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HYLA 3 LL

NODONG SINMUN COMMENTARY DENOUNCES 21 AUG INCIDENT

04220241 PYONGYANG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN KOREAN 2320 GMT 21 AUG 76 OW

(22 AUGUST NODONG SINMUN COMMENTARY: "THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS CANNOT AVOID RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES WHICH WILL ARISE FROM THEIR PROVOCATIVE ACTION")

(TEXT) THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS, RUNNING AMUCK TO IGNITE A NEW WAR IN KOREA, HAVE AGAIN COMMITTED A GRAVE PROVOCATIVE ACTION AGAINST OUR SIDE AT PANMUNJOM. ON THE MORNING OF 21 AUGUST, THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS PERPETRATED A BANDIT-LIKE ACT BY ILLEGALLY INFILTRATING MORE THAN 300 FULLY ARMED MILITARY PERSONNEL INTO THE JOINT SECURITY AREA (JSA), FELLING TREES WHICH WERE UNDER OUR CONTROL, DESTROYING A SENTRY POST WHICH WAS AN INSTALLATION OF OUR SIDE AND WRECKING A CROSSBAR INSTALLED IN FRONT OF THE POST. THE PROVOCATION WAS CARRIED OUT IN THE MIDST OF AN AWESOME WAR ATMOSPHERE, WITH HUNDREDS OF ARMED PERSONNEL AND TRUCKS FULLY LOADED WITH ARMED PERSONNEL STANDING BY IN THE VICINITY OF THE SCENE OF PROVOCATION AND WITH HELICOPTERS CIRCLING OVERHEAD.

THIS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES THE HEINOUS NATURE OF THE PROVOCATIVE INCIDENT THIS TIME. THE INCIDENT WAS NOT ONLY A WANTON VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND OTHER AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES--WHICH FORBID A COLLECTIVE ENTRY OF MORE THAN 35 SECURITY PERSONNEL INTO THE JSA AND ANY UNILATERAL ACTION ON MATTERS BELONGING TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE OTHER SIDE--BUT ALSO AN UNPARDONABLE, OPEN CHALLENGE TO US.

THE LATEST PROVOCATION WAS CARRIED OUT AT A TIME THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS ARE PERPETRATING A MASSIVE MILITARY ACTION AGAINST US AND, AS THEY THEMSELVES HAVE REVEALED, IT WAS CARRIED OUT UNDER DIRECT INSTRUCTIONS OF THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS' RULING CIRCLES. ALL OF THIS INDICATES THAT THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS AGGRESSORS WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO FIND AN EXCUSE TO PROVOKE A NEW WAR IN KOREA AND ARE COMMITTING DISGRACEFUL ACTS WITHOUT HESITATION.

THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SITUATION IN KOREA, WITH ALL THOSE WHO CHERISH PEACE VEHEMENTLY DENOUNCING THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS' RECKLESS PLAYING WITH FIRE AND DEMANDING THAT THEY ACT SENSIBLY TO PRESERVE AND CONSOLIDATE PEACE IN KOREA. NEVERTHELESS, WHILE COVERING UP THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PROVOCATIVE INCIDENT THEY TOUCHED OFF IN THE JSA AT PANMUNJOM AND TRYING TO SHIFT THE RESPONSIBILITY ONTO OTHERS, FORD AND KISSINGER AND OTHER WAR CHIEFTAINS OF THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS ARE AMASSING THEIR AGGRESSOR FORCES IN THE VICINITY OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND IN SOUTH KOREA, THREATENING AND BLACKMAILING US WITH "COUNTERMEASURES" OR THINGS LIKE THAT.

THE NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT-CARRIER MIDWAY, EQUIPPED WITH NEARLY 100 FIGHTER PLANES AND GUIDED MISSILES, LEFT JAPAN ON 20 AUGUST FOR THE SEA OFF KOREA, ESCORTED BY CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS. IT IS ALSO SAID THAT THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER ENTERPRISE IS SPEEDING UP PREPARATIONS TO PUT TO SEA TOWARD THE SAME AREA.

FOLLOWING SQUADRONS OF FIGHTER-BOMBERS, INCLUDING F-111'S, WHICH FLEW INTO SOUTH KOREA FROM THE U.S. MAINLAND AND OKINAWA, MANY LARGE TRANSPORT PLANES FLEW INTO SOUTH KOREA AND WERE DEPLOYED THERE FROM THE YOKOTA BASE IN JAPAN, TOO.

EARLIER, COMBAT-READINESS ORDERS WERE ISSUED TO THE U.S. ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE IN THE MAINLAND OF JAPAN AND OKINAWA AND EVEN TO SOME UNITS OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS TO ALL UNITS OF THE U.S. FORCES OCCUPYING SOUTH KOREA AND THE SOUTH KOREAN PUPPET ARMY.

THE UNITED STATES IS MASSIVELY CONCENTRATING ITS AGGRESSOR FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA AND VICINITY IN THIS WAY. IT HAS PLACED THE FULLY ARMED U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSOR FORCES AND PUPPET ARMY ON AN EMERGENCY ALERT STATUS. IN THE FOREMOST FRONT AREAS ALONG THE MILITARY DEMARCATION LINE, (THE CAMOUFLAGE ON) BATTERIES HAS BEEN TAKEN OFF. THEY ARE NOW LOADED WITH SHELLS AND AIMED AT US. THUS, AFTER CREATING A TENSE TOUCH-AND-GO SITUATION, THEY HAVE TRIGGERED A NEW PROVOCATIVE INCIDENT AT PANMUNJOM; BY SO DOING, THEY ARE BENT UPON FINDING AN EXCUSE TO LIGHT THE FUSE OF WAR IN KOREA BY HOOK OR BY CROOK.

THIS IS ALSO EVIDENT FROM THE FACT THAT ON 21 AUGUST, WHEN THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS COMMITTED THE NEW PROVOCATION, THEY SENT A MILITARY AIRCRAFT INTO OUR TERRITORIAL AIRSPACE OVER THE WESTERN SECTOR OF THE FRONT TO CARRY OUT HOSTILE RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITIES AGAINST OUR SIDE.

(MORE)

22 AUG 0407Z JPC/HH/MC



FBIS 06

ONLY ADD 05 (NODONG SINMUN COMMENTARY)

XXX AGAINST OUR SIDE.

(TEXT) THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS ARE HEINOUS ROBBERS AND WAR INCENDIARIES WHO WILL NOT HESITATE BEFORE ANY BRAZEN ACT TO KINDLE WAR IN KOREA.

WE RESOLUTELY CONDEMN AND DENOUNCE THE HEINOUS WAR PROVOCATION MANEUVERS OF THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS, WHO ARE ATTEMPTING TO WRECK THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND TOUCH OFF ANOTHER WAR IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA BY REPEATING THE INCIDENT OF PROVOCATION IN THE JSA AT PANMUNJOM.

THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS HAVE DISCLOSED PART OF THEIR AGGRESSIVE INTENTION BY SAYING THAT THE LATEST PROVOCATIVE INCIDENT AT PANMUNJOM WAS A DEMONSTRATION OF THEIR DETERMINATION. THIS AMOUNTS TO A SELF-EXPOSITION OF THE DECEITFUL NATURE OF THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS' CLAIM THAT THE 18 AUGUST CLASH WAS AN INCIDENT ORGANIZED BY US, AS WELL AS TO THE FACT THAT THE CULPRITS WHO PROVOKED THAT INCIDENT TOO WAS NONE OTHER THAN THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS THEMSELVES.

THE RECENT INCIDENT TOUCHED OFF BY THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS AT PANMUNJOM AND THE INCIDENT THIS TIME ARE LINKED; BOTH ARE AIMED AT FINDING AN EXCUSE TO KINDLE A NEW WAR IN KOREA.

FACTS PROVE VERY CLEARLY THAT THE 19 AUGUST INCIDENT WAS WHAT THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS TOUCHED OFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SCENARIO WHICH THEY THEMSELVES HAD PREPARED. ACCORDING TO REPORTS, MILITARY AIRCRAFT AT THE U.S. MILITARY BASE IN IWAKUNI, JAPAN, HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES AIMED AT ACTION IN KOREA FOR SEVERAL DAYS PRECEDING THE 18 AUGUST PANMUNJOM INCIDENT, AND 15 REFUELING PLANES OF THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSOR FORCES ARE IN A STANDBY STATUS. WOULD ANYONE DARE SAY THAT THIS DOES NOT PROVE THAT THE TRUE CULPRITS WHO PROVOKED THE PANMUNJOM INCIDENT IS NONE OTHER THAN U.S. IMPERIALISTS THEMSELVES?

