However, there is more than 1,000 miles from the border, a distance.

Furthermore, the map illustrates the importance of the border. The Chinese could be located anywhere, and the border would be of no strategic significance to the northern Khamtun (Pakistan).

China's capability to provide timely and extensive military production is evaluated from Extractive Chinese information as well as current events. The Chinese have intercepted a report in support of the theory that the Chinese have intercepted a report on the current status of the border.

The assumption of a communist government in China, which means the delivery of goods to the border, and the readiness of Chinese ammunition and military equipment to provide assistance to the Indian government, is a serious concern. The Chinese government has agreed to provide the support.

In September, the Chinese government agreed to provide the support.

Secretary of State

Intelligence Annex

COMMUNITY CHINA'S CAPABILITY TO SUPPORT PAKISTAN

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that would have to be traversed on a single, unimproved road. In the unlikely event that excess supplies had been stock-piled in Kashgar in far western Sinkiang, China could truck about 800-1,000 tons per day to the border. Movement across the border into Pakistan at this time of year, however, poses a major logistics problem. The Khunjerab Pass, the only practical entry point, will soon be virtually impassable to truck traffic due to heavy snow cover. (Encl 1)

In West China, there are only two airfields (Hotlen and Wensu) suitable for staging sustained air supply operations to West Pakistan; altitudes and runway lengths of other airfields in this area severely limit their use by Chinese transports. Medium transport aircraft available for short-haul operations to Pakistan would total less than 40, and in an all-out effort, could airlift some 2,300 tons per day. None of China's transports, including the AN-12/C-130s, can carry tanks or armored personnel carriers. (Encl 1)

Military Options

A buildup of forces would be necessary before the Chinese could launch a multi-division campaign against India. There are no indications that such a buildup is underway or planned.

There are no tactical aircraft deployed near the Indian border at this time, but airfields in southwest Sinkiang and Tibet are capable of supporting operations of up to 350 tactical aircraft.

Present Chinese troop dispositions are a threat to India, particularly the northeast where existing Chinese military strength ties down a sizable number of Indian troops. Chinese probes in this area would carry little risk of escalation into a major conflict and could relieve some Indian pressure on the Pakistanis.

Conclusions

For the immediate future, Peking will continue to support Pakistan through political, diplomatic, and propaganda means.

In addition, China could initiate airlift and sealift resupply operations. Airlift would be restricted by aircraft capacities and airfield inadequacies. Sealift resupply would be limited only by the current availability of ships, travel time involved, and the risk of Indian naval interception.
China could also initiate probes and harassing attacks in the high mountain areas to continue to tie down significant numbers of Indian troops in the east. In any event, Chinese action against India would probably be small scale in order to avoid provoking Soviet retaliatory moves.

Approved by:

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