

Letter from Mao Zedong to Stalin asking for the help of the PRC

In repair of the Xiaofengman hydropower plant on the Songhua River

02-01-1950

To Comrade Stalin

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The Xiaofengman hydroelectric station on the Songhua River is in danger of being destroyed.

The issue is very serious. Help is needed from Soviet Union to repair this station.

The Xiaofengman hydropower plant on the Songhua River was built by the Japanese in 1944, the construction of the station was built on the basis of the installation of 8 hydro-70,000 kw generators each. The dam is 1080 meters long and 91 meters high.

Because the dam is built of poor-quality cement, it is resolved - there is a leaching process and the destruction of concrete. Over the past two years, the process of destruction has been doubled.

Currently, a large number of crevices have been formed through which the dam let's up to 500 cubic meters of water per second. The dam was not completed up to 200,000 cubic meters of concrete are not enough. The destruction of this area threatened to cut power in Manchuria causing disaster to a population of several million people living in the Sungari River Valley, as well as flooding cities Harbin and Jilin.

In connection with the above, I ask you to give instructions to the appropriate

Soviet authorities on urgent dispatch of Soviet specialists on dams and hydroelectric power stations to survey the situation on site and taking the necessary measures.

Can the above request be satisfied?

Resolve this issue at your discretion.

Mao Zedong

On January 6, 1950, JV Stalin replied to Mao Zedong: "I received telegrams from you from China with a proposal for deliveries from the Soviet Union of various kinds of goods.

I also read a telegram about Xinjiang and your letter about the Songhua hydroelectric station.

All these issues are considered by a special commission headed by Comrade Molotov.

I have no doubt that they will receive a positive decision "(Russian-Chinese relations in XX century. Documents and materials. T. 5. Book. 2.P. 259).