

Premier Chou En-lai's Letter to the Leaders of Asian and African Countries on the Sino-Indian Boundary Question

(November 15, 1962)

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Your Excellency,

The unfortunate border conflict between China and India has been going on for several weeks. There are indications that this conflict, far from being halted, will grow in scale. The Chinese Government feels deeply disturbed over this situation which has also evoked the profound concern of many Asian and African countries. I am taking the liberty of writing to you in the hope that my letter may be of help to Your Excellency in your endeavours to promote a peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian boundary question.

(1) **China has worked consistently for the peaceful settlement of questions related to its boundaries.** China has a boundary question not only in relation to India, but also in relation to several of its other southwestern neighbours. Traced to their root, these boundary questions were largely created by the imperialists and colonialists before our countries attained independence. Since we won independence, the imperialists and colonialists have tried to make use of these boundary questions to create disputes among us newly independent states. The Chinese Government therefore considers that, in dealing with such boundary questions, we should clearly discern that these are issues between Asian and African coun-