

News of the Day

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FIRST PICTURES TIBETANS FLEE RED TYRANNY!

An oft repeated story of our times: People, driven to flee tyranny imposed on their homeland, seek new homes where they can live in freedom. The latest chapter is the flight from Tibet. These first pictures show refugees from Communist Chinese rule arriving at a camp quickly being built in northeastern India. Location is the "Misamari" airstrip, cleared by the U. S. during World War Two to serve as a jumping-off base for the flight over the Himalayas to China. More than twelve thousand Tibetans are reported to be fleeing their native country. Some of the arrivals are in poor health, some show evidence of physical mistreatment. Once again, the tragedy of the political refugee. ✓

From : V. PARKASH

STORY : FIRST PICTURES OF THE ARRIVAL OF TIBETAN REFUGEES AT MISAMARI, INDIA.

LOCATION : FOOTHILLS & MISAMARI (ASSAM) INDIA.

CLOUDY WEATHER.

It is reported that more than 12,000 Tibetan Refugees have already entered the North East Frontier borders of India near Assam. They have used the same route which was adopted by the Dalai Lama. For these victims of Chinese aggression, it was a hard task to pave their way through the treacherous high mountain tracks. For them it was a matter of life and death and great desperation they were able to overcome all the difficulties which came in their way for arriving near the Indian borders.

To settle the refugees in India, the Government of India with the help of many non official organisations, have set up a camp at MISAMARI - 30 miles from TEZPUR, ASSAM - which was once the airstrip constructed by Americans at a cost of 28 million dollars for use during the last war as the starting point of American Aircrafts carrying supplies to China across the Himalayas.

The refugees would be arriving in the batches of 100 and after necessary disinfection etc they would be settled down in the bamboo huts built for them at Misamari. Keeping with the warm climate the Tibetans would change their heavy woolen garments into light trouser and bush-shirts. These pictures are of the arrival of the first and second batch of refugees. Ever since the trouble started in Tibet, this is the first arrival of refugees some of which are Lamas from important monasteries of Tibet.

Roll , 1, 2, 3 & 4 (EYEMO)

AT THE FOOTHILLS (Foothills is the name of an army camp beyond which the prohibited Nefa area starts) shots of the refugees (1st batch of 92) arriving at the Indian Army' Rest Camp.

Shots of the Refugees unloading their baggage from the tops of the mules and ponies .

Several shots of the refugees busy in sorting and collecting their baggages

Shots of the Tibetan Refugees talking to each other.

Shot of the Indian Army Officer calling the names of the refugees from the list which had been supplied to him by the leader of the first batch of refugees.

At the Foothills various shots of the Tibetan refugees which include several Lamas of important monasteries of Tibet, sitting in Que for awaiting their turn to aboard the truck for going to Misamari Camp.

Shot of the Military truck carrying the Tibetan Refugees arriving at Misamari Camp.

Shot of the refugees getting down from the truck and carrying their baggage on their shoulders they move inside the camp.

Shots of the refugees going towards their huts with their baggage being carried by them.

A large number of local residents of Misamari had collected outside the Camp to see the arrival of Tibetan Refugees. Shots of the local people watching the arrival of Tibetan Refugees.

On the second day shot of the second batch of Refugees seen tracking down the Foothills. The refugees were walking through the hilly tracks and their belongings were carried on the mules and ponies. In this way they had travelled many a hazardous miles taking great care to keep away from the searching eyes and aeroplanes of the Chinese .

Shots made at the Misamari Camp show the refugees in their new attire of trouser and bush-shirts.

Shot of Refugees taking a bath and washing their clothes at the Hand Pumps which have been installed for the Refugees.

Shot of a Barber giving a hair cut to a Tibetan Refugee.

Long shot of the Misamari camp with Refugees seen moving around.

NOTE: THERE were several restrictions on Photography and for entry inside the Camp.