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Journal of Soviet Ambassador to the DPRK A.M. Puzanov for 25 August 1960

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Summary:
The ambassador describes an August 25 meeting with GDR Ambassador Schneidewind.

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- English Translation
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I received GDR Ambassador Schneidewind at this request.

The Ambassador provided information about the work of the last CC Plenum of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. The Ambassador also talked about an increase in the activity of the Chinese Embassy in the GDR. In particular, when making a report about people's communes, the Embassy counselor in Leipzig said that it is time for the GDR to also switch to the organization of people's communes. In connection with this there was an article in the GDR national press signed by an observer which rebuffed the inaccurate assertions of the Chinese Embassy counselor. Officials of the Chinese Embassy have made a practice of inviting the heads of provincial Party committees to the Embassy and holding conversations with them about the other issues of international life in which there are differences of views between the Communist Party of China and the Communist Parties of the socialist countries.

The Ambassador then reported that the leadership of the GDR ministry [of foreign affairs] has given him the following instructions: touch base with the Soviet Ambassador about your activity with respect to relations with the Chinese Ambassador concerning existing contentious issues.

It was arranged that we Ambassadors should not enter into special discussions with the Chinese Ambassador about issues concerning which there are differences between the CPC and the Communist Parties of the socialist countries. However, if the Chinese Ambassador or officials of the Chinese Embassy popularize mistaken anti-Leninist views among officials of the diplomatic corps about the most important issues of the present day and the international Communist movement, then give a forceful rebuttal to these mistaken views. As regards the newsletters recently being distributed by the Chinese Embassy in which articles are placed from Chinese
newspapers and magazines containing anti-Leninist views, [we] have decided to return such newsletters to the PRC Embassy.

Kurt Schneidewind talked about the meeting of the SED CC Foreign Policy Commission. The Ambassador noted in this regard that in the latest report of Kim Il Sung about the 15th anniversary of the liberation of Korea a program for the unification of the country, which had not previously existed, was laid out quite clearly. Obviously, the Ambassador noted, the advice of the Soviet leadership had been taken into consideration in Kim Il Sung’s speech. The Ambassador also made critical comments about the KWP CC not giving an appraisal of the election platform of the Democratic Party of South Korea and, in his opinion, is not analyzing the differences between the Democratic Party groups, the New Faction [Shinpa] and Old Faction [Gupa].

I did not agree with the Ambassador’s opinion that the friends did not have a clear program for the unification of the country before Kim Il Sung’s latest speech at the festive meeting on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the liberation of Korea. I talked in detail about the measures successively adopted by the Korean friends directed at the peaceful unification of the country on democratic principles. I said that the issue of the creation of a Confederation of North and South Korea had actually been a subject of discussion between Cde. N. S. Khrushchev and Cde. Kim Il Sung during their meeting in Moscow in June of this year.

The Ambassador thanked me for the explanation and said that now he is better informed about the steps of the KWP CC leadership and DPRK government concerning the peaceful unification of the country.

Kurt Schneidewind expressed his ideas about the Korean friends adopting the experience of the Chinese comrades on a number of issues. In particular, he pointed to the planning of the economy - the theory of uneven development, and the creation in two districts of the DPRK of farms combining all the enterprises and agricultural cooperatives of the district along the lines of the people’s communes.

I agreed with the Ambassador that in the past year the Korean friends had tested the uneven method [Translator’s note: skachkoobraznoe razvitie; however, this is certainly a reference to the contemporaneous experiment in the PRC called bol’shoy skachok in Russian, known in English as the “Great Leap Forward”] of economic development of the country on the model of the Chinese comrades and were convinced by experience that disregard of the socialist law of systematic development of the economy leads to serious consequences and damage. As regards agriculture, in my view, the Chinese experiment was not manifested in the organization of the two state farms on the model of people’s communes, as the Ambassador said, but in the excessive and completely unjustified ballyhoo about getting high rice grain harvest yields of 10-15 tons per jeongbo [Translator’s note: a Japanese measure of the area of rice fields], and four to five tons of corn per jeongbo, that is, two to three times more than the harvests obtained in 1958. Attention was not paid to cultivated area when this was done. As a result, the total crops, especially grains, including corn, were sharply reduced last year, but the obligations to obtain high harvest yields naturally turned out not to have been met. All this led to a sharp underfulfillment of the plan for the gross grain harvest and even its decline compared to the actual 1958 gross grain harvest. With regard to the people’s communes, from the very first days of this movement in China until recently, both Kim Il Sung and the KWP CC leadership and DPRK government have taken a consistently correct position. They think that the organization of people’s communes is inadvisable in DPRK conditions and that only correct way is the agricultural workers’ cooperatives of the Soviet Union, taking into consideration the local and national characteristics of Korea. As is well known, the development of DPRK agriculture is taking this path.

