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Last Updated: 10/19/2023

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TR098-03 C0156

April 20, 1984

Dear Mr. Tethong:

Thank you for your letter of April 3, with which you forwarded a letter from His Holiness the Dalai Lama to President Reagan.

The President deeply appreciates the good wishes and prayers of the Dalai Lama for the success of his upcoming visit to China. He has asked me to convey, through you, his respects to His Holiness and his high regard for the work being done to preserve the unique cultural heritage of the Tibetan people.

We have on many occasions made the Chinese Government aware of the President's strong commitment to the preservation of fundamental human rights throughout the world, including those of the people of Tibet, and we will continue to do so.

Thank you for bringing the Dalai Lama's concerns to our attention.

Sincerely,

Gaston J. Sigur / Special Assistant to the President

X

Mr. Tenzin N. Tethong Representative of His Holiness The Dalai Lama The Office of Tibet 801 Second Avenue New York, N.Y. 10017 NSC # 8402932



# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TRANSMITTAL FORM

		>	Date	April 18, 1984	
Nati	Robert C. McFarlane onal Security Council White House				
Re rence:					
· To:_	Dr. Gaston Sigur	From:_	Tenzir	N. Tethong	
Date:_	April 3, 1984	_Subject:	Tibet	- Dalai Lama	
WH Refe	erral Dated: 4/10/84	NSC ID #	ISC ID # 8402932 (if any)		
The attached item was sent directly to the Department of State.					
Action Taken:					
X	A draft reply is attached.				
	A draft reply will be forwarded.				
	A translation is attached.				
	An information copy of a direct reply is attached.				
	We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.				
	The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.				
	Other.	Jane	_		
Remarks:			٠,		

Attached is a reply from Dr. Sigur to Mr. Tethong. A reply from the President to the Dalai Lama would not be appropriate.

Charles Hill

Executive Secretary

8410705

## Suggested Reply

Dear Mr. Tethong:

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The President deeply appreciates the good wishes and prayers of the Dalai Lama for the success of his upcoming visit to China. He has asked me to convey, through you, his respects to His Holiness and his high regard for the work being done to preserve the unique cultural heritage of the Tibetan people.

We have on many occasions made the Chinese Government aware of the President's strong commitment to the preservation of fundamental human rights throughout the world, including those of the people of Tibet, and we will continue to do so.

Thank you for bringing the Dalai Lama's concerns to our attention.

Sincerely,
Gaston Sigur

Mr. Tenzin N. Tethong,

Representative of

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA,

The Office of Tibet,

801 Second Avenue,

New York, New York.

### NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

8410705

PAGE E01

REFERRAL

DATE: 10 APR 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: DALAI LAMA

DATE: 10 MAR 84

KEYWORDS: TIBET

SUBJ. LTR FROM THE DALAI LAMA RECOMMENDING PRES RAISE ISSUE OF TIBET WITH

REQUIRED ACTION. DRAFT REPLY OR RECOMMENDATIONS

DUEDATE: 15 APR 84

COMMENTS.

FOR ROBERT M KIMMIT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Secesal in 5/5-I

RECEIVED 10 APR 84 09

TO

PRESIDENT

FROM DALAI LAMA

DOCDATE 10 MAR 84

TETHONG, TENZIN N

KEYWORDS: TIBET

SUBJECT. LTR FROM THE DALAI LAMA RECOMMENDING PRES RAISE ISSUE OF TIBET WITH CHINA LEADERS

ACTION: DRAFT REPLY OR RECOMMENDAITONS DUE: 15 APR 84 STATUS D FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

STATE

LAUX

SIGUR

CHILDRESS

COMMENTS

LOG REF# NSCIFID ACTION OFFICER (S) ACTION REQUIRED

W/ATTCH FILE WH DISPATCH



#### THE OFFICE OF TIBET

801 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10017. TEL: (212) 867-8720

April 3, 1984

Dr. Gaston Sigur The National Security Council Old Executive Office Bldg. Room 302 Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Dr. Sigur:

I have the honor to forward to you a letter from His Holiness the Dalai Lama addressed to President Reagan.

When I received this letter from His Holiness' Office in India, I was instructed to present this personally to the President if possible. I consulted with Mr Carl Gershman of the United States Mission to the U.N., and Mr Gershman suggested that I talk to you. At your suggestion I am sending this by special mail to your office. It is my understanding that His Holiness has written this letter to bring to the President's attention certain matters concerning Tibet prior to his visit to the People's Republic of China.

We would appreciate it greatly if you would present this to President Reagan before he embarks on his visit to China.

With my very best wishes,

Sincerely,

Tenzia N. Tethong Representative of

HIS HOLINESS THE DALAI LAMA

P.S. I am also sending under seperate cover some literature on His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Tibet for your information. I do hope you will find it informative and useful.

## THE DALAI LAMA



THEKCHEN CHOELING McLEOD GANJ 176219 KANGRA DISTRICT HIMACHAL PRADESH

March 10, 1984

Your Excellency,

It has been twenty-five years since we were forced into exile. During these years, though we are comparatively a small refugee group we have nevertheless been successful in maintaining our identity as well as keeping alive the unique cultural heritage of the Tibetan people. However, in Tibet itself, the Chinese authorities have attempted to paint the Tibetan society before 1959 as medieval and backward and have thus carried out systematic and complete destruction of our cultural heritage. Yet certain aspects of that 'medieval society', such as Buddhism and the traditional system of Tibetan medicine are today beginning to make some contribution towards the well-being of thousands of people around the world. Moreover, because there is a better understanding of the true Tibetan issue there is an increasing awareness of and a growing interest in the Issue of Tibet throughout the world, including a wide-ranging public in the United States. This is not only encouraging to the Tibetan people but it also confirms our belief that truth and justice will prevail ultimately.

During the early period of our present national struggle, America, in keeping with her tradition of safeguarding personal liberty and national freedom has extended active support to the people of Tibet. Many of our people even today recall with gratitude that American support.

Your Excellency is intending to pay an official visit to the People's Republic of China some time next month. And the purpose of my writing this letter to you is to request you, should you find it convenient, to raise the Issue of Tibet during your discussions with the Chinese leaders in your personal capacity and not as the President of the United States. I would fully understand if this were not possible, but will greatly appreciate Your Excellency letting me know.

Finally, may I send you my good wishes and prayers for the success of your important visit to China. I hope your visit will not only enhance the establishment of closer relationship between the peoples of the United States and China but will also contribute in finding solutions to the problems that mankind is facing today.

With assurances of my highest esteem and personal regards,

Yours sincerely.

His Excellency Ronald Reagan The President of the United States of America White House Washington D.C. U. S. A.