

October 26, 1949

Draft Reply from Stalin to a Telegram from Mao Zedong on the Issue of Korea

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Summary:

Stalin agrees with Mao Zedong that North Korea is not yet ready to launch an assault, and reports that the Soviet Union has told North Korea to concentrate on developing liberated areas and guerrillas in South Korea.

Credits:

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Original Language:

Russian

Contents:

- English Translation

Telegram from Stalin to Mao Zedong

Molotov's draft of 26 [October] 1949

Top Secret

to Cdes. MALENKOV, BERIA, KAGANOVICH, and BULGANIN

I submit a draft reply to Cde. Mao Zedong's telegram addressed to Cde. Filippov [Stalin] on the issue of Korea (see Cde. Kovalev's telegram N 234)

V. Molotov

26 October 1949

to KOVALEV and ROSHCHIN

Pass the following reply to Mao Zedong in response to his telegram of 21 October:

"To Cde. Mao Zedong.

We agree with your opinion that the Korean Army ought not to pursue an attack at the present time. At one time we also pointed out to the Korean friends that the attack on the south by the Korean People's Army that they had planned should not be undertaken since this attack had not been prepared from either a military or a political standpoint.

In our opinion at the present time the Korean comrades ought to concentrate their efforts in the struggle for the unification of Korea on developing a partisan movement, creating liberated areas in South Korea, and a comprehensive strengthening of the People's Army of Korea.

FILIPPOV["]

Report by telegraph when this is done.

Gromyko