1.4 hectares of wheat last year.

"If I sold a sheep, I might get 50 yuan for it, and I would pay 30 fen in tax," said Loulou. "But I'm keeping my sheep to produce more lambs." His eyes flashed with satisfaction.

Loulou has a middle school education and speaks good *putonghua* (mandarin Chinese). His five younger sisters are all in school.

Their life has grown easier in recent years. "Money used to be short. Our income never exceeded 600 yuan a year. Everybody worked together with no chance to go out. But we are happier now," said Loulou's 63-year-old father.

With money to spend, they decided to have a look at the capital — a place they had only seen in films.

During their nine days in Beijing, the two Tibetans have enjoyed themselves at Beihai Park and the Summer Palace, and explored the

Forbidden City and the roo.

They were impressed by the capital's dense population. "I've never seen so many people," said Loulou. "They crowd the streets just like flocks of sheep!"

"Everything in Beijing is good, except the food, which we are not used to," said Loulou. But they had brought along a bag of *zanba* (roasted barley flour), the Tibetan staple food.

Loulou was almost reluctant to get on the train home. "I'd like to come back with my mother next year," he said.

Gongbate, a monk from Aba County, Sichuan Provinc, has a healthy bronzed-look, and his long crimson robe stands out in the crowded streets of Beijing.

The 36-year-old Tibetan is proud of his 15 years experience as a monk. "Sometimes I live in the monastery with the other 120 monks," he said. "But mostly I stay at home where it's more comfortable."

Congbate's decision to become a monk came as a disappointment to his parents. They have four daughters, and he is the only son. A middle-school graduate, he decided to become a monk in 1970 and no one could change his mind.

"Early this month, he left home to visit Taishan, the sacred mountain in Shandong Province. He then spent six days in Beijing visiting

the great Buddhist temples — the Yonghegong Lama Temple in the northeast city and the Tanzhesi in the western suburbs.

Most Tibetans who come to Beijing visit the Yonghegong Temple, where they present a ceremonial silk scarf.

Gongbate showed a small figure of Buddha in his hands and said: "I bought this at the temple. This will be admired by my fellow-villagers."

Wangduomu, 63, a herdsman from the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, took a three-day train ride to Beijing with his family of five.

"I've wanted to see the capital for a long time," he said. He introduced his son and daughter-in-law, and said: "I've brought them here for their honeymoon."

Their stay in Beijing, however, has been punctuated by a number of shocks. After they got off the train, the family was taken by pedicab to a hotel five minutes ride from the railway station. They were horrified at the price of 10 yuan — 200 times the busfare.

"Some hotels will not take Wangduomu

minority
T>eoplqT*

said, "We have to squeeze into the special Inner Mongolian guest nouse, jjut even there, none of the stall speaks Mongolian, though they are ail warm-hearted and considerate. I hope this situation can be improved!"

J*

Visits Homeland \$37



Wang Ganjun

posed by Sir Isaac Newton more than 250 years ago, but Newton had no access to a space shuttle. Newton, said Wang, waited centuries for me to fulfil his idea.

The space traveller told the group about the flight's arrangements, the preparations and his experiments. When he found something wrong with his instruments. Wang said. he. as the first Chinese-born man in space, vowed to elude failure. "I said to myself: *I must do it," Wang said. Indeed, he was able to repair the instrument and complete his experiments.

When Challenger passed over the Chinese mainland. Wang recalled that he ran in place for the seven minutes it took the shuttle to pass over China. In doing so. he set a record of sorts for making the long march. Wang took a cassette tape of 14 Chinese folk songs and some Chinese tea along with him on the ride. The first words he uttered when the shuttle landed were in Chinese:

"Xie xie da jia de guan xin he ai hu" (Thank you for your care).

Later Wang told reporters that he is proud of his Chinese roots. "I think I have brought credit to the Chinese," he added. J

At a July 10 meeting jointly sponsored by the China Astronautics Society and Beijing University, Wang was made an honorary member of the society.

Wang told several hundred young space enthusiasts at the meeting that the earth is beautiful from the shuttle window, so beautiful that he does not know how to describe it in Chinese.

Wang showed slides he took from space of the snow-covered Himalayas, the mouth of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River near his childhood home and green Hainan Island. He also advised the youth.

Wang said to the youth. "Don't let such experiments be first proposed by you. You are invited to participate in space travel."

"You are the first Chinese descendant to have flown in space. The Chinese nation shares your pride!" Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang told visiting Chinese-American scientist Dr. Taylor Wang (Wang Ganjun) in a meeting July 9.

Accepting from Wang a five-star Chinese flag he had carried into space aboard the United States space shuttle Challenger, Zhao described the gift as "very precious."

Ye Fei, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and chairman of the NPC Overseas Chinese Committee, and Li Xuehu, minister of the Astronautics Industry, both met and entertained Wang and his party. The editorial board of the *China Encyclopaedia* presented Wang a copy of the article about his achievements that will appear in the *Aviation and Spaceflight* volume.

During his stay in Beijing, Wang also held academic discussions with Chinese specialists and visited aerospace institutions. Addressing China's efforts towards space exploration, Wang said Chinese scientists have worked hard to probe into a wide range of fields and have constructed a comprehensive system for scientific research in space on their own. "It is amazing," he added. "The scientists are very admirable."

About co-operation and exchanges between China and the United States in space, Wang said he believes there will be more exchanges and contacts, and he said he is willing to work towards that goal.

Wang and his party left Beijing on July 10 for Xian, Guilin and Hangzhou. He also visited his Shanghai relatives, whom he had not seen for more than 30 years, and his grandmother's grave in Suzhou.

Wang Ganjun

scientific achievements.

As the guest of the Ministry of the Chinese Astronautics Industry, Wang arrived in Beijing on July 6 for a two-week visit. Accompanying him were his wife, Deverly (Feng Xueping), his two sons, and his colleague, Dr. Mark Lee (Li Jie-xin).

Wang, born in Jiangxi Province, spent his childhood in Shanghai.

He went to Taiwan with his parents in 1952. Eleven years later he moved to the United States. He is now a physicist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology.

Wang was one of two scientists who conducted experiments of his own design during Challenger's 17th flight from April 12 to May 6.

His experiments, he told a group of more than 700 researchers and space specialists at a July 8 welcoming ceremony, were concerned with the dynamics of liquids in space. Good-humoured-

Wang told the audience that such experiments were first proposed by the youth. "Don't

©spti Atesntosts

fSr liicEii'

*China: Studentenproteste in der entlegenen Westprovinz/
Regierung gibt Demonstrationen zu*

Aus Hongkong Jurgen Kremb

In Beijing fand am 23. Dezember die erste Demonstration gegen Atomversuch in China statt. Damals marschierten etwa 400 Studenten aus dem NVesten des Landes auf dem zentralen Tiananmen-Platz auf und blickten auf die KP-Führung. Sie forderten einen sofortigen Stopp der chinesischen Atombomben-Tests in der autonomen Provinz Xinjiang. Die Demonstranten, die den ethnischen Minderheiten aus dem Westteil des Landes angehören, fordern ferner mehr Autonomie für die Bewohner der entlegenen Region entlang der russischen Grenze.

Die Studenten sagten gegenüber Reportern, daß vorher bereits 4.000 bis 10.000 ihrer Landsleute in Urumqi, der Hauptstadt der autonomen Provinz Xinjiang gegen weitere Atomtests und für mehr Rechte der Minderheiten auf die Straße gegangen sind. Am gestrigen Donnerstag wurden die Demonstrationen erstmals offiziell zugegeben.

China hat seit seinem ersten erfolgreichen Zünden einer Atombombe im Jahre 1964 etwa 30 solcher Versuche in seinem Atomforschungszentrum Lop Nor in der Wüstenregion Westchinas durchgeführt. Wie ein Sprecher des Außenministeriums verlauten ließ, fehle es den Studenten an Verständnis der internationalen Zusammenhänge. Seiner Meinung nach sei nämlich eine „kleine Anzahl von Versuchen“ notwendig, um Chinas Sicherheit zu garantieren.

Auf der weihnachtlichen Stu-



dentendemo in Beijing wurde jetzt auch eine Direktwahl von politischen Vertretern der Minderheiten gefordert, die von Beijing berufene KP-Kader ersetzen sollen.

Einem Informanten von ap zufolge verlangen die Studenten auch die Wiederinsetzung des abgelosten Gouverneurs der Region, Ismael Amat. Regierungsvorerebestreitendies.

Zum Forderungskatalog der Demonstranten gehören ferner ein Stopp der erzwungenen Familienplanungspolitik für Minderheiten sowie mehr Möglichkeiten zur Erziehung in der eigenen Kultur und höhere Chancen auf einen Studienplatz im Ausland. Die Studenten weisen darauf hin, daß in diesem Jahr 20 Studenten aus Xinjiang unter den 20.000 Hochschülern gewesen seien, die Chinas ins Ausland geschickt hatte.

Die Demonstranten forderten ökonomische Selbstbestimmung für die Region. Ferner soll die Zentralregierung in Zukunft keine verurteilten Sehuerverbrecher mehr in die Arbeitslager Xinjiang verbannen.

Morgen in der taz: Reportage aus Xinjiang

Einma! M@kka und zuriick w

luckpr (tax) — tm ioBcrctm

^Wettzipfel Chinas lbcn heute noch
Obcr techs Mflilioen Motions. WShrcDd
die Regierung im froen Beijing die
autooome Xin- - Jiang-Region zu ihretn
RohstoTF- tieferameo flu das 21.
Jahrbun- dot ansbaoen will, verluft das
tlgbcbe Leben is den Oasenstid- . tea
nod Wusteo nach den streagen
Regnddecorans. .

Der Hof rood uni die verstreut
liegendeGebaude der .Pension
ljachgar Nuramer Drei" gleicht
ciac Karswanserei Wo in sc in
Zimmer will, mufi fiber in Tuch
eingeniehie Warenbündel steigen.
Tm Schattcn der wenigea Baume
aochen verschleiertr Frauen end
Mlner in langen Umhingen
Schott vor der gluhend hei&en
Miaagssonne. Em kichiet Wind
decki allesmfeinem Sand zu.
Die Quocksilbersaule steigt
bisweilen scf 45 Grad im
Schanen.

Jeden Tig warten hier im Sommer
mehrere hur.den rooslenJ- ache
Pilger auf den BegiDD ihrer "Re isc
nach MckJca. 4.00C Kilometer rind
es bis zu der Heibpen Stadt, Laura
mehr als in die chine- rische
Hauptstadt Eeijing Doch
dieKa2b2sc?iein:dera DenLen und
Fuhlen der Mensebtr. in Chinas
•westlichste: GroBswd? Kascbgar j
■wesemich naher zu liegen als dcr j
Sitz des Politburos der KP in Bei- _i
jing.

Jahriundenelang verband rich :
suit dcra Names Kascbgar ircmer - ein
Hauch vora abenteuerlichcr
Zentralasien. AlsOaseandrrsud- •liche?
SeidensL-aSe gelegen, wer die
weilaufige Sudi iramer schon ein
wkbiiger Handelssrhnitt- punta rwschen
Ost and West,.., aber auch cine
Truttburg des 1s- "Jam.

Hinter den klotzigen Hausern «nd
Stsdimiuem aus Lehm spun —man bis
heute eine Stiramung aus ' ting st
vergangenen Tagen. Soon- •*ags
treiben alte Manner mh maje- etitiseben
Banen Schafhcrden , zum Verkauf in
die Stadt. Emige ; feaben noch ein altes
SteinschloB- ^ewehr geschnhen. Sie
trageti die ' traditioelkn Trachten
Zentral- driens. Im Gunel steckt
einDolcb, '• | jfielc ten Frauen
habcncincn beau- }

nen Schleirc vorm Gericht, der
nicht mal einen Sehschlitz frei-
lifft. Jungen Madchen vor derEhe
ast vorschritfsmifiig das Haar zu
eioera Zopf zusamroengebnndeiL
A n den Marktstinden baumelngc-
schlachtetete Fetttteiflharamel. Es
riecht nach frisebem Fladenbrot
und Schaschlik. Nicbi our borne
Stoffe mh turkischem Muster,
sondern auch ntsrige Pferde und
Kamel e wechseln ihren Besitzer.

Hinter der nichsten Gebirgs-
ketieliegtdieGberwiegend islami-
acbe Sowjet-RepubliL Kirgiesien,
Afghanistan ist nab and nach Isla-
mabad fahrt man inzwei Tagen
auf einer gut ausgebauten
StraBe.

Zwischen den PQgem im Hof
der .Pension Kascbgar Nummtr
Drei* ha ben pakistanische Z6U-
oer in angcstaubtcD Uniformen
ei- BCD Schreibtisch aufgestellt.
Pe- dantisch genau registrieren
sie je- des Ware ns ruck, be vor
es in der Nacht in Richtung
Islamabad ver- frachtet wird. Die
Pilger folgen in engec kiiiprigen
Busses.

. .Sei; 1981 in China die Reli-
gionsfreiheit! .wieder garantiert ist “,
erzahl; ein Mann im mittlcren Alter,
.pilgem immrcmehrfami- lien nach
Mekka*. Mehrere tau- send fuhren
allein im Sommer 1985 .Die meisten
Waren hier*, mein: einjiakistaniseber
Zolibe- amier, .kauft unsere
Regierung
aufundgibtdenGlaubensbriideni ■
dafur ein Flugticket nach Mekka

Damit ist jedem gedient. Die
■ pakistanische Regierung verdient !
Devisen und sammelt Sympathie- \
punktgegendenErbfeindIndien. |
Und die chinerische Verwalnug
■ kannsich richer sein,dafi die Mn>-
■ derhehen im xtrategiscb wichti- *
gen Zentralasien bei der Stange
bleiben.

Avfstindt fm_MWBd\$_n

T>as tales ske nimlicb nkb
im- .wct. Zwar war die Region
west- . 4»ch von T&EJ und dee
Hocbebe- _mcm 4a Qaghai-
Proviez echoe . eeat
Jahrhundenee 4c factio emer ¹
cbmrriarhrrlioetroQe.dodiwur- 卍,
... — —*** —

den die Wosten und Oasen
fentlang
der Seidenstrarte stets vonlokalen
Stammesfursten regiert.

' lmsGdenderbeutigen.autono-
men Provinz Xinjiang*— dreimal
so groB wie Frankreich — be-
stimmten frisher Uiguren den Lauf
der Geschichte, im Norden und in
denTaishan-Bergen waren es die
Nomaden-V6lker der Kasacben
und Tataren auf ihren pfeilschnel-
lenPferden. ' .

Heute stellen die Uiguren nur
noch knapp die H&lfte der 13 Mil-
lionen Einwohner Kaschgars, 40
Prozent der Be vflkerung sind
ein-
gewanderte Han-Chin esc n. Die
Uiguren sind eigentlich einTurk-
volk. Hochgewachsen.mit langen
Nasend sudeuropaisthexn Aus-
sehen ist ihnen die chinesische
Sprache und Kultur fast so fremd
wie uns im femen Europa. Doch
mil dero der femen Türkei deckt
sich der Wortschatz aus West-
china zu gut 70 Prozent.

Im Gegensatz zu vielen Regio-
nen Chinas begann hier der Auf-
stand gegen die verhafiten Chine-
sen aus dem Osten schon, bevor
die Volksannee 1949 in Kascbgar
einmarschierte .'.Unter dem uigu-
rischen Stamm esc hef Amatjani
Gasem muBten die Guomin-
Dang-Truppen von Jiang Kai-
shek 1944 eine bittere Niederlage
gegen die Krieger aus der Wusie
e ins tec ken*, erzahien alte Man-
ner abends in einem Teehaus der
Stadt. Der Volksannee ging es
nicht besser. B is weit in die
fiinfzi-
ger Jahre waren ihre Versor-
gungs-Konvois durch die Wusten
von Chinas wildem Westen nicht
vor unvorhergesehenen Angrif-
Ten der berittenen Stammeskrie-
gersicher..

fianr aoders als die Tibeter wa-
ren die Nomaden und Oasenbe-
wohner Xinjiangs stets an kriege-
rische Auseinandersetzungen ge-
wdhnt. Schon Anfang des Jahr-
hunderts starbae
Hundertausende
fan Treiheitskampf aeden die

§§§§§§

1 •Aflf" «-*.K* J,,,,,

«*to' gfr' *tame Auf.
leblichasfi u g.Knen'An"
'U^ nHM<:hincst da'

' ben Fin Hy' iren erfnoidei ha- 1 SDrieh H
c. h,nck,w|> «' Richter dcn Laodimann frei. Es
. • u|cwal,s5menD:monsira- «onen, die
Armee ruckte an und es gat.
mindesienszehn Tote.

Auch heute werden in den Stra- ben Kaschgars Geschichten vom Widerstand erzählt Mai hat eine bentene Bande eine chinesische Polizei-Station überfallen, dann ^mieder sei ein Milliarlaster in Flammen aufgegangen- Beweise gibt es fast nie. Emdeutig isi dage- ; gen der passive Protest :eswirdof- ■ fen zur Schau getragen. d2B hier die Uhren anders geben. Kein Moslem in Kaschgar r'htet sich nach der Beijing-Zeit, m3n beginnt sein Tagwerk zwei Sruenden ipater. Nur die chinesischen Beamten in Buros und Verv aligungen «ind zeitig um neun Uhr anzutref- fr*.

' '.WeiBt du, die Schlitzaugen (berrennen uns hier einfach", er- lihlen ein paar junge Manner nachts in einem Teehaus -In acn Volkskommunen, Fabriken und MilitarlagernindamdicSudtie- ben fail nur noch Han. Irgcnd wann sind wireinc kle.ne Minder heit." Doch so einfach win! das nicht gehen Denn selbst die Ju- BCDdwcicEcnsich.vondcrchincs'

*“srs-“

keioder Pakistan.

SSasasssa
gSsssM

Ein GenuB, den die chinesische Regierung mit schweren Strafc o . ahndet. Doch fast niemand halt ; *tch an das Verbot. Selbst im fer- *>en Shanghai sind die uigurischen J ^EV*S «n-SdiwarzhSndler did be- i stcAdrcsse.wenndcrStoffausge- gangenist.

DerUeezzh) mft wieder nm Gebet

Nirgend wo in Giina habe ich so viele junge Leute getroffen, die ein so schlechtes Chinesisch spre- chenwieimhinterstenZipfeiXin- jiangs. Selbst in der Grofistadt Kaschgar sind viele junge Manner nur in die Koranschule gegangen, die Madchen bleiben meist zu- hause. Wenn die jungen Leute chinesisch reden, dann nur, um sich bei Fremden zu bcschweren. -In Kaschgarsiehtesvielleichtsoaus, als ware unserc Tradition ge- wahrt", meint Mustafia (20l. -doch auf alien wichtigen Posten in der Provinz sitzen Chinesen".

-Selbst wenn wir einen guten SchulabschluB haben, ist es so gut wie ausgeschlossen. daB wir eine Stelle in der Verwahrung bekom- men", meint sein Freund Mech- met. Er habe einen ni rkischen On- kel in West-Berlin, berichtst er i triumphierend. Dcn willier indrei ! Woche. besuc'nen. Im Herbst be- ginnt sein Srudium in der Tiirkei. DasFlugticketablsamabadhater bereits in der Tasche Mechraets Vater fnegt mi; Er ist Kaufmann und willeir paarGeschiiiftsverbin- dungenherstcllcr.. DasFlugticket zu bezahler. - war kein Problem'. Der 21 jahrige, der taglich im teu- j reriAnzugundmiiBallonmiiizeim Teehaus hinter Kaschgars groBer -ld Kah'-Moschee zu treffer. ist, leot vom Dev iscschwarzhandel und dern Veischieoen von Kon- sumgiitern

-Klagen gehort hier zum Alltag", mein; ein junger Lehrcr. Er 1 hat in Beijing studien und kehrt jetzt wieder in seine Heimatstadt Hodian zuruick: Sein Gehalt ist doppeh so hoch wie anderswo. -Naturlicr sind wir hier im We- sten auf dem Sund eines annen Entwickluugslandes", aagt er, -doch ohne die Chinesen ginge es uns noch viel schlechter".

in der Tat finden auch viele Moslems in Kaschgar, daJ5 sich in den letzten drei Jahren vieles ge- ^ Y L andert hat. -Seit Deng Xiaoping an der Macht ist, hat zumindest die vordergruindige Unterdruekung ein Ende", meint ein Handler hn mittleren Alter. FOR die Uiguren und die anderen Minderheiten gilt nicht die Norm der chinesischen Ein-Kind-Familie. Obcrall in der Provinz mft der Muezzin taglich funfmal zum Gebet. In den Ver- kaufsbuden rund um Kaschgars ld Kah-Moschee sind wieder die Ko- ran-Handler eingezogen. Nach* schub gibts aus Pakistan.

Pakistan Connection

Seit drei Jahren unterhalten die beiden Lander wieder einen klci- nen Grenzverkehr. Uber den gut ausgebauten Pakistan-High way sollen auch die Waffen rollen, die China dem afghaniseben Wider- stand gegen die russischen Besat- zer spendet. Immer wieder wird in der Hongkonger Presse behaupt- et, China habe dem islamischen NachbarlandbeiderEntwicklung ! vod Atom waffen geholfen. Das Versuchsgebiet soil in Xinjiangs Wiistenliegen. Amgeheimmsvol- len Salzsee Lop Nor, den der Asienforscher Sven Hedin An- fang des Jahrhunderts vergeblich suchte, testen zumindest die Volkschinesen ihre Atomwaffen. Injungster Zeit ist dagegen Protest laut geworden (vgl. taz von ge- stem).

