

Dates of Meeting:

03-10-1950

Type of Meeting:

Enlarged meeting Secretariat

Place of Meeting:

Beijing

Attendance:

Mao, Lin Biao

Major Agenda Items:

Korea. Mao tried to skip the question of intervention entirely. he focused on when China should send troops and who would command them

Speeches/Reports:

Mao wants Lin to take command

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

In response, Lin stressed that he could not accept the responsibility due to his poor health. After more discussion, the participants decided to ask Peng Dehuai to take command

Remarks:

1. Mao produced a very different response to Stalin that day, apparently after the meeting concluded. From this second telegram it is clear that Mao encountered considerable resistance. The note began by noting that China had been planning to send troops to Korea after the enemy crossed the 38th parallel. However, China's leadership now believed that "such actions may entail extremely serious consequences." In particular, it noted that: "In the first place, it is very difficult to resolve the Korean question with a few divisions (our troops are extremely poorly equipped, there is no confidence in the success of military operations against American troops), the enemy can force us to retreat. In the second place, it is most likely that this will provoke an open conflict between the USA and China, as a consequence of which the Soviet Union can also be dragged into war, and the question would thus become extremely large. Many comrades in the central committee of the CCP judge that it is necessary to show caution here" As a result, the note continued, "it is better to show patience now" and "refrain from sending troops" at the moment. At the same time, it emphasized that this decision was not final.
2. See [telegram from Roshchin in Beijing to Stalin](#)