

**KIM IL SUNG**

**ON THE DECISION  
OF THE MOSCOW  
CONFERENCE OF  
FOREIGN MINISTERS  
ON THE KOREAN  
QUESTION**

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

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## **ON THE DECISION OF THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THE KOREAN QUESTION**

Speech Delivered at the Consultative Meeting  
of the Department Directors of the Central Organizing  
Committee of the Communist Party of North Korea  
*December 31, 1945*

Today, I would like to make a few remarks in connection with the decision on the Korean question adopted at the Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers.

As you all know, a conference of the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain was held in Moscow from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of this month. This conference, in discussing a number of problems which should be solved internationally after the Second World War, adopted a decision on the Korean question. This decision was published on December 28; according to this decision, having in mind the reconstruction of Korea as an independent state, a democratic provisional government is to be established through consultation with the political parties and public organizations of our country, and the four countries of the Soviet Union, the United States, Great Britain and China are to place Korea under their guardianship for up to five years to enable it to achieve democratic and independent development as such a state.

Following the publication of the decision of the Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers on the Korean question, different responses have been made and the political situation in the country is becoming very complex.

The south Korean reactionaries construe the concept of guardianship contained in this decision as a “trusteeship” in particular, and are developing an “anti-trusteeship” campaign against the decision. Jo Man Sik in north Korea also takes the same attitude.

Some communists also tend to oppose the decision of the conference. Several people in the Communist Party of South Korea have issued a statement against this decision and fall in with the “anti-trusteeship” clamour of the reactionaries.

At the news of the decision of the conference, we immediately discussed it with the Standing Executive Committee members of the Party; we decided to make an official announcement of our Party's attitude and stand towards this decision after discussing it once more with the directors of the departments of the Party Central Organizing Committee because this decision is an important political problem deciding the future of Korea.

Therefore, what attitude and stand should our Party take towards the decision?

In order to take a correct stand and attitude towards the decision, I think it is important, first of all, to have a correct understanding of its real intention.

As can be seen from the text of the decision, an important thing in this decision is to establish a democratic provisional government to reconstruct Korea as an independent state. In other words, it can be said that the true intention of this decision is the anticipation to reconstruct and develop Korea as a democratic independent state.

It can be said that establishing a democratic provisional government in liberated Korea is the most important starting problem in reconstructing and developing our country as a free and completely independent state.

If a democratic provisional government is established in Korea, the present division of the country into the north and the south will be abolished, the whole of Korea reunified and, therefore, all the conditions needed for the rapid reconstruction and development of the country's economy and culture and the improvement of the standard of living of the people created.

Our Party's political line is building our country as a prosperous, independent and sovereign state through the establishment of a democratic government. Therefore, I think that

the idea of establishing a democratic provisional government in Korea contained in the decision is in accord with both the political line of our Party and the demand of our people for building a democratic and sovereign state.

It is true that the decision contains a point which more or less runs counter to the will of our nation. It can be said that the idea of placing Korea under the guardianship of the four states for up to five years is somewhat different from the desire of our nation who want to see the country's earliest possible independence.

However, I think that the decision does not mean allowing the interference of foreign forces in the affairs of our country in disregard of its sovereignty, as Syngman Rhee and other south Korean reactionaries claim.

The decision points out that the detailed measure for placing Korea under the guardianship of the four states for up to five years will be taken after consulting this matter with the provisional government of Korea. Therefore, this matter is not the same as the imperialist trusteeship, which is enforced in disregard of the will of the people. The problem of guardianship can be understood as a concrete expression of the promise of the four states to the world people to help and cooperate in the democratic development of the Korean people and in the building of Korea as a free, unified and completely independent state.

Nevertheless, the point in question here is why the decision was distorted as that on "trusteeship" and why the "anti-trusteeship" campaign was launched.

The proposal for "trusteeship" over Korea was put forward by the United States as its policy towards Korea, and it has repeatedly insisted on this proposal at the Teheran and Yalta conferences. At the recent Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers, too, the US side proposed that the Soviet and American forces exercise military administration in Korea and,

when it is over, the four states of the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and China enforce “trusteeship” for ten years. It claimed that as the Koreans are incapable of “self-government,” even after the termination of military administration, some kind of organ must be set up with representatives of the four states of the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and China, which will exercise the “legislative power, jurisdiction and administrative power” of Korea. This proposal of the United States is, in fact, tantamount to making liberated Korea its colony.

