

MEETING OF THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE WARSAW TREATY

Prague, January 1956

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STATEMENT OF THE OBSERVER
FROM THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE PRC STATE COMMITTEE ON DEFENSE
MARSHALL CHEN YUN

Comrade Chairman! Comrades Delegates!

On behalf of the government of the People's Republic of China, please allow me to warmly greet you and wish this conference success.

The government of the People's Republic of China considers the convocation of this session of the Political Consultative Committee (in accordance with the Warsaw Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance) to exchange opinions that pertain to the current international situation and to future tasks (and to develop respective decisions) as timely and necessary. There is no doubt that these decisions will have great importance for the preservation of peace and détente.

Peace-loving countries and nations cannot remain indifferent to the so-called "policy from a position of strength" that finds expression in the aggressive bloc's arms race, war preparations, and desire to impose their will upon other nations. In connection with this, for the sake of peace throughout the entire world and in the interests of the security of the countries of the socialist camp, it is imperative to further consolidate the Warsaw Treaty Organization and to strengthen friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance among the Treaty's participants. In this respect, the decision of the German Democratic Republic to create its People's Army and to participate in the armed forces of the Unified Command of the Warsaw Treaty's member-countries is of significant importance.

Everyone knows that the German Democratic Republic is a peace-loving country – a bastion for peace, democracy, and progress in Germany. It stands decisively resolving the German question in accordance in the interests of the German people, who are laboring to make Germany a unified, peaceful, democratic, and independent state. However, the aggressive circles in the USA and their supporters are working hard to arm West Germany and involve it in the North-Atlantic bloc. They are openly trying to include all of Germany in this aggressive organization by annexing Democratic Germany to West Germany. Under such circumstances, urgent necessity dictates the actions of the German Democratic Republic, aimed at comprehensive support for its security and protection of the working people's accomplishments. The government and people of the People's

Republic of China fully support the decision of the German Democratic Republic to create the People's Army and to participate in the armed forces of the Unified Command. We think that it lies not only in the interests of the German people but also in the interests of collective security in Europe. It will mark a significant contribution to the struggle against aggression and for the preservation of peace.

In December of 1955, a government delegation from the German Democratic Republic headed by Otto Grotewohl visited China. After sincere and friendly negotiations, both countries concluded a treaty of friendship and cooperation. The people of China have true compassion for and support the struggle of the German Democratic Republic and the German people for the peaceful unification of Germany. The peaceful resolution of the German reunification question is an affair of the German people. It requires a rapprochement between the two existing German states.

Over the past year, thanks to the enormous efforts of the camp of peace, democracy, and socialism, headed by the Soviet Union, as well as the efforts of other peaceful countries and nations, there was some lessening of international tension. The principles of peaceful coexistence have found support from a growing number of countries and nations, the spirit of Bandung and Geneva is gaining popularity, and the so-called policy "from a position of strength" and the policy of "cold war" are suffering one loss after another. This means that the policy of aggression and the aggressive bloc's war plans can be disrupted; they will fail if the peace-loving countries and nations struggle with determination for peace.

However, aggressive American circles and their henchmen are not willing to accept their losses. As before, they are implementing their already bankrupt policy from a "position of strength," waging the arms race in preparation for war, carrying out aggressive imperialist plans, and threatening and provoking peaceful countries and nations. The U.S. ruling circles have put forward the same notorious policy of "liberation" again, cooking up the so-called "Christmas messages," which represent gross interference in the internal affairs of the countries of people's democracy in Europe. At the same time, Dulles is trying to threaten the people of China and all the countries of the world with nuclear war. He has even declared sincerely that the current American government's policy is to bring the entire world to the "brink of war".

This means that the ruling circles in the U.S. are eager to do everything it takes to obstruct the lessening of international tension. They need tension in order to provide the monopolists with maximum profit by building up their weapons and in order to find a pretext for justifying American aggression and expansion.

