

The original documents are located in Box 14, folder “Korea - Shooting of Two U.S. Soldiers” of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CHRONOLOGY

August 22, 1976 - 2:05 p. m.

To clarify the timing of the events surround the murder of 2 U.S. soldiers, the following timetable of actions ensued:

On Wednesday, August 18, the murders occurred.

On Thursday, August 19 the U.N. Command sent a message of protest from General Stillwell.

On Saturday, August 21 at 7:00 a. m. Korean time (6 p. m. Friday the 20th our time), the U.N. Command cut down the tree.

On Saturday the 21st at noon, Korean time (11 p. m. Friday our time), the meeting took place at which the message from North Korean leader Kim Il Sung expressing regret was delivered to the allied represenatives at the Panmunjom meeting.

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STATE

The killing of two American officers in the neutral zone at Pan Mun Jom at the hands of some 30 North Korean soldiers is a cowardly act of murder. These Americans were supervising an innocent work detail in the area and did nothing to provoke the North Korean attack.

The United States Government condemns this vicious and unprovoked attack. All civilized nations will do the same.

This brutal behavior by the North Korean regime tells us something of its true nature and demonstrates the hollowness of North Korea's desire for a peaceful realization of the differences that exist between it and South Korea. *Resentment*

Responsibility for whatever consequences may result from these murders will rest with the Government of North Korea.