However, the US proposal was rejected, thanks to the just assertion and positive efforts of the Soviet side, and the recent decision was adopted.

As they could not realize their ambition of making our country their colony at the Moscow Conference of Foreign Ministers, the American reactionaries are impudently giving distorted publicity to this decision as if it were a decision for enforcing “trusteeship” over Korea which was advanced by the Soviet Union, and are instigating south Korean reactionaries to launch an “anti-trusteeship” campaign against the decision.

At present, some political forces in south Korea are occupying themselves with the “anti-trusteeship” campaign as they are unable to identify the crafty intention of the United States, and attempting to lead the political situation by taking this opportunity. Even the pro-Japanese elements and traitors to the nation, who were forsaken by the people after liberation, are disguising themselves as patriots under the slogan of “anti-trusteeship.” The Right-wing reactionaries are opposing the decision of the Conference of Foreign Ministers, giving distorted publicity to it. Their aim is to foil the implementation of this decision, and thus prevent our country from being reconstructed and developed as a democratic, independent and sovereign state

and establish a pro-American bourgeois regime in Korea.

We must see through the inside story and the reactionary nature of the “anti-trusteeship” campaign which is being waged in south Korea, due to the stratagem and wirepulling of the American reactionaries, and reject it resolutely.

If we are divided into the Right wing and Left wing and the south and the north fight in confrontation with each other, one side saying that it “opposes trusteeeship” and the other side saying that it “supports trusteeeship” with regard to the decision, it will after all be our nation only that will suffer a loss.

On the whole, the decision aims at realizing the reunification of our country as soon as possible and creating favourable conditions for the establishment of a democratic, independent and sovereign state. We must make the best possible use of these conditions for establishing a democratic sovereign state in the present situation in which both the Soviet and American troops are stationed in Korea; we should give a positive support to this decision and make strenuous efforts to realize it.

If we, the entire Korean nation, support this decision and work hard for its realization, it will be possible to shorten the period of the guardianship now set for up to five years and accelerate the building of Korea as a sovereign state. It all depends on how we, the masters, build a democratic sovereign state.

We should launch a dynamic movement to support the decision.

First of all, extensive explanation and information campaign of the decision should be undertaken so that all Party members and people from all walks of life will have a correct understanding of it.

We should explain the content of this decision to the masses through newspapers, broadcasts and other media, and, at the

same time, give them a clear understanding of the fact that supporting and implementing this decision will promote the establishment of a unified democratic provisional government and the building of a completely sovereign state.

Furthermore, we should conduct a political campaign in support of the decision.

It will be a good idea for the Communist Party to publish a joint statement in support of the decision through consultation with other political parties and public organizations; the directors of the Administrative Bureaus of North Korea should also do this. Such statements must also be issued in the name of every provincial Party committee and public organization as well as individual people. At the same time, a rally of Pyongyang citizens must be organized on a large scale in support of the decision. The provinces must also organize and conduct mass rallies in keeping with their specific conditions.

The directives of the Party Central Committee to support the decision should be mapped out and conveyed to Party organizations at all levels.

The role of the Communist Party of South Korea is important in exposing and frustrating the Right-wing reactionaries' plot to "oppose trusteeship" and developing the movement in support of the decision in south Korea. A senior official of the Communist Party of South Korea is now staying in Pyongyang; we should see to it that he returns to south Korea as soon as possible and takes positive measures for exposing and frustrating the "anti-trusteeship" plot and supporting the decision.

Through the struggle to support the decision and lay bare and frustrate the plot of the American and south Korean reactionaries to "oppose trusteeship," we must further consolidate the unity and cohesion of our Party and demonstrate at home and abroad the firm stand of the Korean people to build a sovereign state as

well as the might of their unity.

In order to establish a unified democratic provisional government by carrying out the decision, the unity of the whole nation must be ensured.

The adoption of the decision does not mean that a democratic provisional government will be established of its own accord. Even if this decision is reasonable and the aid of the great powers is disinterested, no other people can build our country but our nation. We must neither pin our hopes entirely on this decision nor try to build our country by relying on foreign countries.

The earliest establishment of a democratic provisional government in Korea depends largely on whether or not we firmly rally all the patriotic and democratic forces by forming a democratic national united front. In the course of supporting and implementing the decision, we should further strengthen the united front with other political parties and public organizations.

This is virtually all that I would like to say to you at this consultative meeting in connection with the decision.