Im -Park-Hotel" der Oasen- stadi hat sich im Sommer fur mehrere Wochen ein vornehmer uig- urischer Handler aus Raval Pindi einquaniert.Eristhierhergekom- mcn, um Entschadigung fur sei- nen Familienbesitz zu bekom- men Sein Vater war vor dem chi- nesischen Biirgerkrieg GroB- gnmdbesitzer und Statthalter der l KMT. Seit die KP in Beijing 1 Friede mit alien vertriebenenAus- | landschinesen geschlossen hat, kommenauchMitgliederderalten uigurischen Familienclans in der Hoffnung zuriick, ihre Eltemhau- •er wieder beziehen zu konnen.

Phnlergeist

Die ZentralrcgieruQg hat Xin- jiang zur -Entwicklungszone" er- klan.ImWustensandunddenBer- gen der unwirtlichea Gegend wer-

den 118 verschiedene Rohstoffe
verrautet, vorallemOI, Kohleund
zahlreiche seltene Metalle. Dar-
Ober hin3us isi die Region uner-
meBlich reich an Wcideland und
Obstplantagen. .Auslandische
Wissenschaftler haben Xinjiang,
nbcn dem Amazonasbecken
und der Sahara, als eines der
drei gro- Ben unerschlossenen
Gebiete auf dem Globus
gepriesen", frob- lockte
Parteichef Hu Yaobangbei
seinem letzten Besuch im
August. Uberall in der Region
schie&en Pioniersiedlungen,
Fabriken, Erzgruben und
landwirtschaft-

liche Betriebe aus dem Boden.

, HierliegtnachdenVorstellungen
der ehrgeizigen Wirtschaftsplan-
ner Chinas Siedlungsgbiet fur
das nachste Jahrhundert. Fette
Gehaltszuschlage sollen
nachhel- fen, da sich kein
Chinese aus dem Osten freiwillig
in der Ode nieder- l&fit.

InderGrenzprovinz.wosowje-
tische und chinesische Soldaten
noch 1969 aufeinander schossen,
sollen jetzt zahlreiche Hotel-
GroBprojekte fur Entspannung j
sorgen.Amschlimmstendurftees i
den -Himmelssee" in der Nach-
barschaft der Provinz-Hauptstadt
Urunqi erwischt haben. An dem
traumhafi schonen Seeufer.das an
Kanada Oder die Schweizer Alpen
erinnert, sollen sich in wenigen
Jahren Hotelturme fur auslandische
und einheimische Touristen in den
Himmel strecken. Ob es die don
ansassigen Nomadenfami-
lien freilich begrüBen. daB sie mit ihren
Pferden und in ihren Junen nur
noch Touristenattraktion sind, ist
allerdings fraglich. -Ge- hort der
Boden nach der Auflo- sung der
Volkskommunen dem Staat Oder
den Clans?" wolhe ich von einem
Familienoberhaupt wissen, der in
einem der Zehe wohnt, die
verstreut um den See liegen -Das
ist und bleibt Kasa- chen-Land",
entgegnete er und stampfte mit
seinem Lederstiefel auf den Boden.

Ef'nmsi Mekka md

w/w/m/li

Von Jurgen Kremb *1

Kaschgar (Iaz) — Im auBersten Westzipfel Chinas Icbcn heute noch ubcr sechs Miillionen Moslems. Wahrend die Regierung im ft: in n Beijing die auionome Xin- jl.v.g-Region zu ihrem Rohstoff- Licferanten fur das 21. Jahrhun- d'.r ausbauen will, verluft das Iighehe Leben in den Oasensiad- und Wfistcn nach den strengen RcgldnesKorans.

Dcr Hof rund uir. die verstreut liegenden Gebaude der .Pension Kaschgar Nummer Drei" gleich einer Kara^anserei. Wer in sein Zimmer will, muB fiber in Tuch eingenahte Warenbfindel sieigen. Im Schatien der wenisen Baume suchen verschleiene Frauen and Manner in langen Umhangen Schutz vor der gflhend heiBen Minagssonne. Ein leichter Wind decktallesmitfcinemSandzu.Die Quecksilbersaule steigt bisweilen auf 45 Grad im Schatten.

I
Jeden Tag warten hier im Sommer mehrere hunden moslemi-

sche Pilgr auf den Bcginn ihrer Reise nach Mckka 4.000Kilome- ter sind cs bis Warcnstuck. bevor es in der Nachl in zu der Heiligcn Stadi. kaummehrs als in die Richtung Islamabad ver- chinc- sische Hauptsyadi Beijing. Doch die KaabaschcintdcmDcnkenund Fiihlcn Bussen. dcr Menschen in Chinas westlichsier GroBstadi Kaschgar wesentlich naher zu liepen als dcr Sitz des Politburos der KP in Beijing.

Janrhundcrilang verband sich mil dem Namen Kaschgar immer ein Hauch vom abenicurlichen Zemralasien. hier". AlsOascandarsud- lichen SeidcnstraBc- gelegen, war die weitlaufige Siadi immer .kauft unsere Regierung ; schon ein wichtiger Handelsschnitt- punkti zwischen Osi und West, aber auch eine Truiburg des Islam.

Hinter den klotzigen Hauscrn und Siadmaucr aus Lehm spun man bis heuie cine Stimmung aus langst vergangenem Tagcn. Sonn-

ags ircibcn alie Manner mil maje- staischen Biinen Schafherdcn zum Verkauf in die Stadt. Einige haben noch ein sites SteinschloB- gewehrgeschulicri. Sieiragendie iradilionck-n Trachicn Zentral- asiens.ImGuriclMeckieinDolch. die alien Frauen haben cincnbrau- nen Schleier vorm Gcsichi. dcr niehl mal cinen Sehschlit? frei- laBi. Jungcn Madc'nen \ or der Ehc ist vurschriftsmaBig das Haar zu einem 7.opf zusammengebunden. AndenMarkistundenbaumelnge- schlachicic Fetisicibhommel. Es riecht nach fnschem Fladenbrot und Schaschlik. Niehl nur bunie Sioffe mil iirkischem Muster, sondern auch rassige Pferde und Kamelc wechschn hrcnBcsiizer.

Hinter der niichsien Gebirgs- kclte ieg! die fibers iegendisiami- sehc Sowjel- Republik Kirgiesien. Afghanistan ist nah und nach Islamabad fahn man nzweiTagenauf einergu' ausgebauten SiraBe.

Zwischen den Pilgern im Hof dcr .Pension Kaschgar Nummer Drei" haben pakisianische Zoll-

A herinangestaubtenUniformenei- nen Schreibisch aufgcsielli. Pc- daniisch genau registrieren sie jc- dcs Warcnstuck. bevor es in der Nachl in die Richtung Islamabad ver- Die Pilger folgen in engen klapprigen dicKaabaschcintdcmDcnkenund Fiihlcn Bussen.

„Seit 1981 in China die Reli- giortsfrciheit wiedcr garanucri ist“,erzahUeinMannimilileren Alter, ^pilgern immer mehr Fami- lien nach

Mekka“. Mehrere tau- send fuhren allein im Sommer 1985. .Die meisien Waren vom abenicurlichen Zemralasien. hier".

{ meini ein pakisianischer Zollbe- i amter, ; unsere Regierung ; Glaubensbrfidern ! daffir

. Damil ist jedem gedient. Die ! pakisianische Regierung verdiene ! DevisenundsammeliSympathie- ! punkicgegencdnErbfcindindicn. i Und die chincsische Verwaltung J Jtannsichsichcrsein.daBdieMin-

derheilen im siratcgisch wichti- gen Zemralasien bei der Stangc bleiben.

Aufstande Im„Wilden ■ Wester●

Das laten sic niimlich nicht im- jner. Z"ar war die Region ucst- lich von Tibet und den Hochcbe- nen der Qinghai- Provinz schon scii Jahrhundrien de facio unier chincsl.schcrKontrollc.dochwur- den die Wusten und Oascn cntlang der Seidenstrafie siets von lokalcn Stammcsfurstcn regiert.

ImSudendcrheutigen.autono- menProvinz Xinjiang" —dreimal so groB wie Frankreich — be- stimmienfrueherUigurendcnLauf der Geschichte. im Norden und in den Taishan-Bcrgen waren es die Nomaden-Volker der Kasachen und Tataren auf ihren pfeilschnel- len Pferden.

Heute stellen die Uiguren nur noch knapp die Halfte der 13 Miillionen Einwohner Kaschgars. 40 Prozent der Be' blkcrung sind cin- gewanderte Han- Chinesen. Die Uiguren sind eigentlieh ein Turk- volk. Hochgewachsen.mitlangen NascnundsfeuropaisYhemAus- sehen ist ihnen die chinesische Sprache und Kultur fast so fremd wie uns im fernen Europa. Doch mil dem der fernen Tfirkei deckt sich der Wortschatz aus West- china zu gut 70 Prozent.

pr o

s£SSSa*

f!^V"lUar_m« i5^h:-n-kvo,
"^\schic^^K.schf.,

. ^cht« Stan_m\,h V ^a**"> mufticn df. ^ng-
Trunn^n ° c Guomin-

‘■ Vttsssj

Sud, ^B_c S_r'voik™ J"haU'd"
^oiKsarnice cine es

Sunn WarCn ^hrC Versor* gungs-Konvois
durch die Wiisten
von Chinas w.ldcm Wesien nicht vor
unvorhergcschcnen Angrif- i cn ^cr herntenen
Stammeskrie- I gersicher.

Ganz anders als die Tibeter wa- ren
die Nomaden und Ousenb- wohner
Xinjiangs Mets an kriege- l rische
Auseinandersetzungen gc- ' wohnl.
Schon Anfang de.s Jahr- j
hundertstarben Hunderttausend j im
Freiheitskampf gegen die ! •Truppen deb
letzten chinesischen j Kaisers.

Nichi umsonst sind die Dolche [
aus Westchina im ganzen Land bc-
kannl. Als die Unidruckur.g der
lokalen Religion in den zehn Jah-
render Kulturrevolution (1966 bis
1976) zum landesweiten System ^
wurde, stief die chinesische Zen-
tralregierung hier auf besonderen

Beijingzelt—Kaschgarzelt

Der leizic gewaltsame Auf- stand
wurde 1981 registriert. An- gchlich
soll ein Han-Chinesc da- mals ein
Uigurcn ermordet ha- hen. Ein
chinesischer Richter sprach den
Landsmann frei. Es kam zu
gewaltsamen Dcmonstra-
tionen. die Armee riickzuziehen gab
minderndes zehn Toic.

AiKhkuciwrcrdnindenStra- | hen
Kaschgars Gcschichcn vom i
Widumand erzahh. Mai hai eine !
herinenc Bande cine chinesische
Poli/ei-Slotion uberfallen. dann wied'-r
soll ein Militarlasicr in Flammen
aufgegangen. Beweise gibl es fast me.
Eindeutig isl dage- gender passive
Protest es wird of- fen zur Schau
geiragen. dail hier die Uhren anders
gehen. Kein Moslem in Kaschgar richt
sich nach der Beijing-Zeit, man be-
ginnl sein Tagwrcrk zwei Stunden
spiter. Nur die chinesischen Be-
amten in Burns und Verwaltungen sind zeitig
um neun Uhr anzutref- fen.

Wei lit du, die Schlitzaugen
uberrennen uns hier einfach". er-
zahlen ein paar junge Manner nachs
in einem Teehaus. „In den
Volkskommunen. Fabriken und
Militarlagern rund um die Stadtle-
ben fast nur noch Han. Irgend-
wann sind wir cine kleine Minder-
heit.“ Doch so einfach wird das
nicht gehen. Denn selbsi die Ju-
gendwcigert sich. vonden chinesi-
schen Einheits-Unkultur assimi-
liert zu werden. Meine Ge-
sprchspartner sind so gckleidct. als
kamen sie gerade aus der Tiir-
kei «, dcr Pakistan.

Bis nachts um zwei Uhr sitzen sie
beim duftenden Fladenbrot
und Fleischspieflaufen auf den
und in den Teehausern. Manchmal
liegen suite Ka'ucnschwaden von
schwarzem Afghan in der Luft. Ein
Gcnul). den die chinesische ! Rcgitru-
ng mil schweren Strafen I ahndet.
Doch fast niemand halt sich an das
Verbot. Selbsi im fer- nen Snan-
ghai sind die uigurischen Dcviscn-
Schwarzhandler die be-
stc Acircssc. wenn der Stoff ausge-
gangcn ist.

Der Muezzin ruft wieder zum Gebet

Nirgendwo in China habe ich so
viele ;ungc Leute getroffen. die ein
schlechtes Chinesisch spre- chen
wie im hintersten Zipfel Xin-
jiangs Selbsi in der Grofstadt
Kaschgar sind viele junge
Manner nur in die Koranschule
gegangen. die Miidchen bleiben
meist zuhause. Wcndie jungen
Leute chinesisch reden. dann
nur. um sich bei Fremden zu
beschweren. -In i Kaschgar
sichtcs vicleicht so aus.

! als ware unsere Tradition gc-
; wahr". meint Mustafa (20). -
doch auf alien wichtigen
Posten in der Provinz sitzen
Chinesen".

-Selbst wenn wir einen guten
Schulabschluss haben, ist es so
gut wie ausgeschlossen. dafl wir
eine Stelle in der Verwaltung be-
kommen", meint sein Freund
Mechmet. Er habe ein tiirkisches
Onkel in West-Berlin, berichtet
er triumphierend. Den will er
in drei Wochen besuchen. Im
Herbst beginnt sein Studium in
der Tiirkei. Das Flugticket ab
Islamabad hat er bereits in der
Tasche. Mechmets Vater fliegt
mit. Er ist Kaufmann und
willein paar Geschafte verbin-
dungen herstellen. Das Flug-
ticket zu bezahlen .war kein
Problem". Der 21jahrige, dcr
taglich im tucuren Anzug und
mit Ballonmützcn

Tschang hinter Kaschgars großgrundbesitzer und Statthalter der KMT. Kah-Moschee zu treffen ist, lebt vom Scit die KP in Beijing. Fricke mit alien Devisenschwarzhandel und demvertriebenen Auslandschinesen. Verschieben von Konsumgütern. geschlossen hat, kommen auch

.Klagen gchdr Bier /um Alltag" Mitglieder deralichen uigurischen mcint cinjunger l.cir. Er hat in Beijing Familienclans in der Hoffnung /uriek. studiert und kehrt jetzt wieder in seine ihre Elternhaus wieder heimlich zu Heimatstadt Hodian zurück: Sein können.

Gehalt ist doppelt so hoch als in Pionier&Cist anderswo. Natürlich sind wir hier in Die Zentralregierung bat Xinjiang Westen auf dem Stand eines armen /ur ..F-tv.ii | lung.* nVcr- klin. Entwicklungslands", sagt er. doch linWuvtehsandundd.ri Bergen der ohne die Chinesen gingt cs unwirtschaftlichen Gegendur- den 118 unsnochvielschlechter".' verschiedene Rohstoffe

fn der Tat (Tndcn aucii viclc jvcrmutet.vorallemOI.Kohlend Moslems in Kaschgar. daft sich in j den zahlreichen seltene Metalle. Dar- &KT let/ten drei Jahren viclcs ge- ändert hat.Amaus ist die Region utter- mcftl.ch .Scit Deng Xiaoping anderMachjrcich an Wcidcland und . Obstplaniagcn. ist.hatzumindcstdic vordergrundige.Ausijndische Wissensschafflcr iuhcn Untcrdruckung cin Ende". mcint cmXinjiang, neben dem Ama/onashceken Handler im | mittlren Alter. Fur dieuud der Sahara, a.s cines der drci gr"- Uigurn j und die anderen Mindrhcitcnftcn unerschlossencn Gcbiete auf dem gilt mcht die Norm der chincsischen Ein.Globus gcpricscn". froh- locktc Kind-Familie liberal! in der ! Provinz ruftPartichef Hu Yaobang bei scincm der Muezzin taglich fiinfmal zum Gebet. Inlct/ten Bcsuch im August, librali ir. der den Vcr- • kaufsbudenrundum KaschgarsRegion schtctfen Pioniersiedlungen. id j Kah- Moschee sind wieder die Ko- jFabriken. Erzgruben und landwirtschafiran-Handler eingc/ogcn. Nach- jliche Bctricbc aus dem BoJcn. Hierliegt schubgiblsaus Pakistan. n.ichden Vorstellungen der chrgcizigen Wirtschaftspla- i ncr Chinas Siedlungsgcbiete fur das nachste

Pakistan Connection

Scit drci Jahren unternahm die solich nachhcl- | fen. da beiden Lander wieder einen klei- nen, sichkeinChincsc aus dem 1 Osten Grenzverkehr. Uber den gut ausgebauten freiwillig inderOde meder- j lam. Pakistan-Highway solich auch die Waffen, InderGrenzprovinz.wosowjc j rollcn. die China dem afghanischen tische und chincsische Soldaten i noch Wider- j stand gegen die russischen, 1969 aufcinandcr schossen. Besat- ' zerspendet. immerwiederwirdin solich jet/t zahlreiche Hotcl- i der Hongkongcr Prcsse bchaup- tet, Groftproickt fur Entspannung sorgen. Cnina ha be dent islamischen, Am schlimmsten durftc es den Nachb.jrland bei der Entwicklung | von, "Himmclssec" in der Nach- barschaft der As-rtv. i-:Vcn scholfen. Das, Provinz-Hauptstadi Urunqi crwischt Vcrsuchsgebiet soil in Xinjiangs | haben. An dem traumhaft schoncn Wiistcnlicgen.Amgehcinisvol- lcn, Sccufcr, das an Kanada oderdic Salzsee Lop Nor, den der ' Asienforschcr Schwcizcr Alpen crinnert, solich sich in Sven Hedin An- fang des Jahrhunderts, wenigen Jahren Hotcltiirmc fur auslandische und einheimische Touristen in den vergeblich suchtt. testen zumindest die, Himmel strecken. Ob cs die dort Volkschinesen ihre Atomwaffen. ansassigen Nomadenfami- lien freilich InjiingsterZ.eit istdagegen Frotst laut begruften. daft sic mil ihren Pferden und gcworden (vgl. taz von ge- stern). in ihren Jurten nur noch

Im .Park Hotel" der Oasen- siadt hat sichTouristenattraktion sind, ist allerdings im Sommer fur meh- rerc Wochen einfraglich. .Gchdr dcr Bocen nach der vornchnter uigu- rischer Handler ausAuflo- sung der Volkskommunen dem i Raval Pindi ■Staat oder den Clans?" wolltc ich von einquartiert.Enstlichrcgekom- men. umeincm Familienoberhaupt wissen. der in Emschadigung fur sci- ; neneinem der Zelle wohnt. die versicut um Familienbesitz zu bekom- ! men. Scinden See liegen. .Das ist und bleibt Vatcr war vordemchi- | nesischenKasa- chcn-Land", entgegnete er und Burgerkrieg Graft- stampftc mit seinem Lederstiefel auf den Boden.

Oppressed Peoples of the Silk Road

SUMMARY: Kashgar, in western China's Xinjiang-Uighur Autonomous Region, resembles a Central Asian town from the Middle Ages. Now Chinese leaders are planning to modernize the region: not to help the local population, but to bring in millions of Han Chinese to develop the area's natural resources and tighten Peking's grip on the area, which contains more than 1,200 miles of strategic frontier with the Soviet Union. The native Uighurs complain that Han Chinese settlers get the best jobs and housing. Violence between the Uighurs and Chinese in 1981 was followed by steps to make life easier for the Uighurs. Improvements in transportation promise new prosperity for the region.

A caravan of shaggy, dark-brown camels emerges from a choking dust storm. Bearded, turbaned men with parched faces stagger by in tattered, black knee-high boots, drearily following the fabled footsteps of Marco Polo across one of the world's worst deserts.

This is Kashgar, at the western tip of the People's Republic of China's westernmost political subdivision, Xinjiang-Uighur Autonomous Region. East of here is the Gobi, where man and beast struggle to stay alive in temperatures that can soar to 116 degrees and plunge to minus 20 degrees. The ancient Silk Road ribbons through these dead landscapes of western China, a miserable region that locals call *Taklamakan* — "enter and you can never return."

Kashgar is China's last town on the old Silk Road before it wanders 200 miles southward along the border of the Soviet

Union and Afghanistan and climbs the Pamir mountains into northern Pakistan. Once a nest of international intrigue and assassination carried out by spies, diplomats, rebels and foreigners, Kashgar still resembles Central Asia at the time of the writing of the Koran.

Many of Kashgar's Muslim women veil themselves with brown cloth draped completely over their heads. Mysteriously, though their faces are hidden, the women still recognize each other in the chaotic bazaars. Many houses are dank mud hovels connected by a labyrinth of lanes and tunnels. Too poor to afford cars, most people pile atop creaking wooden carts pulled by big-eared donkeys to travel twisting streets.

In the dusty, unpaved markets, men argue over the prices of locally made daggers, boots, carpets and fur caps. Others hammer red-hot steel on anvils to make

tools and horseshoes, as if the industrial revolution were just beginning.

Sundays in Kashgar are much like Sundays in the Middle Ages. A weekend market brings thousands to trade skins, clothing, food and animals. In a clearing, burly men take turns test-riding horses at a thundering speed, while nearby dozens of Bactrian camels await buyers. The most comical sight is that of prospective customers astride mischievous donkeys careening through the crowd, sending people running and shouting in all directions.

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping claims he wants to modernize Kashgar and the rest of Xinjiang. But the communist plan is not solely for the benefit of the local non-Chinese Muslims who live there. Instead, Peking wants millions of Han Chinese to move into Xinjiang, become the majority and reap vast profits in minerals, petroleum and other natural resources, diplomats and analysts say.

