1951 Speeches/Documents

Title: Stalin to Mao or Zhou

Author: Stalin

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to Cde. MAO ZEDONG or ZHOU ENLAI

We have worked out our reply to the US government in response to its draft peace treaty with Japan and have decided to deliver it to the US ambassador on Tuesday morning, 8 May. We are sending you the substance of our reply on the morning of 6 May with a request to send your comments no later than the evening of 7 May.

The content of our reply comes down to the following:

1. We criticize the separate way of preparing a draft treaty and demand that the preparation of the treaty be done jointly by the governments of China, the USSR, the US, and Britain, and involving the other interested countries.

2. We demand that the treaty draft note China's undoubted right to Taiwan and the Pescadore Islands.

3. We consider the transfer of the Japanese Ryukyu Islands and others to US control to be incorrect.

4. We insist on a limitation on the size of the Japanese armed forces based on the example of what was done in the peace treaty with Italy.

5. Our reply ends this way:

"Unalterably insisting on the fastest possible conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan, the Soviet Government thinks that the peace treaty ought to be worked out on the basis of the international agreements which were concluded between the powers during the Second World War and that preparation of the draft treaty should be done jointly by the governments of the US, the People's Republic of China, the USSR, and Great Britain, involving all member countries of the Far East Commission in this matter. Accordingly the Soviet Government proposes:

First. Convene a meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs composed of representatives of the US, China, Great Britain, and the USSR in July and August 1951 in order to begin preparation of a peace treaty with Japan, intending to involve representatives of all the countries which participated in the war with Japan with their armed forces in the preparatory work to draft a peace treaty with Japan in order that the draft peace treaty be submitted for the consideration of a Peace Conference.

Second. Pursue the development of a peace treaty with Japan on the basis of the Cairo Declaration, the Potsdam Declaration, and the Yalta Agreement, guided by the following primary objectives:

a) Japan should become a peaceloving, democratic, independent country;

b) the population of Japan should be afforded democratic rights and the existence of such organizations should not be allowed whose goal is the deprivation of the people's democratic rights, whether political, military, or paramilitary, as was provided in the peace treaty with Italy;

c) as a guarantee against the revival of Japanese militarism restrictions on the size of the Japanese armed forces should be established in the treaty so that they do not exceed the needs of self-defense, as was provided in the peace treaty with Italy;

d) no restrictions are imposed on Japan in the matter of the development of its civilian

economy;

e) all restrictions with respect to Japanese trade with other countries will be removed. Third. Provide in the treaty that Japan will not join any coalition directed against any country which participated with its armed forces in the war against militarist Japan. Fourth. The treaty should also specify that all occupation troops are to be withdrawn from Japanese territory no more than one year after the conclusion of the peace treaty with Japan and that no country should have troops or military bases in Japan. Fifth. Agree that the countries which sign the peace treaty with Japan support Japan's admission to the United Nations. 6 May 1951 FILIPPOV [STALIN] Telegraph when this is done. BOGOMOLOV Seven copies sent. am 6 May 51 Authenticated: [illegible signature] Copies: 1 - Cde. STALIN 2 - Cde. MOLOTOV 3- Cde. MALENKOV 4 - Cde, BULGANIN 5 - Cde. VYSHINSKY 6 - 10th Department 7 - Copy Cde. Zorin has seen this