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Telegram

Top Secret

From: Indembassy, Peking.

To: Foreign, New Delhi.

DTO APRIL 222115. [1954]

DTR APRIL 230125.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

No. 162. Top Secret. R.K. Nehru from Raghavan*

Tibet talks resumed at plenary sitting to-day and lasted six hours from 1400 hrs. Chinese produced new drafts of both Agreement and Letter partly based on our draft and partly covering new points. Discussions continue tomorrow 1400 hrs.

We forthwith suggested various amendments to Chinese drafts. Four main points still at issue are:

- (a) Inclusion of route from Indian border to Tashigong along Indus. CHANG* HAN-FU vigorously objected inclusion of route in Agreement or Letter. Conceded that traders customarily using this route might continue such use but said an oral understanding to that effect between two delegations would suffice. We strongly contended inclusion of route in Agreement. Our view is Chinese might not concede. If so shall try to get it included by separate letter.

- (b) Chinese object 25 miles limit* for border traffic but agree in draft to confine such traffic to "border districts". We may accept this as it might* otherwise involve disputes.
- (c) There was long fight for naming Kalimpong Siliguri and Calcutta as trade marts. I have vigorously resisted this but conceded that traders might trade "in India (including Kalimpong Siliguri and Calcutta)".
- (d) Chinese not agreeable to word "known" in our formula" known customarily engaged". We may however put it in English version.

We have agreed to "Tibetan region of China (chung kou si tsang ti fang)" in place of "China's Tibet".

As to wireless also they strongly object any mention of it in Letter and request that their verbal assurance to provide post & telegraph facilities to Gartok agent should be accepted. We shall agree*.

They have made some important concessions like freedom from search and arrest for Trade Agent. They have also agreed to renting of buildings and godowns by traders.

On Chinese demanding that if anyone is refused entry we should specify reasons for refusal we objected stating that was infringement of our sovereignty.

We think they will concede to alternate formula suggested by me that entry should "be subject to be checked and passed at check-post".

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TELEGRAM

TOP SECRET

From: Foreign, New Delhi.

To: Indembassy, Peking.

DTO APR 231000

MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 2251. TOP SECRET. RAGHAVAN from R.K. NEHRU.

Your telegram 162 of April 22nd. We agree that Tashigong route may be included by separate letter if Chinese not agreeable to including it in agreement.

2. We have already to Kalimpong, Siliguri and Calcutta being specified as trade centres if Chinese insist.

3. We agree with your other suggestions. Every effort should be made to finalise agreement without delay.

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