Based on last year’s experience the Korean leaders themselves are convinced of what violating the law of proportionate development of the economy leads to, and at their December CC Plenum they adopted certain measures to correct the mistakes which had been made.
The Ambassador thanked [me] for the explanation and expressed complete agreement with the ideas stated.
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[.....].  

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나는 독일민주공화국 대사 슈나이데빈트의 요청으로 그를 만났다  
대사는 독일통일사회당중앙위원회의 지난 최고회의 정보를 제공하고, 독일민주공화국 내 중국대사관의 활동이 증가하고 있다는 말을 했다. 특히, 라이프체히의 대사관 참사관은 독일 통일사회당이 인민공사의 조직을 바꾸어 할 때라는 보고서를 작성했다고 한다. 이와 관련, 독일민주공화국 국영 언론사는 중국대사관참사관의 부정확한 주장을 반박하는 논평의 기사를 실었다. 중국대사관 관료들은 그 지역 정당위원회 관료들을 대사관에 초청하여, 중국공산당과 다른 사회주의국가들의 공산당들과의 관점차이에서 오는 문제에 대해 대화를 나누는 행사를 가지고 있다.  

대사는 독일통일사회당 외교부 내각이 논쟁의 소지가 있는 문제에 관련하여 중국대사와 접할 때는 소련대사에게 활동승인을 받으려는 지침을 주었다고 했다.  
우리 대사들은 중국공산당과 사회주의국가 공산당들 사이에 불일치가 있는 문제들에 대해 중국대사와 깊은 대화를 나누지 못하게 되었다. 그러나 중국대사나 중국대사관 관료들이 최근의 중요한외교관계와 국제공산당 운동에 있어서 잘못된 반레닌주의적 관점을 외교단 관료들에게 퍼트리려 한다면, 이 과정이 대해서는 강력히 반박해야 한다. 중국대사관이 최근 배포한 반레닌주의적 관점을 포함한 신문과 잡지들은 중국대사관으로 되돌려 보내도록 결정된 바 있다.  

커트 슈나이데빈트는 독일통일사회당중앙위원회 최고회의 외교정책 위원회 회의에 대해 이야기했다. 대사는 한국해방 15주년 기념행사에서 김일성이 기존에 없었던 한반도 통일 계획
에 대해 분명히 피력했다고 했다. 대사는 김일성의 발언에서 소련의 충고를 받아들였음을 확실히 알 수 있다고 했다. 대사는 또한 남한의 민주당 선거강령에 대한 평가가 없는 점, 신파와 구파, 민주당 집단들 간의 차이에 대한 분석이 없는 점을 들어 조선로동당 중앙위원회에 대해 비판을 가했다.

나는 한국해방 15주년 행사에서 김일성의 연설 이전에는 한반도 통일에 대한 명쾌한 계획이 없었다는 대사의 의견에 동조하지 않았다. 나는 민주주의 원칙에 의거한 평화적 통일을 지향하는 조치들을 조선민주주의공화국 정부의 행보에 대해 보다 잘 알게 되었다고 말했다.

대사는 이 설명에 감사를 표하며 평화적 통일에 관한 조선로동당 중앙위원회의 지도력과 조선민주주의인민공화국 정부의 행보에 대해 보다 잘 알게 되었다고 말했다.

더는 지난 몇 년간 한국동지들이 중국의 선례를 따르고 있는 몇 가지 사안에 대해 그의 의견을 알렸다. 특히 그는 경제계획 중 불평등 개발이론 그리고, 인민공사와 맥을 함께 하는 산농합동구획 형태인 2개 구역의 조선민주주의인민공화국 농장 개발 등을 고집했다.

대사는 지난해의 경영에 비추어, 조선의 지도자들은 12월 중앙위원회 최고회의에서 경제균형개발을 무시했던 지난달의 과오를 바로 잡을 수 있는 방법들을 채택하였다.

대사는 나의 설명에 감사하며 외의 기술한 바에 동의를 표했다.