## Olympic torch route engulfed in controversy Organisers of the 2008 Beijing Olympics have announced the longest RUSSIA torch relay in the history of the games, covering five continents. NORTH The route, however, includes politically sensitive stops in Taiwan **KOREA** and Tibet, and plans have been thrown into disarray after the Pyongyang head of Taiwan's Olympic Committee said it would not participate because the island's Harbin sovereignty was Aug 8, Beijing: "downgraded" **MONGOLIA** Opening ceremony Changchun Urumai Shiiiazhuana Shenyang SOUTH Hohhot **KOREA** Tianjin 0 Seoul Kashi 同 Lanzhou Yinchuan Taiyuan П Nagano JAPAN Golmud Qingdao Naniing TIBET Zhengzhou Chongqing Xi'an Shanghai Hefei Mount NEPA Wuhan Chengdu Hangzhou Everest Lhasa **TORCH** Changsha Nanchang Fuzhou **RELAY** Length: 130 days, INDIA Guiyang Guangzhou 137,000km Kunming Mar 25, Olympia: Taipei Liahtina Hong ceremony Kong Macau Haikou **Nanning** TORCH: Mar 31, Design Beijing: resembles Relay Ho Chi traditional scroll begins Minh City Height: 72cm **VIETNAM** Weight: 985g Source: Material: Aluminium Beijing 2008 © GRAPHIC NEWS Pictures: AP