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Speeches/Documents

Title: REPORT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO THE CENTRAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

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Description:

Comrade Chairman, Members of the Council:

In accordance with the agreement reached at the Four-Power Conference of Foreign Ministers in Berlin in February 1954, a conference was held in Geneva from April 26, 1954 onward with the participation of the representatives of the Soviet Union, the United States of America, France, the United Kingdom, the People's Republic of China and other countries concerned, to discuss separately the peaceful settlement of the Korean question and the question of restoring peace in Indo-China. The Central People's Government, supporting that agreement, designated me to lead the Chinese delegation to the conference. The Geneva Conference concluded its sessions on July 21. I now submit a report to the Central People's Government Council on the results of the Geneva Conference and on our foreign policy in the present period.

I

The People's Republic of China, from the time it was founded, has repeatedly declared its readiness to establish and develop diplomatic relations with any country on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, and in its activities in international affairs it has worked steadily and perseveringly for the noble objectives of world peace and the progress of mankind. However, aggressive circles in the United States, unable to reconcile themselves to the fact that the reactionary rule of the traitorous, U.S.-supported Chiang Kai-shek clique has been overthrown by the Chinese people, have taken a consistently hostile position towards the 600 million' liberated people of China, making them the target of armed intervention and the threat of war.

In their pursuit of world domination, the aggressive circles of the United States have consistently followed a policy of strength (armament drives and war preparations) and have been persistent in engineering the formation in Asia and Europe of various antagonistic military blocs for aggressive purposes, thus seeking to create international tension by which they might profit. Their aggressive activities have been particularly undisguised in Asia where they launched the war of aggression against Korea, stepped up their intervention in the Indo-China war and, at the same time, occupied the Chinese territory of Taiwan. The Korean war has long since been stopped and now peace has likewise been restored in Indo-China. The results of the Geneva Conference were a victory for the forces of peace and a defeat for the forces of war, but the aggressive circles of the United States have not acquiesced in this defeat.

They have become more active than ever in prompting and abetting the Chiang Kai-shek gang of traitors in carrying out an increasingly reckless war of harassment and destruction against the mainland and coastal areas of China. They are working vigorously for the revival of Japanese militarism, the formation of an anti-Communist military alliance in the Pacific, and aggressive blocs in Southeast Asia and the Middle East. They are doing all this in an attempt to create new tension in various parts of Asia. This policy of aggression pursued by the aggressive circles of the United States gives rise to perpetual threats to the peace of Asia and the world.

It is therefore necessary to shatter the designs of the aggressive circles of the United States to create new tension; to administer defeat after defeat to their aggressive policy if the peace and security of Asia and the world are to be safeguarded. The tasks now before us are to strive, together with the other nations concerned, to ensure the thorough implementation of the agreements on the restoration of peace in Indo-China reached at the Geneva Conference; to continue to seek the peaceful settlement of the Korean question; to take determined action with regard to the liberation of Taiwan so as to safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity; to strengthen and develop China's peaceful co-operation with other nations of the world in conformity with the five principles of mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence; and to strive for the establishment of collective peace in Asia.

II

While the Geneva Conference has resulted in a further relaxation of international tension, it encountered numerous obstacles and difficulties in the course of its work. The principal author of these obstacles and difficulties was the United States Government. The United States Government and its puppet Syngman Rhee clique maintained an arbitrary, unreasonable attitude for the purpose of sabotaging the work of the Conference on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question. In the end, the United States Government manipulated some of the nations participating in the Conference into issuing a so-called Joint Declaration on this question, thus leading to the suspension of discussion, with the result that the Conference failed to accomplish its task of peacefully settling the Korean question. In the discussion of the Indo-China question, agreements on the restoration of peace in Indo-China were at last reached, thanks to the common efforts made by the great majority of the participating nations to overcome all kinds of obstacles set up by the United States. Although some points in these agreements are not entirely satisfactory, the success of the Geneva Conference in restoring peace in Indo-China was a tremendous one. The failure to reach agreement on the Korean question should not detract from the importance of this success.

