

October 7, 1950 Telegram from Matveev to USSR Council of Ministers

Citation:

"Telegram from Matveev to USSR Council of Ministers", October 7, 1950, Wilson Center Digital Archive, TsAMO RF, fond 5, opis 918795, delo 121, listi 705-706. Translated by James F. Person. https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/114922

Summary:

Pak Il-u meets with Mao Zedong and five members of the CCP Politburo to discuss the current military situation in North Korea.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Leon Levy Foundation

Original Language:

Russian

Contents:

Translation - English

Telegram from the chairman of the General staff of the Soviet Army in North Korea to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR about the information of the Sino-Korean discussions on the introduction of PRC troops to Korean territory

No. 1425

7 October 1950 I.50X

I report: according to our information, the Minister of Internal Affairs Pak II-u [Pak II U] returned from Beijing on 5 October 1950 and on 6 October 1950 a meeting of the Worker's Party Politburo was held.

At that meeting, Pak II-u explained that he was twice received by Mao Zedong and five members of the Politburo; the first time discussions lasted 4 hours, and the second time 6 hours.

Mao Zedong said that we will do whatever we can, but we can't send troops. He justified it by saying that if China were to help Korea, then that would essentially draw the USSR into war.

Such a decision doesn't work given the overall political situation as it stands today because it would lead to a third world war, and besides that, although the Chinese army is large, they don't have modern weapons, aviation, and a navy.

He recommended the Koreans to continue the struggle on the front and on the home front. He underscored the importance of organizing guerilla warfare. He said that Kim II Sung can use Manchuria as if it were his own territory.

After a discussion of the current military situation in Korea-the Politburo of the Worker's Party allegedly made the decision that although there will not be any outside armed assistance, the struggle should continue, withdraw to the mountains, and prepare shock army for future offences.

In South Korea they should create a guerilla movement with Ri Seung-yop [Ri Sung Yop] at its head. In the North, during the retreat, they should also establish guerilla detachments under the leadership of Pak II-u .

We have not yet been directly informed about the return of Pak II-u and about the meeting of the Politburo.

Matveev