

Instructions on the proportion of executions

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Chairman Mao's telegram is as follows:

Xiaoping, Rao Shushi, Deng Zihui, He Jianying, and Gao Gang:

I hereby send you a cable from the Southwest Bureau of April 10th. Please provide your opinions on the issue of the proportion of homicides and the question of raising the authority to approve homicides and arrests to the Central Committee for discussion and decision.

The issue of homicide ratio in February, the central meeting decided to kill half of this number at the rate of one-thousandth of the population. It depends on the situation before making a decision. Now the southwest has reached one-thousandths, and some provinces and regions in Central South and East China have also reached one-thousandths. Individual places have exceeded them. Generally speaking, it seems that the three major regions of East China, South-central and Southwest China must all exceed one-thousandths. To solve the problem, it seems inappropriate to exceed it too much. The Liuzhou prefecture's request to kill five-thousandths is obviously wrong. The Guizhou Provincial Party Committee asked to kill three-thousandths, and I felt too much. I have the idea that it can exceed one-thousandth, but not too much. Do not stipulate that many prisoners should be sentenced to life imprisonment based on the two-thousandth standard, and the state will be concentrated in batches after leaving the county. Engaged in road construction, river repair, wasteland reclamation, house building and other production businesses. For example, the 60,000 people in the southwestern region who are going to be killed, another 30,000 or so killed by civilians, while the remaining 10,000 people will be responsible for centralized production in batches by the provinces and regions. These people are different from other people sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment. Those sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment are released and returned to their homes. These people will serve the country for a long time until the future socialist period will restore their citizenship. If such people are calculated at 0.5% of the population, there are more than 150,000 people in the three major regions of Southwest, Central South, and East China, which is a large group of productive forces. Guizhou Province believes that not killing three-thousandths of it is not in line with the principles of "precise" and "ruthless". I think that Guizhou's population of 10 million has already killed 13,000 and the provincial party committee requires another 22,000 to 25,000. Thousands, we can allow them to kill a little more than 10,000, leaving more than 10,000 people not to kill. The proportion of more than two thousandths is already in accordance with the special circumstances of Guizhou, which can be regarded as "precise" and "ruthless". The characteristic of the above-mentioned opinions is that it is troublesome to implement, so it is better to kill them. The advantage is that there are interests in the economy, and there are also certain interests in the political field, which makes us easy to speak to the national bourgeoisie and intellectuals. The Soviet Union handled many felons in this way in the past. Could you please discuss this matter with some comrades and hope that the results will be telegraphed.