The agreements of the Geneva Conference on the re-establishment of peace in Indo-China were reached on the basis of the recognition by France of the national rights of the Indo-Chinese peoples. These agreements not only provide concrete measures for the cessation of hostilities in the three Indo-Chinese states so as to end the eight-year-old Indo-China war and bring peace to the Indo-Chinese peoples and the French people, but also lay down principles for the settlement of political questions in the three Indo-Chinese states. The principle of ensuring respect for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia, and of non-interference in their internal affairs, was also accepted by the nations participating in the Conference.

Under the agreements on the cessation of hostilities in the three Indo-Chinese states, it is forbidden, after the armistice, to reinforce or replenish foreign troops and military personnel in Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia, as well as to import all types of arms and munitions except for those required by Laos and Cambodia for self-defence. Strict implementation of these agreements will ensure the stability of the armistice in Indo-China. The participating nations also agreed unanimously to invite India, Poland and Canada to form international commissions to supervise the implementation of the agreements on the cessation of hostilities in Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

According to the principles laid down by the Geneva Conference for the settlement of political questions in Indo-China, nation-wide free elections will be held in Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia within the time limits specified for the respective countries, for the purpose of unifying each of these states on a democratic basis. In Viet-Nam, nation-wide free elections will be held in July 1956; in

Laos and Cambodia in 1955. Under the obligations they have undertaken at the Geneva Conference, the three Indo-Chinese states will prohibit, on their respective territories, the establishment of military bases by any foreign country. The three Indo-Chinese states have also undertaken not to join any military alliance, and not to allow themselves to be used for the resumption of hostilities or in the service of any aggressive policy. The peoples of the three Indo-Chinese states will thus be enabled to lead a peaceful life and engage in peaceful construction of their respective motherlands.

Moreover, if the three Indo-Chinese states develop friendly relations among themselves and with France on the basis of mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty and enter into peaceful co-operation with neighbouring countries on the same basis, it will be possible to establish an area of collective peace in Indo-China and its surrounding countries. If favourable international conditions obtain, such an area of collective peace can be further enlarged so that the Southeast Asian countries, and countries throughout Asia, will be able to enjoy peaceful coexistence and be free from outside interference.

It was owing to the many-sided efforts made jointly by the Indo-Chinese peoples, the French people and the peace-loving nations and peoples throughout the world, and above all owing to the long struggle waged by the Viet-Namese people under the leadership of President Ho Chi Minh of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, that the Geneva Conference was able to score such a tremendous success. The policy of upholding world peace and international co-operation consistently pursued by the Soviet Union played an important part in the Geneva Conference. The conciliatory spirit displayed by France and the United Kingdom at the Geneva Conference, and the efforts made by the Colombo Powers, notably India, in promoting the conclusion of an armistice in Indo-China, also contributed towards the achievements of the Geneva Conference. The part played by the People's Republic of China in the Geneva Conference has been universally recognized and cannot be brushed aside by the aggressive circles of the United States.

The reaching of the Geneva agreements on the restoration of peace in Indo-China does not amount to the actual carrying out of these agreements. Even at the time when these agreements were* reached at the Conference, the United States Government declared its unwillingness to take part in ensuring the restoration of peace in Indo-China in common with the other participating nations. Clearly, the aggressive circles of the United States do not intend to allow the smooth and thorough implementation of the agreements reached at the Geneva Conference. Recently, the aggressive circles of the United States have been egging on Australia, New Zealand, Thailand and the Philippines, trying to bring round Britain and France, and even trying to prevail upon the Colombo Powers to join in a so-called Southeast Asia Treaty Organization. It is not difficult to perceive that this bloc is being organized mainly against China and for the purpose of undermining the collective co-operation of the nations participating in the Geneva Conference with regard to the question of Indo-China. If any of the nations concerned should join the aggressive circles of the United States in these divisive activities, the common cause of ensuring the restoration of peace in Indo-China would be endangered and the implementation of the Indo-Chinese armistice agreements might be disrupted.