China announced recently the appointment of Tomur Dawamat as the new governor of Xinjiang, replacing Ismail Amat. The motive for the shift is unclear. The People's Daily, the mouthpiece of the government, said Dawamat, 58, was chairman of the provincial legislature. Several hundred students from Xinjiang, demonstrating in Peking's Tiananmen Square

<1)

eee?,?c-^

tea.

JY?-

A huge statue of Mao Tse-tung still dominates Kashgar's skyline. Today, resentment against the Chinese simmers

*mid' despan. We want independence and liberation from the Qiinese," says a Uighur, who describes himself as a member of the illegal Turkish Party, an obscure resistance group headquartered in Kashgar.

.. "So many Chinese people come to Xinjiang. The economy now favors only the Qiinese. They get the jobs. Uighurs have oo jobs, no good homes, so many sleeping in the street. Many Uighurs are in prison for politicsT he says.

"Uighurs arc angry, the)' have a very' miserable life. The Qiinese have a good life, good food, high buildings. Uighurs must learn Chinese to progress, but the Chinese cannot speak the Uighur language," be adds.

"We want to fight, but we have no guns. Now it is very hopeless. People are poor Many, many Uighurs have lost their customs and changed to Chinese customs."

He claims his group has "thousands" of members, but it is impossible to determine whether be is exaggerating He admits the group is "underorganized" and has no foreign assistance because it finds cross- border operations impossible.

The most recent hostilities between Chinese and Uighurs erupted in 1981 when a Chinese shot and killed a Uighur during a quarrel over digging a ditch. Thousands of Uighurs rampaged for hours, killing two Chinese, before the army calmed the two

groups and meted out lengthy prison i terms, Western reports said.

To relieve the tension, Deng quickly allowed mosques to reopen and replaced several Chinese officials. The move was designed to ease cultural and economic life for Uighurs. Since then, Kashgar and several other Xinjiang cities have been opened to foreign tourists, and trade between China and Pakistan has improved, bringing new prosperity to the Silk Road.

Tourists stay in hotels that are monuments to Kashgar's turbulent history The Soviet Embassy, from which the czar's representatives plotted to control Xinjiang. has been a hotel since the last Soviet diplomat left in 1958. The former British Embassy, where explorer Peter Flemming once stayed before the colonialists left India on the Asian subcontinent, has also become z hotel.

Residents and officials say roads, ra. | way lines, airport facilities and other links to the outside world have been upgraded, thus improving life in Xinjiang, an area the size of West Germany, France and Italy combined.

The railway line that connects the rest of China with Xinjiang's capital of Urumqi is to be extended west to join a Soviet railway at Alatau Pass, Chinese officials say "It should bring prosperity to us," says a Xinjiang railway official, "as it is expected to help boost trade between Xinjiang and Central Asia, the Middle East and Europe."

— Richard Erlich

Sfe^sas

"T* difficult, V^W>)e. QnSv t&? ^ be. wflj be *@B of unusual terii^S,!!L^X^Lvisib,c communist giants T^cSfi^" ** ^

<Jo live IT Xinjiang are Muslims

rS>stnf ^hora speak Turkic languages and use Ara- bj: script oc some signs and publications These groups include the Kirghiz and K^aks — known in the Soviet UnioD as Cwsacks — along with the Tajiks, Tatars and occasional White Russians who fled during purges in their homeland. Some Xibei, or "NorJicasterocrs,"also live here, transplanted from China's distant northeast 300 years ago to form a border guard.

The most populous Muslim group is the Uighurs, who use extensive irrigation to grow fruit, wheat, cotton and rice in the towns of Xinjiang — in reality, little more than oases. Anthropologists say their faces mix Indo-Iranian and Mongoloid features.

Such ethnic distinctions may soon be academic. Xinjiang's populanon was 4.9 million in 1949, including only 300,000 Han Chinese. Since then, about 5 million Har. Chinese have poured in, helping to bring the tola] population to more than 11 million The Uighurs and Kazaks were the province's biggest groups before the communists came. Soy.' Peking labels them "ethnic minorities."

Non -Chinese, unhappy over the influx r ernmeers

suffered further during the

tJSSS Krous 1966-1976 CuJ-

"S^lution, which tued the BW- ^7. of nomads, collectivized farming de-



Many Uighur cover their beads in keeping with Muslim tradition.

EASTERN TURKISTAN: THE FACTS OF 'AUTONOMY'

There has been some changes in the Chinese policy towards Muslims and towards the former Muslim republic of Eastern Turkistan, renamed by them as Xinjiang. But as the following report from Mehmet Allahverdi shows the East Turkistanis still face a big backlog of discrimination and suppression and the Chinese leadership has still a long way to go in restoring the freedoms and fundamental rights of the Muslims of Eastern Turkistan in the proper sense of the words.

What are known as the Soviet Socialist Republics of Kazakhstan, Kirgizia, Tajikistan, Turkmenia and Uzbekistan together with the autonomous Utghur Region in China represent the far northern and north-eastern limits of the Muslim world in Asia.

The historical name of Sinkiang or Xinjiang is 'Eastern Turkistan' and it is known as such among its natives and their kinsmen across the borders in Western Turkistan (Central Asia). The Chinese named it 'Sinkiang' in the last quarter of the 19th century; and in 1955, it was called 'Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region'. The word 'Sinkiang or Xinjiang' in Chinese means "New land". Thus, it signifies that this area was not a part of China prior to its annexation in 1884.

Eastern Turkistan has been a scene of rivalry between the indigenous inhabitants and the Chinese long before the dawn of Islam in this area. The Chinese, finally succeeded in establishing their rule in 1759 C.E. Since then, the Turkic Muslims, the inhabitants of this area, have rebelled 42 times against them, and declared 'Eastern Turkistan' independent on three occasions as follows:

1. Emirate (1865-1877)
2. Muslim Republic of Eastern Turkistan (1933-34).
3. Eastern Turkistan Republic (1944-49).

The Muslim Republic (1933-34) was invaded by the Chinese with active support of the Russians whose forces carried out a large-scale massacre of the Muslims. The last Republic (1944-49) was about

to gain international recognition, when again the Russians colluded with Nationalist China and ultimately the Republic fell to the Communists in 1949. In fact, the Russians have never liked an independent Muslim State to exist in this area.

Population?

The July 1982 census gives the population of Eastern Turkistan as slightly over 13 million (13,081,681); 7 millions being Muslims. (Impartial observers are unanimous in declaring the official figures greatly inaccurate, but differ in what the real figure should be). The Muslim population consists of Turkic ethnic groups such as Uighur, Kazakh, Kinghiz, Uzbek and Tatar. The number of Dungans (Chinese Muslims) is only nominal. The remaining 6 millions are Hans (Chinese by origin and not Muslims), Russians, Mongols, Sibos, Manchus, etc. Among the non-Muslim population, the Hans are the largest group at present.

The composition of population in Eastern Turkistan has been radically changed by the Communist regime since 1949, by transporting Hans from China proper to Eastern Turkistan. The population of some of the important ethnic groups in 1949 and 1983 is given below to help understand the change:

Ethnic group	Population in	
	1949	1983
Uighur	75%	46%
Kazakhs	10%	6%
Other Turkic groups	5%	1%
Hans	5%	45%
Dungans	3%	1%
Others	2%	1%

*These figures are official and not taken as reliable.

From this table, it will be observed that the population of Turkic Muslims has been reduced from 90% in 1949 to 53% in 1983 while that of the Hans increased from 5% in 1949 to 45% in 1983. The position shall change further, because the Chinese government continues to bring Hans from China to Eastern Turkistan, and to increase the Han component to outnumber the Turkic Muslims.

There were some seasoned political leaders among Turkic Muslims who had worked for Eastern Turkistan Republic (1944-49). Instead of granting the right of self-determination, as promised in 1945, Mao Tse-tung started to eliminate them from the political scene. A number of them were executed in order to keep the political field confined to the Communist Party.

Eastern Turkistan is ruled by a Party Committee of the Chinese

Communist Party (CCP). In the Party Committee of Eastern Turkistan, all important posts viz: first secretary, second secretary and third secretary are held by the Hans. Only two Turkic Muslims viz: Ismail Ahmad and Caodanoufa Zhayier are in the Party Committee; the former is secretary, while the latter is member of a Standing Committee.

Administrative representation

The administration of Eastern Turkistan is dominated by the Hans who occupy most of the political posts. In 1981, the ratio of the Han and the Turkic Muslims in the political hierarchy was as follows:-

POLITICAL APPARATUS	Total No. of posts.	Post held by Hans.	Posts held by Turkic Muslims.
First Political Commissar	1	1	—
2nd Political Commissar	1	1	—
Political Commissars	1	1	—
Depute Political Commissars	5	4	1
Director Political Department	1	1	—
	10	8	2

The Turkic Muslims have been given only 20% of the total posts whereas they are 53% of the population. The posts held by the Hans are far greater than their

The officially declared autonomous status of Eastern Turkistan is an illusion. The province is being ruled by the Chinese: Central Government through the Communist Party which is dominated by Hans. The Turkic Muslims who are the original inhabitants of the area, and form a majority, have not been given any rights, much less political power.

position of Hans and Turkic Muslims in the UMR's Army, Air Force and Militia in 1981 - was as shown in the table (opposite page).

The UMR has two types of Militia: Ordinary Militia and Armed Militia. A good number of Turkic Muslims have been given training in the Ordinary Militia. But very few of them have been taken in to the Armed Militia.

The Northern Military District of the UMR covers the Ili area, from where the movement for Eastern Turkistan Republic had started in 1944. It is significant to note that this Command is entirely composed of Han soldiers. Similarly, Army technicians posted on nuclear installations at Lop Nor and electronic Intelligence-gathering equipment are all Han.

From the above details it will be seen that representation of Turkic Muslim natives in higher ranks of the Armed Forces is almost nil. In the lower ranks also, they are far below the ratio of their population.

Economic deprivation

The Turkic Muslims have faced untold hardships at the hands of the Communist Government. During the 'Great Leap Forward' and 'Commune Campaign', their lands were confiscated, livestock taken over by the government and markets were closed. The government cared nothing for their traditional life style. They were

The armed forces

Since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979, the Chinese government has given the Western frontier regions a strategic entity named the 'Urumqi Military Region' (UMR). The UMR is composed mainly of Eastern Turkistan. It has been divided into three Military Districts; Northern, Southern and Eastern. The

Snaking through regions of breathtaking beauty

Silk Route is all set to hum again

By Azhar Masood
Arab News Correspondent

ISLAMABAD — The land traffic between Pakistan and the People's Republic of China will begin in May this year through Karakoram Highway, commonly known as the Silk Route which Marco Polo followed hundreds of years ago. China is linked with Pakistan at the Khunjerab Pass and for tourists it would be a fascinating experience to travel from Khunjerab to the Chinese city of Kashgar — the first Chinese town in the province of Sinkiang — which, the Chinese say, offers all the facilities for tourists.

Pakistan's northern areas are as fascinating as its southern region. It is here that the world's three famous mountain ranges — the Himalayas, the Karakoram and the Hindu-kush — meet. The whole of northern Pakistan now attracts mountaineers, trekkers and hikers.

In the northern regions of Pakistan, a stone's throw from the Amu Darya is Bam-i- Dunya— "the roof of the world." This is the name given to the Pamir Plateau, the apex of the six mightiest mountain ranges of the world.

The historic Karakoram Pass is 5,574.79 meters (18,290 ft) above sea level. It is an ancient trading route between Kashmir and Sinkiang. The eastern boundary of Karakoram is the upper Shyok River from where it extends to over 321.87 km (200 miles) westward to the Karumbar River and the Hindukush. To the north the Karakoram is the Shaksgam tributary of the Yarkand River and to the South the Indus. Here, the 8,107.68-meter Nanga Parbat massif is the western anchor of the great Himalayan range.

Such is the setting of the Karakoram range, the remnant of a primeval Ice Age, with extensive glacier systems and the greatest concentration of lofty mountains. Some of the largest glaciers outside the subpolar regions are in the Karakoram. For its sheer grandeur and breathtaking beauty few places can match the superb landscape through which the Karakoram Highway passes a trip along the highway adjacent to the Batura glaciers, rated among the world's seven largest, glaciers, is a fantastic experience.

The Batura glacier is 58 km long. But the most outstanding of these "rivers of ice" is the 62-km Baltoro. The mighty glacier fed by some 30 tributaries constitutes a surface area of 1,219.39 sq. km. Of the fourteen 8000-meter peaks on earth, four occupy an amphitheater at the head of the Baltoro. These are K-2 (8,611.5 meters) second only to Everest Broad Peak (8,046.72 meters), Gasherbrum (8,068 meters), and Gasherbrum II (8,034.52 meters) are the other three.

Seen from a distance, the Baltoro appears smooth and beautiful but in fact it is a chaotic tumbling mass of rock and ice, troughs and hillocks and the debris of centuries. It is a unique remote corner of earth. Here, in the frozen wilderness of crag, cornices and crevasses, rise towering spires of granite, great snowy peaks with fluted icy ridges and pinnacles that pierce the sky.

In the Lesser Karakoram there are equally great peaks such as Rakaposhi 7,788 meters, the dominant giant in the Hunza Valley. Its north face is a fantastic precipice-5,791.2 meters of plunging snow and ice.

The western bastion of the Himalayan range is Nanga Parbat, once dreaded as the "killer mountain" but climbed many times over by various expeditions. Swat and Kaghan valleys, which lie in the Lesser Himalayas, too, contain many fine peaks.

In 1954 the Karakoram range of Pakistan was opened for mountaineering and more recently for trekking. In the early part of the century when the intrepid Italian, Luigi Amedeo Guisepe, better known as the Duke of Abruzzi, explored the approaches to K-2 his baggage included a chamber-pot and carpets. As late as 1948, Tilman roamed about on two donkeys journeying all the way to Kashgar. In 1975 the Americans employed nearly 700 porters on their unsuccessful attempts to climb K-2. In 1977 Reinhold Messner climbed Nanga Parbat — solo.

Skardu, capital of Baltistan, is perched 2,438.40 meters above sea level in the backdrop of the great peaks of the Karakoram mountain range. Skardu is linked to the national capital of Islamabad by PIA which operates regular flights. The air journey is full of thrills and could itself be regarded as the highlight of the visit. After following the same air route which connects Gilgit to Islamabad / Rawalpindi, the plane turns right and flies over the gorge of the Indus River. Enormous rock faces rise on either side and at times it seems as if the wingtips of the plane would almost scrape against them. Baltistan is known as the "Tibet-e-Khurd" or Little Tibet, since the life-style of its people reflects that of the land of the Lamas.

fro

t s'*

borders on the Chinese province of Jammu and Kashmir and Indian-occupied Kashmir, the tourist season is from April to October. The maximum temperature is 26.67°C and the minimum (October) 7.22°C. Apart from the incomparable cluster of mountain peaks and glaciers, Baltistan's five valleys — Shigar, Skardu, Khaplu, Rondu and Khar-mang — are noted for their luscious peaches, apricots, apples and pears. Shigar valley, 32.18 km by jeep from Skardu, is the gateway to the mountain peaks of the Karakoram. Skardu has a historic fort atop a ridge, known as the Mindoq-Khar or Castle of Queen Mindoq, and three lovely lakes. The two — Cachura Lake 28.95 km and Satpara Lake 8.04 km from Skardu — are ideal for fishing.

- PIA operates a daily flight from Islamabad International Airport to Skardu. A gravel-top 241 km jeepable track connects
- Gilgit to Skardu. The journey takes six to eight hours. There are reasonably priced rest houses at Skardu, Satpara Lake, Shigar Valley, Khaplu and a tourist complex at Cachura Lake.
- At an elevation of 1,453.90 meters lies the
- Gilgit Valley. The quaint little town of Gilgit has spectacular scenic beauty. It's a refuge for seekers of solitude and peace. The peak

tourism season is from May to mid-October though the tourist season is round the year. The maximum temperature in May is 33.33°C and the minimum 16.11°C and in September: maximum: 28.33°C and minimum 10.55°C.

The favorite sport in Gilgit is polo which local folks claim originated here. It is a more rugged, freestyle version than the sedate variety known in the plains. The polo tournament held from Nov. 1 to 7 is a festive occasion and draws a large number of visitors.

The streams and lakes of Gilgit are full of trout. These are at Kargah Nullah, Singal, Gakuch, and Phandar. Permits for fishing are issued by the assistant director, fisheries, government of Pakistan, Gilgit.

Around Gilgit are towering mountain peaks, waiting to be scaled.

Trekking and hiking in the rugged mountains and verdant valleys of Gilgit are allowed only in the "open zone" which extends up to 10 miles short of the cease-fire line on the Kashmir border and up to 30 miles short of the Afghan border.

There are scores of summits peaking up to 7,000 meters in the Karakoram range. Of these K-2 is the undisputed leader. And then there are Broad Peak, massive and ugly, Murtagh Tower, deceptively sheer, Gasher-

II "the Egyptian pyramid" that even Cheops would have preferred for a tomb. The "Bride Peak," in whose clefts embrace lies Hermann Buh, the first man to climb Nanga Parbat.

The Hindukush is also a vast mountain range containing hundreds of peaks, many of them above 7,000 meters, including Nanga Parbat (7787.64 meters) - the highest point of the range.

Von Pakistan nach China

357

Der Khunjerab-Paß des Karakorum-Highways wird bald geöffnet

Die Presseabteilung der Pakistani-schen Botschaft veröffentlichte am 13. Januar 1986 die von Weltenbummlern lang ersehnte Nachricht, die pakistanische Grenze mit der chinesischen Provinz Sinkiang freigegeben wird. Nun ist es amtlich: Vom 1. Mai an dürfen ausländische Besucher mit gültigen Visa auf dem 1978 fertiggestellten Karakorum Highway (KKH), von Pakistan durch das Indus- und Hunzatal kommend, nach China einreisen.

Bislang endete die Reise für diejenigen, die auf Marco Polos Spuren und einem Seitenzweig der Seidenstraße wandeln wollten, kurz hinter Pasu (2550 Meter hoch) beim Batura-Gletscher und somit 120 Kilometer vor dem sich in schwindelnden Höhen befindlichen Khunjerab-Paß (4700 Meter).

Die allmähliche Öffnung der Nordgebiete Pakistans für den Tourismus seit 1978 hatte zunächst nur eine zweiwöchige Befahrung des KKH bis nach Karimabad (2230 Meter), der Hauptstadt Hunzas, möglich gemacht. Dafür benötigte man denials einen in Islamabad ausgestellter Passierschein. Im Jahre 1982 fiel dieser bürokratische Akt weg, und der KKH wurde bis zur Batura-Brücke freigegeben. So konnte man von Zentralhunza aus mehrere Dörfer in Oberhunza besuchen und war damit dem erhofften Ziel um 45 Kilometer näher gekommen.

Am 27. August 1982 hatte zwar die feierliche Eröffnung des Khunjerab-Passes durch den Gouverneur der Sinkiang-Autonomie-Region der Uiguren und dem pakistanischen Verkehrsminister stattgefunden. Aber auch pakistanische Staatsbürger dürfen erst seit dem letzten Sommer den Khunjerab-Paß überqueren. es sei denn, sie gehörten zu einer Handelsdelegation, die schon seit Jahren den „kleinen Grenzverkehr“ wahrnimmt.

Auch Pakistanis müssen sich ein Visum ausstellen lassen. Vor allem die Bewohner Oberhunzas machen davon regen Gebrauch, da sie Verwandte jenseits der Grenze haben und sie sich dort auch in ihrer Regionalsprache „Wakhi“

verständigen können. Für Landereien, die sie früher in Tash Kurghan, im Kashgar- oder Yarkand-Distrikt besaßen, die aber nach dem Chinesisch-Pakistanischen Grenzabkommen 1962 abgetreten werden mußten, erhalten sie heute einen Ausgleich.

Darum bemüht sich auch Raja Bahadur Khan aus Gulmit. Sein Vater Sabbas Khan, Sohn des berühmten Hunza-Fürsten Muhammed Nazim Khan (1892—1938), hatte bis 1951 seinen Besitz in Sinkiang unter Kontrolle. Seine Mutter stammte aus Yarkand.

Genutzt wurde die gute Straßenverbindung — der fast 800 Kilometer lange KKH ist eine zweispurige asphaltierte Allwetterstraße — bisher aber in erster Linie von Handelsdelegationen und für den Transport von Waren in beide Richtungen. Außerdem fahren einmal im Jahr chinesische Pilger den KKH

entlang, die Pakistan als Ausgangspunkt für ihre Pilgerfahrt nach Mekka nehmen. In der angrenzenden Provinz Sinkiang leben Uiguren, Kasachen, Tadschiken und Usbeken. Diese turkvolker-nationale Minderheiten in der Volksrepublik China, bekennen sich auch weiterhin zum Islam. Sie werden in Pakistan gastfreundlich empfangen; auf ihrem Wege nach Karachi stehen für sie überall kostenlose Unterkunft und Verpflegung bereit. Seit September 1985 gibt es einmal in der Woche Postverkehr zwischen Pakistan und China via KKH und Khunjerab-Paß.

Der Karakorum Highway heißt nicht zu Unrecht „Straße der Freundschaft“. Sein Bau, der 20 Jahre in Anspruch nahm, war eine chinesisch-pakistanische Koproduktion. 15 000 Pakistanis und 10 000 Chinesen arbeiteten daran während der Hauptkonstruktionsphase, 500 fanden den Tod. Die Chinesen, die ihren Abschnitt auf chinesischer Seite bereits 1970 beendet hatten, hatten halben vor allem beim Brückenbau (99). Sie duldeten damals keine ausländischen Beobachter.

