

**April 23, 1954**

**Cable from Zhou Enlai, 'Concerning Soviet Premier Georgy M. Malenkov's conversation with Zhou Enlai about the Vietnam Issue'**

**Citation:**

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<https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/110599>

**Summary:**

Zhou Enlai describes his meeting with Khrushchev, Malenkov, and other Soviet officials. The Soviets agree with the CCP position on Indochina, and will give their opinion of China's draft constitution in four months.

**Original Language:**

Chinese

**Contents:**

Translation - English

Top secret

Chairman [Mao Zedong], Comrade [Liu] Shaoqi, and the Central Committee:

(1) Yesterday Malenkov, Molotov, [CPSU First Secretary Nikita S.] Khrushchev, and [CPSU Politburo member Mikhail A.] Suslov discussed the Vietnam question with Comrade Ding [Ho Chi Minh], as well as me and [PRC Vice Foreign Minister Wang] Jiaxiang.

(a) They express complete agreement to "Opinions on the situation in Indochina and our strategies and policies," and they believe that the opinions expressed in this document are all correct. Comrade Khrushchev emphasizes that the document should be made confidential, and that when explanations are made to our cadres, they should be conducted in a way that is as undisguised as in the document, and should be made more skillfully.

(b) The requests of Comrade Ding can be satisfied.

(2) They agree to inform us about their opinion of China's draft constitution in four months.

(3) Comrade Ding will return to Beijing in two days, and he hopes to go back to Vietnam immediately after meeting with the Chairman and Comrade Shaoqi.

Zhou Enlai  
23 April 1954