We therefore firmly maintain that the nations concerned must join in ensuring the thorough implementation of the agreements on the restoration of peace in Indo-China, and that they must resolutely oppose the scheme of the aggressive circles of the United States to undermine the Geneva agreements by engineering a so-called Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

III

The achievements of the Geneva Conference demonstrate that international disputes can be settled by the peaceful method of negotiation. Increasing numbers of people in the world are coming out in

favour of the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, and the policy of strength (armament drives and war preparations) persistently pursued by the aggressive circles of the United States is becoming more and more unpopular. It is possible to achieve the progressive relaxation of international tension provided all the countries and peoples that desire peace stand firm for peace and co-operation, provided they stand firm against war and the formation of antagonistic military blocs.

During the Geneva Conference, an improvement was brought about in the relations between the People's Republic of China and the United Kingdom. This will help to increase the possibilities of establishing normal relations between China and the countries of the West. The period under review has also witnessed fresh developments in trade and cultural interchange between China and Western countries.

The fact that in restoring peace in Indo-China the Geneva Conference has also succeeded in reaching agreement in principle on the settlement of relevant political questions, holds out new hopes for a political settlement of the Korean question. The work of the Conference on the Korean question was suspended not because the possibility of achieving unity of views on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question at the Geneva Conference did not exist, but because the United States Government and its puppet Syngman Rhee clique refused to negotiate and were afraid of reaching any agreement. Lately, they have been openly clamouring for the dissolution of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, with the design of undermining the Korean Armistice Agreement. This shows still more clearly that the United States has no intention of settling the Korean question peacefully.

However, the peaceful settlement of the Korean question has in no way been struck off the agenda. We hold firmly that it is necessary to settle the question of Korea's peaceful unification as soon as possible, under conditions favourable to Korea's national unity and to the safeguarding of peace in the Far East and the world.

The aggressive circles of the United States have not only undermined peace and created division on the questions of Korea and Indo-China; they are also promoting the establishment of antagonistic military blocs in the Far East, Southeast Asia and the Middle East, and creating new tension in Asia. But what the peoples of Asia want is peace and co-operation, not war and antagonism. The Delegation of the People's Republic of China proposed at the Geneva Conference that Asian countries should consult among themselves and make joint efforts to safeguard the peace and security of Asia by mutually assuming obligations. This proposition of ours does not envisage the exclusion of any country.

During the period when the sessions of the Geneva Conference at the ministerial level were in recess, I accepted, upon instructions, the invitations of the Indian and Burmese Governments to pay visits to India and Burma, and I had successive talks in India with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and in Burma with Prime Minister U Nu. A Chinese-Indian Joint Statement was issued on June 28, 1954 and a Chinese-Burmese Joint Statement on June 29, 1954. In these two joint statements, the three governments concerned agreed to base and guide their relations between China and India and between China and Burma on the five fundamental principles of mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. We are of the opinion that these five principles concerning peaceful coexistence should likewise be applied to relations between other nations and to international relations generally. When I discussed the question of restoring peace in Indo-China with President Ho Chi Minh of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam at our meeting on the Sino-Viet-

Nameese border, President Ho expressed the view that these five principles are fully applicable to the consolidation and development of friendly relations between Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia. We believe that if these five principles win support from more countries, even the fears and apprehensions prevailing between nations which have been antagonistic to each other would give place to a sense of security and mutual confidence; and in that case it would be possible to establish more and wider areas of peace in Asia, and to prevent these areas from being reduced to hotbeds of war and the organization of antagonistic military blocs by the aggressive circles of the United States. In line with this policy, the Central People's Government will make unremitting efforts for the establishment of collective peace in Asia.

