

October 1, 1950

Telegram from Zhou Enlai to Kim Il Sung

Citation:

"Telegram from Zhou Enlai to Kim Il Sung", October 1, 1950, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Zhonggong zhongyang wenxian yanjiushi (CPC Central Historical Documents Research Office) and Zhongyang dang'anguan (Central Archives), eds., Jianguo yilai Zhou Enlai wengao (Zhou Enlai's Manuscripts since the Founding of the PRC), vol. 3 (Beijing: Zhongyang wenxian chubanshe, 2008), 378. Translated by Jingxia Yang and Douglas Stiffler. <https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/114210>

Summary:

China advises Kim Il Sung to have the North Korean armies retreat north of the 38th parallel as quickly as possible after the First Front Army was cut off by the opposing side.

Credits:

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Original Language:

Chinese

Contents:

Original Scan
Translation - English

关于朝鲜人民军北撤办法及 坚持敌后游击战争问题 给金日成的电报^{〔1〕}

（一九五〇年十月一日）

倪志亮^{〔2〕}同志即转金日成^{〔3〕}同志：

九月三十日经志亮同志电告情况已悉。一方面军八个师既被敌隔断，请考虑有无可能将该八个师分为两部分，以四个师将笨重武器破坏，分为许多小的支队从敌人间隙中分路撤至三八线以北，而以四个师在南朝鲜分散为许多小支队，倚靠人民坚持敌后游击战争，牵制大股敌人使其不能北进。二方面军所率五六个师现已撤至什么位置，是否可以于数日内全部撤至三八线以北？总之，你们的军队必须迅速北撤，愈快愈好，如遇敌人拦阻，亦应破坏笨重武器，分路从敌人间隙中插过来，不能撤者则留在敌后坚持分散游击。以上建议，妥否，请立复，并盼以具体情况见告。

周恩来

十月一日夜

根据手稿刊印。

注 释

- 〔1〕 本篇用仿宋体字排印是毛泽东加写和改写的文字。
- 〔2〕 倪志亮，当时任中国驻朝鲜大使。
- 〔3〕 金日成，当时任朝鲜民主主义人民共和国首相。

Comrade Ni Zhiliang, immediately convey to Comrade Kim Il Sung:

The September 30 telegram from Comrade Zhiliang has informed us of the situation. Now that the eight divisions of the First Front Army have been cut off by the enemy, please consider whether it is possible to divide these eight divisions into two parts. Have four divisions destroy their heavy weapons and separate them into many small detachments to retreat to the north of the 38th Parallel by different paths through gaps in the enemy's lines. Disperse [the other] four divisions into many small detachments in south Korea, rely on the people and persist in guerrilla war in the enemy's rear area, which will pin down large numbers of the enemy and prevent them from moving forward. To which place have the five or six divisions led by the Second Front Army retreated? Is it possible to withdraw all of them north of the 38th Parallel in several days? In brief, your armies must retreat north rapidly, the quicker the better. If the enemy attempts to restrain or block [the retreat], [you] should destroy heavy weapons, and retreat through gaps in the enemy's lines by separate paths. Those who cannot retreat should stay in the enemy's rear area and persist in dispersed guerrilla activity. Whether the above suggestions are appropriate or not, please reply immediately. [We] wish to be informed of the situation in detail.

Zhou Enlai

Night of October 1