Eine Sondereinheit von pakistanischen Armee-Ingenieuren, die in der „Frontier Works Organisation“ zusammen-

gefaßt wurden, leistete unermüdete Arbeit in einem äußerst schwierigen Gelände. Auch heute sind täglich Straßeninstandsetzungs-Bataillone der pakistanischen Armee im Einsatz. Erdbeben, Muren, Felsstürze und Law-

nen, bedingt durch große Temperaturschwankungen, Wind, Monsunregen, Frostsprengungen und Erdbeben, ver-schütteten den KKH in einzelnen Abschnitten immer wieder von neuem. Nach den Sprengungen, die in der en-

Man hätte auch von jungen europäischen Abenteurern, denen die Einreise über den Khunjerab-Paß gelungen sei. Ein Engländer hatte sich unter die pakistanischen Delegationsmitglieder einer Handelsgesellschaft geschauggelt. Im Herbst letzten Jahres gab es schon edigne Sondergenehmigungen für Ausländer, um den Khunjerab-Paß zu besuchen. Da sah man Anfang November als Hauptstraßenbenutzer über 60 Yaks (Hochgebirgsrinder) in fast 5000 Meter Höhe, die im frisch gefallenen Schnee nach Futter suchten und sich auch nicht um die aufgestellten Verkehrsschilder kümmerten: „China drive right, Pakistan drive left“. Auf dem Paß muß Links- auf Rechtsverkehr umgestellt werden. . .

Nun sind sich China und Pakistan endlich einig geworden über die Abwicklung der Grenzformalitäten. In Sost (2730 Meter) — 90 Kilometer unterhalb des Khunjerab-Passes „Zero Point“ — soll ein kombinierter Kontrollpunkt eingerichtet werden, ausgestattet auch mit medizinischen Einrichtungen, die sicherlich Erste Hilfe leisten müssen für kranken Touristen.

In Sost, wo man auch von pakistanischen auf chinesische Fahrzeuge umsteigen muß, gibt es aber eine Möglichkeit zur Ubemachtung, weitere Hotels sind geplant. Im ganzen Hunzatal, das seit Jahren auf Tourismus eingestellt ist, bieten sich viele reizvolle Zwischenstationen an. In Dih (3250 Meter), 52 Kilometer vor dem Khunjerab-Paß, befindet sich ein letzter Militarkontrollposten auf pakistanischer Seite.

Am „Zero Point“ endet dann die asphaltierte Straße. Von dort gelangt man nach 32 Kilometern zum chinesischen Kontrollpunkt Pir Ali und nach 150 Kilometern nach Tash Kurghan, wo es ein gutes Hotel gibt. Kashgar ist eine Tagesreise weiter (500 Kilometer vom „Zero Point“) entfernt.

gen Schlucht des Hunza-Flusses vorgenommen werden mußten, dauert es noch Jahrzehnte, bis sich die Berge wieder beruhigen.

Der politisch motivierte Straßenbau orientierte sich nicht an verkehrstechnischen Überlegungen, sondern war für Pakistan aus strategischen Gründen von Bedeutung: Anbindung der bis 1974 unabhängigen Fürstentümer im Norden an die Zentralregierung, um eine bessere Kontrolle ausüben zu können; Sicherung der Karakorum-Passe (Mintaka, Kilik und Khunjerab) und Schaffung einer Verkehrsachse für die Bindungspartner China und Pakistan im Falle eines Angriffs des benachbarten Erzfeindes Indien. China erhielt durch den Karakorum Highway einen schnellen Zugang zum Arabischen Meer (die Entfernung Kashgar—Shanghai ist mehr als doppelt so welt wie die von Kashgar nach Karachi) und damit zum Western

Das Gerücht um die Öffnung des Khunjerab-Passes lag jahrelang in der Luft. Bei der alljährlich stattfindenden Tourismus-Messe in Pakistan hieß es schon vor zwei Jahren, China sei auf Touristen vorbereitet, Hotels und Transportmöglichkeiten stünden bereit.

Mit der Freigabe des Khunjerab-Passes ist es ausländischen Besuchern möglich, historische bedeutsame Pfade nachzuvollziehen. Chinesische Pilger, unter ihnen Fa Hsien im 4. Jahrhundert, folgten ihnen auf ihrem Weg zu den buddhistischen Heiligtümern im Swat-Tal. Die von deutsch-pakistanischen Expeditionen unter der Leitung von Prof. Dan aus Islamabad und Prof. Karl Jettmar aus Heidelberg untersuchten Felsbilder am Karakorum Highway zeugen von diesen frühen Reisenden im Indus-Tal. In dieses Pfadestück der Seidenstraße können sich nun bald Reisende aus aller Welt einuagen.

SABINE FELMY

ASIA—THOUSANDS SENTENCED TO FORCED LABOR IN CHINA UNDER DENG

PEKING, FEB. 26 (UPI) — SOME 37,000 MEN HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO FORCED LABOR AT CAMPS IN THE REMOTE NORTHWESTERN REGION OF XINJIANG

SINCE CHINESE LEADER DENG XIAOPING LAUNCHED A SWEEPING ANTI-CRIME CAMPAIGN IN 1983, THE DFF-IUAL XINHUA NEWS AGENCY-REPORTED WEDNESDAY.

THE-INFLUX OF PRISONERS TO THE LARGE, ISOLATED CAMPS, KNOWN TTF CHINA AS "REFORM-THROUGH-LABOR FARMS," IS ONE OF THE MAJOR OFFSHOOTS

15 PROVINCES AND CITIES SINCE CHINA INTENSIFIED CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS IN 1983," XINHUA SAID.

XINHUA SAID AN ADDITIONAL 900 PRISONERS, 400 OF THEM WOMEN, HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO THE PRISON CAMPS

r) "SENTENCES RANGE FROM THREE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT TO DEATH SENTENCES SUSPENDED FOR TWO YEARS WHILE PRISONERS ARE GIVEN THE -OPPORTUNITY TO REFORM," IT SAID.

DENG'S ANTI-CRIME CAMPAIGN, BOLSTERED BY AN EXTENTION OF THE DEATH PENALTY TO COVER DOZENS OF CRIMES RANGING FROM MURDER TO THEFT AND "HOOLIGANISM." HAS SEEN THOUSANDS OF CHINESE EXECUTED, ACCORDING TO ^WESTERN DIPLOMATS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS. J DESPITE FREQUENT WAVES OF EXECUTIONS. THE ROUNDING UP OF CRIMINALS IHAS CAUSED SERIOUS OVERCROWDING IN JAILS IN CHINESE CITIES, SOURCES I SAID.

PEOPLE CHARGED WITH CRIMES INVOLVING LONGER SENTENCES ARE OFTEN SENT TO DO FORCED LABOR IN THE PRISON CAMPS SCATTERED"ACROSS-CHINA *S VAST NORTHWESTERN RE6I0NS OF QINGHAI AND XINJIANG, WHICH BORDERS THE SOVIET UNION

XINHUA SAID 10,640 PRISONERS HAVE BEEN "REFORMED" SO FAR IN THE XINJIANG LABOR CAMPS, AND CITED THE CASE OF A 22-YEAR-OLD PEKING MAN SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS FOR THEFT AND RAPE WHO SINCE HAS BECOME A "MODEL WORKER."

"I FEEL GUILTY FOR WHAT I HAVE DONE TO THE VICTIMS," XINHUA QUOTED THE PRISONER. GENG BIN, AS SAYING. "I CAN SEE NOW HOW IT WOULD BE UNBEARABLE FOR ME IF MY OWN FAMILY WERE ROBBED AND MY OWN SISTERS WfSE RAPED."

^/XINHKA SAID PRISONERS HAVE ORGANIZED A POETRY SOCIETY AT THE SHIHEZI LABOR CAMP 150 KILOMETERS (80 MILES) NORTHWEST OF THE XINJIANG CAPITAL OF URUMQI. LA/

' Fifty years ago, in his best seller ;
"News from Tartary," Peter !
: Fleming described a 3,500-mile " "
journey from Peking to Kashmir.
The book confirmed Fleming's
place in the front rank of travel
writers.

Nigel Buxton, Travel Editor of ;
the Sunday Telegraph, read the

book for the first time hi 1971.
Wholly captivated by it, he
developed the ambition of
retracing Fleming's route.
Against all the odds, his efforts
continue. Here he gives an
account of his progress to date
and reaffirms his hopes for the
future.

I WAS SITTING in a four-berth compartment.
soft class, of the Peking- Chengdu Railway on
a late November afternoon. We were about
250 miles south of the capital and running
roughly west, not very fast. Outside,
brown terraced hills rose close to the track.
Below us, in the valley bottom, a sinuous
stream still resisted a tightening embrace of
ice. I thought warmly of the British Embassy
wife who at a reception two nights before had
providently advised me to buy long silk
underwear ("silbies" to the knowledgeable) in
the Peking Friendship Store.

If admirers of the late Peter Fleming's
"News from Tartary" recognise a touch of
plagiarism and a hint of pander, they will take
it in good hope, not as impudence, but as a kind of
homage. No modern work of travel has given
me more pleasure than that masterpiece of
exactly 50 years ago. I have read it more times
than I can count. It was entirely liberating to
know that I was on the night tram from Peking to
Xian.

There is not much to say about this
book by way of introduction. Peter Fleming
wrote in the foreword to the 1956 best seller. "
It describes an undeservedly successful
attempt to travel overland from Peking in
China to

Kashmir in India. The journey took seven
months and covered about 3,500 miles."

It was a characteristically diffident
statement. Fleming was accompanied by
another freelance journalist — Swiss-born Ella
("Kini") Maillan — and what the two of them
accomplished was and remains a classic
achievement. They travelled by tram, by lorry
and on horseback. For hundreds of miles
Fleming himself went on foot. At one stage they
were part of a camel caravan. Two thirds of
their way at least was through hard,
unforgiving, semi-desert country — much of it
over high mountains.

For some three months they jour-
neyed through territory in which physical
difficulties were substituted for physical
ones, said Fleming. "I shared with the peak
of Everest the blue ribbon of inaccessibility."
No modern traveller had made quite so
romantic a journey before them. None has
made one since.

Knowing "News from Tartary" as
I did, fond of it as I was, the idea of
attempting in some way or other to
follow the Fleming Maillan path was
easily conceived but no less easily
dismissed as being hopelessly imprac-
ticable. In 1971, when first I had read
the book, the possibility of visiting the
People's Republic at all, let alone ven-
turing to the interior, was hardly more
realistic than the thought of a trip to
the moon, and rather less alluring.
China was firmly barred to most of the
rest of the world.

Then in 1979, by which time
restricted tourist groups were being
admitted, I was able to go on a cruise
that started from Hong Kong and that
would include Shanghai. Before joining
the ship I had been having dinner with

Richard Hughes, doyen of foreign cor-
respondents in the Far East, inspira-
tion for the character of "Craw" in
John le Carre's "The Honourable
Schoolboy." He had known Shanghai
well in its heyday and talked fondly of a
restaurant there, and of the head
waiter. "Find them, sir?" he had com-

manded when he
goes. "Find the
report faithfully
condition."
.. Eventually I
'he a lesson —
had said when

^ where I
was
in due course
m their
p'ssent

both. "Let
Persistence and a judicious optimism
be among the essentials of our trade."
y^ Thus encouraged, I had peopled
and on my "News from Tartary"
endeavour, though with less than

Hills

townM ^0uld Per
£** 'H travifu,v,diial G,TmuPs "ere

... «*
that the
R » « aling ,0ih «nturi «ntteh
U, 30 Hhich is ,ho ! *nc»ent 'Silk
2** «*o% the « "OS' roTM «ncancel
-tX^{u,e} in the hmoJv ^k^{lmi} tradc
"mmghadwrJtt^ f ,be world"

rt, Aa "«CA .bu.asfa raslwas
territory Sow SSS thr <>ugh

foreigners •• Alf »S?>Uaf c,osed to
bvway ofe «L E2Ii nd lh «* " I had
a-lvuilrt xarnple A>een authoritatively
to ^ekinV^m^A my explorator y visrts
cirrlind *nnTkUy ,n*0frrna s pencil
the ,map ^v^eral thousand
; 2"3 miles of what I bad come to
• as Fleming country—" All
• aroufk. there the Chinese have their
* «uctear testing grounds, not to men-
-lion their hard labour camps. Your
chances of being allowed through are
virtually nil." It was not very
encourag-
ing stuff.

Still, "persistence and a judicious
optimism I had written to certain
Chinese official* in London,
explained
whal I was after and invited them to
lunch Bui when, gently. I pursued the
small matter of my projected travels
in
wha* I had reason to believe was for-
bidden territory (Was there a modern
equivalent of the Pnuceol I>run. Were
SSL nomads still? Did hares and
J1Z Sod antelope still inhabit the
^ . irtnpivhills aod plains?)tbeireyes
tended to w«>der an^the fredueucy
of
their smites to increase.

*
" All the same, it was at their instiga-
. A, ffSi? li to learn about the age-
t, o a (ltK. d |pofpolite Chinese
olo subtletie- oj* spent laborious

days in Government of
both Autonomous Region in
the XW'mLAU* an,yweeks later, in
«ame^Pfv', «bTd The
none KfJ&c "Aboae "eS*

So the file thickened. but to little
Productive purpose. Then several seemingly
unrelated things happened. !.!p; was officially
invited to visit noet. Second. I learned that the
main road from Tibet down into Nepal had
gently been opened to tourist traffic, third,
China and Pakistan had at last agreed to
permit foreigners to travel between the two
countries by way of *be Karakoram Highway
and the 16.000-foot Khunjerab Pass.

It was a tide to be taken at the flood ' News
from Tartary", had only a tenuous connection
with Tibet but a great deal to do with what is
now the Karakoram Highway and the
Khunjerab Pass. The Mintaka Pass, by which
the travellers entered India from China, is
within a few miles of the Khunjerab Much of
the road they, followed thereafter is today
part of, or near (in places within a stone's
throw of), the present Highway. Gilgit. now in
Pakistan, is where they stayed with the
■British Political Agent and where Fleming
left the boots that he had worn •without socks
for the last 1,000 miles.

On its way from London to Peking

the CAAC (Civil Aviation Administration of
China) jumbo jet flew over Qmghai, through
tvhich province of China some 800 miles of
the Fleming- Maillart route lay. it looked every
bit as hard as I had imagined, but I wished ••I
could have been down there with a string of
camels, all the same.

•Tibet was highly rewarding, if only I for
what it taught of the art of dealing I with
Chinese officialdom. When at

• last—visa obtained and transport (at a price
in US dollars) secured—I found myself sitting
behind a young and tem-

• peramental Chinese array driver, hurtling
down the serpentine and less- than-stable dirt
toad towards the Nepalese capital, I could
not help reflecting that it would be the
supreme irony for so much effort to end
where from time to time toe rusting Wreck of
a vehicle all too like our own was displayed in
the wild gorges below.

. Supposing (and she .was .right). that tnv
frequent requests for pictoretaking stops
amounted merely to a device for hindering
our suicidal progression, the driver ignored
them. Not that it mattered much, serious
photography requires a fairly steady hand.

In Katmandu began a cliffhanger of
Another kind. " Raiakoram plans doubtful
due border difficulties. Stand by
developments " said an urgent telex.
Following the opemug to tourist groups of the
Khunjerab Pass from Pakistan into China, the
London-based travel organiser Jules Verne
had proposed a special arrangement
whereby a

small umber of Sunday Teleg'cph
readers would fly to Pakistan, enter tChina
over the Karakoram mountains, i then cross
the People's Republic by tram from Urumchi
before flying ba< k to London by way of Hong
Kong, i lie proposal bad been accepted, the
10 places available had been almost
immediately sold and it had been agreed that
I would meet the party in Pakistan and
accompany it as far as Xian, where the
railway journey would end. ,

But now." Karakoram plans doubtful
Stand by developments..I stood by. first in
Katmandu, then in Rawalpindi. At last, 1(1
Sunday Teleyrajih readers emerged' from :the
airport building at Gilgit looking as if they were
going to an informal luncheon party at Frinton
and were ushered into a minibus. Klemiog, I
thought, thou should st be living at this hour.
>et I doubted if there was one of the seven
ladies in the party who would have quibbled
over whatever the price might have been for
the opportunity of trying to do what Ella
Maillart had done. «<j Gilgit. for me, was a
strangeoj moving experience " We did the
mini- : mum ot sight-seeing," wrote Fleming,
honest as always Of the three items listed by
him, the first was " the grave of the explorer
Hayward, whose murder by tribesmen is
resoundingly , described in Newbolt's
pbem...."

It took me half an hour to find the old
British graveyard, which at last I , was able to
enter only by climbing ol er a rubbish dump
Littered, defiled, half overgrown, part ruined,
its shame mercifully concealed behind
nondescript walls and anonymous hovels, a
sadder and more eloquent witness to the
passing of imperial glory could hardly be 1
imagined.

"We rode past the ruined fort at

next to a man

SffEgSffSSa



.^" erthodSHfctn^a-';

N'ilt, in the storming of which no less ihau
twee VCs were won by the handful of British
officers,-.. " wrote Flem- 'ing of the second of
a three-day march between the Mintaka Pass
and Gilgit. •Nobody in our party teemed to
know much about Northwest Frontier days,
though all shared Fleming's admiration for
Rakaposhi. . • ,
" But if at times on that journey up into China
I had half expected to see Fleming and Kini
and their ponies picking their way along the
grim, precipitous faces of rock that soared
above us, I felt even closer to them when at
last I reached the old British Consulate at
Kashgar.

"The Consulate," Fleming wrote, "was a
pleasant little house with a lovely gartfer.,
standing on a little bluff 'outside the city. From
its terrace you looked across the green and
chequered valley of a small river towards the
too .seldom visible mountains."

In 1985 the " pleasant house " itself
feppared to have buffered only from Jime
and neglect In 1935, on the terrace outside
the. main ^reception room, as Fleming
recorded, Mrs Thompson Glover. the Consul-
General's wife, had been wounded by a wild
shot from a body of Tungan rebel groups
passing along the valley below.



I stood there alone. Imagining Fleming
and Kini Maillart and their hosts, drinks in
hand before dinner; white uniformed servants
in the background, well kept turf, perhaps;
flowers in Chinese urns. Now the house's
only occupants were two small travelling
parties of young Americans.

They were camping in two rooms,
nursing various stomach 'disorders, cooking
on a kerosene pressure stove. They had
never heard of Fleming or "News from -
Tartary." When I told them of my own reason
for being there they said hell: it was as good
an excuse as any for being some place
where nobody in their right mind would be. .

I was nor there for long. Flying to
Urumcbi, 1 joined the Voyages Jules Verne
special train, roost of whose passengers had
with fanfares of public- ,ity started their
journey weeks before at Charing Cross
Following the same' northern Silk Road that
Fleming and Maillart bad rejected as being
too much at the mercy of the turbulent
political and military times, it skirted the Takla
Makau on its northern nm. After lour days it
reached Lanchou, in "News from Tartary
"Lanchow."

The streets of the city, Fleming thought,
were romantic. "You have the feeling that you
are on the frontiers of another land It was
only about 150 mites further west that he and
Maillart. hiring camels, began that stage of
their journey which in " News from Tartary" is
labelled "Into the [blue."

car... .") had been obliged to spend
It is'not easy to find romance In .modern
Lan4hou Jn 1953 Mao Tse- Tung's first Five-
Year Plan designated if an intensive
development area. At night, nowadays, the
Yellow River is dyed red by the light ol
burning gases from the petrochemical works.

Lanchow, said Fleming, might have
been Leeds for all the joy be and his
companions had of it. The police impounded
their passports. After six days oP agonised
inquiry about the likelihood of progress he
and Kini were allowed to go on into
Chinghai Province, but the ijmiguuovs—a
White Russian couple who bad flowed to
guide them in the Tsaidam wilderness—
were sent back under open arrest.

I had little joy of it either. The railway. I
learned (not the trans-China line) now ran
further westwards for 500 miles to Golmud.
some 80 miles beyond Fleming's fjomo
Khantar and equally deserving of his
Jaconic "not ■ really a good place to go for
Easter."

Did aoy romance survive? ".
Assured that there was BO flight to * 1

,be bad from Laoihou to Peking during at
least the [next two days. I checked out ? cC'
of my hotel, took a taxi to the ^ s ^ airport,
aDd by mid evening was gratefully
wallowing in the by now unfamiliar luxury of
a bath in Peking's recently iopened Great
Wall Hotel, j Returning to London after ithe
Karakoram Kashgar drive land the northern
Silk Road >railway journey to Lanzhou. 1
lfound an invitation for yet •.another China
itinerary; one 'that would include Peking
and jXian. I accepted. The rest of ?the
small group would fly lfrom Peking to Xian,
borne of ithe world-famous "Terracotta
Army" — the battalions of standing, "life-
size clay' soldiers guarding the approaches
to the tomb of the Emperor Qin Shi
Huangdi. 1, having Seen something of the
end and the middle of the News from
Tartary " trail and eager for a glimpse of the
beginning.
Would emulate Peter Fleming
trod his friends by taking the
night train.

