

**March 15, 1951**  
**Telegram from Stalin to Mao Zedong or Zhou Enlai,  
via Zakharov**

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Stalin proposes sending more Soviet fighter planes to aid Chinese and Korean troops.

**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

CIPHERED TELEGRAM No. 1749  
BEIJING

To ZAKHAROV for MAO ZEDONG  
or ZHOU ENLAI

As is obvious, in the nearest future there will be major military operations in Korea by the Chinese and Korean liberation troops. It is apparent that you will need a large number of aviation both at the front and in the rear. In a previous telegram we accepted your proposal about shifting the base of Belov's air force to Korea, in the rear of your troops, but with the condition that two Chinese fighter divisions be placed in the Andong region to cover this area. However, we see now that in view of the forthcoming major operations, you will need the largest possible aviation force at the front. We have therefore decided to send to Andong from the USSR an additional large fighter division so that the two Chinese fighter divisions which were designated for covering Andong would be sent to the front for use in operations at the front.

We hope that you will not object.

FILIPPOV [Stalin]

No. 139/sh  
15 March 1951