



Gateway

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of China for centuries and never declared independence."

This facile and lazy denunciation is demonstrably false, both for what it says and, more importantly for what it conveniently omits to say. Tibet declared independence after the Chinese Revolution of 1911 and remained so until 1951, when a treaty was signed following the successful Chinese invasion. A popular uprising was crushed in Lhasa in March, 1959; Chinese military rule was imposed, demolishing Tibetan society and reforming it along the Chinese collective model.

Read a book

Outright espousal of Tibetan independence is furnished by the Legal Inquiry Committee on Tibet, of the International Commission of Jurists, in a report entitled *Tibet and the Chinese People's Republic*, published in Geneva in 1960. "The view of the Committee," states this report, "was that Tibet was at the very least a *de facto* independent State when the Agreement on Peaceful Measures in Tibet was signed in 1951, and the repudiation of this agreement by the Tibetan Government in 1959 was found to be fully justified." Authoritative documents "show that Tibet demonstrated from 1913 to 1950 the conditions of statehood as generally accepted under international law. In 1950 there was a people and a territory, and a government which functioned in that territory, conducting its own domestic affairs free from any outside authority. From 1913-1950 foreign relations of Tibet were conducted exclusively by the government of Tibet and countries with whom Tibet had foreign relations are shown by official documents to have treated Tibet in practice as an independent State."

Unless Mr. Lam can produce evidence of this quality to the contrary, he must submit to the view that Tibet is a nation state. Let us now examine the inhuman methods employed by the Chinese military in the pursuit of its illicit claims, for if it were not for these methods, there might not be much to distinguish this particular instance of the lust to expansion of territory from the countless examples of hegemony by empires, both capitalist and communist, upon the defenseless.

Inhuman Chinese

The Legal Inquiry Committee states that Tibet surrendered its independence by signing in 1951 the Agreement on Peaceful Measures for the Liberation of Tibet. This document pledged the Chinese government, among other things, to maintain the existing

political system, to preserve the status and functions of the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama, to protect freedom of religion and of the monasteries, and to refrain from compulsion in the matter of reforms. The Committee found that these and other undertakings had been grievously violated by China and that Tibet was entitled to repudiate the agreement, as it did, without avail, on March 11, 1959.

The central impact of the Committee's report is incontrovertible evidence of Chinese genocide against Tibet, as it is defined by the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December, 1948. The Committee concluded that "acts of genocide had been committed in Tibet in an attempt to destroy the Tibetans as a religious group," although genocide was declared not to have been committed pertaining to race, nation, or ethnical groups. In addition, the Chinese violated economic and social rights, under sixteen articles, including murder, rape, arbitrary imprisonment, "torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment... inflicted on the Tibetans on a large scale," etc., etc.

Yes, Mr. Lam, Tibet is part of China, in the same way that a lamb devoured by a tiger is part of the tiger. Zealots of all persuasions will please note what may be expected when the revolution of universal equality and enlightenment sweeps the world, and similar "temporary measures" are found necessary to ensure the felicity of the race in the unspecified future. The East is indeed Red - with the blood of its helpless victims. He that has ears to hear, let him hear.

James F. Gilhooly
Graduate Studies

The last of Savard

This will, in all probability, be my final letter to you in the 1974-75 academic year. Today, I wish to discuss a topic which affects us all, but has received scant media attention.

Our government's present policy of adopting the metric system in an insane mad rush rather than in an orderly and sensible manner. Rather than trying to force people, at unreasonably short notice, both to become familiar with the metric units and to purchase thermometers, scales, etc. with the new units, what should have been done, five years before the actual adoption of the metric system, was to require that all scales, thermometers, measuring cups, and automobile speedometers sold in Canada

as new manufactured consumer products include the metric units as well as the common units. In this manner, when the speed limit signs are changed, we would be ready, when the temperature forecasts change, we'd be ready, five years later. Such a policy would have the merit of causing the absolute minimum of inconvenience. Of course, the requirement of including the metric scale would not apply to linen gauges, micrometers, and other devices that could not effectively be dual-scaled. With such a sensible plan, when the time came, we could measure from recipes in metric, observe metric speed laws, and relate thermometer readings to weather announcements without converting from one system to the other, or running out and buying new equipment. Let's not make metric conversion a bonanza for the manufacturers of measuring equipment.



My next point concerns compensation for the victims of crime. Compensation for victims of crime is still woefully inadequate in our country.

Anyone who is convicted of a serious crime should be responsible to pay, without being sued, a) all medical expenses incurred by victims of the crime or any non-negligent police action as a result of the crime, b) all legal fees of anyone else arrested and tried for that same crime, and found innocent, as if no crime had been committed, no one would have been arrested for it, and any lost wages or other losses incurred as a result of arrest and trial by any of the other suspects.

In cases of car accidents, however, liability should extend only as far as fault, and no further. Under current law, a man hit by an innocent driver can get his money from that man's insurance company, but gets nothing if hit by a grossly negligent driver, a drinking driver, or a car thief. This should change: in both cases, all money needed should come directly and immediately from the public purse: and in the second case, the money will be subsequently extracted from the driver by the courts.

Furthermore, criminals

forced to pay compensation should also be assessed an insurance fee, covering the probability of not being caught, as well as the probability of not being able to pay.

Crime protection gov't's job

Part a) above of the financial responsibilities of criminals should also include the cryonic suspension of all murder victims. All compensation awards should be made irrespective of the criminal's ability to pay, and should be paid immediately from the public purse, the criminal later being made to return the money, if possible, to the public treasury at whatever terms the court arranges.

Furthermore, in all cases of theft or vandalism, the thief, and consequently the government, not private insurance companies, shall be responsible for the full replacement value of all articles stolen or damaged. Governmental responsibility, however, to avoid drastic changes to the tax structure, will not extend to shoplifting, or employee theft, due to the large gross amounts of money stolen in these fashions.

The government, and not the private individual or the insurance company, is and should be responsible for protecting people from crime.

Finally, the government should be deprived of the power, in bankruptcy cases, to annul a legitimate debt (debts contracted to under conditions of deceit not included) except by paying that debt itself.

Also, when a corporation is found guilty of fraudulent practice, the fine should be paid, not by the corporation, but by the individuals within it culpable in the fraudulent practice. Monies by which the corporation is richer by the practice can be confiscated, but if the company was sold after the fraudulent practice has ceased, the monies should be taken from the seller, as they would have been included in the sale price of the company at the time. Implementing this would correct, for example, the gross injustices in the recent automobile odometer scandal.

John Savard
Science 3

P.S.

(there's more)

P.S. I do not have a confused mind, nor do I suffer from any form of dementia or insanity. However, I may have been three years off. In 1910, Chao Er-feng invaded Lhasa with 2,000 men, and Dalai Lama fled to India, but returned at the call of his people in 1912. In October 1913, a conference in Simla divided Tibet, like Mongolia, into "Outer" and "Inner"