## Troubled torch takes on Mount Everest In a bid to prevent protests marring the Everest leg of the Olympic torch relay, China and Nepal have imposed a temporary ban on access to the mountain, incensing climbers who have spent weeks preparing for the narrow window when conditions permit a push to the summit CHINA 250km 300 miles TIBET Autonomous Mount Region **Everest** Lhasa (8.850m) NEPAL INDIA BHUTAN Chinese Kathmandu mountaineers MAIN CLIMBING ROUTES to carry specially North crafted lantern Base designed to preserve Camp flame in Everest's thin air NORTHEAST RIDGE ROUTE **BAN APPLIES FROM MAY 1-10** CHINA: Foreign expeditions 5km denied climbing permits East Annybulk Gladier 3 miles Non-Chinese media prevented from attending departure of torch from North Base Camp **NEPAL: Climbers banned from** going above Camp II CHINA Police and soldiers deployed at North Camp II with orders to stop any (TIBET) Ridge protests using whatever means. including deadly force as last resort NEPAL North Face Base **Everest** Camp Khumbu Southeast Glacier ridge Camp II SOUTHEAST (6.500m)RIDGE ROUTE

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