

1951

Speeches/Documents

Title: Telegram from Mao Zedong to Stalin

Author: Mao Zedong

Date: 5 june 1951

Source: <http://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/112105>

Description: Mao asks Stalin to receive Gao Gang and Kim Il Sung in Moscow so that they may discuss military operations in Korea.

Telegram from Mao to Stalin - Original

SECOND MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE SOVIET ARMY

CIPHERED TELEGRAM No. 20448

Copies: Stalin (2)

From Beijing Received 18:30 5 June 1951

SERIES G T.

TO FILIPPOV [Stalin]

Comrade FILIPPOV!

In the course of conducting the war in KOREA we have run into such serious questions as the financial question, the question of the conduct of military operations directly at the front, the question of the danger of a possible enemy landing on the sea coast in our rear.

We intend to send Comrade GAO GANG to MOSCOW by plane in a few days to inform you regarding the aforementioned questions and to ask your directions in the matter of the resolution of these important questions.

At the present time Comrade KIM IL SUNG is in BEIJING. He wishes to go with Comrade GAO GANG for discussion of these questions with you.

I ask you to communicate your opinion about the possibility of this trip.

MAO ZEDONG

No. 2787

5.6.51

CIPHERED TELEGRAM

BEIJING TO KRASOVSKY
for Comrade MAO ZEDONG.

To Comrade MAO ZEDONG.

We received your telegram about the trip to us of Comrades GAO GANG and KIM IL SUNG. We are ready to receive Comrades GAO GANG and KIM IL SUNG and to discuss with them the questions indicated in your telegram.

On 8 June in the morning we will send a plane from Moscow to Peking to transport Comrades GAO GANG and KIM IL SUNG to Moscow. The plane will arrive in Beijing on 9 June.

We ask you to give an order to your authorities about the unimpeded flight of the plane and its reception at the airport in Beijing.

FILIPPOV [Stalin]

SECOND MAIN DIRECTORATE OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE SOVIET
ARMY

CABLE N° 20622

Copy N° 1 to Cde. Stalin

N° 2 to Cde. Stalin

from [BEIJING] received 1900 9 June 1951

SERIES G

T

[Stamp: SUBJECT TO RETURN

to the IV Unit OS VKP(b) CC

Incoming N° 452/1948/shs 9 June 1951]

to Cde. FILIPPOV

Both your telegrams (of 5 and 7 June) have been received.

The special aircraft you sent on 9 June has arrived in [Beijing].

Cde Gao Gang and Kim Il Sung have decided to fly from [Beijing] to Moscow on 10 June 1951. If you have no objection, we would like Cde. Lin Biao, who is flying to Moscow at the present time, to take part in your conversations.

Cde. Gao Gang is bringing with him additional requests for weapons and various military equipment. Please make a decision about them.

A delay on the issue of the requests has occurred in view of the illness of Cde. Zhou Enlai, who is being treated in Dalniy at the present time. [We] finished drawing up the requests only today, therefore we bear the blame for the delay.

The requests being sent with Cde. Gao Gang were drawn up on the basis of an estimate of our needs. The total cost specified in the requests is quite high.

I request that the Soviet government make deliveries based on these requests against the military credit at half price and also defer the payment of this amount. After discussion of this issue with Cde. Gao Gang please report your decision through him. Cde. Gao Gang will also report to you personally the issues of the war and peace and also about the invitation of Soviet advisers to the volunteer forces, so therefore I am not touching on them.

I wish you good health.

MAO ZEDONG

N° 2893

9 June

Deciphered by Prokop'yev 1930 9 June

Printed by Komyushina 2010 9 June N° 999

Four copies printed. N° 3 and 4 filed

Verified: Major [signature] Chikarev

In a talk with Gao and Kim, Party Secretary Nikolai A. Bulganin insisted that the agreed-upon provision of munitions for sixteen infantry divisions on an annual basis had to be reduced to a ten-division level. Neither Gao nor Kim could do anything.

Mao to Gao Gang

we consider it advisable for Korea and China to advance this question [armistice negotiations] today, since in the next two months the Korean Army and Chinese volunteer troops must occupy a defensive position. . . . [But] in June and July preparations will be carried out intensively. In August we will carry out a stronger operation., * . If the enemy does not send new reinforcements to Korea and does not make an amphibious landing, then in August we will be significantly stronger than now.

Kim Il Sung and Gao Gang flew to Moscow, where they were joined by Lin Biao, who was in the Soviet Union for medical treatment. The three of them succeeded in convincing Stalin to agree to talks with the enemy