

1950

Speeches/Documents

**Title: Directive Creating the Chinese People's Volunteers**

**Author: Mao**

**Date: October 8, 1950**    **Source:** Uncertain partners pg. 278-279

**Description:**

Peng [Dehuai], Gao [Gang], He [Jinnian], Deng [Hua], Hong [Xuezhi], Xie [Fang], and leading comrades of various levels of the Chinese People's Volunteers:

1. In order to support the Korean people's war of liberation and to resist the attacks of U.S. imperialism and its running dogs, thereby safeguarding the interests of the people of Korea, China, and all the other countries in the East, I herewith order the name of the Northeast Frontier Force changed to the Chinese People's Volunteers and order the Chinese People's Volunteers to march speedily to Korea and join the Korean comrades in fighting the aggressors and winning a glorious victory.

2. The following units are put under the jurisdiction of the Chinese People's Volunteers: the 38th, 39th, 40th, and 42nd corps of the Thirteenth Army, and the headquarters of the Artillery Command of the [Northeast] Frontier Force and the 1st, 2nd, and 8th artillery division. The foregoing units should immediately get everything in readiness and await orders to set off.

3. Comrade Peng Dehuai is appointed commander and political commissar of the Chinese People's Volunteers.

4. The Northeast Administrative Region is to be the general rear base for the Chinese People's Volunteers. Comrade Gao Gang, commander and political commissar of the Northeast Military Region Command, is responsible for handling affairs relevant to providing logistic support and aid to the Korean comrades.

5. While in Korea, the Chinese People's Volunteers must show fraternal feelings and respect for the people, the People's Army, the democratic government, the Workers' Party (namely, the Communist Party), and other democratic parties of Korea, as well as Comrade Kim Il Sung, the leader of the Korean people, and strictly observe military and political discipline. This is a most important political basis for ensuring the fulfilment of your military task.

6. You must fully anticipate possible and inevitable difficulties and be prepared to overcome them with great enthusiasm, courage, care, and stamina. At present, the international and domestic situation as a whole is favorable to us, not to the aggressors. So long as you comrades are firm and brave and good at uniting with the people there and at fighting the aggressors, final victory will be ours.

Mao put his name to this with the formal title Chairman of the Chinese Peoples' Revolutionary Military Commission. Uncertain partners pg. 278-279

He Jinnian was then the deputy commander of the PLA Northeast Military Region Command. Hong Xuezhi was then the deputy commander of the Thirteenth Army. Xie Fang was then the chief of staff of the Thirteenth Army.

*Mao Telegram to Kim Il Sung re China's Entry in the War, Oct. 8, 1950*

Comrade Kim Il Sung c/o Comrade Ni Zhiliang:

1. In view of the current situation, we have decided to send volunteers to Korea to help you fight against the aggressors.

2. Comrade Peng Dehuai holds the posts of commander and political commissar of the Chinese People's Volunteers. .

3. Comrade Gao Gang, commander and political commissar of the Northeast Military Region Command, is in charge of the rear service for the Chinese People's Volunteers and other arrangements in Manchuria to aid Korea.

4. Please immediately send Comrade Pak Il U to Shenyang to discuss with Comrades Peng Dehuai and Gao Gang various problems regarding the operations of the Chinese People's Volunteers in Korea. (Comrades Peng and Gao will leave for Shenyang from Beijing today.)

Ni Zhiliang was then China's ambassador to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. [China had only dispatched Ni to Korea two months before, on Aug. 13, 1950.

Pak Il U was then a member of the Standing Committee of the Politburo of the Workers' Party of Korea and head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. [Pak was a member of the so-called Yan'an faction or Chinese-trained group in the North Korean government