NOTHING CAN CONCEAL U.S. IMPERIALISTS' TRUE COLOR AS PEACE DISTURBERS AND PROVOKERS OF WAR. THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS MUST TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY BEFORE OUR PEOPLE AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION FOR THE GRAVE CONSEQUENCES WHICH WILL ARISE FROM THEIR RECKLESS PROVOCATIVE ACTS.

THE KOREAN PEOPLE, RALLYING CLOSELY AROUND THE GREAT LEADER, ARE HEIGHTENING THEIR REVOLUTIONARY VIGILANCE AGAINST THE PROVOCATIVE ACTS THAT THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS ARE VICIOUSLY PERPETRATING TO BRING THE SITUATION TO THE BRINK OF WAR. THEY ARE FULLY COMBAT READY TO SMASH THE ENEMY AT ONE STROKE IF HE DARES TO POUNCE UPON US.

THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS MUST NOT MISCALCULATE THIS UNSHAKABLE STAND AND ROCK-LIKE DETERMINATION OF OUR PEOPLE, AND THEY MUST NOT RUN ABOUT RECKLESSLY. OUR PEOPLE DO NOT WANT WAR, BUT THEY ARE NEVER AFRAID OF WAR. IF THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS ULTIMATELY PROVOKE A NEW WAR IN KOREA, ALL OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE KPA AND ALL KOREAN PEOPLE WILL WIPE THEM OFF THIS LAND. THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS SHOULD CLEARLY BE AWARE OF THIS AND BEHAVE DISCREETLY.

(ENDALL)

22 AUG 0421Z JPI/MC



FBIS 137 FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ANALYSIS NOTE AG/WA

COMMUNIST MEDIA TREATMENT OF KOREAN SITUATION

PYONGYANG

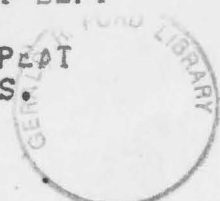
AUTHORITATIVE DPRK MEDIA COMMENT ON 21 AUGUST, AS WELL AS THE INITIAL PYONGYANG MEDIA REACTION TO THE U.S. FORCES REMOVAL OF THE DISPUTED TREE IN THE JOINT SECURITY AREA (JSA) EARLY ON THE 21ST, SEEM TO SUGGEST THAT PYONGYANG IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH AVOIDING A FURTHER ESCALATION OF THE SITUATION.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING PEACE IN KOREA WAS STRESSED IN A 21 AUGUST NODONG SINMUN EDITORIAL WHICH PROVIDED PYONGYANG'S MOST COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE INITIAL INCIDENT AT PANMUNJON IN THE JSA ON THE 18TH. THERE HAS, AS YET, BEEN NO OFFICIAL NORTH KOREAN RESPONSE TO THE U.S. ACTION IN THE JSA ON THE 21ST. PYONGYANG MEDIA'S FIRST MONITORED REACTION TO THE ACTION WAS A DOMESTIC RADIO NEWS REPORT AT 0800 GMT--SOME 10 HOURS AFTER THE EVENT--DESCRIBING IT AS A U.S. ATTEMPT TO "TRAP" THE NORTH KOREANS AND ECHOING EARLIER WARNINGS THAT WASHINGTON SHOULD ACT DISCRETELY. PYONGYANG RADIO AT THIS TIME IS CONTINUING NORMAL PROGRAMMING.

PRESS COMMENT

THE NODONG SINMUN EDITORIAL'S TREATMENT OF THE INITIAL 18 AUGUST JSA INCIDENT SEEMED SOMEWHAT MORE RESTRAINED THAN PREVIOUS ACCOUNTS OFFERED BY DPRK MEDIA. THE EDITORIAL CLAIMED ONLY THAT THE U.S. FORCES HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO "COMMIT AN ACT OF VIOLENCE" AND THAT A "VIOLENT FRACAS ENSUED...RESULTING IN INJURIES TO BOTH SIDES." OTHER PYONGYANG COMMENT HAS EMPHASIZED THE POINT, OMITTED BY THE EDITORIAL, THAT THE NORTH KOREAN GUARDS HAD TAKEN "SELF-DEFENSE" MEASURES. (THE U.S. FATALITIES IN THE INCIDENT HAVE STILL NOT BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED BY DPRK MEDIA.) BOTH THE EDITORIAL AND A COMMENTATOR ARTICLE--PUBLISHED IN THE SAME PAPER AND BROADCAST AN HOUR EARLIER--STATED THAT IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE INCIDENT THE UNITED STATES LAUNCHED A PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AND INITIATED MILITARY ACTIONS "AS IF" THEY HAD BEEN WAITING FOR THE OPPORTUNITY. EARLIER COMMENT HAD CLEARLY CHARGED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD DELIBERATELY CAUSED THE INCIDENT TO SERVE AS A PRETEXT FOR FURTHER MILITARY ACTION, AND HAD NOT LEFT ANY ELEMENT OF DOUBT AS TO WHAT THE UNITED STATES HAD REALLY INTENDED. ELSEWHERE, HOWEVER, THE COMMENTATOR ARTICLE DID REPEAT THE EARLIER CHARGES THAT THE INCIDENT WAS A "PREMEDITATED" U.S. PROVOCATION.

Hyland, McFarlane, LL
Sent to SCO 186



WHILE PYONGYANG MEDIA HAVE CONTINUED TO WARN THAT WAR COULD BREAK OUT "AT ANY MOMENT" AND TO APPEAL FOR COMBAT READINESS, THE EDITORIAL ALSO STRESSED THAT NORTH KOREA IS A "PEACE-LOVING COUNTRY" AND THAT IT WOULD "MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PRESERVE AND CONSOLIDATE PEACE IN KOREA." THE EDITORIAL WENT ON TO APPEAL TO THE GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLE OF THE WORLD TO DIRECT "DEEPER ATTENTION TO THE CRITICAL SITUATION" IN KOREA AND TO TAKE "PROPER STEPS FOR CURBING AND FRUSTRATING" U.S. ACTIONS TO "START A WAR." THE NODONG SINMUN COMMENTATOR ARTICLE SIMILARLY CALLED FOR WORLD SUPPORT TO THE "JUST STRUGGLE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE TO PRESERVE PEACE IN KOREA AND THEIR NATIONAL DIGNITY." THE EDITORIAL ALSO CLAIMED THAT SUPPORT AT THE RECENT NONALIGNED SUMMIT FOR THE DPRK POSITION TO FORCE A U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND REALIZE THE "INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION" OF THE COUNTRY HAD BEEN A "TELLING BLOW" TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE EDITORIAL AND THE COMMENTATOR ARTICLE BOTH REFERRED TO THE ORDER OF THE SUPREME COMMANDER--REVEALED IN THE ARMY'S SUPREME COMMAND REPORT OF 19 AUGUST--FOR ALL UNITS TO BE IN "COMBAT READINESS." AT THE SAME TIME, THE EDITORIAL ECHOED OTHER PROPAGANDA IN CALLING ATTENTION TO NONMILITARY DUTIES, URGING THE PEOPLE TO DEVOTE THEIR ATTENTION TO ECONOMIC TASKS AND TO ACCELERATE "SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION."

REACTION TO KISSINGER

SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CALL FOR DPRK EXPLANATIONS AND REPARATIONS FOR THE 13 AUGUST INCIDENT WAS FIRST ACKNOWLEDGED BY PYONGYANG MEDIA IN A 21 AUGUST DOMESTIC BROADCAST AT 1040. THE COMMENTARY, CARRIED SHORTLY AFTER BY KCNA, DENOUNCED KISSINGER'S DEMANDS AS A "NEW PRETEXT FOR DIRECTLY LIGHTING THE BLASTING FUSE OF WAR." THE NEWS AGENCY'S ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ACCOUNT OMITTED SOME OF THE COMMENTARY'S STRONGEST LANGUAGE WHEN IT DID NOT INCLUDE THE RADIO'S OBSERVATION THAT, RATHER THAN DEMAND AN EXPLANATION, THE "U.S. IMPERIALISTS" ARE THE "CRIMINALS" WHO SHOULD "KNEEL BEFORE THE KOREAN PEOPLE AND APOLOGIZE FOR THE PROVOCATIVE ACT THEY THEMSELVES HAVE CARRIED OUT." KCNA ALSO OMITTED THE RADIO'S CLAIM THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD REVEALED ITS "INTENTION TO RESORT TO FORCE IF THE DEMAND IS NOT MET."

