

Dates of Meeting:

06-06-1950 – 09-06-1950

Type of Meeting:

3rd (enlarged) plenum of the 7th CC CCP

Place of Meeting:

Beijing

Attendance:

35 full and 27 alternate members of the CC CCP and 43 party committee secretaries of the provinces and municipalities and other work personnel.

Major Agenda Items:

Land reform, financial and economic policy

Agenda of the plenary session:

1. Chairman Mao's report.
2. Comrade Liu Shaoqi's report on land reform.
3. Comrade Chen Yun's report on financial and economic issues.
4. Comrade Zhou Enlai's report on diplomacy and united front work.
5. Comrade Nie Rongzhen's report on the reorganization of the People's Liberation Army.

Each of the above reports is set at one hour.

During the speaking time of each comrade, the main responsible persons of the major administrative regions and the designated special speakers (including: Gao Gang, Rao Shushi, Deng Zihui, Ye Jianying, Liu Bocheng, Peng Dehuai, Bo Yibo (speaking on tax issues), An Ziwen, Qiao Mu [1], and other nine people, each of whom spent half an hour. The rest of the comrades are limited to 15 minutes to speak.

3. The plenary session is scheduled to run from June 6 to June 9, a total of four days, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. every day, for a total of five hours. Rest for half an hour.

4. It was decided that Shaoqi, Dehuai, Zhongxun, Wang Zhen, Bocheng, Zihui, Kecheng, Shushi, Jianying, Peng Zhen, Liu Lantao and others would form a committee on land reform. Shaoqi is in charge.

5. Comrade Ren Bishi decided not to attend the plenary session because his health had not yet recovered. When the chairman reports, he can attend the meeting to listen to the chairman's report.

6. It was decided that Comrade Liu Zijiu would not attend the report of the Third Plenary Session of the Central Committee.

Approved Chen Yun to participate in the Secretariat during his vacation. The former Politburo decided to be an alternate secretary. Chen Tanqiu's vacancy was filled by Huang Kecheng. Seven official members did not attend the meeting, and the seven alternate members made up for the voting rights of 44 people as usual.

Speeches/Reports:

Mao Zedong: written report, "[FIGHT FOR A FUNDAMENTAL TURN FOR THE BETTER IN THE NATION](#)" June 6, 1950: see remark 8

wide-ranging review of the international and domestic situations; specifies that the domestic situation will undergo a fundamental turn for the better during the coming three years; advocates rich peasant economy, partial demobilization of PLA, and assertion of unified control and leadership in financial and economic work.

Mao: Speech, "[DON'T HIT OUT IN ALL DIRECTIONS](#)," June 6, 1950

suggests conciliatory policy toward national and petty bourgeoisie to convert them into supporters. capitalism still has a "function" at this time but would eventually evolve into socialism.

Mao: Summation speech (possibly same as above).

Liu Shaoqi: "Report on the Question of Land Reform" June 1950 *

he reported on the new Agrarian Reform Law, which introduced class demarcation to the countryside. "We request that, in those areas where it is decided not to carry out agrarian reform this year, it shall not be carried out. Even if the peasants should spontaneously go ahead with agrarian reform, they should be dissuaded from doing so. . Chaotic conditions must not be allowed to occur and no deviation or confusion may be allowed to remain uncorrected for long in our agrarian reform work in the future. Agrarian reform must be carried out under guidance, in a planned and orderly way, in complete accordance with the laws and decrees."

Zhou Enlai: "Report on Foreign Affairs Work and on United Front Work June , 1950 *

Chen Yun: "[Report on Finance and Economic Work](#)" June 6, 1950*:

discusses revising the relationship between state and private ownership and the tax collection system and tax rates.

"Private trade can help the circulation of commodities, and employment. It is of benefit to the people."

"The purchase of agricultural products and agricultural sideline products needs be divided. Is it good or not for us to purchase all products? No! ... The interchange of urban and rural products cannot entirely depend on our trade companies, if so, it will harm the farmers"

"China is an agricultural country; the investment of industrialization has no alternative but to use agriculture. Industries needs to invest, and agriculture is our only source for funds"

Local government to give full assistance in sale procedures and transportation conditions for private firm and also favourable tax policies and procedures for them

Nie Rongzhen: "Report on Military Affairs Work"*

An Ziwen: "On the Question of the Party's Organizational Condition and Developing and Consolidating the Organization of the Party" June 7, 1950

Bo Yibo: "On the Question of Adjusting Taxes"

Hu Qiaomu: "On the Question of Party Style".

