

August 7, 1955

Cable from the Chinese Foreign Ministry to Wang Bingnan, 'An Analysis of the Third Meeting'

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Chinese

Contents:

Translation - English

[To] Ambassador Wang Bingnan:

We have received your telegrams of a synopsis of the third meeting, the speech of the US representative on US restrictions on the return of Chinese students and your analysis of the third meeting.

We agree categorically to your analysis of the present situation.

At the third meeting, we did not forcefully refute the US argument that there are no longer any restrictions on the return of Chinese students. This is a mistake. In fact, the so-called abolishment of restrictions, we had already addressed the issue in Attachment II. We used the example of Qian Xuesen's[i] letter to [Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress] Chen Shutong to show that the so-called abolishing of restrictions has not relieved the difficulties for the Chinese students to return to China. This leads us to our position of inviting a third party to take care of this issue. Thus, if we only said that we welcomed the so-called no more restrictions without pointing out that the actuality was the opposite, this would show that our position on third party representation was groundless and weak. To have India as our third party representative is the core issue of the first agenda.

[...]

Foreign Ministry 2:00 a.m., 7 August 1955

[i] Qian Xuesen was a Chinese national who was educated in the United States. He was one of the founders of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology in the 1940s. During the Second Red Scare of later 1940s and early1950s, the United States government accused Qian of having communist sympathies, and he was stripped of his security clearance in 1950. Qian then decided to return to China, but instead was detained at Terminal Island near Los Angeles. After spending 5 years under virtual house arrest, Qian was released and returned to China in September 1955.