

1951

Meetings

Dates of Meeting:

16-01-1951 – 25-01-1951

Type of Meeting:

2nd united front work conference

Place of Meeting:

Beijing

Attendance:

61 people from the 6 regional bureaus, government

Li Weihan chaired

Zhou Enlai, Peng Zhen, Lu Dingyi, Hu Qiaomu

Major Agenda Items:

Anti-American front Discuss anti-imperialist movement in the united front work and help develop democratic parties Organizations.

Speeches/Reports:

Li Weihan opening speech

Zhou Enlai: declared that promoting the Resist America-support Korea movement was a major task for united front workers. Zhou argued that the defeat of America in Korea was both a major setback for imperialism and proof that America was not invincible. In addition, this movement had to be linked to land reform, the elimination of bandits and the suppression of counter-revolutionaries to win the support of not only workers and peasants, but also the upper-level bourgeoisie and intellectuals with pro-American sympathies.

3 questions raised: On the consolidation, expansion and deepening of the War to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea. The development of democratic parties and Regarding the attitude towards democratic personages.

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

On the issue of the development of the organizations of the democratic parties, the meeting held that adhering to the principle of helping the development of the democratic parties conforms to the interests of the state and also conforms to the reality of the democratic parties. By December 1950, the number of party members of the democratic parties who had been sorted out and issued registration certificates totalled about 11.54 million, which was very incommensurate with their political status.

Remarks:

the UFWD was composed of nine divisions.

The First Division was to carry out the united front work with the circle of culture and education;

the Second Division with that of industry and commerce;

the Third Division with the minority nationalities and the circle of religion;

the Fourth with overseas Chinese;

the Fifth with minor parties;

the Sixth with the CPPCC.

The Seventh Division dealt with liaison affairs.

The Eighth Division handled the management affairs over the united front work cadres.

The Ninth Division was responsible for general affair

During the meeting, Mao Zedong met with the responsible persons of the Central Bureau, the sub-bureaus, and the United Front Work Department of the Party committees of the six cities, and had a long talk. He pointed out that the democratic parties should be advanced in the three major movements and let them go to work. This is a positive and beneficial approach. It is necessary to actively support the democrats and democratic parties, educate them, and lead them to advance together; this is beneficial to the working people and to entering socialism.

He said that the democratic parties and democratic personages should be allowed to inspect the land reform, so that they can listen to the farmers' complaints and see their joy. They can also see what shortcomings and mistakes we have. This is a useful thing. The top scholar exam is held every three years, and the land reform is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. They

should be welcomed to watch. He also said that we should take a positive attitude to unite and educate industrialists, businessmen, religious circles, school principals, teachers, enlightened gentry and patriots, and we must never ignore them. They should be allowed to speak, even if they write ten thousand-word letters. Democratic personages should be educated and allowed to participate in activities. When talking about the work of the United Front Department, Mao Zedong said that you should get the help of the party committee secretary and the organization and propaganda departments, and be good at building your "several families" through the party committee and the responsible comrades of the party committee. There should be some experts among you, who should be familiar with people and history and be proficient in the doorway.