Su Yu: "On the Question of Army Affairs"

Lu Dingyi: "On the Question of Education Within the Party"

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

- Approved draft of Land Reform Law.
- Meeting criticized the erroneous tendency to eliminate capitalism at an early stage and realize socialism; called for the overall rectification, consolidation, and development of the party.
- Demobilization of the PLA
- Adoption of the 4 directives--one on improving relations between the Party and the people, a second on developing criticism and self-criticism in newspapers and journals, and a third calling for a Party rectification campaign to be held during the last six months of 1950 and the first three months of 1951. a fourth on consolidating basic-level Party organizations see 19-04-1950. : [Decision concerning Launching Criticism and Self-Criticism in Newspapers](#) and 21-04-1950 [General News administration decision concerning the Improvement of Newspaper Work and establishment Broadcast Receiving Network](#)

Remarks:

1. beginning in June 1950 all jurisdictions set about readjusting the relationship between public and private grain firms in the spirit of the 3d Plenum of the 7th CPC Central Committee and centralized state plans for the readjustment of industry and commerce in order to help legitimate privately owned grain business get out of their predicament. The emphasis of the readjustment was on price policies, meaning the formulation of suitable differential prices for different areas and wholesale and retail differential prices, thereby enabling private merchants to make a profit. Second was the scope of business, setting a rational division of labor in grain procurement.
2. *Liu Shaoqi, Chen Yun, and Nie Rongzhen gave reports on identical topics at the June 14-23, 1950, Second Session of the First CPPCC.
3. This plenum convened during a radical retrenchment in fiscal policy that had produced a temporary but severe recession in China by late spring 1950.
4. Rectification of 1950 was to be a "top-to-bottom" inner-Party campaign with only limited participation by non-Party officials. The recruitment of peasants in the old liberated areas was stopped altogether, and the recruitment of peasants in the newly liberated areas was postponed until after land reform. In contrast, a full one-third of the urban working class was to be absorbed into the Party in the next three to five years, so that the Party might truly become the vanguard of the proletariat. The directive also called for a re-examination of the qualifications of current

Party members, more intensive education in Party doctrine and programs, and reorganization of basic-level Party branches throughout the country. *Organizing China: The Problem of Bureaucracy, 1949-1976. Contributors: Harry Harding - author. Publisher: Stanford University Press. Place of Publication: Stanford, CA. Publication Year: 1981. Page Number: 48.* Recruitment in rural areas was resumed in mid-1952, but halted again in mid-1953.

5. These decisions were reaffirmed by an enlarged meeting of the Politburo in February 1951.
[Meeting 10-02-1950](#)
6. **Rectification of 1950.** A campaign initiated at the 3rd Plenum against the arrogance, BUREAUCRATISM, and COMMANDISM that had arisen in the Party after the seizure of nationwide power. The campaign was distinguished from its predecessors, the CHENG-FENG MOVEMENT and the RECTIFICATION OF 1947-48, in being more lenient and more tightly controlled. *Organizing China: The Problem of Bureaucracy, 1949-1976. Contributors: Harry Harding - author. Publisher: Stanford University Press. Place of Publication: Stanford, CA. Publication Year: 1981. Page Number: 394*
7. The mildness of the campaign can also be deduced from its practical orientation reflecting a high priority attached to the efficient performance of governmental functions. Great emphasis was placed on integrating rectification and regular work; documents under study included detailed policy decisions on current tasks as well as theoretical tracts on self-criticism. Press reports insisted the proper way to implement the campaign was to investigate the ordinary affairs of the unit concerned, and strong criticism was levelled at tendencies to carry out rectification in an abstract fashion without dealing with actual problems encountered in performing duties. This emphasis on the regular tasks of administrative units indicates not only minimum disruption of work routine, it also implies strict curbs on coercive measures which would result in such disruption. The apparent persuasive orientation of the 1950 campaign was appropriate to the problems confronted -- problems which were seen as non-antagonistic contradictions stemming from difficulties cadres had in adjusting to new responsibilities and policies, uneasy relations of diverse types within the new administrative structure, and the general inability of Party authorities to provide adequate ideological training in the final days of the civil war. These were all matters of achieving a proper understanding of a new and complex situation, and thus suited to an educational approach. *Politics & Purges in China: Rectification and the Decline of Party Norms, 1950-1965. Contributors: Frederick C. Teiwes - author. Publisher: M. E. Sharpe. Place of Publication: New York. Publication Year: 1979. Page Number: 140/141.*
8. Mao warned the assembled leaders on 6 June 1950 to prepare for a battle to the death: 'Landreform in a population of over 300 million people is a vicious war. It is more arduous, more complex, more troublesome than crossing the Yangzi, because our troops are 260 million peasant soldiers. This is a war for land reform, this is the most hideous class war between peasants and landlords. It is a battle to the death.' Mao Zedong quoted in a speech by Deng Zihui on the spirit of the Third Plenum of the Seventh Central Committee of the CPC, 10 July 1950, Hubei, SZ1-2-15, p. 29
9. 'The entire country is tense,' Mao noted, and 'we are rather lonely'. The party had to make friends and isolate its enemies one by one. Ease up the pressure on the ethnic minorities, he advocated. Appease private merchants, create a united front with democrats and take a long view in reforming intellectuals. 'Advance slowly.' Mao Zedong quoted in a speech by Deng Zihui on the spirit of the Third Plenum of the Seventh Central Committee of the CPC, 10 July 1950, Hubei, SZ1-2-15, pp. 19-47; needless to say, these uncensored quotations are substantially different from the published speech in Mao's collected writings. The Tragedy of Liberation