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NOTES, MEMORANDA AND LETTERS EXCHANGED
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND CHINA

FEBRUARY 1966 — FEBRUARY 1967

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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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I. BORDER ISSUES AND INCIDENTS

Note given by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peking, to the Embassy of India in China, 27 January, 1966.

(66) Pu Yi Ya Tzu No. 051.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China presents its compliments to the Indian Embassy in China and with reference to the three notes of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India, dated November 26 and 27, and December 14, 1965, has the honour to state the following :

In the last few months the Indian side has intensified its intrusions into China and repeatedly provoked armed conflicts. The three most outstanding cases took place respectively at Dumchele in the western sector of the Sino-Indian border, in the Laiguo Bridge area in the eastern sector, and at Tagi La on the China-Sikkim boundary. The Chinese Government successively lodged strong protests with the Indian Government against the three armed conflicts. But the Indian Government, instead of admitting its mistakes sent the Chinese Government notes in which it tried hard to turn the truth upside down and lodged counter-protests to China. The Chinese Government expresses its indignation at this and hereby replies in refutation of the Indian notes as follows:

- (1) Regarding the conflict of September 19, 1965 at Dumchele in the western sector of the Sino-Indian border, it was clearly Indian troops that intruded into Chinese territory and launched an attack on Chinese civilian personnel. Yet the Indian Government asserted that Indian soldiers had been "kidnapped and killed" by the Chinese side, a story which was thoroughly refuted by the Chinese Government early in its note of October 2, 1965. And it was most absurd of the Indian side, in its note of November 26, 1965, to repeat its old tune and further to reserve its so-called right to demand compensation. Being the aggressor, the Indian Government must bear full responsibility for all the consequences of its acts of aggression. What qualification has it to ask for compensation? On the other hand, the Chinese Government has every right to demand that the Indian Government compensate it for all the losses caused by the Indian intrusions and provocations against China. The Indian Government can in no way repudiate these debts, which have all been placed on record.
- (2) The armed conflict of November 24, 1965 in the Laiguo Bridge area in the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border was provoked by Indian troops trespassing the line of actual control between the two sides. Regarding this conflict, in its note of November 27, 1965 the Indian Government copied the same lie it had told about the conflict at Dumchele in its attempt to hoodwink the world, alleging

that Indian troops were "kidnapped and killed" by the Chinese side. This is a shabby trick worth no refutation. Moreover, in its note the Indian Government again mixed up the illegal "McMahon line" with the boundary between China and India in an attempt to legalize this illegal line. This is an idle dream which will never come true.

(3) Regarding the armed conflict of December 12, 1965 at Tagi La on the China-Sikkim boundary, the indisputable fact was that more than thirty Indian soldiers intruded into the Chinese side of Tagi La and launched a frantic attack on seven Chinese frontier guards who were on duty there. But they were routed by the Chinese frontier guards and had to flee helter-skelter. Five of the Indian soldiers were killed within Chinese territory to a depth of between 100 and 500 metres. Three were captured within Chinese territory. Moreover, the Indian troops left behind on Chinese territory a large amount of weapons and ammunition as well as many craters. All these are conclusive evidence of the Indian troops intrusion. In its note of December 14, 1965 the Indian Government counter-charged Chinese troops with "intruding into Sikkim territory" and "firing" at the Indian side. This can deceive no one. The Indian side further told the fantastic tale to the effect that there were some 200 or 300 Chinese troops, that 30 of them were killed and that their bodies were carried back "under the cover of darkness", and so on and so forth. This was an attempt to present its shame as a cause for self-glorification, an act of self-delusion and deception. The Indian side will only add to its own shame by trying to cover up the miserable failure of its provocation with such lies.

(4) In its note of December 14, 1965 the Indian side trumped up two cases of so-called "provocation", falsely accusing Chinese soldiers of entering "the area north-west of Bom Cho in the north Sikkim" on December 10, 1965 and firing at the Indian side in the Natu La area on the night of December 10-11. These are sheer fabrications designed to confuse the public.

The series of facts listed above show that the Indian side deliberately made intrusions and provocations against China, but suffered one defeat after another and left behind numerous evidences of its crimes. And that was why it hastily cooked up lies in a vain attempt to shirk responsibility for its criminal aggression and hood-wink world opinion. To put it plainly, these tricks of the Indian side have long been exposed. If the Indian Government continues its senseless haggling about the above-mentioned conflicts, the Chinese Government will pay no attention to it.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Indian Embassy the assurances of its highest consideration.

Note given

(66) Pu Yi

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