Aggressive circles in the United States are preparing for war and waging aggression under cover of the so-called "communist threat". We have no doubt that the razor's edge of war, which aggressive circles in the U.S. are preparing, is directed toward the Soviet Union, China, and the other countries of people's democracy. However, they can never and will never be able to intimidate us with the threat of war. The Chinese people have completely ousted aggressive American forces and the mercenary clique of Chiang Kai-shek, supported by the Americans, from

continental China. The Korean and Chinese people have also taught the aggressors a serious lesson. It is quite clear that the aggressive U.S. circles will never outweigh the countries of peace, democracy, and socialism. Under cover of the “communist threat,” the American imperialist circles are waging aggression in practice against all the countries in other regions of the world; this finds especially strong expression in their policy toward the countries of Asia and Africa.

The United States is constantly implementing a colonial policy toward the countries of Asia and Africa. It is trying to preserve and reinforce U.S. domination over the peoples of these countries and to keep them in an enslaved and backward political, economic, and cultural state. The United States is trying to force these nations to obey the imperialists’ will and turn them into a means of unleashing an aggressive imperialist war. For a long time, American aggressive circles have occupied Japan and been attempting to resurrect Japanese militarism and convert Japan into their military base. They are obstructing peaceful resolution of the Korean issue. In conspiracy with the South Vietnamese authorities, they are disrupting the Geneva Agreement regarding the restoration of peace in Indochina; their troops are occupying Chinese territory – Taiwan; they have hammered together an aggressive Southeastern Asian bloc; together with other colonial powers they are violating the sovereignty of Arab countries in the Middle and Near East; they are suppressing the movement for national independence everywhere; they are supporting England in its creation of the Baghdad Pact, to which the people of the Asian and African countries, and the people of all countries in the world, object. The aggressive American circles openly support criminal colonial regimes. Dulles, for instance, claims that Indian Goa and Chinese Macao are “territories of Portugal.” With respect to the so-called economic and technical “assistance” that the U.S. is offering to many countries of Asia and Africa - in reality this support is aimed at gaining political, economic, and military advantages in the countries that receive such “assistance,” tightening political control over these countries, enslaving them economically, and subordinating them to the United States of America. Thus, it is not surprising that the aggressive U.S. policy has brought about increasing resistance from the nations of Asia and Africa.

In order to cope with the discontent and resistance of the peoples of Asia and Africa and to prevent these nations from establishing good relations with the Soviet Union, China, and the other countries of people's democracy, aggressive American circles and their accomplices resort to blackmail and the fabrication of lies about the alleged “threat of communist penetration” in the countries of Asia and Africa. They try to intimidate and mislead these countries. However, the people of Asia and Africa, based on their own history and everyday experience, know the truth that is being concealed behind the lies. Naturally, the peoples of Africa and Asia will not fall into the trap of imperialism and will not retreat from the struggle for their national independence. The threats of the imperialists will not intimidate them. The awakening nations of Asia and Africa have already realized that, if they stand up for their unity and persevere in their struggle, the chains of colonialism will break, and no force in the world will be able to prevent them from gaining victory in their struggle for freedom and independence. The struggle of Asian and African nations for political, economic, and cultural independence is a just struggle. It represents a major contribution to global peace and progress. Their struggle meets with sympathy and

support from all the countries of the socialist camp and the nations of the entire world. The epoch of colonialism is irrevocably in the past.

Comrades! The government of the People's Republic of China steadily implements a policy of preserving peace. We think that peace in Europe is indivisible from peace in Asia. The 600 million Chinese people are forever united with the people of the Soviet Union, the countries of people's democracy, and the people of all peaceful nations in their struggle for peace throughout the entire world as well as the security of all nations.

Given the recent changes in the international situation, the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries assembled for this current session in early 1956 in order to exchange opinions and make decisions about the international situation and the immediate tasks related to a further consolidation of friendly cooperation along with the defensive capabilities of the countries that are participating in the session. All of this is of great importance. The government of the People's Republic of China is convinced that the current session will have a major influence upon the cause of peace in Europe and in the entire world and upon the lessening of international tension.

[Translation by Julia La Villa Nossova]