1 So here J was on the Peking-
Chengdu railway, once more
obedient to the Richard Hughes
dictum. Persistent; I felt sure.
Optimistic; 1 hoped; reflecting
upon the vagaries of social taste
that had caused gte bottles of
brandy (Together jgith
raafirmaUde, cocoa and
Worcester sauce) to be included
among Fleming's pasential -
stores, but only over-priced
.duty-free Scotch whisky «
name. • <
" 'Night had fallen, and 1
■reflected .*too, that whereas he
'And EUa Maillart. after a satis-
factory start^"I was sitting J»v.
.nt^sel.f' in. a dining-

most of a night and all next dav in an
unbeated, overcrowded third-class
wagon (t.horames 40, chevaux 8). 1
could expect -to remain entirely
comfortably in the company of only
£ other passengers at most, one
of whom was an American Peace
Corps worker on holiday from
Thailand; a young wvoman : w\$th
determined views and-an impressive
thirst. • <■/ feeing the girl and me
alone together, .-a -jolly "and over-
—a imaginative China Railways dpiing
car attendant who had come-to
announce first sitting : for dinner, had
insisted upon [serving us where we
sat by the ,*!lace-curtained window ,
a dim i pink-shaded table lamp doing
[duty for candles Clearly, she ■
supposed our relationship to be quite
other than the acci- ! dental and
wholly uncompli jeated
acquaintanceship that it , 'was.-

! Fleming's relationship with (Kini
Maillart had. to a far [greater
degree, occasioned 'the same sort
of j misunderstanding.
' The train dinner over,! lay i snugly
in my silkies under the heavy
Chinese quilt, straining ;m\ eves in
the wavering

light for the intense pleasure ©
reading " News from Tartary " while
travelling over the same ground
Fleming and his companions *
covered 50 years before

Their train journey had ended
where the line itself • then ended,
more or less co- j incident with
ancient Chang- !*an (modern Xian)
which for almost 1.000 years had
been the capital of the Empire,
hence the "Terracotta Army."
discovered in 1974 and as vet only
partly excavated. but already one of
the foremost tounst attractions in
China

Having dutifully admired the clay
soldiers and the Hua Qing
Hot Springs. I sat in the bright
sunshine on a hill near the Qian Ling
Tomb to the northwest of the city
and gazed wistfuly m the direction
that the "News from Tartary" party
had taken by lorry; Kini in the cab
with the driver; Fleming outside, "on
tfpof the freight."

: A few days later I was back in -
London, where there occurred what
1 like to think [may have been a
"sign." In ithe'course of the
Karakoram

Journey, changing money in a
Kashgar bank, I had over-
heard an Englishman remark
in all seriousness to his
Chinese guide that the week
*before, in Lhasa, he had seen

356

Maillart ?u^{onatu} re o' Ella aJ .ⁿ The
visitor's book @!^{thr} Rowlands Hotel.

•@*GE*SKEJ

ijj^u * ulde *as not

yTaHbrt*? i!Who was Ella ?nmr j L or mj
Part- ^as jwrpsed that anyone
should be deceived by so old a
joke

frAU BCaesar^{on} 3 Postcard from
Pevensey: "Robert Louis
Stevenson" on a camp- *?^{te}
registration form in the Ovennes!

The Snowlands Hotel. 1 4cnew.
was much patronised Toy the
younger and less affluent of
travellers. Clearh. the reported
signature had been a youthful
spoof.

But 1 had been wrong Meeting
friends who were interested in
China. I was introduc ed to a most
seasoned and far-from-gullible
traveller who had herself recently
visited Tibet and who ton- firmed
that Ella Maillart was alive and well
and had been there at the same
time. And 1 was glad tc have been
wrong 'Logically. Kim's reappear
ance in China had nothing
whatever to do with mj efforts and
could not conceivably afiect them
one way or .the other Illogically. I
those to see it as auspicious
Dammit! if 82-year-old Ella Maillart
tould still achieve the impossible,
so would 1.

*A paperback edition of
"Veins from Tarlary" ?s
published by Futura at £2-95. end
two more of Peter Fleming's
boohs arc also in print: "Brazilian
Adventure" (Cape Paperback. £2
50. or Pegum. C5bv;. and "Ones
Company" (Pegum. £2 9b).*

FFC'J-; E-Uirt 21-MAP.- 00: S'
 ASIA - SPOKESMAN CONFIRM 66 r 02 t IN
 C n I N A BY MICHAEL BROWNING Kill 6HT-RI ODER NEWSPAPERS
 PEKING. MARCH 21 — A U.S. EMBASSY SPOKESMAN IN PEKING CONFIRMED
 THURSDAY THAT NEGOTIATIONS WERE UNDER WAY IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN
 THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA AIMED AT SETTING UP AN U.S.-BUILT
 CHINESE-MANNED LISTENING POST ON THE CHINESE BORDER TO MONITOR SOVIET
 NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS,
 "DISCUSSIONS ARE TAKING PLACE IN WASHINGTON, BUT SO FAR NO
 DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. THE
 MINISTRY HAD NO COMMENT THURSDAY ON THE REPORT, WHICH ORIGINATED IN
 WASHINGTON.
 IF INSTALLED, THE LISTENING POST ALMOST CERTAINLY WOULD BE THE
 SECOND OF ITS KIND IN CHINA. THE FIRST SUCH POST — THE EXISTENCE OF
 WHICH NEITHER SIDE WILL ACKNOWLEDGE, BY NOW IT IS PRETTY MUCH
 THOUGH AN OPEN SECRET — WAS BUILT ABOUT 40 YEARS
 TOWN OF AKSLQ HALFWAY BETWEEN URIHQI AND KASHGAR, ON THE ANCIENT
 TERRITORY.
 THE AHSIL STATION REPORTEDLY WAS SET UP WITH U.S.-MADE EQUIPMENT
 BUT IS KANNEI) BY CHINESE TECHNICIANS, PURSUANT TO A 1JS&Q -SEC f'.CX-
 AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHINA -AND THE CARLE* ADMINISTRATION.
 THE SECOND LISTENING POST PRESUMABLY WOULD ALSO BE LOCATED IN
 NORTHWESTERN CHINA AND MIGHT HAVE CONSIDERABLE DIPLOMATIC
 REPERCUSSIONS, COMING AT A TIME WHEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE
 SOVIET UNION SEEM STYMIED IN ARHS-CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS AFTER A HOPEFUL
 BEGINNING AT THE DECEMBER SUMMIT IN GENEVA.
 CHINESE PREMIER ZHAO ZIYANG TOLD WESTERN REPORTERS IN NOVEMBER
 1983, DURING SECRETARY OF DEFENSE CASPAR WEINBERGER'S VISIT TO
 PEKING, THAT CHINA WOULD NEVER ENTER INTO A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
 WITH THE UNITED STATES.
 SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS REMAIN CHILLY — A CURRENT STATE VISIT ;B>
 SOVIET FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IVAN ARKHIPOV HAS ACCOMPLIEHTL
 LITTLE AND HAS BEEN &eiUi&TLY CUT FROM 10 DAYS TO SIX -- AND THE
 DISCUSSIONS ABOUT A (SFj&ID LISTENING STATION IN CHINA StEK TO
 REPRESENT ANOTHER SMALL STEP AWAY FROM MOSCOW AND TOWARD
 LASHINoiO«
 ON THE PART OF THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP.
 U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN PEKING NEVER HAVE ADMITTED THAT THE
 AK5U LISTENING STATION EXISTS, BUT THEY GRIN BROADLY WHEN AaKED AccJl
 IT' "I-Vr NEVER SEEM OKE CUT THERE," FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR ARTHUR
 HMMk-1 CATH T A SOCIAL FATHERING IN PEKING LAST WINTER. HUMMEL HA-
 MEVrTvI SITED ASSS A TINY TOWN SITUATED IN A DEPRESSION ON 1 HE

*

CN022

A-WIRE

22-MAR-86 06: 28

ASIA CHINA DENIES COOPERATION WITH U.S. ON SOVIET MONITORING

PEKING, MARCH 22, CND/REUTER/AFP - CHINA TODAY DENIED THAT IT WAS HOLDING TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES ON SETTING UP A SEISMIC TEST FACILITY IN CHINA CAPABLE OF MONITORING SOVIET UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS.

A FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT SAID REPORTS THAT IT WAS HOLDING SUE TALKS WAS "GROUNDLESS."

NEWSMEN HAD QUOTED U.S. OFFICIALS AS SAYING THAT DURING INFO TALKS THE UNITED STATES HAD PROPOSED TO CHINA THE BUILDING *Or* A COOPERATIVE MONITORING STATION SIMILAR TO ONE OPENED LAST YEAR NORWAY.

^ H * I

IN

THE OFFICIALS WERE QUOTED AS SAYING MONITORING FAC IL H'EG AT STATIC\ ARE ABLE TO CALCULATE THE SIZE OF SOVIET TESTS CO: LLCTE THE UNDERGROUND SITE AT SEMI PALANT INSK IN THE SOUTH-CENTRAL SO' UNION.

%; n

» r ;

THE OFFICIALS SAID A FACILITY IN CHINA, MUCH NEARER THE SEMI PAL ANT I NSK SITE, WOULD GIVE U.S. MONITORS A FAR INTRY-'G:' AR TO DETECT SOVIE" NUCLEAR TESTS AND TO VERIFY COMPLIANCE H!" 7R LIMITING C-R BANNING NUCLEAR TESTS. TA

: LI " V

FF098

B-WIRE

- -

02-APR-86 12:58

c r

PEKING, APRIL 2, REUTER — CHINA TODAY DENIED REPORTS THAT IT WAS DISCUSSING COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES ON SEISMIC MONITORING OF SOVIET UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS BUT SAID THAT SOME JOINT PROJECTS WERE UNDER WAY.

A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN TOLD A NEWS BRIEFING THAT THE REPORT ON JOINT MONITORING OF SOVIET TESTS, PUBLISHED BY THE WASHINGTON POST, WAS GROUNDLESS.

"THERE ARE SOME JOINT PROJECTS WITH THE UNITED STATES CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PROTOCOL ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION ON SEISMIC STUD". BUT THEY ARE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND HAVE NOTHING TO DO, AND SHOULD NOT BE MIXED UP, WITH THE ARTICLE IN THE WASHINGTON POST," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WESTERN DIPLOMATS SAID CHINA APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN GREATLY EMBARRASSED BY THE REPORTS.

LA/RJ

FF003

B-WIRE

04-APR-86 02:16

ASIA - PEKING DENIES IT'S CONSIDERING MONITORING ROLE

WASHINGTON, APRIL 3 (SPECIAL) - THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY DANIEL SOUTHERLAND APPEARS TODAY IN THE WASHINGTON POST:

PEKING - CHINA TODAY SAID IT IS CONDUCTING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WITH THE UNITED STATES ON EARTHQUAKES BUT DENIED THAT THE TWO NATIONS WERE HOLDING DISCUSSIONS AIMED AT COOPERATING TO MONITOR SOVIET UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS.

COMMENTING ON THE ISSUE FOR THE SECOND TIME IN TWO WEEKS, A SPOKESMAN FOR CHINA'S MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TODAY DENIED THAT THE TWO NATIONS WERE CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS TO INSTALL NEW SEISMIC DEVICES IN CHINA TO MONITOR THE TESTS.

A REPORT IN THE WASHINGTON POST MARCH 19, QUOTING ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES IN WASHINGTON, SAID NEGOTIATIONS WERE BEING CONDUCTED OVER A CHINA-BASED FACILITY. THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE MENTIONED IN THE FISCAL 1987 DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET REQUEST.

ACCORDING TO THE DOCUMENT. THE SEISMIC CENTER IN CHINA WOULD BE SIMILAR TO ONE INSTALLED IN NORWAY AND COULD HELP VERIFY SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH TREATIES THAT CURRENTLY LIMIT. AND COULD EVENTUALLY BAN. UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS. THE BUDGET DOCUMENT ALSO SAID NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN WITH CHINA IN FISCAL 1986 "ON A COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO CULMINATE IN THE INSTALLATION OF A REGIONAL SEISMIC ARRAY" IN CHINA.

AT A REGULAR WEEKLY NEWS BRIEFING, FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN MA ' YUZHEN TODAY DENIED THAT DISCUSSIONS HAD TAKEN PLACE ON THE INSTALLATION OF SEISMIC EQUIPMENT TO MONITOR UNDERGROUND TESTS.

A U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIAL HERE ALSO SAID THE ENERGY DEPARTMENT BUDGET REQUEST WAS NOT ACCURATE.

CONCERNING THE REPORTS OF TALKS ABOUT MONITORING SOVIET TESTS, THE OFFICIAL SAID, "THERE HAVE BEEN NO DISCUSSIONS AT ALL AND NO OFFICIAL PRESENTATION TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT."

HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT A POSSIBLE PROPOSAL CONCERNING SUCH MONITORING "WAS UNDER DISCUSSION WITHIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT." AR/DU

PIA finds a passkey to tourist traffic

By K.S. Ramkumar
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH — Pakistan International Airlines which has been operating 19 flights between the Kingdom and Pakistan, is promoting tourism on a large scale. The airline, which operates 10 flights between Jeddah and Karachi, seven from Dhahran; and two from Riyadh by Boeings and Air-j buses, wants to take advantage of opening of the Khunjrab pass, the gateway to China, from May 1 to boost tourism. According to Azam Rabbani, general manager of the airline, the opening of the pass for crossing over the Pak-China border is a major breakthrough in the country's tourism history.

Sardar Ahmad Gul, manager of the airline for the Western Province, said the event fulfills an age-old dream of the land-route travellers, traders and adventurers from across the world to re-live the past. They have been longing to travel on the Karakoram Highway which is the present-day name of the legendary silk route of olden days.

Thanks to the spirit of the soldiers and engineers of the Pakistan Army, who were later joined by their Chinese counterparts, the Karakoram Highway is at last a proper motorable road. About 15,000 men took 20 years to build this 774-kilometer long road with 80,000 tons of cement, using 8,000 tons of dynamite to blast off 810 million cubic feet of solid rocks and earthworks. But it was hazardous, killing 408 men, both Pakistanis and Chinese.

The enormous significance of the opening of the pass is clear only to those who know and deal in tourism, they at last get this



BREAKTHROUGH: The opening of the Khunjrab Pass, the gateway to China, is considered a major breakthrough in Pakistan's tourism history. Photo shows PIA's first Boeing 737 after it landed at Sakardu Airport in the mountainous region.

golden opportunity to sell their custom-tailored package tours full of excitement and thrill. They know that shortly these packages will sell like hot cakes. This is in spite of the fact that proper tourist infrastructure is yet to be developed, he said.

Besides, there are many tours being promoted in Pakistan. A nine-day tour starts from arrival in Karachi to Mohenjodaro, Lahore to re-live Moghul times, Rawalpindi, Peshawar,

Swat-mist-shadowed vale of magnificent scenic beauty with a fabled past, etc. Others include Buddhist study tour, mystic tours and trekking tours of the country.

The present fleet of PIA consists of eight Boeing 747-200, four DC-10-30, eight Airbus A300 B4, four Boeing 707, four Boeing 737, nine Fokker F-27, and two Twin Otter. Gul said adding that among the aircraft ordered are six Boeing 737-300.

New silk route may help break Xinjiang's isolation

By Dimitri Kochka

PIR AL1, China (AFP) — The new trans-Himalayan silk road rolls through remote snow-filled valleys, past herds of humpbacked yaks and their nomad Uighur shepherds in long coats and fur-lined hats with their colorfully dressed womenfolk standing outside their picturesque yurts (tents).

This is the threshold of Xinjiang, where foreign tourists will be able to cross into China from Pakistan at the Khunjerab frontier pass at an altitude of 4,700 meters (14,100 feet).

Crossing the pass is like walking into a picture book, even after the 800 kms (480 miles) drive here by car from Islamabad through breathtakingly beautiful scenery.

The new silk road of Karakoram, named after the mountain range, took Pakistan and China 15 years to build at enormous cost in lives and cash, and was perhaps only undertaken because this region is of such strategic importance.

The road cuts through the crossroads of the "three empires" — Chinese, Indian and Soviet.

The Soviets have approached closer since as good as annexing the tongue of land which last century formed a buffer between czarist Russia and the British Empire.

Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India since its independence in 1947, feels it necessary to strengthen links with the Muslim inhabitants living in the mountainous northern territories, who have been involved in guerrilla fighting against Indian troops to maintain their independence.

At one time the autonomous regions of Gilgit, Skardu or the tiny kingdom of Hunza were accessible only by mule or plane, but

since 1982 it has been possible to use a light, two-wheeled horse-drawn carriage.

The silk road has been cut through a mountain range which is in perpetual motion — with avalanches of huge blocks of ice and stone, or torrents of mud and snow, hurtling from the highest peaks in the world to cut off passes and roads, ceaselessly repaired by the Pakistani Army.

The road skirts five peaks over 8,000 meters (24,000 feet) high, including the second highest in the world, unromantically named K2, 79 peaks of over 7,000 meters (21,000 feet) and 184 peaks of over 6,000 meters (18,000 feet).

This grandiose modern highway takes the traveler through the heart of Central Asia, sometimes endangered by bridges wrecked by avalanches, sometimes caused by tremors from the neighboring Hindu-Kush mountain range.

Distances can not be measured in kilometers or miles, but only in hours taken by a car, whose motor often runs into trouble in these high altitudes. It takes 24 hours to go by road from Islamabad into China, with a couple of stops.

Already, a Paris-Peking car rally is being planned for 1987.

The Pakistani government insists on a special visa for this silk road and the tourist must also have a Chinese visa before departing on the great adventure.

On the Chinese side, the road became a track, but officials say there are plans to put down tar and erect hotels and filling stations.

When a journalist expressed surprise that Chinese workers had built better on the Pakistani side, a Chinese officer replied jokingly: "That is part of my duty."

At present, groups are restricted, to 28 tourists each.—



√ :s- ^
/*

China faces confusion over time

IRUMOI, China, Sun. (Rtr)

WHEN it's noon in the Urumqi post office, it's 10 a.m. in the shop next door. And when locals here think it's 10 p.m., the tourists think it's midnight.

That is the type of confusion China faces after going to daylight saving time early this morning for the first time.

The Far Western Chinese region of Xinjiang reverted to its own time zone — two hours behind Peking — in February after being forced to operate on the same time as Central China for nearly 20 years.

But the authorities decided the railway, the post office, the military, the state airline CAAC and all tourist hotels here should still operate on Peking time.

"It's very confusing," said one American resident of Urumqi, the regional capital 3,000 kms west of the Chinese capital.

"Every time you make an arrangement to meet someone, you have to ask: 'Do you mean Peking time or Xinjiang time?'"

A similar situation will apply throughout China from today when all clocks except those in the country's railway and long distance bus stations are put forward one hour.

The official news media said China's rail and bus networks would ignore the country's switch to summer time from May 4 to September 14, but the airline CAAC would observe it.

One senior official in the oasis town of Turfan in southeast Xinjian was very critical of the decision to allow so many exceptions to the reintroduction of separate time zone for the region.

"If we are to use Xinjiang time, then it should be Xinjiang time throughout,"Mahmut Silim told reporters. "The situation as it is results in problems such as mix-ups over the timing of

events. People may think something is to take place at a certain hour according to Peking time when it is really according to Xinjiang time."

But in Urumqi, the region's Vice-Governor, Tohti Sabir, disagreed.

"That Turfan official doesn't understand how things work," he said. "Ail he knows about is Turfan.

"There are no problems arising out of different government departments using different times. It is not a difficult calculation to make — you just add two or subtract two."

y

.rwV..

B-WIRE

16-MAY-86 04:52

c/U — TINY RUSSIAN COMMUNITY SURVIVES IN CHINA'S FAR
NORTHWEST

BY GRAHAM EARNSHAW

URUMQI, CHINA, MAY 16, REUTER - VIKTOR SERGEYEVICH MARKOV, A MEMBER OF A TINY COMMUNITY OF RUSSIANS IN CHINA'S FAR NORTHWEST, HAS OFTEN BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING A SPY, BUT INSISTS HE PREFERS LIFE HERE TO THAT IN THE SOVIET UNION.

THE CHINESE REGULARLY DENOUNCED PEOPLE OF RUSSIAN DESCENT AS SPIES DURING THE DECADE OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION WHICH ENDED IN 1976. BUT THE RUSSIAN COMMUNITY OF ABOUT 1,000 IN THE CITY OF URUMQI IS FINALLY GETTING BACK ON ITS FEET AFTER TWO DECADES OF PERSECUTION.

"DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, WE RUSSIANS REALLY HAD THE WORST OF IT," SAID 62-YEAR-OLD MARKOV. "WE LIVED THROUGH WORSE TIMES THAN ANYONE ELSE. I MYSELF WAS OFTEN CALLED IN AND ACCUSED OF BEING A SPY."

SOVIET INFLUENCE IN CHINA'S FAR NORTHWEST REGION OF XINJIANG WAS VERY STRONG IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY WHEN THERE WERE SOME 250,000 RUSSIANS LIVING IN URUMQI, THE REGIONAL CAPITAL.

NOW ALL THAT IS LEFT OF THAT ERA ARE THE SMALL GROUP OF RUSSIANS AND SOME RUSSIAN-STYLE BUILDINGS. THE FORMER SOVIET CONSULATE — A RUN-DOWN TWO-STORY BUILDING IN CENTRAL URUMQI — IS NOW THE HOME OF A SONG AND DANCE TROUPE.

THE LEADER OF THE COMMUNITY IS AKSENIYA YAKOVLEVNA STROYEVA, 75, WHO WAS BUSY COOKING TRADITIONAL RUSSIAN CAKES ON A SMALL STOVE AS WE ENTERED THE ONE-ROOM APARTMENT SHE SHARES WITH HER DAUGHTER, SON-IN-LAW AND GRANDCHILD.

SHE CAME TO CHINA IN 1933 WITH HER HUSBAND, A CHINESE WHO HAD FOUGHT WITH THE BOLSHEVIK RED ARMY AGAINST THE WHITE RUSSIANS IN 1917.

"THERE ARE ABOUT 1,000 RUSSIANS LIVING IN URUMQI NOW, ALTHOUGH THERE USED TO BE MANY MORE IN THE OLD DAYS," SHE SAID, HER GOLD TEETH FLASHING.

"MOST HAVE EITHER GONE BACK TO THE SOVIET UNION OR EMIGRATED TO AUSTRALIA OR SOMEWHERE ELSE. A LOT OF PEOPLE WENT BACK TO THE SOVIET UNION IN THE LATE 1950S."

