

1949

Speeches/Documents

Title: We may consider establishing diplomatic relations with the United States and Britain if they sever ties with the Guomindang

Author: Mao Zedong

Date:
April 28, 1949

Source: Shuguang Zhang and Jian Chen, eds., *Chinese Communist Foreign Policy and the Cold War in Asia: New Documentary Evidence, 1944-1950* (Chicago: Imprint Publications, 1996), 111 Mao Zedong on diplomacy p. 65

Description: This is part of a telegram to Deng Xiaoping, Liu Bocheng and Chen Yi, written by Mao Zedong for the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

We should stress the importance of educating our troops to protect American and British nationals (and nationals of other foreign countries) and the ambassadors, ministers, consuls and other diplomatic personnel of all foreign countries, in the first place, American and British diplomats. The U.S. side has, through a third party, requested the establishment of diplomatic relations with us, and Britain, too, is eager to do business with us. We think we can consider establishing diplomatic relations with the United States and Britain if they sever relations with the Kuomintang. Deng, Rao, Chen and Liu please pay attention to this matter.

(From the original manuscript)

The same day, Mao ordered that the Amethyst incident should be treated as "accidental" and not made into "a big issue."