The Chinese people are as concerned about peace in Europe as about peace in Asia. Following the Geneva Conference, the Delegation of the People's Republic of China visited the German Democratic Republic. The Premiers of China and Germany, on July 25, 1954, issued a communique on their talks. Both sides agreed that the rearming of West Germany and Japan by the United States is not designed to build up the power of Germany, and Japan to defend themselves, but to threaten peace in Europe and Asia. Consequently, the struggle against the rearming of West Germany and Japan has become a common task for all peace-loving peoples. With regard to the situation in Europe, the peaceful unification of Germany is of vital importance. We firmly oppose the reactionary U.S. policy of reviving German militarism and perpetuating the division of Germany, and we wholeheartedly support the great struggle of the whole German people for the peaceful unification of their country.

In order to safeguard peace in Europe and create conditions favourable to the peaceful settlement of the German question, the Government of the Soviet Union proposed on July 24, 1954 the convening of a conference of European countries to discuss the establishment of a system of collective security in Europe.

Again on August 4, the Soviet Government proposed that the Foreign Ministers of the Soviet Union, France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America meet in August-September of this year for consultations on the question of convening a conference of European countries and on the German question. The Government of the People's Republic of China fully supports these two proposals of the Soviet Government. The policy of aggression pursued by the bellicose circles of the United States to create antagonistic military blocs in Europe, is wholly against the interests of European collective security. It is our hope that the peoples of Europe, after suffering the horrors of two world wars, will be able to live in peace. Once a system of collective security in Europe is established, it will help to safeguard not only the peace of Europe but also the peace of Asia and the world.

After visiting the German Democratic Republic, the Delegation of the People's Republic of China visited the People's Republic of Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Mongolia. In the course of our visit to these four brother countries, we acquired a keen appreciation of the growing strength and mighty solidarity of all the fraternal countries headed by the Soviet Union. We saw with our own eyes that, the peoples of these countries are building up their homelands and strengthening the forces for world peace with incomparable enthusiasm and selfless labour. It is our conviction that with the ever-growing might and prosperity of all the brother countries headed by the Soviet Union, with their solidarity and with the concerted efforts of all peace-loving nations and peoples of the world, all acts of aggression and threats of war can certainly be defeated.

As I have stated, the aggressive circles of the United States have always been hostile to the People's Republic of China. They have continually attempted to intervene militarily in China and threaten us with war from three fronts: Taiwan, Korea and Indo-China. Now the Korean armistice and the restoration of peace in Indo-China have gradually reduced tension in Asia, and, precisely because of this the aggressive circles of the United States, to create new tension, seek to extend armed intervention by more intensive use of the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang, hiding in Taiwan, to wage a war of harassment and destruction against our mainland and coastal areas.

Chiang Kai-shek, the public enemy of the Chinese people, has entrenched himself with his traitorous group in Taiwan; oppressing and exploiting our compatriots in Taiwan; conspiring with the United States aggressors; and engaging in shameless acts of national betrayal. Directed and assisted by the United States aggressors, the Chiang Kai-shek gang of traitors has been carrying on an increasingly reckless war of harassment and destruction against our southeast coastal areas and islands, slaughtering our fellow countrymen, robbing the fishermen along the coast and sending special agents by parachute and other means to carry out sinister activities on our mainland. This gang of traitors defrauds and victimizes overseas Chinese, pillages their property and lures their youth to serve as its cannon-fodder. In true pirate fashion, this traitor group loots and holds up ships of various countries trading with our country. Shielded by United States naval and air forces and relying on the training given by the United States "Military Assistance Advisory Group," it continues to reorganize its armed forces and boast of preparations to attack the mainland, wildly ambitious to restore its criminal fascist rule and convert all China into a United States colony.

