

Request that the Soviet Union Dispatch an Air Division to Assist in Intercepting the Spreading of Bacteria by Enemy Planes^[1]

(11 March 1952)

Comrade Filippov:^[2]

Aside from spreading bacteria in North Korea, the American imperialist planes have recently invaded the territory of China's northeast, spreading bacteria. Every time enemy aircraft have intruded [into our territory] has been during adverse weather conditions or at night. China's Air Force jet propelled forces still have not had enough time to learn how to do combat flights during adverse weather conditions or at night. Additionally, the two Soviet Air Force divisions commanded by General Belov are shielding transportation in North Korea and assisting Chinese Air Force units in combat. Therefore, they cannot also defend against enemy aircraft intrusions.

If [we] don't give an appropriate blow to the enemy aircraft intruding into Northeast China's airspace and spreading bacteria, then it may become even more rampant. Therefore, [I] request that you dispatch Soviet jet forces (two regiments) capable of fighting in adverse weather conditions and at night and station them in Northeast China. Stationed at the two airports in Liaoyang and Dongfeng (Northeast Shenyang), [the regiments] can take on the task of intercepting enemy aircraft. Please consider and respond [to me] about whether or not this can be done.^[3] Salutations!

Mao Zedong

11 March [1952]

^[1] This is a telegram from Mao Zedong to Stalin.

^[2] Filippov is Stalin.

^[3] On 12 March 1952, Stalin replied to Mao Zedong, agreeing to dispatch one jet division to be stationed in the Shenyang area.