

1949

Meetings

Dates of Meeting:

05-03-1949 – 13-03-1949

Type of Meeting:

2nd Plenum of the 7th CC CCP

Place of Meeting:

Xibaibo village, Hebei

Attendance:

Thirty-four full and nineteen alternate members of the CC CCP.

Major Agenda Items:

Transition to urban revolution; exercise of state power, united front and the closely related issue of urban control and economic recovery and development

Speeches and Reports:

Mao Zedong: " ["REPORT TO THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE SEVENTH CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA,"](#) March 5, 1949

the PLA must continue to push hard for military victory; must prepare to rule the country; will establish a four-class alliance; need to restore production; the state will control foreign trade; will establish diplomatic relations with all countries that treat China as an equal; conditions are ripe for convening a political consultative conference; must firmly establish a united front policy that includes non-party democrats; the period of basing the revolution in the rural areas has now ended, and the period of "from the cities to the villages" has begun; we have completed only the first step in a march of ten thousand li. See also [OUTLINE FOR THE REPORT AT THE MEETIN ON URBAN WORK](#) Deng Xiaoping 21 Dec 1950

Liu Shaoqi: "[Some Questions Concerning Urban Work](#)" March 12, 1949 discusses the need to unite urban and rural areas; the problems of taking over control of the cities; guarantee the livelihood of workers, educate them, and organize them into unions.

Ren Benshi, March 13, suggested that China should emulate Manchukuo's strategy of industrializing the economy by exporting grain: "After occupying the Northeast, the Japanese exported an average of 1.6 million tons of grain from the Northeast every year. By doing so, they built Anshan, Benxi, Xiaofengman, and others."

Zhou Enlai, Zhu De and Deng Xiaoping also speech

Mao Zedong: "[METHODS OF WORK OF PARTY COMMITTEES](#)" March 13, 1949 closing speech

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

- Approved the work of the Politburo of the CC CCP since the First Plenum of the Seventh CC in June 1945
- Approved a proposal to establish a new CPPCC and establish a democratic coalition government
- Approved Mao Zedong January 14, 1949 "[STATEMENT ON THE PRESENT SITUATION](#)" and his eight conditions for talks with the Nationalist government enumerated therein
- Decided to increase the percentage of proletarian members of the CCP via worker recruitment and restricting future recruitment from among the peasantry
- Affirmed that the center of party work had shifted from the rural to the urban areas.
- Dismissed Liu Ziju from full membership in the CC CCP for betraying the revolution in the Henan "white" areas
- Approval of the work of the Politburo
- "Retaining all useful personnel from KMT executive, judiciary, military, and police agencies." This administrative expansion created further fiscal strain on the already financially pressed new government.
- Resolutions:
According to the recent situation:
 - 1) "...that temporary concessions will be made to this portion of the troops, to win them over to our side politically or to ensure that they remain neutral, so that we can concentrate our forces on tackling the core of the GMD remnant forces first.
 - 2) "field armies in the new areas should all be transferred into work teams... (and) should be a big cadre school" for the construction of administration.
the CCP organizations in the base area to send 53,000 cadres to the new areas.
 - 3) "The period has now begun of working from the cities to the countryside and the leadership of the countryside from the cities. Without doubt, attention must be paid both to the cities and

the countryside. Without doubt, it will be necessary to closely link up the relations between the cities and the countryside, between workers and peasants, and between industry and agriculture. The countryside must certainly not be cast aside and attention not merely paid to the cities. But the center of gravity of Party work must be placed on the cities ...from now on, it is the period from the cities to the countryside and of the cities leading the countryside”

4) “we must wholeheartedly rely on the working class.”

5) “take measures to thoroughly eradicate imperialist domination in China.”

6) Regarding the problem of restoring and developing production we must be clear about the following: first comes the production of state industry, second the production of private industry and third handicraft production

7) „After achieving success of revolution, (we should) revive and develop production promptly, and to fight with foreign imperialism, in order to transform China from an agricultural country to an industrial one step by step, and to transform the China under New Democracy to a socialist country.”

[Resolution of the Second Plenum of the Seventh CCP CC](#)

Remarks:

1. Several regulations adopted but not written into resolution: no birthday celebrations; no gifts, at least within the party; keep toasts and applause to a minimum; ban on naming places after persons and placing Chinese leaders on par with Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin.
2. On the basis of this meeting, the Common Program was drafted.
3. During this meeting Mao Zedong made the famous remark: *“we are going to the capital for an examination. I hope we can all pass it, and not make the same mistake as Li Zicheng. Li was head of a peasant uprising during the late Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). In 1644 his army captured Beijing, and the last Ming Emperor was compelled to hang himself in shame. However, due to Li’s corrupt ways, his victory was short lived.”*