Since occupying Taiwan, the United States Government has seized military, political and economic control of Taiwan and turned it into a United States colony and military base for attacking our country. The United States Government forcibly keeps the representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek traitor group in the United Nations to pose as representatives of China. Recently, negotiations for the conclusion of a so-called bilateral mutual security treaty between the aggressive circles of the United States and the Chiang Kai-shek gang of traitors have been held simultaneously in Washington and Taipei. Meanwhile, the aggressive circles of the United States are attempting to whip together a so-called Northeast Asia Defence Alliance composed of Japanese reactionaries, the Syngman Rhee clique and the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang. The aggressive circles of the United States have even sent their own naval and air forces to make a continuous show of force and carry-on provocations along our borders, and to give support to the blockade of our coast by the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang. On July 26 this year, United States military aircraft brazenly attacked our patrol aircraft over Hainan Island, Chinese territory, and shot down two of them. All this shows that, though they have sustained repeated defeats, the aggressive circles of the United States do not hesitate to resort to desperate measures sowing perpetual enmity with the 600 million people of our country. Clearly, these activities are extremely grave provocations against the Chinese people as well as other peace-loving peoples of Asia and the world.

The Government of the People's Republic of China once again declares: Taiwan is inviolable Chinese territory, its occupation by the United States absolutely cannot be tolerated, and it is equally intolerable to have Taiwan placed under United Nations trusteeship. The liberation of Taiwan is an exercise of China's sovereignty and China's own internal affair; we will brook no foreign interference. Any treaties concluded between the United States Government and the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang entrenched in Taiwan are illegal and void. If any foreign aggressors dare try to hinder the Chinese people from liberating Taiwan, if they dare to infringe upon our sovereignty and violate our territorial integrity, if they dare to interfere in our internal affairs, they must take all the grave consequences of such acts of aggression upon themselves.

In their relations with the three states of Indochina, the nations participating in the Geneva Conference have undertaken to respect the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of these states, and to refrain from any interference in their internal affairs. We hold that these principles should apply to the relations among all nations. China has no intention of encroaching on the territory of other nations, and will under no circumstances tolerate any encroachment on her own territory by other nations. China has no intention of infringing the sovereignty of other nations, and will under no circumstances tolerate any infringement of her own sovereignty by other nations. China has no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of other nations, and will under no circumstances tolerate any interference in China's internal affairs by other nations. China will never menace the security of other nations, and will under circumstances tolerate any menace to China's security by other nations.

It should be pointed out that in continuing their occupation of Taiwan, their protection of the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang and their armed intervention, the aggressive circles of the United States are not only infringing our territorial integrity and sovereignty and interfering in our internal affairs; they are also increasing the threat of war in the Far East and heightening international tension, thus preventing China and the other countries concerned from enjoying the benefits of peace. It was precisely in these circumstances, with the aggressive circles of the United States creating tension in the Far East and shielding the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang in its war against our coastal areas and islands, that there occurred recently the unfortunate incident of the shooting down, by mistake, of a British civil aircraft. We sympathize with the victims in this unfortunate incident. At the same time, we deem it all the more essential to oppose the provocations of the United States, its armed intervention and threats of war in the Far East, because the U.S. policy of aggression and war is the source of all calamities and misfortunes.

It should be pointed out that the vocation of the Chiang Kai-shek clique of national betrayal is to provoke a world war. This handful of traitors is not only the public enemy of the Chinese people, but also of all peace-loving peoples of Asia and the world. In order that international tension may be further eased, in order that the peace secured through the armistice in Indo-China may be consolidated and extended, in order that the five principles of peaceful coexistence may be carried through, it is imperative that the People's Republic of China liberate Taiwan and do away with the Chiang Kai-shek traitor gang.

The struggle of the Chinese people to liberate Taiwan is a struggle in defence of world peace.

The liberation of Taiwan is a glorious historic mission of the Chinese people. Only by liberating Taiwan from the rule of the Chiang Kai-shek gang of traitors, only by fulfilling this glorious task, will we achieve complete unification of our great motherland, win complete victory in the great task of liberating the Chinese people, will we better safeguard the peace and security of Asia and the world.

The people of China and the People's Liberation Army must redouble their efforts in every field, heighten their vigilance, avoid the pitfall of conceit, overcome all difficulties, and struggle to the end to fulfil the glorious task of liberating Taiwan and defending world peace!