MOST OF THE RUSSIAN COMMUNITY IN URUMQI ARE PART-CHINESE IN DESCENT — BUT NOT STROYEVA.

A NUMBER OF THEM SAID THEY CAME TO CHINA IN THE 1930S WHEN THE SOVIET UNION ORDERED CHINESE MEN MARRIED TO RUSSIAN WOMEN TO LEAVE WITH THEIR CHILDREN WITHIN 24 HOURS.

STROYEVA AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WERE CRITICAL OF WHAT THEY SAID WERE SOVIET RESTRICTIONS ON VISITS TO BEE RELATIVES AND SAID MANY OF THE RUSSIANS WHO HAD GONE BACK TO THE SOVIET UNION NOW WANTED TO RETURN TO LIVE IN CHINA.

"I APPLIED TWO YEARS AGO TO VISIT MY DAUGHTER IN THE SOVIET UNION BUT MOSCOW SAID IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE," SAID STROYEVA. "THEY SAID I WAS TOO OLD."

O~?>0/<?

"THE PROBLEMS OF VISITS ARE ALL ON THE SOVIET SIDE," SHE SAID. "PEOPLE WHO GO TO VISIT RELATIVES IN THE SOVIET UNION HAVE IMMENSE TROUBLE TRAVELLING AROUND. TO GO ANYWHERE YOU NEED A PERMIT AND YOU HAVE TO WAIT 10 DAYS FOR PERMISSION. PEOPLE VISITING CHINA HAVE NO PROBLEMS."

"WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS GOING TO STAY WITH US FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND THEY LIKE WHAT THEY SEE, ESPECIALLY THE SHOPS FULL OF GOODS," SHE SAID.

"WE KNOW A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO COME BACK, BUT THEY CAN'T BECAUSE THEY GAVE UP THEIR CHINESE CITIZENSHIP WHEN THEY WENT TO THE SOVIET UNION."

STROYEVA WAS FULL OF PRAISE FOR THE WAY IN WHICH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES NOW TREAT LOCAL RUSSIANS.

THE GOVERNMENT BOUGHT A TWO-STORY HOUSE IN AN Urumqi suburb last year and gave it to the community for use as a Russian Orthodox chapel.

THE OLD CHURCH WAS CLOSED IN 1966 ALONG WITH VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER PLACES OF WORSHIP IN CHINA AND WAS TORN DOWN IN 1987. RUSSIAN RESIDENTS HAD PROTESTED BUT IT WAS TOO LATE.

WHEN THE NEW CHAPEL WAS OPENED IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, THE COMMUNITY RECEIVED A CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAM FROM PATRIARCH PIMEN, HEAD OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN MOSCOW. BUT IT HAS NOT ACCEPTED HIS OFFER OF FINANCIAL HELP.

"WE DON'T SEE OURSELVES AS RUSSIANS IN EXILE, BUT AS ONE OF CHINA'S 56 NATIONALITIES," SAID MARKOV FIRMLY. "WE ARE NOT DEPENDENT IN ANY WAY ON ANOTHER COUNTRY."

THE COMMUNITY IS INCREASING IN SIZE BUT IS IN DANGER OF LOSING ITS IDENTITY AS YOUNG PEOPLE ABANDON THEIR PARENTS' LANGUAGE AND MIX INCREASINGLY WITH THE CHINESE AROUND THEM.

"WHAT WE NEED IS A RUSSIAN SCHOOL," SAID MARKOV. "IF WE DON'T HAVE ONE THE LANGUAGE WILL DISAPPEAR EVENTUALLY. THE GOVERNMENT SAYS IT WILL SET ONE UP SOMETIME IN THE NEXT YEAR."

TA



SSU —RELATIONS WITH MI MORI TV IN HORTHWE£T CtfAfftSTUX NbT^DEAL

URUrOI, CHINA; MAY'20, REUTER - STUDENTS m .URUnWi a MAIN UNIVERSITY DON'T; HAVE TOO MUCH SPARE;TIME.THESE DAYS*THEY HAVE TO ATTEND EXTRA 'IDEOLOGICAL? CLASSES' AIMED = AT;IDEFUSIN6 DISCONTENT . WHZ CH

LED TO UNPRECEDENTED "STREET 'DEMONSTRATIONS LAST. DECEMBER. - SEVERAL THOUSAND' STUDENTS^FjTHE UI6HUR >NATIONALH-Y^MARCHED-^ ' • THROUGH- URUH8I; CAPITAL?«F'CHINA:S,REMOTE^NORTHWESTERN REGION OF. XINJIANG. AH0N6 OTHER THIN6S,- THEY.;«ERE PROTESTING AGAINST NUCLEAR . TESTS BEING CONDUCTED IN XINJIANB AND JHE',.DIMPING, OF ^CRIMINALS .FROM OTHER PARTS OF CHINA IN LABOUR CAHPSN HERE. v-}c\$y ' '-#£*&*

■ ■ SIMILAR PROTESTS WERE ALSO ORGANIZED BY ;UIGHUR STUDENTS IN PEKING AND SHANGHAI -- A REMINDER THAT 36 YEARS AFTER CHINESE COMMUNIST TROOPS MARCHED INTO WHAT WAS THEN CHINESE TURKESTAN. TO HEAD OFF AN iii&HUR INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE.TWO RACES REMAIN LESS THAU IDEAL. ' .i £: v.' . • ' O-

PEOPLE WHO LIVE THROUGHOUT 'CENTRAL ASIA, STILL THE 12 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE XINJIANG (NEW TE KASIVE GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED 'MIGRATION OF € PAST THREE DECADES* " * ' ? - ' :? : V LY FRONTIER! REGION DIFFERENT FROM THE CHINESE IN LOOKS "

LA v-TJKIE- CUSTOMS, HABITS AND PERSONALITY AND THE' .TWO f i ^ C E S S E E K T J Mi>: l r l 7' E * • r ' c ' V ■ ■ l %f ~

THE GOVERNMENT OFF i CI ALLY ENCOURAGES 'FRIENDSHIP'A>JP UNITY "HL BETWEEN

1~ DIEFI-RENT NATIGNALITIES, BUT OFFICIALS THROUGHOUT THE RE6ION SAID INTERMARRIAGE IS ACTIVELY DISCOURAGED. •

c?; ■>: WS DOv'T LIKE PEOPLE OF VARIOUS NATIONALITIES INTERHARRYI No, ■ rs:no'. OFFICIAL HAHMUT SILIM IN THE CITY OF TURFAN. -THE^E ARE r.-.; WITH SUCH MARRIAGES — DIFFERENT LANGUAGES AND Rr.' CUSTOMS.

> • -;Sc5, INTERMARRIAGES HAVE BEEN PERMITTED SENIOR BUT SOME OF v THESE - PARTY CHIEF IS 4 ~ i j .DIVORCE;;... ■ * io BE SEEN IN Cif

r.ANS'S VICE-GOVERNOR TOKTI SABIR, AN U^SHUR, SAID RELATIONS BEIVfi. UIGKURS AND THE HAN CHINESE WERE BETTER TUAN THEY HAD EVER »*L ^ * HE DISMISSED THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS LAST YEA* AS THE 'Y OF A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE P RT OF IMMATURE STUDENTS. ; HE Y J» ST DON'T UNDERSTAND THE SITUATK'," HE SAID. "THEY WERE ::iv YC N*G STUDENTS WHO HAD ONLY JUST E? TERED UNIVERSITY.■

THKi.T oILIH REJECTED THE STUDENTS'• CRT IC1SH OF THE POLICY OF vir. <?* CRIMINALS TO XINJIANG FROM OTHER AREAS.

THE COMPLAINT FROM THOSE STUDENTS WAS THAT THE CRIMINALS BEING Sr,\V HERE WERE HAN PEOPLE, * HE SAID. •THEY THOUGHT XINJIANG WAS AN U 13*VH PLACE AND HAN CRIMINALS SHOULD NOT BE SE'-'T HERE, THAT IS WRONG, • ■ ■ : -

AG A RESULT OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS, STUDENTS SAID, DISCIPLINE AT XIKJT >NC UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN TIGHTENED UP CONSIDERABLY. • •THE STUDENTS RE NOW ALL STAYING,* SAID WANG SHAN6TEN, A REGIONAL OFFICIAL DEALING WITH MINORITY AFFAIRS. *UE ARE CONTINUING ' IDEOLOGICAL WORK AMONGST THE STUDENTS TO STRESS THE UNITY OF ALL' NATIONAL* .i ? TES. •

THERE HC , 'E A NLM3EP OF OTHER INCIDENTS OVER THE v E A R 3 , THE BEE?. LARGEST 0: vCL^EJ The MASS DEFECTION OF MORE THAN 60,300 WHICH I ■ * Mi:.*DRIT% . ;Sr THE tiORDER. TO THE SOVIET UNION IN 1962. PEOPLE AC' TWO 'SOPL e REPORTS:* KILLED IN AN INCIDENT IN THE FAR WESTERN ML Hr CrV OF .\i SHEAR WHICH RESULTED FROM A DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN A IN HAN CRT. LEE AND UIBHUR.

*** nSUCn CASr.S ARE INI*»Ji rHc«c?JEL'A £N»> ARL NOT A ScNERA^ PROBLEM. *• SAIL WANG. "IT !S POSSIBLE THESE WILL BE SIMILAR MINOR P'OTLEMS IN THE FUTURE. THEY CANNOT BE ft VO IDED IN ANY SOCIETY.* REi TG70N IS A BIG ISSUE IN XINJIANG, WHERE MORE THAN HALF THE POPULATION ARE MOSLEMS. (P.T.O.)

?<?T

Fiaj 2

6S1K -- m Pr, B-WIRE
' NATIONS WITH

20-MAY-86 06:09

. , con

ONLY **IK** *THE^SPA?TRII. r^ESSRS HAVE ALLOUED FREE RELIGIOUS PRACTICES
TO WIPE OUT ISLAM' FORCIBLY^ .YEA?S AFTER MORE THAN A ^CADE OF TRYING
_ VIE 1 MAOT\$T^VLII1^E MOSQUES'IN YINJIANBTRE CLOSIDDURINS THE
^OICftL nRA»i ;.vYw?RS AFTER 1**6 AND MANY WERE DESTROYED ALONG WUH
HE J R°2--VL!(I^{RULENTLV} ATHEISTIC HAN CHINESE. A* '
VC - AT ID AND VERY SLAD ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S RELISIOUJ
*U- J,F MnKENT;" SAID IMAM MOHAMMAD KARAJIH AT THE MAIN IDrup
POUCII IN KAS !GAR, *UE ARE NOW ABLE TO PRACTICE OUR RELI6ION AS
/AM j' Or

Wf W:sf; ONLY RESTRICTION SEEMS TO BE A BAN ON ISLAMIC EDUCA.ION IN
THE. BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO Hi KE THE
SCHOOLS AGE TO MECCA AFTER B .RING SUC'vVIS.TS DURING THC RADICAL
PhSRIM
YEARS.

*£3PEC I ALLY LARGE NUMBERS HAVE BEEN GOING IN THE LAST TWO OR
THREE YCARS — NEARLY 1,800 LAST YEAR ALONE,* SAID ONE OFFICIAL.
T H15 SITUATION IS UNPRECEDENTED IN THE HISTORY O' XINJIANG.*'
IM-COMMUNIST PARTY, A STRICTLY 'THE1ST IC ORG NIZATI ON IN MOST
PARTS .F CHINA, IS EVEN RESIGNED TO MANY OF-ITS OFFICIALS HERE BEING
PRACT I:INS HOSLEMS. •*
ERE'IS A SPECIAL SITUATION HERE ?N XINJ1AN6, ■ SA:3 RELIGIOUS
OFFICIAL SUN JUN, A FIRM MARXIST.
A-rft IRE 11 MUNI ST OFFICIALS ARE MATERIALISTS, BUT THEY ARE LIVING AND
*» rr VV.AT THE GRASS-ROOTS LEVEL AND ARE BOUND TO BE INFLUENCED BY
WORDING,prnU5 ACTIVITIES GOING ON ALL AROUND THEM. '
THE PCL 4 F'IVFRWMENT'S POLICY HERE IS TO TRY TO EDUCATE THEM -- TO
•THc -p£M TO GIVE UP THEIR BELIEFS.* 6G

COUVE C

m

FF032

B-WIRE

26-HAY-86 10:30

4
*
}

ASIA - CHINESE AUTHORITIES JAIL STUDENT PROTESTERS . . .

2 r^c

BY JIM MANN LOS
AN6FI ES TIMES

PEKING, MAY 25 - SIX STUDENTS WHO TOOK PART IN A SERIES OF POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS LAST FALL AT PEKING UNIVERSITY, CHINA'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, HAVE BEEN ARRESTED BY POLICE AND TAKEN AWAY FROM THE CAMPUS THIS SPRING, ACCORDING TO STUDENT SOURCES.

THE STUDENT ACTIVISTS HERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN A NEW MOVEMENT ON THE CAMPUS TO PRESS THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN CHINA. THE CALL FOR DEMOCRACY HAS RAISED LAST FALL DURING A SERIES OF PROTESTS IN WHICH STUDENTS ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT INFLATION, CORRUPTION AND WHAT THEY SAID WAS CHINA'S OVERLY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN.

ONE OF THE ARRESTS WAS MADE WHEN POLICE REPORTEDLY DROVE ONTO THE CAMPUS IN A JEEP LATE AT NIGHT, WALKED INTO THE DORMITORY ROOM OF A STUDENT IN THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT AND TOLD HIM TO PACK UP HIS BELONGINGS. "YOU ARE GOING TO CHANGE YOUR LIVING CONDITIONS," THEY TOLD HIM. ACCORDING TO A SOURCE IN THE DORMITORY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY SAID SATURDAY THAT TWO STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED ON THE CAMPUS. HE REFUSED TO GIVE ANY OTHER DETAILS, SAYING "IT'S THE JOB OF THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU."

A SPOKESMAN FOR PEKING'S PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU CONFIRMED THAT TWO STUDENTS WERE ARRESTED IN APRIL, BUT HE WOULD NOT GIVE THEIR NAMES OR SAY WHY THEY WERE ARRESTED OR SPECIFY THE CHARGES AGAINST THEM.

STUDENT SOURCES SAID THAT, SINCE THEY WERE ARRESTED, SIX STUDENTS HAVE: ~~TOVTTIHPPLf UibPPPLMED-FKILNUAHAVL BEEN~~ to LOCATE ----- * THEM. TWO OF THE STUDENTS WERE FROM THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT AND TWO OTHERS WERE FROM THE LAW DEPARTMENT, THEY SAID.

DEVELOPMENTS AT PEKING UNIVERSITY TAKE ON PARTICULAR POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE IN CHINA BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL ROLE THE CAMPUS HAS PLAYED IN CHINESE HISTORY THROUGHOUT THE 20TH CENTURY.

THE SO-CALLED "MAY 4 MOVEMENT" THAT PROVOKED A REVIVAL OF CHINESE NATIONALISM BEGAN WITH A POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION AT PEKING UNIVERSITY IN 1919. THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION WAS SPARKED BY WALLPOSTERS APPEARING AT THE UNIVERSITY IN 1966.

A NEW ROUND OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY BEGAN AT THE CAMPUS LAST SEPT. 18, WHEN HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS PUT UP WALL POSTERS AT THE CAMPUS TRIANGLE AND SOUGHT TO MARCH TO TIANANMEN SQUARE IN THE HEART OF PEKING

STUDENT SOURCES SAY THAT ONE OF THE WALL POSTERS PROCLAIMED THE FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY CALLED THE CHINESE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND INVITED OTHER STUDENTS TO JOIN. THE STATED AIM OF THE NEW GROUP WAS TO HELP CHINA'S RULING COMMUNIST PARTY INCREASE THE DEGREE OF DEMOCRACY IN GOVERNMENT.

SOME STUDENTS ALSO CALLED FOR CREATION OF A MULTI-PARTY GOVERNMENT AND FOR REVISION OF THE CHINESE CONSTITUTION, WHICH SAYS THAT CHINA IS "A SOCIALIST STATE UNDER THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC DICTATORSHIP LED BY THE WORKING CLASS AND BASED ON THE ALLIANCE OF WORKERS AND PEASANTS."

LAST FALL, THE WAVE OF PROTESTS THAT BEGAN AT PEKING UNIVERSITY SPREAD TO CAMPUSES IN OTHER CHINESE CITIES. THE DEMONSTRATIONS APPEARED TO CAUSE CONSIDERABLE CONSTERNATION AMONG CHINA'S TOP LEADERS. (PTO)

328

FF033

B-WIRE

26-MAY-86 10:31

ASIA - (1) CHINESE AUTHORITIES JAIL STUDENT PROTESTERS

UTTMrSc"e\$M^!i5 NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS WERE SENT TO MEET loa?
inn,S^«S^ATS> AND EARLY THIS YEAR, THE REGIME ANNOUNCED THAT riiDTuco S,I^AR
OF "CONSOLIDATION" IN WHICH THERE WOULD BE NO
FURTHER PR^CE RISES OR ECONOMIC REFORMS IN CHINA.
rAMnrr 7.tSLII^B IMNING OF THE SPRING SEMESTER AT PEKING UNIVERSITY. CAMPUS UNREST
HAD BEGUN TO WANE. IT WAS THEN THAT THE ARRESTS BEbAN, ACCORDING TO
CAMPUS SOURCES. AT THE SAME TIME, THE SOURCES SAY, AUTHORITIES HELD A
SECRET MEETING OF DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OTHER RANKING UNIVERSITY
OFFICIALS, AT WHICH IT WAS DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE THOSE WHO HAD WRITTEN
THE WALL POSTERS HUNG DURING THE FALL DEMONSTRATIONS.

"RIGHT NOW, THERE AREN'T AREN'T ANY SECRET ACTIVITIES GOING ON," SAID
ONE CAMPUS SOURCE THIS WEEK. "THE STUDENTS ARE APATHETIC AND PESSIMISTIC.
THEY KNOW THAT THERE IS NOTHING THEY CAN DO. SO THEY SPEND ALL DAY IN THE
LIBRARY STUDYING AND HOPING THEY CAN GO ABROAD."

THE STUDENTS' EFFORT TO PRESS FOR DEMOCRACY IN CHINA WAS
APPARENTLY THE MOST SERIOUS SINCE 1979, WHEN YOUNG ACTIVISTS SET UP *t*
■nFMOCRACY WALL" IN DOWNTOWN PEKING TO DISPLAY WALL POSTERS EXPRESSING
POLITICAL DISSENT.
KR/JE

<CA

FF021

25-MAY-86 02:08

ASIA - THE KARAKORAM f'-Gi-M:-
BY JOHN F. BURNS NEW ' •*'

VS...:«!< BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

KHUNJERAB PASS, CHINA- If..' >. ••• TO STAND AT THE PINNACLE OF THIS PASS IS TO STAND IN WONDER -V- YHE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MAN.

AT A POINT 16,072 FEET U:- AMID THE KARAKORAM MOUNTAINS THAT DIVIDE CHINA FROM PAKISTAN, ~~IX~~ IS NATURAL TO THINK OF MARCO POLO, WHO IS SAID TO HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE NEARBY MINTAKA PASS SEVEN CENTURIES AGO. ALSO REMARKABLE WERE THE FEATS OF THE ROADBUILDING SOLDIERS WHO CUT A PATH FOR MOTOR VEHICLES ALONG RIDGES THAT SERVED ONLY CAMELS AND HORSES FGR MORE JHAN_2^D0Q.YEARS.

THE ROADBUILDERS FINISHED THE 2G YEARS OF BLASTING AND BULLDOZING THAT WENT INTO THE KARAKORAM HIGHWAY IN 1978. AT THE COST OF MORE THA^QCL-LIVES AND A BUDGET LARGE ENOUGH THAT NEITHER PAKISTAN NOR CHINA HAS DISCLOSED IT, A PERMANENT OVERLAND LINK WAS FORGED BETWEEN TWO WORLDS THAT GEOGRAPHY HAD CONSPIRED TO KEEP APART - TO THE EAST CHINA AND TO THE WEST THF CIVILIZATIONS OF THE INDUS VALLEY, ASIA MINOR AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.

BECAUSE THE 15,000 CHINESE AND PAKISTANIS WHO BUILT THE ROAD WORKED IN AREAS THAT HAD LONG BEEN CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS, THEIR FEAT WENT LITTLE HERALDED ELSEWHERE. ONLY SINCE MAY 1 HAS IT BEEN POSSIBLE FOR NATIONALS OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO "TRAVEL' THTTULL 795 MILES OF THE HIGHWAY FROM ITS TWIN STARTING POINTS IN THE ANCIENT CITY OF J£&£H£AR, ON THE WESTERN FRINGES OF CHINA, AND THF MODERN PAKISTANI CAPITAL OF ISLAMABAD. ALTHOUGH A JOURNEY OF MONTHS FOR CAMEL TRAINS HAS BEEN REDUCED TO 36 HOURS OF .JEFP DRIVING, IT REMAINS AS ARDUOUS A ROAD TRIP AS CAN BE FOUND ANYWHERE IN ASIA, AND POSSIBLY BEYOND.

FROM KASHGAR, A TOWN KNOWN FOR ITS WILY UIGHUR TRADERS, THE ROAD RUNS SOUTH THROUGH AREAS INHABITED BY KIRGHIZ AND TADZHIKS, PEOPLES WITH WARRIOR PASTS WHO HAVE SETTLED PEACEABLY IN THE UPLAND VALLEYS WITH THEIR SHEEPS, GOATS AND CAMELS. IN FELT-LINED YURTS, HOUSES OF ROUGHLY PILED STONE AND MORE ELABORATE SETTLEMENTS OF MUD AND STRAW, FAMILIES WERE INVARIABLY WELCOMING TO INTRUDERS, EVEN WHEN THEY HAD NEVER SEEN WESTERNERS BEFORE.