MOSCOW, PEKING

THE FIRST MONITORED SOVIET ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE 13 AUGUST INCIDENT CAME IN A MOSCOW RADIO REPORT, WIDELY BROADCAST TO FOREIGN AUDIENCES, WHICH NOTED NEWS AGENCY REPORTS THAT FOLLOWING AN "INCIDENT" IN THE DMZ THERE HAD BEEN A "CLASH" WHICH HAD RESULTED IN "SEVERAL DEATHS." THE MOSCOW REPORT WENT ON TO CITE KCNA AS CLAIMING THAT THE CLASH WAS PROVOKED BY THE UNITED STATES AND SOUTH KOREA IN ORDER TO "AGGRAVATE" THE SITUATION IN KOREA. MOSCOW NOTED THAT U.S. FORCES IN SOUTH KOREA AND ROK FORCES HAD BEEN PUT ON ALERT BUT FAILED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT NORTH KOREAN UNITS HAD ALSO BEEN ALERTED. THE STATEMENT MADE NO MENTION OF STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT FORD OR SECRETARY KISSINGER ON THE INCIDENT BUT CLAIMED THAT "PENTAGON OFFICIALS" HAVE PUT OUT STATEMENTS "FULL OF THREATS."

PEKING MEDIA HAVE NOT REPORTED ANYTHING NEW ON THE KOREAN SITUATION SINCE KCNA EARLY ON 21 AUGUST FIRST ACKNOWLEDGED THE JSA CLASH BY REPORTING THE KCNA AUTHORIZED STATEMENT OF THE 19TH, THE DPRK REPORT OF THE 19 AUGUST MAC MEETING WHICH DISCUSSED THE INCIDENT, AND THE KPA SUPREME COMMAND REPORT.

FBIS 41***** (OUT OF SEQUENCE) (SUB FOR 39)

HYLAND, MCFARLANE, LL

DPRK REPORTS 'NEW GRAVE U.S. PROVOCATION' IN DMZ

OW210825 PYONGYANG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN KOREAN 0800 GMT 21 AUG 76 OW

(TEXT) LISTENERS, THIS REPORT HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED. THIS IS JUST RECEIVED NEWS.

THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSOR FORCES HAVE CARRIED OUT A GRAVE MILITARY PROVOCATION AGAIN IN THE PANMUNJOM JOINT SECURITY AREA (JSA).

THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS, WHO HAVE BEEN RUNNING AMUCK TO FIND A PRETEXT FOR PROVOKING WAR BY CARRYING OUT A PREMEDITATED PROVOCATIVE ACT IN THE PANMUNJOM JSA ON 18 AUG, ILLEGALLY INFILTRATED INTO THE JSA MORE THAN 300 FULLY ARMED HOOLIGANS INCLUDING U.S. TROOPS, AT 0710 (2210 GMT) THIS MORNING, AND CARRIED OUT SUCH GRAVE PROVOCATIONS IN SUCCESSION AS RANDOMLY FELLING TREES, DESTROYING OUR POSTS, AND DESTROYING (7ROAD BLOCKS) WITH MILITARY TRUCKS.

HOW VICIOUSLY AND RECKLESSLY THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS CARRIED OUT THIS INCIDENT CAN BE CLEARLY SEEN FROM THE FOLLOWING FACT ALONE: THEY KEPT MORE THAN 400 ARMED PERSONNEL READY AT THEIR COMBAT POSITION ABOUT 400 METERS AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THE INCIDENT AND DEPLOYED ARMED PERSONNEL IN FIVE LARGE TRUCKS IN THE BACK AND, WORSE, CREATED A MURDEROUS WAR ATMOSPHERE BY MOBILIZING EVEN A HELICOPTER AND COMMANDING THE PROVOCATIVE ACT.

(MORE)

21 AUG 0845Z BR/MC*****

SENT TO SCOWCROFT



FBIS 42 (OUT OF SEQUENCE)

ONLY ADD 41 (DPRK ON 'U.S. PROVOCATION')

XXX THE PROVOCATIVE ACT.

(TEXT) AS IS ALREADY KNOWN TO THE WORLD, THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT AND THE POINTS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES PRESCRIBE THAT THE NUMBER OF THE SECURITY PERSONNEL OF ONE SIDE IS NOT ALLOWED TO EXCEED 35 AND NO UNILATERAL ACTION IS ALLOWED REGARDING QUESTIONS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE OTHER SIDE.

THIS NOTWITHSTANDING, THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS, FOLLOWING ON THE HEELS OF THE GRAVE PROVOCATION CARRIED OUT ON 13 AUGUST, CARRIED OUT ANOTHER GRAVE LARGE-SCALE MILITARY PROVOCATION IN THE JSA TODAY. THIS CLEARLY SHOWS THAT THE SCOUNDRELS ARE SHAMELESSLY MANEUVERING TO TRAP US INTO THEIR WAR PROVOCATION PLOT BY RESORTING TO EVERY MEANS AND METHOD.

THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS MUST CLEARLY REALIZE WHAT CONSEQUENCES SUCH A PROVOCATIVE ACT WILL BRING TO THEM AND MUST ACT DISCREETLY.

(ENDALL)

21 AUG 0353Z BR/MC



FBIS 95 (SUB FOR 39) (OUT OF SEQUENCE).....

Hyland, Bud, LK
sent to Scowcroft

B U L L E T I N

PYONGYANG SAYS U.S. HELICOPTER SENT OVER DPRK

00211339 PYONGYANG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN KOREAN 1322 GMT 21 AUG 76 OW

(TEXT) THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSOR ARMED FORCES HAVE COMMITTED AN ESPIONAGE AND HOSTILE ACT BY SENDING A HELICOPTER INTO THE SKY OVER OUR AREA IN THE WESTERN SECTOR OF THE FRONT.

THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS, WHO HAVE STRAINED THE SITUATION TO THE UTMOST BY COMMITTING A SERIES OF VICIOUS MILITARY PROVOCATIONS IN THE JOINT SECURITY AREA (JSA) OF PANMUNJOM, SENT A HELICOPTER INTO THE SKY OVER OUR AREA SOUTH OF MT TAEDOK IN THE WESTERN SECTOR OF THE FRONT AT 1005 ON 21 AUGUST AND THUS COMMITTED ANOTHER MILITARY PROVOCATIVE ACT OF ESPIONAGE AND HOSTILITY.

THE 21 AUGUST ESPIONAGE AND HOSTILE ACT COMMITTED BY THE ENEMIES WITH A HELICOPTER IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO A SERIES OF PROVOCATIONS COMMITTED IN THE JSA. THIS CLEARLY SHOWS HOW UNDISGUISED THE RASCALS' ATTEMPT TO START A NEW WAR HAS BECOME.

THE U.S. IMPERIALIST AGGRESSORS MUST NOT RUN RIOT, BEARING OUR REPEATED WARNINGS IN MIND.

21 AUG 1355Z SGG/GFE.....



Hyland, Bud, L.L.

FBIS 39 (OUT OF SEQUENCE)*****

B U L L E T I N

PYONGYANG REPORTS INTRUSION OF U.S. HELICOPTER

0211323 PYONGYANG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN KOREAN AT 1322 GMT ON 21 AUGUST
BROADCASTS THE FOLLOWING ITEM:

U.S. IMPERIALISTS INTRUDED A HELICOPTER INTO OUR AIRSPACE
IN THE WESTERN SECTOR OF THE FRONT ON 21 AUGUST.

21 AUG 1340Z SGG/GFE*****



2350Z

PAC DE KOREA
HAVE TRF FOR U

~~THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE~~
WAS SENT TO KPA SMM BY UNC SMM.

SMM KPA
OUR WORK PARTY HAS COMPLETED CUTTING THE TREE A
TASK WHICH YOUR SIDE EARLIER PREVENTED.
IN ADDITION, THE WORK PARTH HAS REMOVED THE BARRIERS TO GUARANTEE
UNIMPEDED MOVEMENT WITHIN TE
THE JSA ILLEGALLY CONSTRUCTED BY YOURL
SIDE. THEY HAVE DEPARTED THE JSA.
SMM MAC UNC
KKKKK

DE PAC ROgger YOUR LAST KKKKKKK



HYLAND, BIC FALLANE, LL

FBIS 54

HAPTONG CITES SUPPORT FOR GOV'T OVER DMZ INCIDENT

02210336 SEUL HAPTONG IN ENGLISH 0823 GMT 21 AUG 76 OW

(TEXT) SEUL, AUG. 21 (HAPTONG)--BOTH GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION LAWMAKERS TODAY EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI WHO ADVOCATED UNFAILING RETALIATION AGAINST NORTH KOREAN PROVOCATIONS IN THE FUTURE.

PAK, REFERRING TO WEDNESDAY'S BORDER INCIDENT OF HACKING TWO U.S. OFFICERS BY NORTH KOREANS, WARNED FRIDAY THAT ANY COMMUNIST PLOT TO HARASS THE SOUTH WOULD BACKFIRE.

HE WAS FULLY BACKED WHEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE COMMITTEES OPENED A JOINT HEARING SESSION THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE PANMUNJOM INCIDENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS.

