

Dates of Meeting:

02-04-1954

Type of Meeting:

Secretariat

Place of Meeting:

Beijing

Attendance:

Liu Shaoqi presided

Major Agenda Items:

discussed and approved in principle Zhou Enlai's "Preliminary Opinions on the Estimates of the Geneva Conference and its Preparatory Work

Speeches/Reports:

The "Preliminary Opinions" proposed: "We should adopt a policy of actively participating in the Geneva Conference and strengthen diplomatic and international activities to undermine the US imperialist policies of blockade, embargo, and military buildup, so as to promote the easing of international tensions. At the Geneva Conference, even if the US uses all its power to undermine the conclusion of various agreements conducive to the cause of peace, we should still make every effort to reach some agreements that can achieve consensus and solutions, even temporary or individual agreements, so as to open the way for resolving international disputes through consultation among major powers.

Regarding China's principled stance on the Korean and Indochina issues, the "Preliminary Opinions" state that: it is necessary to firmly adhere to the three major slogans of peaceful reunification, national independence, and free elections; withdraw all foreign troops; resolutely support the comprehensive proposal put forward by the North Korean government for a peaceful resolution of the Korean issue; and strive to achieve a ceasefire in Indochina.

The "Preliminary Opinions" set forth China's minimum objectives for the struggle when discussing the two major issues at the Geneva Conference: On the Korean issue, if the North Korean government's comprehensive proposals could not be accepted by the other side, "we should seek solutions on issues such as acknowledging the maintenance of the status quo between North and South Korea, the phased withdrawal of foreign troops, and the restoration of inter-Korean transportation and trade, in order to establish a preliminary peace situation." On the issue of achieving an armistice in Indochina, efforts should be made to demarcate an armistice line between North and South Korea near the 16th parallel.

the "Preliminary Opinions" also proposed to push for more achievements at the Geneva Conference beyond the issues of Korea and Indochina. "We can raise other pressing international issues that are conducive to easing international tensions." "Besides the Korean and Vietnam issues, we must also prepare materials and opinions on other issues concerning peace and security in China, the Far East, and Asia, especially on developing economic relations and trade and transportation exchanges between countries, which are more effective steps to ease international tensions and break the US imperialist blockade and embargo. Outside of the conference, the relations between China and Britain, China and France, and China and Canada will also be touched upon, and we should also be prepared for these.

Other Decisions and/or Actions:**Remarks:**

The day after the Central Secretariat approved the "Preliminary Opinions," on March 3, the Chinese government replied to the Soviet government, expressing its acceptance of the Soviet invitation and agreeing to send a plenipotentiary representative to the Geneva Conference.