

**May 19, 1989**

**Notepad of Teimuraz Stepanov-Mamaladze, 19 May  
1989**

**Citation:**

"Notepad of Teimuraz Stepanov-Mamaladze, 19 May 1989", May 19, 1989, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Hoover Institution Archive, Teimuraz Stepanov-Mamaladze Papers: Notepad 18.05.1989. Translated by Sergey Radchenko.  
<https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/121779>

**Summary:**

Notes from Teimuraz Stepanov-Mamaladze, covering discussions between Deng Xiaoping, Zhao Ziyang, and Viktor Karpov. The Chinese side discusses Deng's role against the student unrest going on in China, and the punishment of protestors attempting to storm the building of the All Chinese Congress of People's Representatives.

**Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from MacArthur Foundation

**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

19 May 1989

Meeting at E.A. [Shevardnadze's]

Karpov [?]. General Staff-the Hungarian factor.

E.A.: China. We have been plugged into this process, and it looks normal to us. In reality, these are historic events.

Words of appreciation for [Deputy Foreign Minister] Igor Rogachev. The diplomatic service has excelled. The joint document is at a level of a treaty.

Deng Xiaoping:

- Who offended China most of all

- Where did the threat to China come from?

a) Japan

b) Russia

During his meeting with me, though, he controlled himself better. About Mao: Of course, he could not predict all that would happen in China, in the Soviet Union and in other countries. One should not demand from the classics of Marxist-Leninism more than they could give at the time. The Vietnamese factor. "Russia seized from us 1.5 million square kilometers."

Zhao Ziyang stressed Deng's leading role against the background of the student unrest. The future of Marxism. Not to force the tempo of the development of inter-party ties. The Chinese discussed economic questions with us more actively.

The attitude of the youth. The interpreter:

- Why did Deng need to raise the topic of Marxism? For our part, we [the Chinese] understand that soon he will meet with Marx...

The student unrest is a result of stratification. The intelligentsia is in desperate straits.

Attempts to storm the building the All Chinese Congress of People's Representatives. A nice present for the Congress.

But they were punished, and as a result this punishment [literally, execution] helped the leaders of the extreme type to obtain a terrible rationale-twenty lives... [sic, unclear]