HEARING GOVERNMENT REPORTS, THE LAWMAKERS FROM BOTH RULING AND OPPOSITION CAMPS VOICED THAT THE INCIDENT WAS A PREMEDITATED ONE TO INVENT AN EXCUSE FOR THE COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA THAT THE SOUTH IS PREPARING ANOTHER WAR AGAINST THE NORTH.

IT IS ALSO DESIGNED TO TEST U.S. DETERMINATION TO HONOR ITS DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO SOUTH KOREA IN CASE OF EMERGENCY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, THEY SAID.

MEANWHILE, ABOUT 3,000 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HELD RALLIES HERE TO DENOUNCE THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS FOR THEIR BRUTALITIES. SCORES OF SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS ALSO ISSUED STATEMENTS OPPOSING THE COMMUNISTS.

21 AUG 0955Z BR/TM



UP-101

R A

Hyland, CC

(KOREA)

VAIL, COLO. (UPI) -- PRESIDENT FORD WANTS AN IMMEDIATE MEETING OF THE KOREAN PEACE KEEPING COMMISSION TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES FROM NORTH KOREA ABOUT THE SAFETY OF AMERICANS IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY RON NESSEN SAID MONDAY.

"THE UNITED STATES IS ANXIOUS TO COOPERATE IN THE RELAXATION OF TENSIONS BUT WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THERE IS NO MISCALCULATION REGARDING OUR FIRMNESS IN THE AREA," NESSEN TOLD REPORTERS AT FORD'S VACATION RESORT.

TWO U.S. OFFICERS WERE HACKED TO DEATH WITH AXES WEDNESDAY BY NORTH KOREAN TROOPS. "NO EXPRESSION OF REGRET, NO EXPRESSION OF IT BEING A REGRETFUL INCIDENT CAN MAKE UP FOR THE LIVES OF TWO AMERICAN OFFICERS," NESSEN SAID.

THE UNITED STATES ASKED THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION TO CONVENE IN PANMUNJOM TUESDAY "TO INSIST UPON NORTH KOREAN ASSURANCES RESPECTING THE SAFETY OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN THE DMZ," NESSEN SAID.

IN WASHINGTON, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SOFTENED ITS POSITION MONDAY AND DESCRIBED AS A "POSITIVE STEP" NORTH KOREA'S EXPRESSION OF "REGRET" OVER THE INCIDENT. ON SUNDAY, THE DEPARTMENT CALLED THE STATEMENT "UNACCEPTABLE" BECAUSE IT DID NOT ADMIT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEATHS.

DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT FUNSFETH SAID, "WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT EXPRESSED REGRET OVER THE INCIDENT AND WE CONSIDER THIS A POSITIVE STEP."

HE SAID, "NEVERTHELESS, THIS DOES NOT CHANGE THE TRAGIC FACT THAT TWO AMERICAN OFFICERS WERE BRUTALLY BEATEN TO DEATH WITHOUT PROVOCATION." HE SAID NORTH KOREAN ASSURANCES AGAINST A REPETITION OF THE INCIDENT "WOULD CERTAINLY IMPROVE THE PRESENT SITUATION"

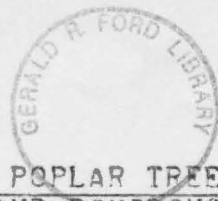
THE NORTH KOREAN STATEMENT, BY PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG, SAID THAT BOTH SIDES SHOULD TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT SUCH INCIDENTS SHOULD NOT RECUR.

THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS MIDWAY WAS CONDUCTING OPERATIONS OFF THE EASTERN COAST OF KOREA MONDAY AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT, PENTAGON SOURCES IN WASHINGTON SAID.

A TASK FORCE, HEADED BY THE MIDWAY AND INCLUDING A GUIDED MISSILE CRUISER AND FOUR FRIGATES, WAS SENT TO THE AREA FROM JAPAN.

UPI 08-23 04:07 PED





(KOREAN INCIDENT)
(BY JOHN MILNE)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- IN ADDITION TO CUTTING DOWN THE POPLAR TREE THAT COST THE LIVES OF TWO AMERICANS IN THE NO-MAN'S LAND DIVIDING NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA, THE PARTY OF 110 U.N. TROOPS ALSO PULLED DOWN TWO ILLEGAL ROAD BARRIERS, PENTAGON OFFICIALS SAID TODAY.

AS THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION MET TO MAKE SURE THERE WERE NO REPEATS OF THE KILLINGS IN THE HIGH-TENSION COMPOUND AT PANMUNJOM, OFFICIALS REVEALED THE U.S. RESPONSE TO THE KILLINGS.

SOURCES SAID THE DETAILS WERE WITHHELD FOUR DAYS ON SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER'S ORDERS. ONE EXPLAINED THAT KISSINGER DID NOT WISH TO INFLAME AN ALREADY TENSE SITUATION, WITH COMMUNIST TROOPS ON A "WAR ALERT" AND THE 42,000 U.S. TROOPS THERE IN AN INCREASED STATE OF READINESS THAT STILL WAS IN EFFECT TODAY.

ALTHOUGH THE OFFICERS, CAPT. ARTHUR BONIFAS AND LT. MARK BARRETT CARRIED .45-CALIBER AUTOMATIC PISTOLS, THEY DID NOT DRAW THEM, AND PENTAGON OFFICIALS SAID ONE REASON WAS THE RULES ESTABLISHED BY THE U.N. COMMAND: "BASIC POLICY IS THAT INDIVIDUAL UNC PERSONNEL WHO ARE SUBJECTED TO PHYSICAL ABUSE WILL USE ONLY THE AMOUNT OF FORCE NECESSARY TO EXTRICATE THEMSELVES FROM THE SITUATION...THIS RESPONSIBILITY WILL INCLUDE THE USE OF WEAPONS IF CIRCUMSTANCES SO DICTATE."

ANOTHER IS THAT THE ATTACK CAME TOO FAST, AS THE MEN SUPERVISED A WORK PARTY OF FIVE SOUTH KOREANS, PRUNING A TREE THAT OBLITERATED THE VIEW OF A NORTH KOREAN COMMAND POST.

WASHINGTON REACTED TO THE DEATHS FRIDAY, CALLING THE ALERT AND SENDING SQUADRONS OF F4 FIGHTERS AND F111 FIGHTER-BOMBERS TO REINFORCE THE THREE U.S. FIGHTER SQUADRONS STATIONED IN KOREA. THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS MIDWAY, WITH ABOUT 75 PLANES AND A FIVE-SHIP TASK GROUP SAILED MONDAY FROM YOKOSUKA, JAPAN, HEADED FOR THE WATERS OFF KOREA.

SINCE FRIDAY, HUGE B52 BOMBERS FROM GUAM HAVE FLOWN TO KOREA, THREE IN A PACK, AND CONDUCTED PRACTICE BOMBING MISSION IN KOREA. SAID PENTAGON SPOKESMAN M. ALAN WOODS: "I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND ANY TIME IN THE PAST WHEN THE AIR FORCE HAS EXERCISED B52S OVER KOREA."

THEY WERE IN THE AIR ABOUT 6 P.M. FRIDAY, WASHINGTON TIME, WHEN ABOUT 110 U.N. TROOPS ENTERED THE JOINT SECURITY AREA. THERE WAS A 15-MAN KOREAN WORK GROUP, ACCOMPANIED BY 30 IN A SECURITY PLATOON ARMED WITH PISTOLS AND CARRYING AX HANDLES. ALSO ALONG WERE 64 REPUBLIC OF KOREA SPECIAL FORCES SOLDIERS, SELECTED FOR THEIR TOUGHNESS AND TRAINED IN THE UNARMED COMBAT STYLE CALLED TAE KWAN-DO.

THEY IMMEDIATELY WRAPPED CHAINS AROUND TWO POLE BARRIERS NEAR THE BRIDGE OF NO RETURN AND, USING TRUCKS, PULLED THEM OVER.

"THE JOINT SECURITY AREA IS A NEUTRAL ZONE ESTABLISHED BY THE 1953 ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, AND THAT TRUCE GUARANTEES THE FREE MOVEMENT AND SECURITY IN THE AREA BY PERSONNEL OF BOTH SIDES," A SPOKESMAN SAID. "THE ROAD BARRIERS ERECTED BY THE NORTH KOREANS WERE ILLEGAL IN THAT THEY WERE USED TO RESTRICT THIS GUARANTEED FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT."

ABOUT 45 MINUTES AFTER THE UNIT ENTERED THE COMPOUND, THE WORK PARTY CARRIED OUT PRESIDENT FORD'S DIRECT ORDER. WITH THREE MOTORIZED CHAIN SAWS, THEY FIRST CUT DOWN BRANCHES OF THE 50-FOOT-HIGH POPLAR TREE.

