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ACTION EAP-00

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 CIAE-00 EB-08 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-01 NSAE-00 HA-08 L-03 PM-10 AIT-02 PA-02 OMB-01 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01 DS-08 SCT-04 /063 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4430
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AIT TAIPEI
AMCONSUL SHENYANG
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI
AMCONSUL CHENGDU
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU

UNCLAS BEIJING 30122

E.O. 12356: N/A TAGS: PGOV, CH

SUBJECT: MORE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS

REF. (A) FBIS HK 200906; (B) BEIJING 29697;

- 1. SUMMARY. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN BEIJING IN THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS, ONE AT THE BEIJING AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY ON STUDENT ISSUES AND THE PRESENCE OF THE PLA ON CAMPUS, AND THE OTHER BY MINORITY STUDENTS IN TIENANMEN SQUARE IN PROTEST OF NUCLEAR TESTING IN XINJIANG PROVINCE. A STUDENT PROTEST HAS ALSO REPORTEDLY OCCURRED IN TIANJIN. END SUMMARY.
- 2. ACCORDING TO WIRE SERVICE DISPATCHES, BETWEEN 1500 AND 2000 STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED AT THE BEIJING AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY DECEMBER 19 OVER ISSUES SUCH AS HOUSING OF A PLA UNIT ON CAMPUS, POOR SECURITY, LACK OF UNCLASSIFIED

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CENTRAL HEATING, AND POOR CAFETERIA FOOD. THE INCIDENT REPORTEDLY BEGAN AFTER A DANCE THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 19 WHEN STUDENTS GATHERED TO ASK THE AUTHORITIES TO ARREST TWO NON-STUDENTS WHO HAD ATTACKED A STUDENT.

3. A SECOND INCIDENT OCCURRED DECEMBER 22 WHEN 200-300 MINORITY STUDENTS PARADED AROUND TIANANMEN SQUARE WITH BANNERS PROTESTING CHINA'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING PROGRAM IN XINGJIANG PROVINCE. THE DEMONSTRATORS, FROM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ROBERT J. MARTEN Page - 1
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THE BEIJING CENTRAL COLLEGE OF NATIONALITIES, WERE APPARENTLY MOSTLY UIGHURS, WHO OF COURSE COME FROM XINJIANG. THEY CARRIED ABOUT TEN BANNERS. AFTER CIRCLING TIANMEN SQUARE THE STUDENTS PROCEEDED TO ZHONGNANHAI, THE CENTRAL LEADERSHIP COMPOUND, FOLLOWING WHICH THE DEMONSTRATION APPARENTLY BROKE UP. LOCAL WIRE SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES WERE ABLE TO GET THE BEIJING MUNICIPALITY TO CONFIRM THAT "SOMETHING OF THIS SORT" HAD OCCURRED, BUT NO FURTHER DETAILS; THE CENTRAL COLLEGE OF NATIONALITIES HUNG UP WHEN CALLED.

- 4. ACCORDING TO AN AFP DISPATCH (REF A), A SMALL NUMBER OF STUDENTS STAGED A SIMILAR PROTEST IN TIANJIN ON DECEMBER 8 AT TIANJIN UNIVERSITY.
- 5. COMMENT. STUDENT FERMENT CLEARLY CONTINUES. WE DO FIND A BIT ASTONISHING A DEMONSTRATION IN CHINA (A) ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING; AND (B) BY A MINORITY NATIONALITY GROUP. ANOTHER INTERESTING FEATURE OF THESE DEMONSTRATIONS IS THAT THEY INVOLVE SCHOOLS OTHER THAN THE "MAJORS" LIKE BEIDA. END COMMENT. LORD.

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<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

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