

## **August 18, 1958**

### **Instructions, Mao Zedong to Peng Dehuai**

#### **Citation:**

"Instructions, Mao Zedong to Peng Dehuai", August 18, 1958, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Jianguo yilai Mao Zedong wengao (Mao Zedong's Manuscripts since the Formation of the PRC), vol. 7 (Beijing: Zhongyang wenxian chubanshe, 1992), 348. <https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/117014>

#### **Summary:**

Mao instructs Chinese Minister of National Defense Peng Dehuai to halt military maneuvers and prepare air forces for the planned bombardment of Jinmen Island in the Taiwan Strait.

#### **Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Chun & Jane Chiu Family Foundation

#### **Original Language:**

Chinese

#### **Contents:**

Translation - English

Comrade [Peng] Dehuai:

[We are] preparing to shell Kinmen [Quemoy; also spelled Jinmen], dealing with Chiang [Kai-shek; also spelled Jiang Jieshi] directly and the Americans indirectly. Therefore, do not conduct military maneuvers in Guangdong and Shenzhen, so that the British would not be scared.

Mao Zedong

1 A.M., 18 August

P.S.: Please call air force headquarters attention to the possibility that the Taiwan side might counterattack us by dispatching large groups of air force (such as dozens, or even over one hundred, airplanes) to try to take back air control over Kinmen and Matsu [also spelled Mazu]. If this happens, we should prepare to use large groups of air force to defeat them immediately. However, in chasing them, [our planes] should not cross the space line over Kinmen and Matsu.