THEN THEY CUT THROUGH THE 4-FOOT DIAMETER TRUNK, AND THE TREE WAS GONE. NOW 49 AMERICAN SOLDIERS HAVE DIED IN THE PEACE COMPOUND ALONG THE 38TH PARALLEL.

FBIS 04

MOSCOW# WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS FROM ROK WOULD LEAD TO REUNIFICATION

LD191821 MOSCOW IN ENGLISH TO ASIA 1500 GMT 19 AUG 76 LD

(VLADIMIR KOROLEV COMMENTARY)

(TEXT) IN THE UNITED NATIONS A LARGE GROUP OF SOCIALIST AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE PROPOSED TO INCLUDE IN THE AGENDA OF THE COMING 31ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY AN ITEM ON MEASURES TO BRING ABOUT AN EARLY SETTLEMENT IN KOREA. OUR OBSERVER VLADIMIR KOROLEV COMMENTS:

'THE TRAGEDY OF DIVISION HAS BEEN PART OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S LIFE FOR OVER 30 YEARS NOW. THE (?CONSENSUS) OF OPINION IS THAT THE CHIEF BLAME FOR THIS SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS GOES TO THE PRESENCE OF 40,000 AMERICAN TROOPS IN THE SOUTH OF THE PENINSULA. THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS LATELY ON THE POSSIBILITY OF THESE TROOPS BEING MOVED AGAINST THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND EVEN THEIR USING NUCLEAR ARMS. AS SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED, THIS HAS ENCOURAGED THE PUPPET REGIME IN SEOUL TO COMMIT NEW PROVOCATIONS.

THE HEAD OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, PAK SONG-CHOL, ADDRESSING THE NONALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO, GAVE A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY IN KOREA AND OF THE NUCLEAR ARSENAL STOCKPILED BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE SOUTH OF THE PENINSULA.

THE SITUATION IN KOREA FILLS THE KOREAN PEOPLE AND THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC WITH APPREHENSION. YOU PROBABLY REMEMBER THAT THE 30TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CALLED FOR URGENT MEASURES TO SOLVE THE KOREAN PROBLEM. IT APPROVED A RESOLUTION, TABLED (I.E. PROPOSED--FBIS) BY A LARGE GROUP OF NATIONS INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH STRESSED THE NEED FOR THE EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS FROM SOUTH KOREA. BUT THE SEOUL REGIME, WHICH RELIES ON AMERICAN BAYONETS FOR SURVIVAL, HAS BEEN RESISTING THE DECISION.

THE DRAFT RESOLUTION TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEMANDS THAT ALL THE NEW TYPES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND ARMS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR ONES, BE REMOVED FROM SOUTH KOREA WITHOUT DELAY. IT CALLS FOR AN END TO ALL ACTS OF AGGRESSION AGAINST THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE (?REST OF THE) PROVOCATIVE ACTIVITIES PREGNANT WITH GREAT TENSION AND THREAT OF A NEW WAR IN KOREA.

THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS AND ARMS FROM SOUTH KOREA IS A LONG PRESSING PROBLEM. ITS SOLUTION WILL ENABLE THE KOREAN PEOPLE TO SETTLE THEIR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS THEMSELVES WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE, TO ENSURE PEACE AND THE REUNIFICATION OF THEIR COUNTRY. THE CONSTRUCTIVE STEPS TAKEN BY THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC TO THIS END MEET THE INTERESTS OF THE ENTIRE KOREAN PEOPLE. THE SOVIET UNION HAS INVARIABLY SUPPORTED THE REPUBLIC IN ITS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF KOREA ON A DEMOCRATIC BASIS. IT MAINTAINS THAT A SETTLEMENT ALONG THESE LINES CORRESPONDS TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE AND IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE FOR IMPROVING THE SITUATION IN ASIA AND REINFORCING GENERAL PEACE.

20 AUG 0132Z DEH/RB



N151

RW

HYLAND, McFARLANE, LL

U.S.-KOREA LEAD
BY FRED S. HOFFMAN

WASHINGTON (AP) -- THE NAVY AIRCRAFT CARRIER MIDWAY WAS REPORTED PREPARING TODAY TO SAIL FOR KOREAN WATERS, INCREASING THE U.S. MILITARY BUILDUP DESIGNED TO WARN NORTH KOREA AGAINST ATTACKING SOUTH KOREA.

FORD ADMINISTRATION SOURCES SAID THE MIDWAY WAS EXPECTED TO LEAVE YOKOSUKA, JAPAN FOR THE KOREAN AREA WHERE TWO AIR FORCE WARPLANE SQUADRONS WERE SENT THURSDAY FROM OKINAWA AND THE UNITED STATES. THE TRIP IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT 40 HOURS.

OFFICIALS CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE U.S. MILITARY MOVES ARE PRECAUTIONARY AND DO NOT FORESHADOW ANY RETALIATION AGAINST NORTH KOREA FOR THE SLAYING BY NORTH KOREAN GUARDS OF TWO U.S. ARMY OFFICERS IN THE PANMUNJOM TRUCE AREA. IT WAS THIS INCIDENT THAT LED TO THE NEW TENSION IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA.

THE TWO OFFICERS WERE KILLED WEDNESDAY AS THEY SUPERVISED A WORK PARTY PRUNING BRANCHES FROM A TREE IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID FRIDAY NIGHT THAT A UNITED NATIONS COMMAND WORK CREW RETURNED TO THE SITE AT 7 A.M. SATURDAY, KOREAN TIME, AND CUT DOWN THE TREE.

08-20-76 20:23EDT

R78SR A2702ZSARYRCYN
OFFICERS - TREE

WASHINGTON, AUG 20, REUTER - A WORK GROUP OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IN THE KOREAN DEMILITARIZED ZONE HAS CUT DOWN THE TREE THAT TWO AMERICAN OFFICERS WERE PRUNING WHEN THEY WERE KILLED BY NORTH KOREAN BORDER GUARDS ON WEDNESDAY, THE STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TONIGHT.

"AT ABOUT 7 A.M. KOREAN TIME ON AUGUST 21, A U.N. COMMAND WORK GROUP CUT DOWN THE TREE WHICH THE NORTH KOREANS HAD PREVENTED AN EARLIER WORK PARTY FROM PRUNING ON AUGUST 18," THE STATEMENT SAID.

REUTER 2016

R787R S26601ZSARYRZSA

5290T-ATHLETICS

R I

AM-KOREA INSERT 7TH GRAF A215 8-20
XXX POSTURE."

THE STATE DEPARTMENT LATER ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON THAT A U.N. COMMAND WORK GROUP FRIDAY CUT DOWN THE TREE IT HAD BEEN PREVENTED FROM TRIMMING.

PICKUP 8TH GRAF: NORTH KOREA

UPI 08-20 08:30 PED

4291 HFR 8-23



HYLAND, McFARLANE, LL

FBIS 21 FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ANALYSIS NOTE/AG WA

PYONGYANG MEDIA BEHAVIOR

IN THE PAST 24 HOURS NORTH KOREAN MEDIA HAVE NOT ORIGINATED ANY NEW AUTHORITATIVE COMMENT ON THE 18 AUGUST CLASH IN THE PANMUNJON JOINT SECURITY AREA (JSA). REITERATING LONG-STANDING CHARGES OF U.S. WAR PREPARATIONS IN SOUTH KOREA, ROUTINE-LEVEL PRESS AND RADIO COMMENT HAS CONTINUED TO PORTRAY THE INCIDENT AS A FURTHER U.S. EFFORT TO "KINDLE THE FUSE OF WAR," TO EXHORT THE PEOPLE TO BE PREPARED FOR COMBAT, AND TO CALL UPON THE UNITED STATES TO BE RESTRAINED IN THE FACE OF DPRK READINESS. THE DPRK NEWS AGENCY, KCNA, HAS CITED REPORTS OF U.S. MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS TO KOREA.

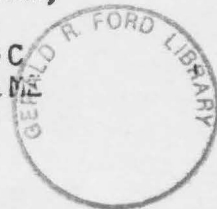
THE LAST AUTHORITATIVE DPRK COMMENT, A 19 AUGUST NODONG SINMUN COMMENTATOR ARTICLE, AND THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S ARMY (KPA) SUPREME COMMAND REPORT CALLING FOR COMBAT READINESS WERE REPEATEDLY BROADCAST IN PYONGYANG DOMESTIC SERVICE PROGRAMS ON THE 19TH, BUT HAVE ONLY BEEN REPEATED ONCE BY THE RADIO ON THE 20TH. (SEE ITEM 02 OF 19 AUGUST FBIS WIRE AND ITEM 76 OF 18 AUGUST FBIS WIRE FOR ANALYSIS OF THE EARLIER PYONGYANG MEDIA TREATMENT OF DPRK-UN COMMAND CLASH.)