IN KASHGAR, A SAND-COLORED CITY OF MUD-WALLED HOMES THAT GAVE RESPITE TO GENERATIONS OF TRAVELERS ALONG THE OLD SILK ROAD, OFFICIALS FRET ABOUT THE TIDE OF ADVENTURERS LIKELY TO DESCEND ON THE TOWN NOW THAT THE HIGHWAY IS OPEN. "THIS WILL MAKE SOME TROUBLES FOR IIS, NO DOUBT," SAID ABDULLAHJAN DAWUD, THE UIGHUR WHO HEADS THE LOCAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE, "BUT NEVER MIND, WE WILL SOLVE THEM."

AT TASH KURGHAN, AN OLD TADZHIK SETTLEMENT DESCRIBED BY EARLY TRAVELERS AS "THE.GATEWAY TO -CHINA," TRAVELERS CAN SHARE A BOWL OF NODDLES WITH TRUCKERS, CONTINUING A COMMERCE THAT HAS ALTERED LITTLE IN CENTURIES - PORCELAIN, TEA AND SILK OUTBOUND FROM CHINA AND DRIED FRUITS, BLANKETS AND HERBAL MEDICINES INBOUND FROM PAKISTAN. PRIVATE TRAVELERS FROM KASHGAR, MOSTLY UIGHUR MOSLEMS HEADING FOR MECCA, CARRY ANTIQUE XINJIANG CARPETS TO BE TRADED IN PAKISTAN FOR THE HARD CURRENCY THAT BUYS.'.TICKETa DNHARD.'.TO. JIDDA.

THE OPENING OF THE HIGHWAY TO THIRD-COUNTRY TRAFFIC APPEARS INTENDED TO CARRY A MESSAGE TO TWO NEIGHBORING NATIONS, THE SOVIET UNION AND INDIA. AS IT CLIMBS TO THE KHUNJERAB PASS - "JCHUNJERAB" MEANS "VALLEY OF BLOOD" - THE HIGHWAY SKIRTS THE EASTERN AND SOUTHERF FtANKS'TJF'THE "WfikTtAN'TORR I DOR OF AFGHANISTAN, OCCUPIED SINCE 1979 BY BATTALIONS OF SOVIET TROOPS.

YUAN JIANMIN, TASH KURGHAN'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, SAID THE AFGHAN CONFLICT REMAINED "A DISTANT THING" FOR MOST LOCAL PEOPLE, OTHER THAN THOSE WHO ARE BARRED FROM VISITING TADZHIK RELATIVES IN AFGHANISTAN ALONG PASSES SEALED BY THE RUSSIANS. (PTO)

25-MAY-86 02:10
% 1 55STAN, OFF I C?AI^A2 HIGHWAY: A LINK BETWEEN TWO W
2;^Ds^vOF L^IYI MHERE C^{inc} LESS RELAXED. A FEW MILES LINK BETWEEN TWO WORLDS
HfthL. »P^oPLARS Ln AL^{GLACIERS} RUN DOWN TO VALLEYS n«ut our. NORTH OF THE
rl.-.LUoS^{AIN} AERIPQ^{DT}SA5^{ICOT} 6^{ROVES}, PAKISTANI TROOPS MAINTAIN YRDE SOFT BY
•^TMuELS^HAN REFlirrJe^{A.T}, OVERLOOK THE WAKHAN. MORE THAN THREE «
iUfwf FR^{ONTIFR}DDnw,t<AVE TAKEN SANCTUARY FARTHER WEST IN THE
OVFD 5F^{FULLY} WATrucS^{RO}yINCE OF PAKISTAN, SO ANY INCREASE IN FIGHTING
Pncc,-THE CONTROL i SOUTH OF THE HIGHWAY OTHER TROOPS STAND GUARD
^SESSION OF KAcuitS e^{STABLISHED} AFTER PAKISTAN AND INDIA FOUGHT FOI
STILL MORS: IN 1948
yp5(?§ ORGAN 15irf SK^{IS}.Tft**I.S°LD i ERS ARE DEPLOYED WITH THE FRONTIER
CLEAR OF ROCKPi Tnci 5H^{1CH} LABORS ROUND THE CLOCK TO KEEP THE HIGHWAY
BATTALIONS ninIR!.. AND AVALANCHES, ALTHOUGH CHINESE ENGINEERING
THE PAKiqTA^r,?y^{CH} OF THE BLASTIN6. PAVING AND BRIDGE-BUILDING ON
^INTENANJE TO PA{IS^^{UITHDREU} FIVE YEIRS ABO AND LEFT THE

MOTHTwr^{Hnr}°xM?LIDES THftT CAN DEMOLISH BRIDGES IN AN INSTANT AND LEAVI
ARqnRdc in It^E ROAD FOR HUNDREDS OF YARDS. THE MAINTENANCE WORK
Mill TrucS^{A020} PAKISTANI TROOPS AND AN ANNUAL BUDGET IN THE TENS OF
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS.

TuATTn??L0*S TIME MUCH OF THF PASSAGE LAY ALONG ROCKY RIVER BEDS
A. ?.,J£?. VELERS TODAY 6LIMPSE FROM THE HIGHWAY HUNDREDS OF FEET ABOVE
JCTHOUGH THE BRIGANDS WHO GAVE THE KHUNJERAB ITS NAME HAVE
DISAPPEARED, CRUMBLING ROAD SHOULDERS THAT HAVE LOS1 THEIR PROTECTIVI
CONCRETE POSTS ARE A REMINDER OF THE DISASTER AWAITING ANY VEHICLE
STRUCK BY A COLLAPSING TIE-ROD OR A CAREERING BUS. FOR THOSE SHORT Oi
TRUST, IT CAN BE A RELIEF WHEN A MOSLEM JEEP DRIVER PAUSES AT THE
ROADSIDE, SEEKS OUT A CONVENIENT ROCK AND BOWS HIS HEAD IN PRAYER.

A WESTERN GROUP THAT MADE THE JOURNEY BY JEEP IN EARLY MAY MET U
ALONG THE WAY WITH A LONE BICYCLIST, MARK SKINNER, WHO SO ASTONISHED
CHINESE BORDER GUARDS THAT THEY WAIVED A RULE FORBIDDING PRIVATE
TRANSPORT ON THE CHINESE SIDE. THE SIGHT OF THE 29-YEAR-OLD ENGLISH
LAWYER MAKING NO BETTER THAN A WALKING PACE THROUGH THE SAND AND
STONES OUTSIDE TASH KURGHAN, WHERE LIMPID 6GREEN PASTURELANDS STRETCH
MILES TO THE MOUNTAINS, WAS ENOU6H TO HALT NORMAL ACTIVITY IN A
CHINESE WORK CAMP NEARBY.

AN ENGLISHMAN PEDALING HIS WAY TO PEKING WAS ONE OF MANY
DIVERTING EXPERIENCES.

••AMERICA' REE-6AN! ■ EXCLAIMED A WEATHER-BEATEN KIRGHIZ HERDER,
nAMcrSfi BY THE ROADSIDE WITH HIS CLAN AS THEY TRUCKED FROM THF
ESKStMNS INTO KASHGAR. AMID LAUGHTER, HE CAST AROUND FOR OTHER
tjATinNALITIES. "ENGLAND? TA-CHER!" HE ADDED, HIS DARK EYES SPARKLING
K?lr HF PROFFERED A HUG OF STEAMING BLACK TEA, WIPING THE BRIM WITH
NE*T OF HIS DUSTY CALF-LENGTH COAT. HE WAS STILL CHUCKLING AS THE
THE ntn V AWAY.

JEEPS PULLCU pLEASURES ARE COMPLEMENTED BY THE ICE-GREEN BEAUTY OF
IAUTO KARAKORAM AND HIMALAYA MOUNTAIN RANGES THAT FLANK THE
thE PAMIK, PEAKS - MANY ABOVE 25,000 FEET - PROVIDE A SOARING
HIGHWAIAntNT TO THE CHASMS LINING THE ROAD. ACCIDENTS ARE COMMON, BU*
COUNTERPOINI immODEST JFEP TRAVELER WHO WOULD COMPARE HIS ANXIETIE!
IT WOULD ft gg FACED BY EARLY PIONEERS. ONLY 50 YEARS AGO IT WAS
TO THF HAZAKua CAMEL TRAINS TO FREEZE TO DEATH IN THE MOUNTAINS,
COMMON FOR BY TRAVELERC; THE NEXT SPRING.

Tfi BE YEARS BEFORE POLO, A CHINESE MONK NAMED FA HSIEN PASSEI
aBOUTns A PILGRIMAGE TO INDIA.----- --

THIS WAY. ON H BUGGED, RUNNING ALONG A BANK
- "THE WAY. pITOUSJ,, HE WROTE. "WHEN ONE APPROACHED THE EDGE OF
CYCEFDINGLT UNSTEADY; AND IF HE WISHED TO GO FORWARD IN THE
IT HIS EY!?nNTHERE WAS NO PLACE ON WHICH HE COULD
EHEATHW^{EAE} THE WATERS OF THE RIVER CALLED THE

LAY HIS FOOT,
INDUS." AM/TA



Along Khunjerab Pass

. > ? r

Journey to top of the world

By Anwar Mansuri

ISLAMABAD (DPA) — Some vacation trips make you feel on top of the world but the one on the "Silk Road" linking Pakistan and China through the Karakoram mountains really takes you there.

Dizzy and gasping for oxygen at the 4,850-meter-high border crossing point in the snowy wilderness of Khunjerab Pass you could not feel otherwise.

Understandably, visitors driving up to the border are advised not to exert themselves. Blackouts are common among the weak.

For eight years the Khunjerab border remained closed to all except the official traffic. On May 1 it was thrown open to international tourists, a date fit to honor the thousands of workers who built this "8th wonder of the world."

A driver cruising comfortably along the 9.9-kilometer-long, nine-meter-wide Karakoram Highway — with an easy gradient despite the towering mountains on both sides — would hardly realize the enormous job involved in building it.

"It was a difficult task," Brig. Abdul Majeed of the Pakistan Army informed the journalists invited to witness the opening of the road to international tourists.

How modest his statement was became clear from the figures relating to the construction of the road — 8,000 tons of explosives, 80,000 tons of cement, 35,000 tons of coal and 80,000 tons of petroleum products. Eighteen thousand tons of machinery and equipment had to be dropped from the air as there was no other means to transport it there.

But the job of Brig. Majeed's unit to keep the road open throughout the year is no less challenging.

Brochures warn the tourists that the travel time estimates given in them "apply only if there is no landslide obstructing the passage of the road."

Karakoram Range mountains are relatively younger than the Hindu Kush and the western Himalayas which all cover the region, which boasts 33 peaks rising above 7,000 meters and the heaviest concentration of glaciers outside the polar regions.

Hillsides there have not yet stabilized enough to withstand heavy rains and even long after the rains, slides occur and hold up traffic on the road.

"You can be sure of your vehicle passing through a passage cut through a mountain of slush, mud or rocks blocking your way on the trip," our bus driver Mohammad Ayub said. And we did have the chilling experience at least thrice.

One can cut down the hazards by half by flying into Gilgit, the administrative headquarters of Pakistan's Northern Areas, from Islamabad and then take to the Silk Road to Khunjerab about 300 kilometers to the north.

And the adventure that you missed by not driving up to Gilgit is compensated by the magnificent view of snow-covered mountains, including the 8,125-meter-high Nanga Parbat peak, the fourth highest in the world, from your aircraft on the flight which costs just 16 dollars. The Karakoram Highway, better known as the "Silk Road" because it follows part of the silk route between India and China, was at its busiest from the 1st to the 3rd centuries A.D. It offers little in the form of scenic beauty except scattered lush green valleys, but abounds in cultural relics from its Buddhist past and a serenity so blissful that nobody knew about the Chernobyl nuclear disaster there until some British visitors brought the news to Gilgit two days after the news broke out.

But the region served by the highway on Pakistani side is a paradise for mountain lovers. "It offers a lot to trekkers and climbers," said Alan Rouse, British mountaineer and expeditions organizer, who is leading an assault on the 8,611-meter-high K2 mountain, the second highest after Everest.

For the adventure-seekers, however, the exotic lies beyond Khunjerab in the Chinese Xinjiang Uigur Autonomous Region where oriental bazars await them.

But the Chinese side is not very enthusiastic about welcoming them in numbers, pleading inadequate facilities for them in Tashkurghan, the first town 134 kilometers north of Karamay. Rashghar, the bigger town, another 280 kilometers to the north.

"As much time as hotels, petrol stations and good roads are built on their side, the Chinese would prefer the tourists to come through their official China International Travel Service to avoid disappointments."

On the Pakistani side too, although facilities exist, mostly in the private sector, the hotel accommodation offered is not of European standard, except for a solitary hotel in Gilgit, the starting point of the exciting journey to the top of the world for most.



Minority—a model of progress !

Ina Chang

A little more than a decade ago, the Koreans in Yanji, in the remote corner of northeast China, faced racial discrimination that meant they couldn't use their language or observe Korean customs.

But now, the Peking government considers them a model minority, an example of how its policy of assimilation through tolerance rather than force is succeeding.

The Yanbian Korean "autonomous" prefecture, bordering North Korea, has a higher per capita agricultural output than China as a whole and a higher university acceptance rate than Peking or Shanghai.

Half of China's nearly 1.8 million Koreans live in Yanbian, a region in eastern Jilin province dominated by an imposing mountain range, forests, and fields of rice, sorghum, soybeans and other grains. Koreans make up just more than 40 percent of the local population.

Local officials, while pointing to the area's achievements, are also quick to note Yanbian's backwardness, a problem plaguing China's other minority regions.

Yanbian's capital, Yanji, is a bare and dusty town whose population is 60 percent Korean. The spartan buildings and plainly dressed people look much the same as in other northeastern Chinese towns, but its Korean flavour is obvious.

Every shop sign is written in Korean with Chinese below, magazine stands carry mostly Korean-language publications and the movies at the main cinema are in Korean, sometimes with Chinese subtitles.

The corner restaurants serve

Korean dishes and cold noodles, and the smell of hot and garlicky Korean delicacies. All the amply stocked free markets.

The Peking government emphasises that China's 55 minorities, comprising more than six percent of the total population, should keep their languages and customs and has granted them a measure of local autonomy.

China's minority policy allows for more than half of Yanbian's schools — from grade schools through colleges — to use Korean exclusively, except in Chinese-language classes. Students can choose in what language they will be educated.

One reason many Korean students are being admitted to China's top universities is that they have the option of taking entrance exams in their own language, and are given a slight advantage in scoring.

Korean is also the language of local government, and preferential policies have produced an increasing number of Koreans among local Communist Party and government officials.

The timber industry has been turned over to local jurisdiction, but the central government retains control over development of Yanbian's rich untapped mineral resources.

The Changbai Mountains in the eastern part of the prefecture, one of China's most pristine scenic areas, also hold a generous supply of ginseng root and other medicinal plants highly prized by both Chinese and Koreans.

In towns like Yanji, there are some separate Korean and Chinese neighbourhoods, but the boundaries are growing less rigid, according to Li Zhenn, an official in Yanbian's cultural affairs office.

Intermarriage with Hans, China's ethnic majority, is on the rise. One incentive is the rule allowing mixed couples to have two children, like ethnic Korean couples. Hans are allowed just one under China's strict birth control policy.

The government's policy of toleration is partly to compensate for the wrongs done during the Leftist 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, when Red Guards tore down minority places of worship and tried to wipe out ethnic traditions.

The Peking government still seeks to break down regional and cultural differences that through history have thwarted efforts to hold the Chinese nation together. Assimilation is welcomed, as in the encouragement of mixed marriages, but current policy states that assimilation should not be forced.

Most minorities live in sparsely populated, isolated and often strategic regions, and Peking has found that bending the rules, as in the case of the one-child policy, have helped reduce long-nurtured antagonisms.

Unlike the Tibetans and many other minorities with racial and religious disputes with the Chinese, and with the Communist regime in particular, the Koreans lived relatively peacefully with the Hans during this century until the Cultural Revolution.

The Koreans fought side-by-side with Chinese soldiers, many of them Communist guerrillas, against the Japanese in the 1930s and 1940s, and some joined the Communists.

That close co-operation makes memories of the cultural Revolution's anti-ethnic hysteria even more bitter.

"During the Cultural Revolution, we thought, 'what were you

no

people doing during the war against Japan? The Koreans were all fighting," Li said.

"During the Cultural Revolution, minorities had a worse time than the Hans. The suppression of minority cultures was a high-handed, fascist policy," said Cui Longhao, a Korean from Jilin province and a national minority affairs official.

The Korean minority was forced to sever all contacts with friends and relatives in North Korea and any hint of Korean culture was grounds for public harassment. Now, they frequently travel across the border for lengthy visits, and barter trade is on the rise.
AP

r

ASIA - IN CHINA, IN MONGOL STEPS, HORDES OF BACKPACKERS

BY JOHN F. BURNS NEW YORK TIMES

^^

j

-KASHGAR, CHINA, JUNE 13 - AT DAWN, WHEN A CRESCENT MOON LINGERS! ON THE HORIZON, THE DONKEY CARTS ARE ON THE MOVE IN THIS OLD ISLAMIC TOWN. THROUGH AN OPEN DOORWAY IN A WHITEWASHED WALL, THE MURMURINGS OF YOUNG BOYS READING THE KORAN FILTER INTO AN ALLEY. OLD MEN IN LEATHER BOOTS GATHER SILENTLY ON A NEARBY BENCH, WATCHING THE SUN SPREADING A WASH OF PINK ACROSS THE DISTANT PAMIR PEAKS.

FOR MORE THAN 2,000 YEARS KASHGAR HAS LIVED BY ITS OWN RHYTHMS, ABSORBING ONLY AS MUCH AS IT HAS CARED TO FROM THE ALIEN TIDES THAT HAVE FLOWED THROUGH THE TOWN.

THE CHINESE FIRST MADE THEIR POWER FELT HERE IN THE HAN DYNASTY, IN THE THIRD CENTURY B.C. THE RUSSIANS WERE A PERVASIVE INFLUENCE FOR A CENTURY AND A HALF BEFORE WORLD WAR II, AND IN BETWEEN THE DUSTY STREETS WERE TROD BY TIBETANS, MONGOLS, INDIANS AND BRITISH, AMONG OTHERS.

BECAUSE THE TOWN STANDS AT THE FURTHEST FRINGE OF THE DESERTS THAT CUSHION CHINA FROM THE WEST, IT HAS ALWAYS ATTRACTED CONQUERORS, ADVENTURERS AND TRADERS. BUT NONE HAS MADE MORE THAN A PASSING IMPACT ON THE UIGHURS, A TURKIC-SPEAKING PEOPLE WHO MIGRATED FROM THE WESTERN PERIMETER OF MONGOLIA AND WHO HAD BEEN PREDOMINANT IN KASHGAR FOR AT LEAST EIGHT CENTURIES WHEN MARCO POLO PASSED THROUGH IN 1275.

TODAY THEY ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF THE TOWN'S POPULATION OF 180,000, AND NOT EVEN CHINESE COMMUNISM HAS MADE MUCH LASTING DIFFERENCE IN THEIR WAYS.

GEOGRAPHY HAS BEEN THE UIGHURS' ALLY. IT IS MORE THAN 2,000 MILES FROM HERE TO PEKING, MOST OF IT DESERT. TRAVELERS FROM THE CAPITAL TAKE TWO DAYS TO ARRIVE BY PLANE, LONGER IF FLIGHTS ARE CANCELED BECAUSE OF SANDSTORMS THAT SWEEP THE GOBI AND TAKLAMAKAN, THE VAST SEAS OF DUNE AND SCRUB THAT COVER MUCH OF THE XINJIANG UIGHUR AUTONOMOUS REGION IN WHICH KASHGAR IS SITUATED.

AS IF NATURE'S ISOLATION WERE INSUFFICIENT, THE COMMUNIST AUTHORITIES DECLARED THE TOWN CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS IN THE 1950S, AN EDICT NOT LIFTED UNTIL 1983.

WHETHER APPROACHED FROM THE EAST, ACROSS THE DESERT, OR FROM THE WEST, ACROSS THE 25,000-FOOT MOUNTAINS THAT RUN LIKE A SHIELD ACROSS CHINA'S CENTRAL ASIAN FRONTIER, KASHGAR HAS ALWAYS PROVIDED RESPITE TO THE TRAVELER. NOW, ONCE MORE, IT IS OPENING DOORS TO STRANGERS, AND DOING SO IN THE TRADITION OF UIGHUR FRIENDLINESS THAT HAS IMPRESSED VIRTUALLY EVERY SOJOURNER EXCEPT POLO, WHO FOUND THE LOCAL MERCHANTS MEAN.

A FEW DAYS HERE FURNISH VIVID MEMORIES OF FREE DONKEY CART RIDES, OF SPONTANEOUS INVITATIONS TO PRIVATE WEDDINGS, OF FRIENDLY CHATTER, AT DUSK IN THE PRECINCTS OF THE ID KAH MOSQUE, WHERE THE MUEZZIN'S CRY HAS BEEN HEARD FOR 1,000 YEARS. EVEN THE DONKEY DRIVERS' DISCORDANT CRY, "POSH! POSH!," AN UIGHUR WORD MEANING STAND ASIDE, IS OFFERED WITH A TOOTHY SMILE.

