

Regarding the Remarks on the Decision of the East China Bureau to Organize Party Journals (August 20, 1950)

To Qiaomu:

This document seems suitable for forwarding to various places, and each central bureau should adopt the same method to organize party journals.

Mao Zedong

August 28th

Note:

[1] Qiaomu, referring to Hu Qiaomu, who was then the Deputy Minister of the Central Propaganda Department of the CPC.

[2] Refers to the decision sent by the East China Bureau of the CPC to the Central Propaganda Department for approval on August 25, 1950, regarding the organization of party journals in East China. The decision stated that there were 72 existing party journals in the East China region, most of which lacked clear editing guidelines and were disconnected from current practical work. They particularly lacked articles providing ideological leadership, policy guidance, criticism, and self-criticism. Some publications even published articles that did not align with the spirit of the central directives. To overcome these shortcomings, the decision was made:

(1) Party journals published by party committees at all levels would be divided into regular and irregular publications. It was stipulated that party committees at the provincial and district levels and above would publish one regular party journal, while the East China Bureau would publish three party journals at its level. Other regions requiring party journals would need approval from the East China Bureau.

(2) Regular party journals published by party committees above the sub-bureau level would strive to publish typical experiences and important reports, reprint instructions and resolutions related to work from the central and central bureaus, and conduct ideological and theoretical construction and criticism within the party. The main audience would be cadres at the county and brigade levels and above.

(3) Regular party journals published by provincial and district party committees would focus on exchanging information, experiences, and publishing local party instructions and decisions, as well as providing guidance and criticism on ideological work within the party. The main audience would be cadres at the county, district, and brigade levels.

(4) Irregular party journals published by prefectural committees would focus on exchanging experiences and reflecting specific situations. They would reprint some instructions from higher-level party organs in plain language, and the main audience would be cadres at the district and township levels.

(5) In areas where provincial (municipal) party committees and district party committees have two or more party publications with similar or similar natures, they should be merged into a single party journal.

(6) Important articles on political and principled matters must be reviewed by the party secretary of the same level party committee or the party committee leader entrusted with the review before publication. Articles of significant importance must be reviewed by a higher-level party committee.

(7) The approval authority for the publication of party journals by party committees at all levels belongs to the East China Bureau, and no publication decision shall be made without approval. (8) Establish a system for inspecting party journals, and the propaganda departments of party committees at all levels shall inspect party journals published by party committees at the same and lower levels on a monthly basis.