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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINT, CH
SUBJECT: TIBET PARTY CHIEF REPLACED

1. SUMMARY: TIBET'S PARTY CHIEF REN RONG HAS BEEN REPLACED, APPARENTLY AS A RESULT OF FAILED ECONOMIC AND MINORITIES POLICIES. A BROADCAST REPORTING THE ARRIVAL IN LHASA OF A CENTRAL WORK GROUP UNDER PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY HU YAOBANG IDENTIFIED YIN FATANG, A VETERAN PLA OFFICER WITH PRE-CULTURAL REVOLUTION EXPERIENCE IN TIBET, AS ACTING FIRST

SECRETARY. REN RONG, ALSO A MILITARY MAN AND PARTY FIRST SECRETARY SINCE 1971, WAS PRESENT AND IDENTIFIED SIMPLY AS COMRADE. THE PRESENCE OF A HIGH-POWERED GROUP FROM BEIJING SUGGESTS THAT THE PROBLEMS IN TIBET ARE SERIOUS. END SUMMARY.

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Lahiguera, Senior Reviewer

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2. A MAY 23 RADIO BROADCAST FROM LHASA (OW231904) HAS IDENTIFIED YIN FATANG, A VETERAN PLA POLITICAL OFFICER WITH PRE-CULTURAL REVOLUTION EXPERIENCE IN TIBET, AS ACTING FIRST SECRETARY AND FIRST POLITICAL COMMISSAR. YIN REPLACED REN RONG, ALSO A MILITARY MAN, WHO HAD BEEN FIRST SECRETARY SINCE 1971. BOTH REN AND YIN WERE ACTIVE IN TIBET PRIOR TO THE CR, REN AS FIRST POLITICAL COMMISSAR AND YIN AS DIRECTOR OF THE TIBET MILITARY REGION'S POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. HOWEVER, REN WEATHERED RED GUADD CRITICISM AND SURVIVED THE CR, WHILE YIN WAS

PURGED IN 1968. YIN DID NOT SURGACE AGAIN UNTIL 1973 WHEN HE WAS IDENTIFIED AS DIRECTOR OF THE FUZHOU MR POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. IN 1975 YIN MOVED TO A SIMILAR POSITION IN JINAN MR, AND LATER BECAME DEPUTY POLITICAL COMMISSAR OF JINAN MR.

3. THE MAY 23 BROADCAST REPORTED THE ARRIVAL IN LHASA OF A CENTRAL WORK GROUP HEADED BY PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY HU YAOBANG AND INCLUDING SECRETARIAT SECRETARY WAN LI. THE PRESENCE OF THIS HIGH-POWERED GROUP INDICATES THAT TIBET'S PROBLEMS WERE VIEWED SERIOUSLY IN BEIJING. THE BROADCAST MENTIONS THAT "COMRADE" REN RONG MET THE CENTRAL WORK GROUP AT THE AIRPORT. THIS IS THE SECOND INSTANCE OF THE SECRETARIAT'S INTERFERENCE IN LOCAL AFFAIRS. THE SECRETARIAT IN LATE APRIL OR EARLY MAY ISSUED A DIRECTIVE TO THEBEIJING MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES TO IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE CAPITAL.

4. A MAY 26 CHINA NEWS SERVICE REPORT CARRIED MAY 27 IN THE PRC-CONTROLLED HONG KONG DAGONGBAO STATES FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT THE PARTY CENTER HAS ISSUED AN EIGHT-POINT POLICY DIRECTIVE FOR TIBET. THE ARTICLE SUMMARIZES THE DIRECTIVE'S MOST IMPORTANT POINTS AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(1) ALL DECISIONS AND MEASURES ADOPTED IN TIBET MUST BE APPROVED AND SUPPORTED BY TIBETAN CADRES AND PEOPLE; IF NOT ACCEPTABLE, THESE MEASURES MUST BE REVISED OR POSTPONED; (2) CADRES MUST NOT BLINDLY AND RIGIDLY APPLY THE HAN CHINESE EXPERIENCE TO TIBET; (3) THE PARTY COMMITTED OF TIBET MUST REEXAMINE ECONOMIC PLANNING FOR THE WHOLE REGION. IT IS NECESSARY TO REFECT LEFTIST POLICIES TOWARD AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, PRIVATE PLOTS, PRIVATE ANIMALS, PRIVATE MOUNTAINS (ZE LIU SHAN), AND FAMILY SIDELINE OCCUPATIONS.

5. THE CONTENT OF THE EIGHT-POINT DIRECTIVE SUGGESTS THAT HAN CHAUVINISM HAS BEEN A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN TIBET, THAT THE HAN CADRES HAVE BEEN INSENSITIVE TO THE CULTURAL DIFFERENCES OF THE TIBETANS, AND THAT THESE HAS BEEN A LARGER MEASURE OF BUREAUCRATIC INFLEXIBILITY AND DOGMATISM THAN IS NORMAL IN CHINA. THE FACT THAT A TIBETAN CADRE, TIEN BAO, WHO SERVES AS RANKING SECRETARY AND GOVERNOR, WAS PASSED OVER FOR THE APPOINTMENT AS PARTY FIRST SECRETARY COULD BE A REFLECTION ON HIM PERSONALLY BUT MORE LIKELY SIGNIFIES BEIJING'S DETERMINATION TO KEEP REAL POWER IN HAN HANDS.

6. THIS REPORT COORDINATED WITH HKDLO.
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