April 13, 1950 Telegram from Zhou Enlai to Nikolai Bulganin

Citation:

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Summary:

Zhou Enlai requests and gives deadlines for the sending of aviation equipment and personnel from Moscow, mentioning that China is anticipating military conquests of the Danshan and Jinmen islands.

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关于军事订货事给布尔加宁的电报

(一九五〇年四月十三日、五月十三日)

莫斯科

布尔加宁[1]同志:

三月二十二日去电^[2]想已入览。兹为弄明我们过去 全部军事订货情况及需要时间,特再分告如下:

(一)为了保证中国人民解放军六个航空学校教育工作的正常进行,请你设法将一九五〇年二月十一日毛泽东同志签字的订货单内所订购的飞机的和发动机的零件和备份器材,航空工具,弹药,以及制造飞机轮子的模型,于四月内发来。所请顾问人员,亦请同时派来。

(二)为了使各航空学校扩充后新调来的学生能按计 划及时开课(一九五〇年五月一日),请将一九五〇年二 月十五日毛泽东同志签字的订货单内所定的飞机四十二 架(雅克18式二十架、拉九式十架、杜二式十二架),发 动机二十四个,降落伞二百个,及三月八日刘亚楼(3)将 军致斯提门科将军订购的炮弹十万发,均于五月内全部 运来,所请顾问人员亦请同时派来。

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(三)中华人民共和国人民革命军事委员会预定在一 九五〇年实行两次战役,六月间夺取舟山群岛,八月间 夺取金门岛。上述二次作战中,将有新成立的三个空军 团参加,因此,请你将一九五〇年二月十五日毛泽东同 志签字的订货单中所订购的飞机八十四架 (二十四架杜 二式轰炸机,六十架拉九式驱逐机),于五月半以前全部 运来。

(四)除上述八十四架飞机外,一九五〇年十二月需 要运到飞机三百十二架(拉九式一百四十架,乌拉九式 廿八架,雅克十一式廿八架,雅克十二式十四架,杜二 式六十四架,乌杜二式十九架,乌特伯式十九架),以便 届时装备今年年底毕业的航空学生。

(五)一九五〇年二月十五日订货单内所定的其余的 一百九十架飞机(杜二式一百一十架,拉九式八十架), 请在一九五一年二月间发来,以便装备明年三月毕业的 新增加的航空学生。

(六)以上除第一项所提货单已见毛泽东同志一九五 〇年二月十一日致斯大林同志的信外,其他第二至第五 共四项,均见毛泽东同志一九五零年二月十五日的信中 所附订货单之空军部分,请查照办理,并盼示复。

谨 致,

布尔塞维克的敬礼!

周恩来

一九五〇年四月十三日

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Moscow Comrade N.A. Bulganin:

[We] assume you have already read the telegram of March 22. Now, to clarify the situation regarding our past military orders and the time(s) needed, [we] wish to inform you of the following:

(1) In order to assure the normal carrying-out of educational work in the six aviation institutes of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, please do what you can to send us, during April, all the purchases on the requisition form signed by Comrade Mao Zedong on February 11, including parts and back-up equipment for airplanes and engines, aviation tools, ammunition and models for making airplane wheels. Please also send the advisors that have been requested.

(2) In order for the students who were recently transferred after the expansion of all aviation institutes to be able to start classes on time (May 1, 1950), during May please send all purchases on the requisition form signed by Comrade Mao Zedong on Feb 15, including the forty-two airplanes (twenty IA18, ten R9, and twelve T2), twenty-four engines and two-hundred parachutes; plus the 100,000 rounds of ammunition that General Liu Yalou ordered from General [S.M.] Shtemenko. Please also send the advisors that have been requested.

(3) The People's Revolutionary Military Affairs Committee of the People's Republic of China anticipates two military campaigns in 1950: the conquest of the Danshan Islands in June and of the Jinmen Island in August.Three newly formed air force regiments will participate in these two campaigns. So, before mid-May, please send all purchases on the requisition form signed by Comrade Mao Zedong, including the 84 airplanes (24 T2 bombers and 60 R9 chasers).

(4) Besides the above-mentioned 84 airplanes, please send 312 airplanes by December 1950 (140 R9, 28 UR9, 28 IA11, 14 IA12, 64 IA12, 19 UT2 and 19 UTB) so that the aviation students who are graduating at the end of this year will be equipped when the time comes.

(5) Please send, during February, all the rest of the purchases on the Feb 15, 1950 requisition form: 190 airplanes (110 T2 and 80 R9) so that newly-added aviation students who are graduating next March will be equipped.

(6) Concerning the requisition form in the above-mentioned first item, see the letter Comrade Mao Zedong sent to Comrade Stalin on Feb 11, 1950. For the rest of the items in Nos. 2 through 5, see the Air Force part of the requisition form attached to the Feb 15, 1950 letter from Comrade Mao Zedong. Please consider and act in accordance with these. We look forward to receiving instructions in reply.

With sincere

Bolshevik greetings!

Zhou Enlai

April 13, 1950