

1950

Speeches/Documents

Title: Telegram from Zhou Enlai to Bulganin

Author: Zhou Enlai

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Description: Zhou Enlai requests and gives deadlines for the sending of aviation equipment and personnel from Moscow, mentioning that China is anticipating military conquests of the Danshan and Jinmen islands.

Comrade Bulganin:

[We] assume you have already read the telegram of 22 March. Now, to clarify the situation regarding our past military orders and the time(s) needed, [we] wish to inform you of the following:

(1) In order to assure the normal carrying-out of educational work in the six aviation institutes of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, please do what you can to send us, during April, all the purchases on the requisition form signed by Comrade Mao Zedong on 11 February, including the parts and the back-up equipment for airplanes and engines, aviation tools, ammunition and models for making airplane wheels. Please also send the advisors that have been requested.

(2) In order for the students who were recently transferred after the expansion of all aviation institutes to be able to start classes on time (May 1, 1950), during May please send all purchases on the requisition form signed by Comrade Mao Zedong on Feb 15, including the forty-two airplanes (twenty IA18, ten R9, and twelve T2), twenty-four engines and two-hundred parachutes; plus the 100,000 rounds of ammunition that General Liu Yalou ordered from General Shtemenko. Please also send the advisors that have been requested.

(3) The People's Revolutionary Military Affairs Committee of the People's Republic of China anticipates two military campaigns in 1950: the conquest of the Danshan Islands in June and of the Jinmen Island in August. Three newly formed air force regiments will participate in these two campaigns. So, before mid-May, please send all purchases on the requisition form signed by Comrade Mao Zedong, including the 84 airplanes (24 T2 bombers and 60 R9 chasers).

(4) Besides the above-mentioned 84 airplanes, please send 312 airplanes by December 1950 (140 R9, 28 UR9, 28 IA11, 14 IA12, 64 IA12, 19 UT2 and 19 UTB) so that the aviation students who are graduating at the end of this year will be equipped when the time comes.

(5) Please send, during February, all the rest of the purchases on the 15 February 1950 requisition form: 190 airplanes (110 T2 and 80 R9) so that newly-added aviation students who are graduating next March will be equipped.

(6) Concerning the requisition form in the above-mentioned first item, see the letter Comrade Mao Zedong sent to Comrade Stalin on 11 February 1950. For the rest of the items in Nos. 2 through 5, see the Air Force part of the requisition form attached to the 15 February 1950 letter from Comrade Mao Zedong. Please consider and act in accordance with these. We look forward to receiving instructions in reply.

With sincere Bolshevik greetings!

Zhou Enlai

13 April 1950