

Cable from Stalin to Mao Zedong on Soviet supplies Weapons and military property of the PRC

April 9, 1952

Fourth. Regarding the next supply of weapons and military equipment at the expense of 60 divisions. By the end of 1952, no matter how difficult it is, we will try to satisfy your request and will try to supply you with weapons for 16 divisions.

Fifth. We have reviewed your delivery telegram in 1952

aircraft for 20 aviation regiments. In accordance with the agreement between us on the development plan of the Chinese Air Force, we agree this year to continue the supply of aircraft to China, however, for the remaining 9 months until the end of 1952, taking into account our capabilities and supplies under the agreements already concluded with Western countries

People's Democracy, we will be able to supply you with aircrafts for 15 regiments, i.e., 450 aircraft.

In the opinion of our military, it will be difficult to master in one year a large number of aviation, which will require, in addition to pilots, a large number of operating engineers and technicians, as well as at least 10-15 airfields with facilities for maintenance and flight support. Until now in China, due to the above reasons, they remained unused in warehouses for 4 regiments of MIG-9 jet fighters.

Regarding training and other types of aircraft mentioned in your telegram, this issue can be considered only upon receipt of your specific application.

Sixth. We agree to accept your orders for coastal artillery, patrol ships and other naval weapons and property.

The timing of the supply of these weapons and property will have to be negotiated separately with representatives of your naval forces. Apparently, it will not be possible to complete the deliveries by the end of 1955 and will have to add two or three years for this.

Seventh. We agree with your proposal to negotiate with your delegation on the terms of the loan for the payment of weapons and equipment for 60 divisions and for the navy. During these negotiations, we propose to determine the terms of payment for the supplied aviation property in accordance with the delivery plan agreed by us.

Eighth. We are ready to receive your delegation in May for discussion of the above issues and do not object to the arrival of representatives of the Chinese naval forces in Moscow in April.

Filippov