DPRK MEDIA ON THE 20TH GENERALLY FOCUSED ON EXHORTING THE PEOPLE TO BE PREPARED FOR AN ATTACK BY THE UNITED STATES AND URGED THE "U.S. IMPERIALISTS...NOT TO MISCALCULATE OUR PEOPLE'S FIRM RESOLVE." IN CALLING UPON THE PEOPLE TO BE PREPARED FOR WAR, PYONGYANG RADIO SPECIFICALLY REFERRED TO THE SUPREME COMMANDER'S ORDER-- REVEALED IN THE 19 AUGUST SUPREME COMMAND REPORT-- FOR ALL FORCES TO BE IN A STATE OF "COMBAT READINESS." BOTH THE PARTY DAILY AND PYONGYANG RADIO EMBELLISHED SOMEWHAT ON THE ORDER BY INDICATING THAT WHILE THE ARMY WAS TO BE MILITARILY PREPARED, OTHERS MUST FULFILL THEIR DUTY BY CONCENTRATING ON ECONOMIC PRODUCTION. THUS, A COMMENTARY IN NODONG SINMUN CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO "FIRMLY KEEP THEIR POSTS" MAINTAINING A "MOBILIZED POSTURE" WHILE "FURTHER EXPEDITING SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION AND INTENSIFYING THE ECONOMIC STRUGGLE." ECONOMIC TASKS WERE ALSO CITED IN A SPECIAL RADIO PROGRAM DIRECTED AT ALL THOSE NAMED IN THE SUPREME COMMAND REPORT--THE ARMY, THE WORKER PEASANT RED GUARDS AND THE YOUNG RED GUARDS.

PEKING AND MOSCOW MEDIA

THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN ANY MONITORED PEKING OR MOSCOW MEDIA COMMENT ON THE JSA INCIDENT. HOWEVER, BEGINNING AT 1943 GMT ON THE 20TH, KCNA ACKNOWLEDGED THE CLASH BY REPORTING THE KCNA AUTHORIZED STATEMENT ON THE INCIDENT, THE DPRK REPORT ON THE 19 AUGUST MAC MEETING AT WHICH THE INCIDENT WAS DISCUSSED, AND THE KPA SUPREME COMMAND REPORT.

21 AUG 0034Z SCT/WK



HYLAND, LL

FBIS 16*****

PAK CHONG-HUI CONDEMNS N. KOREAN PROVOCATION AT DMZ

OW200341 SEOUL HAPTONG IN ENGLISH 0316 GMT 20 AUG 76 OW

(TEXT) SEOUL, AUG 20 (HAPTONG)--PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI, SAYING "WE HAVE NO REASON JUST TO TAKE NORTH KOREAN PROVOCATIONS LYING DOWN," WARNED THAT SOUTH KOREA WOULD TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO RETALIATE NORTH KOREA FOR ANY AND EVERY PROVOCATION IT DARES TO COMMIT IN THE FUTURE.

PAK SAID THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS HAD INTENTIONALLY PICKED UP A FIGHT WITH THE AMERICANS AT THE BORDER TOWN OF PANMUNJOM WEDNESDAY AND HAD COMMITTED THE "BRUTAL MURDERS."

THIS WAS PAK'S FIRST COMMENT ON THE SLAYING BY A GROUP OF NORTH KOREAN GUARDS OF TWO AMERICAN ARMY OFFICERS AT THE JOINT SECURITY AREA OF PANMUNJOM.

TERMING THE BORDER INCIDENT "AN ACT OF AGGRESSIVE PROVOCATION," PAK SAID "WE HAVE A LIMIT IN OUR PATIENCE IN WITHSTANDING SUCH A PROVOCATION."

"A MAD DOG NEEDS A STICK AND SO WE ARE GOING TO RETALIATE NORTH KOREA FOR ITS FUTURE PROVOCATIONS, SMALL AND LARGE," PAK DECLARED.

IN A MESSAGE READ BY DEFENSE MINISTER SO CHONG-CHOL BEFORE THE 13TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISE OF THE THIRD MILITARY ACADEMY, PAK SAID THE REASON WHY THE COMMUNISTS IN THE NORTH HAD INITIATED SUCH A PROVOCATION WAS THAT THEY WANTED TO DIVERT THE WORLD ATTENTION FROM THEIR INTERNAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES.

20 AUG 0426Z BR/TM*****



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05986

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea
CREATION DATE 08/20/1976
VOLUME 3 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)

DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

EXEMPTED

4/14/11

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05985

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea
CREATION DATE 08/20/1976
VOLUME 9 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)

DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

REDACTED

7/30/12

REDACTED

~~TOP SECRET~~

NISR 2-76
20 AUGUST 1976
1400 HOURS

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SITUATION REPORT

DECLASSIFIED w/ portions exempted
E.O. 13526 (as amended) SEC 3.3

MR # 10-331-#9

DOS 3/29/11; NSA 4/5/11; OSD 4/14/11

By dal NARA, Date 10/24/12

CIA 6/24/11; DIA 11/3/11; NSA 7/30/12

KOREA



28

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Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

#2-76
1400 EDT
20 August 1976

National Intelligence Situation Report

K O R E A

Summary

There has been little change in the situation in Korea over the past 12 hours and there have been no new North Korean provocations. North Korean forces remain in a high state of readiness and are expected to maintain this posture in anticipation of a possible US-Republic of Korea military response to the Joint Security Area incident. Pyongyang continues to display caution in the political arena and international reaction has been along expected lines.

Military Situation

North Korean military units continue their high state of alert. Since the issuance of the 19 August "combat readiness" directive by the North Korean Supreme Command, ground units are on "standby" readiness throughout the country. [REDACTED] the forward area, but such activity can be expected in view of the increased alert posture. [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

USSR

CHINA

NORTH KOREA

Uiju

Sunan

PYONGYANG

Hwangju

SEOUL

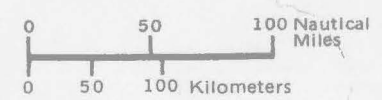
REP. OF
KOREA

Osan

Taegu

CHINA

JAPAN



CI-K-N-2-6/74



~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

Renewed calls for war preparations continue. The most recent occurred today when Pyongyang issued a statement decrying the movement of US aircraft to South Korea. Thus far, the US has deployed a total of 18 F-4s and four RF-4s to Osan and 20 F-111s to Taegu. The aircraft arrived at the bases at 190546 EDT and 200455 EDT August, respectively.

[REDACTED]

International Considerations

[REDACTED] Media interviews with the man on the street in Seoul show that they perceive a renewed threat from the North and people have united solidly behind the Pak government.

Peking has not commented directly on the military measures taken by both sides, but the commentary stopped short, however, of promising Pyongyang all-out support. Comments from several other communist capitals have sided with North Korea. A Hong Kong newspaper has provided the first Chinese reaction. It predictably accused the US and South Korea of provoking the incident to provide a pretext for US failure to implement the North Korean-backed UN General Assembly Resolution on Korea.

Japanese press coverage has been factual and low-key. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The nonaligned summit passed the North Korean resolution condemning "imperialist maneuvers for aggression against Korea." However, it was not a complete triumph for the North as at least 15 nations voiced objections to the resolution.

There still has been no Soviet press comment on the situation, and no

[REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENTIRE PAGE REDACTED



~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

A Singapore Straits Times editorial stated that both sides are always spoiling for a fight but notes that the stern words of President Ford and Secretary Kissinger should be backed up by credible action to deter further unwarranted provocation. The editorial cautioned, however, against US/Republic of Korea rash countermeasures.

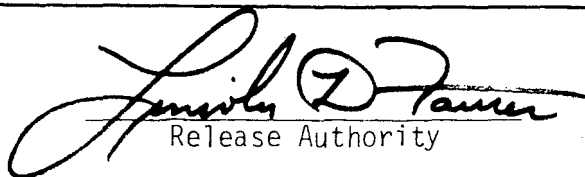
Political Situation

No Peoples Republic of China representatives attended the 19 August Military Armistice Compound meeting, and surprisingly, there were no North Korean guards with the North Korean delegation at the meeting. The meeting of the South-North Red Cross Societies was held at Panmunjom on the 20th, and again neither North Korean guards nor reporters were present. In summary, Pyongyang is still acting cautiously while seeking to portray itself as the victim of US aggression.

Assessment

Although our evidence is limited, we believe that Pyongyang has continued to follow a course that contains much bluster but is essentially defensive.

