1951 Meetings

Dates of Meeting:

14-2-1951 - 16-2-1951

Type of Meeting:

Enlarged Politburo meeting

Place of Meeting:

Beijing

Attendance:

Members and alternate members of the Political Bureau, as well as responsible persons from all Central Bureaus of the CPC

Major Agenda Items:

The main agenda was to summarize the work since the 3rd Plenary Session of the 7th CPC Central Committee and to specifically plan the tasks up to the end of 1952.

United front work, agrarian reform, suppressing counter revolutionaries, to discuss the war in Korea, economic policy, land reform, and organizational matters

Also dealt with the following issues: economic construction based on three years of preparation and ten years of planned economic construction; Resist America-Aid Korea propaganda work; urban work; united front work

Speeches and Reports:

Mao: "We have twenty-four months left" to complete the plan adopted at the Second Plenum: "three years for preparation and ten years for the construction of a *planned economy*." Mao urged the cadres that they "should be clear in their minds about relying on the working class." Regarding the formulation of the First Five-Year Plan starting in 1953, Mao Zedong proposed a guiding principle centered on the development of heavy industry. The meeting emphasized that only 22 months remained to prepare for large-scale planned economic construction, and all sectors must intensify their preparation efforts.

Documents passed:

- MAIN POINTS OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT THE ENLARGED MEETING OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA
- Guidelines of the suppression of counter revolutionaries Largely as a response to the war, it
 was decided to conduct a campaign against counterrevolutionaries in the government, in order
 to uncover enemies of the regime "hiding among the old personnel and among the
 intellectuals recently drawn into our work." 'Committees for the Elimination of Counterrevolutionaries' were set up in schools, factories, government bodies, etc
 Effectively destroyed the old Kuomintang (KMT) power structure and enabled the CPC to
 extend its power to villages throughout the land

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

- Decided upon a three-year rectification by conducting widespread education throughout the party on how to be a party member and party building
- At the suggestion of Zhou Enlai, a leadership group was formed to oversee the drafting of the First Five-Year Plan, consisting of Zhou Enlai, Chen Yun, Bo Yibo, Li Fuchun, Nie Rongzhen, and Song Shaowen.

Remarks:

Mao changed his earlier directives and told responsible officials in Shanghai and Nanjing: "Shanghai is a big city of six million people. Considering the fact that among the 20,000 arrested people in Shanghai only 200 were executed, I believe that in the year of 1951 at least 3,000 bandit chiefs, professional brigands, local tyrants, secret agents and sectarian leaders who committed serious crimes should be executed. During the first half of the year, at least 1,500 should be executed. Please consider whether or not these figures are appropriate ... Nanjing has already executed 72 people and another 150 executions are planned. This figure seems too small. Nanjing is a big city of a half million people and used to be the KMT's capital. Therefore, it appears that more than 200 reactionaries should be killed there ... more executions ought to be made in Nanjing"

Mao Zedong, "Directive on the work of suppressing counterrevolutionaries in Shanghai and Nanjing, 12 February 1951," original in the Central Archives.