"HOSPITALITY IS A PART OF OUR CULTURE," SAID ABDULLAH SHAKIR, A CARPET SALESMAN ENCOUNTERED IN THE HONG KONG BAZAAR, SO NAMED FOR ITS PROFUSION OF INEXPENSIVE GOODS.

THIS YEAR, WITH THE OPENING TO FOREIGNERS OF THE KARAKORAM HIGHWAY THAT CROSSES THE MOUNTAINS FROM HERE TO PAKISTAN, OFFICIALS EXPECT 20,000 FOREIGN VISITORS. BACKPACKERS, IN PARTICULAR, ARE ARRIVING IN FORCE.

THE LOCAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, ABDULLAHJAN DAWUD, A UIGHUR WITH CHINESE SUBORDINATES, SAYS THE TOWN IS THE MOST AUTHENTIC OF ALL SURVIVING UIGHUR TOWNS IN XINJIANG, WHOSE POPULATION OF 13.5 MILLION INCLUDES A DIMINISHING PROPORTION OF UIGHURS, NOW ABOUT SIX MILLION. (PTO)
FU/

'=

FF158
ASIA - (1) - 1N rUTUA B-WIRE

„ "KASHGAR ■ s ' "SOL TM*. TM.Es i?!* cffif w

St'SSSSKS'gs; fS'life :'v«™ m ET«»IC

TME ' 5 ffiKf TM « S * ! ' 5 ! ■ « »

WHILE THE RESPOND BY SAYIMFIJ?2B?5?ADS BY THE CHINESE.

??^ΛIZATION, ^S^IR^Ci^?^ciTRUBGLa^H|JS^H^!H^AT^GI%ASTORY.

THE SENSE OF pr, ° REMfIN A TABLEAU OF A DISTANT

VILLAGERS^NMINGI[>]E^YA[^] **WHEA^A^Et** E^{IY}IZENS^COF^SUASHrap^{ENTURIES} **COHES MOST**
POPLAR-LINFn pkL^J THE WEEKLY MARKET / S^J R AND OUTLYING

?8i5° SIT.&S™@ T5^{HETM}JSS" WI "f •°i s" * =

Λ/£i⁸⁸⁸ ISK^E.rs¥?EE^ELgES
EVEN^DIN -

iIK TM^Ki TMST
AHEN THE ROAD BEGINS TO CHOKE WITH

UAY^T?n 2^RVELVET^STHAT^GREACH PA1T^MTHEI^BOO^Tnoc HEAVY BL6CI< COATS OF

DECOROUS^JR SIT UPRI BHT^GIN^HfHICK-KNf^TBTocSI?NKE WAYS°TME SW°MENTMMOR|IR

AN UNDERESTIMATE^YTHAT SERVES THE°PRETEKSE TKAT^HAIHIR^ATME COHMERCE>
•PREDOMINANTLY GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED KASHGAR'S ECONOMY IS

UGH^{JR} NEED IE MET. WHETHER IT IS BOLTS OF SILK TOP BOOTS KSH^I°!!S°
FROM HIDESi, OR CAHELS - AVAILABLE FOR AS LITTLE AS \$100
c??» ? S^{Ic}Aurir^EOP. E SPECIHEN» AS MUCH AS \$A50 FOR AN ANIMAL THAT IS ??7^h*BRE<AINIG IN ~ THE
UGHUR TRADER RETAINS THE SHREUDNESS THAT SAT ILL WITH MARCO POLO. HOURS CAN
BE SPENT HAGGLING OVER A FEW DOLLARS, WITH THE MERCHANT'S ENTIRE FAMILY
PITCHING IN TO SUPPORT HIS DEMANDS.

AS A CUSTOMER, THE UIGHUR IS NO LESS NARROW-EYED. BEYOND THE MARKET'S
FIVE-CENT HAIRCUTS AND ITS SILK-CLAD TUMBLERS PERFORMING IN THE OPEN AIR.
TRADERS GATHER BESIDE A DUSTY TRACK WHERE DRAFT ANIMALS ARE TAKEN
THROUGH THEIR PACES.

OLD KEN WITH FIERCE COUNTENANCES AND JUTTING BEARDS SPEND AN HOUR
OR MORE TESTING CAMELS AND HORSES, TRYING EVERYTHING FROM GALLOPS TO
EMERGENCY STOPS. WHEN THE ANIMAL HAS BEEN RATED THE BARGAINING

BEG I MS , OFTEij. I^Y^E^siNCE^Pc^NESE-pTTEMPTED TO REIN ALL THIS

D^SBA^DED? fuT^THE^R^UIGHURS^L^REVIViiD^THE?R^TRADING T

CEMETERY BEYOND THE TOWN AND^ MAO^BRAND OF^COMMUNISH CONDEMNED.
ENTREPRENEURSHIP EMBRACED AND MA O S O L E M N L Y NORTHWARD FROM A PLINTH
MA O ' S 40-F00T S.ATUE STRL GAZESo SOLtny^R OFnciftL SAYS QUIETLY

?HATHIT°IS^N^THERi SOLE^{[Y}AS J^AS^ES^WHO^OURSE^AN KASHGAR

r ftwaw*- f. «|«tis°?,cJ?r2^iSTR;T
SERVED AS BRITAIN'S MOST REMOTE ?|D FOR ITS WATERCRESS SANDWICHES, IT

BB-

fls°is°?|c lfe ?iii!;Sw|H^is%JsT^S!;fT^p:iTH

T° THE CHINTat in

PLEASED TO RECALL I-H=

QLD UIEHUR cm

gj&l ? & » * » “ ' « « " O H E S

X

N

—v

in

prUn

B-U1RE

13-JUN-86 18:10

ASIA - (2) - IN CHINA, IN MONGOL STEPS, HORDES OF BACKPACKERS

A rnmMnN TOPIC IS THE MATTER OF RELATIONS BETWEEN UIGHURS AND CHINESE BARELY FIVE YEARS AGO THE TOWN WAS CONVULSED WITH RIOTS THAT PRIIPTED* AFTER CHINESE YOUTHS KILLED A YOUNG UIGHUR AND LOST ONE OF THEIR OWN IN REVENGE! BUT THE XINJIANG AUTHORITIES IN URUHQI, 700 MILES AWAY. RODE OUT THE CRISIS WITHOUT USING

UIGHURS SAY RELATIONS HAVE J^MPR^oV^E0^B * f D n C T O R WHO[^]ORKS^{0'} THINGS WERE CERTAIN TO IMPROVE,* SAID AN UIGHUR DOCTOR WHO WORKS AMONG CHINESE. "WE STILL LEAD OUR SEPARATE LIVES, BUT WE HAVt Ltⁿuw^tu TO'CO-EXIST." AR/FW/

M-n



Munich, July 12 (CND) — the following article appeared in The Economist, July 12, 1986

China is having qualms about its increasingly modest nuclear power programme. Just before the Chernobyl disaster, China announced that it would send some of its experts to the Soviet Union to talk about nuclear co-operation. The visit will probably still take place, but with something of a cloud over it. China is looking elsewhere for reassurance that its nuclear programme is on the right track. In August it is expected to begin talks with the International Atomic Energy Agency about inspections of some Chinese nuclear plants. This month the Chinese have talked to the EEC about nuclear safety.

Safety is not China's only worry. Because the Chinese are short of hard currency, a nuclear deal with the soft-currency Soviet Union had seemed appealing.

Now Chernobyl is making China look hard at the quality of what the Russians have to offer. Cost is the inhibition in buying nuclear technology from America under the agreement reached last December. American expectations of a \$20 billion nuclear market in China over the next 15 years have already been scaled down to \$4 billion, and could go lower. Although some nuclear bits will be bought abroad, Mr Li Peng, the deputy prime minister in charge of the nuclear industry, has said that China will have to rely more on itself.

The Chinese are thought to have up to a dozen experimental nuclear reactors, some of them supplied by the Soviet Union in the 1950s. The first Chinese-designed civilian reactor (which uses plenty of imported parts) is a 300-mega-watt pressurised-water reactor being built at Qinshan, on a typhoon-prone stretch of coastline about 75 miles from Shanghai. It is due to come into service in 1988. A

1,800-MW reactor at Daya Bay in Guangdong province will use French-built reactors and British-built turbine generators. It has raised a political storm across the border in Hongkong (see box).

Even under its slimmed-down programme, China hopes to build nuclear plants with a total capacity of 10,000 MW by the end of the century. Coal is still expected to provide three-quarters of China's energy needs by 2000, but most of the mines are in the far north and west of the country. China's nuclear enthusiasts argue that nuclear power is a cheaper way of generating electricity close to the eastern seaboard, where most Chinese live and where most of China's industry is located. Industries in some provinces already suffer from power cuts. China's rather wistful hopes of quadrupling the value of its production by the turn of the century depend on its generating four times as much electricity as it does today.

Nuclear energy is supposed to provide

a growing share, but more nuclear power means more worries. Encouraged by Chernobyl to come clean, China's press has recently started reporting some past shortcomings, including accidents with nuclear waste. There have been protests by Uighurs living near the underground nuclear-weapon testing areas in remote

Xinjiang province. Discussions with Japan about storing commercial nuclear waste in China's Gobi desert are liable to stir up more trouble. It may not be long before the people of Shanghai and Canton, who live within belching distance of the power plants now being built, get the Uighur habit. . . _ - -

Munich, July 11* - (CND) - following by shona cravford poolc
 appeared in
 THE TIMES, JULY 12, 198

**Peter Hopkirk visits a
 lonely outpost in
 China, once the focus of
 a fierce struggle
 between imperialists**



From the roof of the British consulate-general at Kashgar, in the shadow of the Chinese Pamirs, once fluttered the last Union Jack between India and the North Pole. Today, few passers-by give the peeling, mud-walled building so much as a glance, little realizing the role it played for so long in the Great Game, that shadowy struggle between Britain and Russia for ascendancy in Central Asia.

From this remote oasis town, lying half-way between the front lines of the two rival empires, British intelligence officers reported to their chiefs on every Tsarist, and later Bolshevik, move in the region. At stake, or so the strategists at home were convinced, was the richest of all imperial prizes — British India.

In those days Kashgar was one of the most isolated and little visited places on earth. The nearest towns of any size lie in Russia, on the far side of the Pamirs, while Peking is some 2,400 miles to the east. The oasis is cut off on three sides by high mountain ranges, while on the fourth lies the treacherous Taklamakan

**Kashgar is more like
 Turkey than China**

Desert, into which entire caravans have disappeared without trace, and whose name means "Go in — and you won't come out".

Even today Kashgar is not easy to reach, being some three days' drive through the Tian Shan mountains from Urumchi, the region's capital, although it is now accessible from northern Pakistan via the lofty and gruelling Karakoram Highway. Kashgar also has a landing strip for small aircraft, and perhaps most visitors arrive that way, but sometimes flying is halted for days on end by *luhurans* (black hurricanes), the sandstorms so dreaded by travellers. My own flight was grounded for 24 hours in the remote Silk Road oasis of Aksu, in the Tian Shan foothills.

Vet more foreigners now visit

Kashgar in a day than once did in several years. In contrast to its forbidding surroundings, Kashgar is extremely picturesque and has changed little from the days when it took several months to get there..

Its Uighur people being Muslims, Kashgar is more like eastern Turkey than China proper. The market square by the great mosque must be one of the most colourful places on earth, with its donkey carts and white-bearded men in long, striped silk coats and tall, leather boots.

It was in the early 1890s that this ancient caravan town became the epicentre of fierce imperial rivalry between Britain and Russia. Both sides set up listening posts there. The British one was quartered in the modest native bouse known as Chini Bagh, or Chinese Garden, and was

run for 28 years by George Macartney, an intelligence officer and diplomat of outstanding talent. His Russian rival was the redoubtable Nikolai Petrovsky, virtual "king" of Kashgar when Macartney first arrived, aged just 24, in 1890. Rivalry between the two men, both officially there as consuls, was intense and at times personal. Despite his consular cover, it was no great secret that Macartney was there to try to curb Russian influence in Chinese Central Asia and give early warning of any Tsarist military threat to India's northern frontier.

In 1898 Macartney imported from Britain a young bride who was to share 17 of his lonely years at Chini Bagh and bear him three children. Catherine (later Lady) Macartney was to perform wonders with Chini Bagh and its garden, transforming it into a home-from-home for the few travellers determined enough to reach Kashgar.

In 1911 Chini Bagh was officially deemed a consulate-general to bring it into line with the rival Russian establishment, and in 1913 Macartney was knighted. By then Britain and Russia were allies and the century-long threat to India appeared to be over. But then came the Russian Revolution, and a new menace — Bolshevism.

Macartney's successor was Colonel Percy Etherton of the Indian Secret and Political Department, a formidable and at times ruthless man who between 1918 and 1922 fought a one-

Correction
 The reference in last week's travel article (page 10) to "an infusion of laurel..." in a Provencal dish should have said bay leaves, not laurel, whiri can be poisonous.

09/30/86

Japan war against the Bolsheviks from Kashgar. With a powerful radio receiver in Chini Bagh he was able to intercept their secret wireless conversations and pick up their plans for Bolshevizing India. He proved such a menace that the Russians put a heavy price on his head, and tried in vain to persuade the Chinese to let them reoccupy Petrovsky's -12

*
v

Kgsties now stand where

Today neither power has a listening-post in Kashgar. Britain's loneliest outpost was finally closed down when Mao came to power. Petrovsky's old consulate still stands, serving as a guest-house for official visitors and tourists. With its yellow-washed walls and distinctly Russian architecture, it still preserves some of its old atmosphere.

But Chini Bagh has long since come down in the world, and until recently was used as an overnight halt for long-distance truck drivers plying the Silk Road. Lady Macartney would not recognize it today. When I last saw them, the once beautiful gardens were a wasteland, pigsties standing where English fruit trees and other European flora once grew.

The residence itself, once the smartest in Kashgar, was uncared for, its walls cracked and peeling, the woodwork decaying. Only the nail holes over the gateway remained to show where the huge royal coat of arms used to hang, while the courtyard, once the parking place for the sedan chairs of visiting mandarins, was littered with pieces of broken machinery. Now I hear it is being refurbished as a hostel for mountaineers.

"But for the visitor who seeks it out, Chini Bagh is still a poignant reminder of the high days of the Great Game when the British intelligence services were the finest in the world.

Peter Hopkirk, author of several books on Central Asia, is currently writing Pakistan. Visas are only

one on *the* Great Game.

granted for the latter the applicant has a hotel reservation for Tashkurgan, obtainable only by writing to Peking. The alternative is on an organized tour using this route. Companies featuring Kashgar include Voyages Jules Verne, 10 Gientworth Street, London NW1 (01-486 8080) and P & C Air Holidays, 47 Middlesex Street, London E1 (01-247 1611). UK China Travel Service, 24 Cambridge Circus London WC2 (01-836 9911) specializes in individual travel to China and can issue visas.

When Kashgar was first opened to foreigners, the only way to get there was on an organized tour along the ancient Silk Road sites. These usually take in Xian (site of the Terracotta Army), Dunhuang (The Caves of the Thousand Buddahs), Turfan and Urumchi. Today Kashgar can be reached on an individual visa from Peking (by air first to Urumchi), Hong Kong (via Canton and Xian), or over the Karakoram Highway

FF132

B-WIRE

08-AUG-86 16:49

ASIA — ASSOCIATED PRESS ITEMS FROM CHINA

VIETNAM ACCUSED OF KILLING CITIZENS WHO GOODS BUY IN CHINA

PEKING, AUG. 6 (AP) — CHINA ON FRIDAY DENIED CHARGES THAT IT HAD MINED VIETNAM'S RIVERS, THEN ACCUSED THE VIETNAMESE OF KILLING THEIR OWN PEOPLE AS PUNISHMENT FOR PATRONIZING CHINESE MARKETS.

THE STATE-RUN XINHUA NEWS AGENCY, IN A SIGNED COMMENTARY, SAID HANOI'S CLAIM WEDNESDAY THAT CHINA HAD KILLED AND WOUNDED A NUMBER OF CIVILIANS WITH MINES FLOATED ALONG RIVERS FLOWING INTO VIETNAMESE TERRITORY WAS "PURE FABRICATION AND VICIOUS SLANDER."

IT SAID CHINA DOES NOT MAKE THE KIND OF MINES MENTIONED BY VIETNAM, AND THAT ANY MINES IN THE RIVERS "COULD ONLY BE MADE AND LAID BY THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES THEMSELVES TO KILL THOSE VIETNAMESE CIVILIANS WHO HAD CROSSED THE BORDER TO BUY DAILY NECESSITIES IN THE CHINESE MARKETS."

IT SAID VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES "HAVE TIME AND AGAIN USED SUCH DIRTY TRICKS TO CREATE ANTI-CHINA RUMORS."

VIETNAM SAID THE SMALL MINES, WRAPPED IN GREEN PLASTIC, HAD KILLED 30 PEOPLE AND WOUNDED 60 IN 1985 AND KILLED FIVE MORE AND WOUNDED 30 IN JUNE AND JULY THIS YEAR.

CHINA AND VIETNAM FREQUENTLY TRADE CHARGES OF BORDER AGGRESSION AND OCCASIONALLY EXCHANGE FIRE ACROSS THE BORDER, WHERE CHINESE FORCES STAGED A BRIEF BUT BLOODY INVASION IN 1979.

CHINA SAID THE INVASION WAS TO "PUNISH" VIETNAM FOR ITS INVASION OF CAMBODIA, WHICH SOURED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO FORMER ALLIES.

CHINA LISTS 55 ETHNIC MINORITIES

PEKING, AUG. 6 (AP) — CHINA HAS 55 ETHNIC MINORITIES WITH A COMBINED POPULATION OF 67.2 MILLION, THE OFFICIAL XINHUA NEWS AGENCY REPORTED FRIDAY.

THE REPORT SAID THE MINORITIES, WHO COMPRISED 6.7 PERCENT OF CHINA'S POPULATION OF 1.03 BILLION IN 1982, ARE SCATTERED OVER MORE THAN HALF THE COUNTRY, WITH MOST IN THE WEST AND NORTHEAST. CHINESE HANS COMPRISE THE REST OF THE POPULATION.

THE BIGGEST MINORITY IS THE ZHUANGS, A POLYTHEISTIC, FARMING GROUP OF 13.38 MILLION LIVING IN SOUTHERN GUANGXI ZHUANG AUTONOMOUS REGION, YUNNAN AND GUANGDONG PROVINCES. THE SMALLEST IS THE HANZHE, AN ALTAIC GROUP OF 1,476 LIVING IN NORTHEASTERN HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE.

THE SECOND AND THIRD LARGEST GROUPS, THE HUIS WITH 7.22 MILLION AND THE UYGURS WITH 5.96 MILLION, ARE BOTH ISLAMIC.

FIFTEEN MINORITIES HAVE A POPULATION OF MORE THAN 1 MILLION, XINHUA SAID.

SINCE THE END OF THE LEFTIST CULTURAL REVOLUTION, WHEN MINORITY SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS WERE SUPPRESSED, THE PEKING GOVERNMENT HAS ENCOURAGED MINORITIES TO KEEP THEIR NATIVE

China-Silk Road,
Tourists, Traders Brave Rigors of Khunjerab Pass
An AP Feature HuUiGt, **AUGUST 18**/*)&
By NEAL ULEVICH
Associated Press Writer

s/H

KHUNJERAB PASS, China <AP) - Marco Polo's fabled Silk Road once again beckons tourists and traders, and a growing number are answering its call to adventure and profit.

Tough-kick-wide at best, a rocky waste at worst, today's Karakoram Highway opens to vehicles one of several routes ancients followed over two millennia, transporting China's silk to Rome, and Europe's art to Asia.

Earlier this year the governments of China and Pakistan opened the 4,800-meter- (15,800-foot-) high Khunjerab Pass to citizens of third countries. Many are undertaking the rigorous journey, daunting since the time of Christ.

Steve Deverell, 26, of New Zealand, did it the hard way. Burned nearly black by the sun and panting in the rarified air short of the pass, Deverell walked from the Pakistani city of Lahore, almost 400 miles (<640 km) to the south.

"People have been offering me rides but you couldn't pay me to get in a car," he said. "It's rugged, bleak and barren, a good place to walk alone."

The Chinese Buddhist monk and diarist Fa Xian described the route in much the same way — "difficult and rugged" — when he made the journey about 400 A.D.

When Venetian Marco Polo began his epic 13th century quest for the fabled court of the Khan at what is now Peking, the Silk Road had already been in business for 15 centuries.

Though few adventurers traveled all the way from Europe to China, silk, spices and other rich stuffs of commerce spanned the entire distance by means of a well-developed trading network.

Silk, especially, was valued in Rome. At first only nobility wore the shimmering fabric. Later, one scribe complained that even commoners dressed in silk.

Nowadays, silk moves the other direction along the 774-kilometer (472-mile) Karakoram Highway, named for the mountains through which the road passes.

Pakistan and China, whose workers built the road on the Chinese side as an act of international friendship, have agreed to largely symbolic barter trade across the Khunjerab. Private Pakistani businessmen are also bringing in their own goods to trade, including silk.

"Individual businessmen bring in whatever won't arouse too much curiosity at customs," said Farouk, a Karachi merchant. They trade in the bazaar of Kashgar, surely one of Central Asia's most exotic oases, for China's bargains.

"They'll take back Chinese bicycles, inexpensive hand tools, locks, and thermos bottles."

Pakistani businessmen who load newly acquired goods aboard Chinese-made Dongfeng trucks at Kashgar's Chinibagh, a waystation since ancient times, share the difficult journey with tourists seeking adventure.

Xinjiang province, on China's side of the pass, recorded 86 tourists in 1978, the year Peking opened it to the outside world, and 23 last year. In a starkly beautiful but largely empty region which accounts for one-sixth of China's land area, few tourists feel crowded.

.MORE

67