February 19, 1952

Mao Zedong, 'Comments on the Report concerning the Discovery and Handing of the Enemy Air Dropping Insects on the Korean Front'

Citation:

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Summary:

Mao Zedong's comment on a report from Nie Rongzhen on the dropping of insects over North Korea by the United States.

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Original Language:

Chinese

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Mao Zedong's comments on the Report concerning the Discovery and Handing of the Enemy Air Dropping Insects on the Korean Front

(19 February 1952)

Please have Premier Zhou [Enlai] pay attention to this matter and take care of it.

Mao Zedong

19 February [1952]

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1 This is Mao Zedong's comments on the report from Nie Rongzhen, Acting Chief of Staff of the People's Revolutionary Military Commission of the Central People's Government, dated 18 February 1952.

2 Nie Rongzhen's report revealed that it had been discovered that insects were air dropped by the enemy on the Korean front. The report said that the insects air dropped by the enemy on the Korean were mainly spiders, flies, and fleas, and that it covered a large area, having been discovered by frontline troops of the 20th, 26th, 39th, and 42nd armies. [Nie’s report continued to state that] in addition to dispatching experts to understand the situation, the insects will be sent back to Beijing for testing in order to determine what kinds of bacteria [they are infected with]. According to the predictions by the experts, [the bacteria] cause cholera, typhoid, plague, and relapsing fever.
朝前方 空投菌昆虫及置意告的批 [1]

（一九五二年二月十九日）

周理注意此事，并予理。

毛

二月十九日

[1] 是毛中央人民政府人民革命事委代理臻一九五二年二月十八日告的批。

[2] 臻的告所的朝前方空投昆虫一事，告：朝前方空投昆虫主要有蜘蛛、跳蚤，投撒面甚大，前部二十、二十六、三十九、四十二均。除已派家前往地了解外，已各种昆虫送回北京行化学，确定有何种病菌。据家估，以霍、寒、鼠疫、回四种病菌的可能性大，如化，即火速大力行防疫工作。