[REDACTED]


Release Authority

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Vice Director for Production

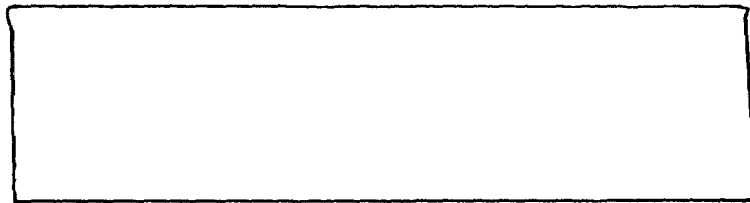


~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

White House (30)
State Department (30)
SECDEF
DEPSECDEF/Clements
DEPSECDEF/Ellsworth
CJCS (2)
DJS
CSG
J-3 (6)
J-4
J-5
DDO/NMCC
ISA (Mr. Abramowitz) (2)
PDDI/Latimer
CIV ASSIST/DEPSECDEF (Mr. Cordesman)
DR
VDPO
DIO (Mr. Desaulniers)
JS
VDP
SecArmy
ACSI DA (4)
SecNav
DNI Navy (4)
SecAF
ACSI USAF (4)
Dir of Intel, USMC (4)
DC
JRC
CIA (30)
IC Staff (10)
NFIB Secretariat for NFIB Principals (10)
NSA (30)
SWS (2)
CS-3



~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~

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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report
DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea, 0200 hours
CREATION DATE 08/20/1976
VOLUME 8 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
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BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)
DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

EXEMPTED

4/14/11

5

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

Telcon from Admiral Holloway 20/0805 *AUG '76*

- Need decision within next three hours
- JCS recommends (in order of priority):
 - 1 - Execute tree chop on schedule
 - 2 - Delay 24 hours (B-52's will still go)
 - 3 - Cancel everything
- JCS recommends against:
 - Artillery option -- "not related"
 - only serve to escalate
 - at inherent disadvantage if North Koreans retaliate in kind
 - helicopter/napalm
 - might not destroy tree literally [leave a charred hulk]
 - might start other indiscriminate fires (accuracy questionable)
 - could lose helicopter
- Other
 - Odds three to 1 in favor of no firefight if tree is only action
 - If firefight ensues, odds equally good it will remain localized in nature.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.0

MR 02-91, #6; DOD Ltr. 4/18/03

dal NARA, Date 6/30/03



SECRET

me 01-15, #8, at. ltr 9/17/01

PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

By del NARA, Date 10/15/01

Situation Report as of 0600 Hours, August 20

Planned US Military Moves: Discussion with President Park

Charge Stern and General Stilwell briefed President Park on the B-52 flights, the deployment of F-111s, and the tree surgery plan. Park reiterated his appreciation of the firm position being taken by the US and his belief that our response should be limited to the present plans for the tree surgery, saying that escalation should only evolve if the North escalates. He had no suggestions for further US actions.

President Park's Public Statement on Incident

In a speech at a military academy graduation exercise read by the Minister of National Defense, Park called the JSA incident "collective murder" and said from now on, "we will have to take immediate punitive actions, whether small or large," against Northern provocations. He also suggested that the provocations were a North Korean means of concealing its "economic bankruptcy" and internal power struggles.

Blue House Opinion on the Incident

Some officials close to President Park believe that North Korea made several errors with the JSA incident. They feel North Korea might have done better to attack South Koreans rather than US troops as the attack will influence US public opinion to the disadvantage of the North whereas an attack on South Koreans would not have had the same impact. They also believe the incident can be used to counter North Korean propaganda at the UNGA. Our Embassy notes that the consciousness of a renewed threat from the North also seems to have had the effect of increasing support for the Park government. The leaders of the government and the opposition political parties have agreed to call a joint meeting of the National Assembly's foreign affairs and national defense committees Saturday to hear reports from ROKG officials on the JSA incident.

North Korean Military Actions

There has been no significant change in North Korean military posture and no movements of major military units reported.

SECRET



World Reaction

International reaction continues to be sparse:

- None of the monitored Arab media have commented on the Panmunjom incident, nor have the media of Cyprus, Greece or Turkey. Most of these have carried factual stories of the incident based on international press reports.
- Southeast and South Asian media reaction is similarly light. Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao media have not mentioned either the incident or the North Korean force alert.
- The London Daily Telegraph calls Kim Il Sung a "meglomaniac Communist dictator" and the "whole affair comes as a reminder that he could send the area up in flames again."
- Havana Radio has reported the incident without mentioning US involvement: "agents of the Park Chung Hee regime created an incident in order to blame the DPRK." An earlier Cuban government statement had not mentioned the incident.
- Field Marshal Idi Amin has supported the attack on the UNC personnel after an explanation by the North Korean Ambassador.



~~SECRET~~

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DOD via LDX
WH "
CIA "
NSA "
JCS "



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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction

TYPE OF MATERIAL Telegram

DESCRIPTION re Panmunjom Incident

CREATION DATE 08/1976

VOLUME 1 page

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064

COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea
CREATION DATE 08/20/1976
VOLUME 9 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)

DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction

TYPE OF MATERIAL Cable

DESCRIPTION re Panmunjom Incident

CREATION DATE 08/21/1976

VOLUME 2 pages

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064

COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Council)

DATE WITHDRAWN 09/29/1993

WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST GG

Exempt 4/11/05

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958 Sec. 3.8

MR 01-15, #10, at 9/17/01

PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

By dal NARA, Date 10/15/01

Situation Report as of 0600 Hours, August 21

Tree Felling Operation

The tree felling and road block removal operation in the Joint Security Area was carried out successfully and according to plan, with no attempt at interference by the North Koreans. At one point, some 50 helmeted NK soldiers gathered just outside the JSA, but did not enter the area.

The Department spokesman at 7:45 p.m. issued the following statement, the only USG public reference so far to the operation: "At about 7 a.m. Korean time on August 21 a UN Command work group cut down the tree which the North Koreans had prevented an earlier work party from pruning on August 18."

North Korean Reaction So Far Restrained

North Korean reaction in the wake of the tree operation has been markedly restrained. There have been no appreciable changes in NK military posture or activity since the tree felling. The North Korean attitude at a MAC meeting held after the incident was remarkably moderate. The only NK media coverage of the incident so far has been a brief Pyongyang domestic radio bulletin. (SEE BELOW)

Mac Meeting

Following the tree felling North Korea called for a closed MAC meeting, which was held from 2300 to 2315 EDT August 20. The North Korean representative delivered a message to the UNC Commander from the KPA Supreme Commander (Kim Il-song) which presumably was a response to the UNC Commander's statement during the previous MAC meeting. The KPA letter reads:

"It was a good thing that no big incident occurred at Panmunjom for a long period. However, it is regrettable that an incident occurred in the Joint Security Area, Panmunjom, this time. An effort must be made so that such incidents may not recur in the future. For this purpose, both sides should make efforts. We urge your side to prevent provocation. Our side will never provoke first but will take self



defensive measures only when provocation occurs. This is our consistent stand."

The KPA representative then made the following statement: I have one thing to add. This morning your side again committed a provocation by bringing hundreds of completely armed personnel into the JSA without any advance notification. Such actions on your part might cause such incidents as the one that occurred on the 18th. I strongly demand that your side commit no such provocations.

Embassy Seoul reports that the atmosphere of the meeting was calm and quiet.

Both the Kim Il-song letter and the KPA rep's statement are exceptionally mild, almost conciliatory in tone.

Pyongyang Radio Bulletin

Pyongyang domestic radio bulletin claimed that the "US imperialists had sent about 300 troops into the JSA and carried out such grave provocations in succession as randomly felling trees, destroying our posts, and destroying road blocks with military trucks." The report charged that "the scoundrels are shamelessly maneuvering to trap us into their war provocation plot by resorting to every means and method." It concluded "The U.S. imperialist aggressors must clearly realize what consequences such a provocative act will bring to them and must act discreetly."

ROKG Comment on Tree Removal

Reuters quotes the ROKG spokesman as reporting that the tree had been felled without any interference from the North Koreans. This showed, the spokesman said, "that peace will be maintained only when we show powerful deterrent strength to the NK communists."

NK Media Condemn US Military Moves (Pre-tree operation)

A commentator article in the August 21 NK party newspaper Nodong Sinmun charged that the US forces alert, the Midway move, and the introduction of F-111's and other additional aircraft into Korea signal "massive military action" against NK. This showed, the article said, that the "US imperialists are moving from the stage of preparing for war to a direct military action to ignite war in our land." An editorial in the same paper and monitored Pyongyang broadcasts take a similar line. The tone and content are harsh



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-3-

but not significantly out of line with what North Korea usually grinds out.

Pyongyang Air Raid Drills

According to the Swedish Ambassador to NK, air raid drills were held in Pyongyang on the night of August 20-21.

Chinese and Soviets Cite Pyongyang on August 18 Incident

Peking radio in English has broadcast what is essentially a Radio Pyongyang account of the August 18 incident. The Chinese broadcast avoids any comments or charges of its own.

