

Facts on the "Khamba Rebellion"

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Following is background material on the so-called "Khamba rebellion":

In the so-called "statement of the Dalai Lama" of April 18, the "Khamba rebellion" was mentioned in an attempt to prove that the Central People's Government had violated the 17-article Agreement on the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet. But the so-called "Khamba rebellion" (Khamba is a Tibetan word) refers to the area around Kantse, Szechwan Province, in the eastern Sikang-Tibet Plateau, inhabited by the Tibetan minority nationality. The Sikang area was not even a part of Tibet. Formerly it was Sikang Province and later became part of Szechwan Province.

The "rebellion" was staged by a very few reactionary slave owners and feudal lords in this area to retain their dark regime by intimidating some of the people into becoming their followers. They committed arson, murder, pillage and every kind of atrocity and brought serious damage to the lives and property of local Tibetan. These inhuman rebellious elements were under the command of the upper-strata reactionary clique in Tibet.

A great amount of evidence accumulated up to the present proves that the upper-strata reactionary clique in Tibet was in command of this counter-revolutionary rebellion.

In the summer of 1955, Surkong Wongching-Galei and Tserijong Lozong-Yiehsi and other rebel elements in Tibet, after following the Dalai Lama to attend the National People's Congress in Peking, passed

through Szechwan Province on their way back to Tibet. Surkong Wongching-Galei and Tserijong Lozong-Yiehsi went by separate routes to the northern and southern parts of the Kantse Tibetan Autonomous *Chou* to instigate and direct rebellion all along the way. Data now at hand proves that Surkong Wongching-Galei directed the reactionaries in the area thus: "you must strengthen your ranks. There are big contradictions between the Communist and capitalist countries internationally. We must think of every possible way to postpone and block democratic reform. Stage an armed rebellion if all else fails. Only by collaborating with foreign countries can such a rebellion succeed and the independence of Tibet be achieved."

During the rebellion, the upper-strata reactionary clique in Tibet and the Khamba rebel elements maintained close contact in a variety of ways. First, the upper-strata reactionary clique in Tibet constantly sent people to direct the rebellion. In 1956, they sent people to attend the meeting held by the rebel leaders in the lamasery in *Itun hsien* in the southern area of former Sikang Province to direct the rebellious bandits in carrying out their activities, staging an all-out rebellion and set up a rebel organization with the same name as the rebel organization in Tibet. They said; "You are not alone. We are sure to give you support. Die rather than surrender!" They also told the rebellious bandits to make a monthly report on the situation to the then Tibet Local Government and send people with intimate familiarity with the situation to Tibet to make contact. The reactionary clique also frequently sent people to instigate rebellion here and there under the pretense of expounding the sutras. In some places, as soon as the expounder of the sutras had left, rebellion immediately broke out. Second, the Khamba reactionary elements constantly sent people to Tibet to give oral reports on the state of the rebellion to the

reactionary clique and receive their instructions, under the guise of paying homage to the Buddha and trade. Dinyang A-Thrin rebel gang leader in the southern area of former Sikang Province, admitted that more than ten persons were sent to Tibet to give oral reports and bring back letters and instructions. In one of these letters the rebel elements in Tibet gave them this instruction; "Expand your armed forces rapidly; aid will come from abroad."

Third, the rebel elements in Tibet frequently transported large quantities of guns and other weapons, ammunition and supplies secretly across the Kinsha River in convoys of caravans of mules and merchants to help the Khamba rebel elements.

Many of the weapons captured by the People's Liberation Army during the fighting were made abroad.

Finally, the Khamba rebellious elements sent large amounts of property and many people to Tibet to the reactionary clique for safeguarding. After the failure of the rebellion, many rebel gang leaders escaped to Tibet and the reactionary clique in Tibet sheltered them and re-armed them so as to enable them to carry on illegal activities.

Throughout all these activities, the Khamba rebel elements and the upper-strata reactionary clique in Tibet maintained close connections with the imperialists and foreign reactionaries.

During the rebellion, the small group of Khamba rebel elements perpetrated every kind of crime, including rape, arson and under with the support of the reactionary clique in Tibet. They brought heavy calamities to the Tibet Plateau. They destroyed roads and bridges, encircled government institutions and killed Tibetan and Han government functionaries. Even ordinary Tibetans could not escape their brutality. Plundered by the rebel elements, many thriving villages

were reduced to ruins, many homes were broken up; they cut people's eyes, slit noses and tore out hearts and even flayed people alive.

The courageous People's Liberation Army troops put down the rebellion thoroughly within a short period.

At present, democratic reforms have already been successfully carried out. A vast number of poverty-stricken Tibetans have land, houses, cattle and sheep distributed to them. In some areas, cooperative farming has started and the first people's communes have been established. Last year, an unprecedented bumper grain harvest was obtained in the agricultural areas throughout the autonomous *chou* [county]. In general the increase was 30 to 40 per cent. In some arisen it doubled. In the farms formerly held by the rebel elements, the people have started to lead a life of plenty.