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October 11, 1958
Telegram, Mao Zedong to Zhou Enlai

Citation:

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Summary:

Mao sends instructions to Zhou Enlai, asking him to send information to the Soviets about the number of planes that were short down during air engagements in the Taiwan Strait. He adds that "[the Soviets] should sell ground-to-air missiles to us, and let us control the employment of them."

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Chinese

Contents:

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关于苏共中央来信等问题给周恩来的电报

（一九五八年十月十一日）

恩来同志：

苏来件〔1〕不忙复，谈一下再说。

曹聚仁〔2〕到，冷他几天，不要立即谈。我是否见他，待酌。

叫克诚〔3〕将八月十九日汕头空战以来五十多天中，我歼敌机多少，敌歼我机多少，确查统计，准备告诉苏方。他们信敌人谎报，不明实情。地空导弹应卖给我，由我使用，他们派少数人来教。我倾向这种方针。是否适宜，今晚或明晚可以商定。

毛 泽 东

十月十一日上午十时

根据手稿刊印。

注 释

〔1〕 指苏共中央第一书记、苏联部长会议主席赫鲁晓夫一九五八年九月二十七日和一九五八年十月四日给毛泽东的信。

〔2〕 曹聚仁，文史学家，记者。二三十年代在暨南大学、复旦大学等校任教授。抗战胜利后在上海任《前线日报》编辑兼香港

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《星岛日报》特约记者。一九五〇年移居香港，先后任香港《星岛日报》编辑和新加坡《南洋商报》驻香港特约记者。一九五八年回大陆采访，受到毛泽东、周恩来、陈毅等接见。

〔3〕 克诚，即黄克诚，当时任中共中央军委秘书长、国防部副部长、中国人民解放军总参谋长。

[…]

Comrade [Zhou] Enlai:

No hurry to reply to the letters from the Soviets. Need to discuss them first.

Cao Juren has arrived. Ignore him for a few days, do not talk to him too soon. [I] will think about whether I need to meet him or not.

Tell [Huang] Kecheng to double-check accurate numbers of how many enemy airplanes we shot down, and how many of our planes were shot down in more than fifty days of air engagements since the Shantou air battle on 19 August. Prepare the statistics for the Soviets' information. They believed the enemy's false information and do not know the true story. [The Soviets] should sell ground-to-air missiles to us, and let us control the employment of them. The Soviets may send a few people to teach us how to use them. I intend to adopt this policy. [We can] discuss and decide whether it is appropriate tonight or tomorrow night.

Mao Zedong
10:00 A.M., 11 October [1958]

[…]