A similar account in Pravda on August 20 was the first Soviet report of the incident. Pravda notes the US force alert and that F-4s and F-11s had been flown into the ROK. It attributed the "war preparations" in ROK to the Panmunjom incident.

Aircraft

Two GBU-15 (laser-guided glide bombs) equipped F-4E aircraft transited Elmendorf AFB 10:15 20 August 1976. ETA Osan AF, Korea 6:45 EDT 21 August 1976.



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WH " "
CIA " "
NSA " "
JCS " "



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05828

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report
RECEIVER'S NAME Brent Scowcroft
DESCRIPTION re Panmunjom Incident
CREATION DATE 08/1976
VOLUME 1 page
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Council)
DATE WITHDRAWN 09/29/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST GG

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05977

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Memorandum
CREATOR'S NAME G.E. Cooke, BGEN, USAF
RECEIVER'S NAME Rob Roy Ratliff
DESCRIPTION Re intelligence information
CREATION DATE 08/19/1976
VOLUME 1 page
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)
DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

exempt 9/29/04

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05978

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Memorandum
CREATOR'S NAME A.W. Hagen
CREATOR'S TITLE Maj, USAF
RECEIVER'S NAME RECORD
DESCRIPTION Re intelligence information
CREATION DATE 08/19/1976
VOLUME 2 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)
DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

Exempt 9/29/04

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05982

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction

TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea, 0500 hours

CREATION DATE 08/23/1976

VOLUME 11 pages

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064

COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)

BOX NUMBER A1

FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)

DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993

WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

REDACTED

7/30/12

REDACTED

TOP SECRET

NISR 4-76

23 AUGUST 1976

0500 Hours



NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SITUATION REPORT

KOREA

DECLASSIFIED w/ portions exempted

E.O. 13526 (as amended) SEC 3.3

MRP 10-231, # 11

POS 3/29/11; NSA 4/5/11; OSD 4/14/11

By del NARA, Date 10/24/12

CIA 6/24/11; DIA 11/3/11; NSA 7/30/12

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Exempt From General Declassification
Schedule Of Executive Order 11652
Exemption Category 1 & 2
Declassify On: Unpublishable To Determine

Warning Notice
Sensitive Intelligence Sources and Methods Involved
National Security Information
Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

4-76
0500 EDT
23 August 1976

National Intelligence Situation Report

K O R E A

Summary

There has been no North Korean military reaction to the tree-cutting operation and, although still on alert, there are signs that the armed forces are returning to a more normal status.

A private message to the US from Kim Il-sung indicates his desire to defuse the current crisis. South Korean leaders appear satisfied with the demonstration of US firmness, but want Washington to maintain pressure on the North, including retention in the region of the US military force augmentation.

At this point, the North Koreans may feel that they have achieved some political gains by dramatizing to the world the issue of the US military presence in Korea. However, this has been at the price of a public backdown in the confrontation. In this regard, Pyongyang will probably calculate with increased care before undertaking any new military provocations.



Military Situation

There has been no North Korean military reaction to the tree-clearing operation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] For propaganda purposes, Pyongyang may continue to maintain a "paper alert" long after the armed forces have resumed routine operations. We still see no indication in North Korean activity of hostile intent, nor have we detected any significant military movement. No Soviet or PRC military reaction to the situation has been noted.

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

ENTIRE PAGE REDACTED



~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

Political Situation

The most significant North Korean political response since the August 21 tree-clearing operation is the delivery, three and a half hours later at Panmunjom, of a private message from President Kim Il-sung to the United Nations Commander. The message was conveyed orally and privately by the senior North Korean representative on the Military Armistice Commission to his UN Command counterpart.

This is the official English record of their conversation:

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

BEGIN QUOTE:

KPA First Statement: I have been instructed by the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army to convey his message to the Commander-in-Chief of the United Nations Command side. Quotation: It was a good thing that no big incident occurred at Panmunjom for a long period. However, it is regretful that an incident occurred in the Joint Security Area, Panmunjom, this time. An effort must be made so that such incidents may not recur in the future. For this purpose both sides should make efforts. We urge your side to prevent the provocation. Our side will never provoke first, but take self-defensive measures only when provocation occurs. This is our consistent stand. End of Quotation. I hope that you convey this message to your side's Commander-in-Chief at the quickest possible time.

UNC First Statement: The Supreme Commander KPA message to Commander-in-Chief, United Nations Command, will be delivered by me to CINCUNC in accordance with your desires.

KPA Second Statement: I have one thing to add. This morning your side again committed provocation by bringing hundreds of completely armed personnel in the JSA without any advance notification. Such incidents on your part might cause such one that occurred on the 18th. I strongly demand that your side commit no such provocations.

UNC Second Statement: May I have a copy of the Supreme Commander's message to CINCUNC?

KPA Third Statement: At present I have no copy. I now await your reply to my last statement.

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

UNC Third Statement: Today I met with you at your request only to receive your Supreme Commander's message to CINCUNC. I have nothing further to discuss at this time. If you have any other subjects to discuss, we may do so at a future meeting.

KPA Fourth Statement: I would like to state once more clearly, that the provocation which you committed this morning is a serious one which might cause a serious consequences. Therefore, I hope that you seriously consider this and take responsible measures so that such provocations may not recur. I propose to conclude our meeting.

UNC Fourth Statement: I agree to your proposal to conclude the meeting at this time.

END QUOTE.

Kim Il-sung's message, terming the events of August 18 (when two US officers were killed) "regretful" is an effort on his part to defuse the current military tension. Kim's failure to provide a written statement may be an attempt to avoid losing prestige among Koreans by appearing to have backed down in the confrontation. In their press and radio commentaries, for example, the North Koreans are expressing themselves in characteristically vigorous language, though with notable restraint in the use of threats.

South Korean leaders have expressed general satisfaction with the firmness of the US military response to the August 18 killings. There is particular appreciation of the US effort to coordinate plans with ROK authorities and to involve ROK forces in a meaningful way.



~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

On the other hand, top South Korean leaders have formally expressed to US officials in Seoul a concern that the US might be tempted, in light of Kim Il-sung's admittedly conciliatory statement, to let the North off too easily. The defense minister and the foreign minister, on President Pak's orders, argued for sustained pressure on the North to extract formal apologies, reparations, and assurances of better behavior. The South Koreans advocated maintenance of the augmented US force in South Korea until such objectives are achieved.

[REDACTED]

Assessment

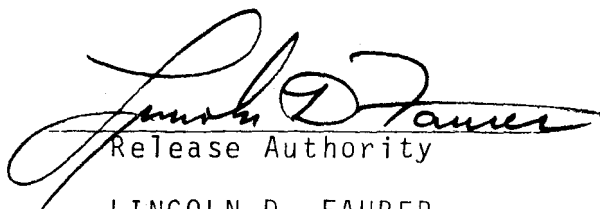
At this point in the current crisis, the North Koreans may see more gains than losses for themselves. They have succeeded in dramatizing to the world the issue of the UN military presence in Korea. They are setting the stage for an intensified diplomatic campaign to win support for their anti-US resolution at the fall session of the UN General Assembly. Pyongyang may also feel that it has opened up new possibilities for direct talks with the US on such quasi-political matters as improved security arrangements at Panmunjom.

On the other hand, the North Koreans have been compelled to back down publicly on the matter at issue, apparently intimidated by the military forces so rapidly brought to bear. Nor can Pyongyang be happy with the lack of international enthusiasm for its cause during the recent crisis. The USSR and China offered only feeble replays of North Korean statements and no significant support. Other communist and left-leaning nations with few exceptions, offered only brief and bland commentary.

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

The outlook at this point is for a continuation of North Korea's diplomatic offensive against the US military presence in Korea. It is likely, however, that Pyongyang will calculate with increased care before undertaking any new military provocations against US forces in the region. [REDACTED]


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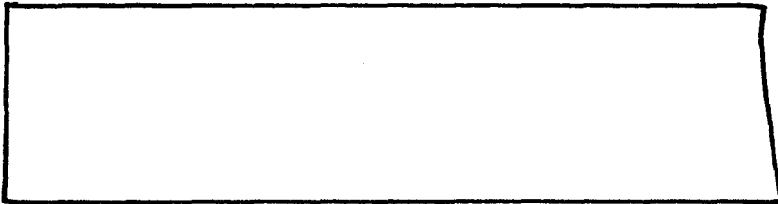


~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

White House (30)
State Department (30)
SECDEF
DEPSECDEF/Clements
DEPSECDEF/Ellsworth
CJCS (2)
DJS
CSG
J-3 (6)
J-4
J-5
DDO/NMCC
ISA (Mr. Abramowitz) (2)
PDDI/Latimer
CIV ASSIST/DEPSECDEF (Mr. Cordesman)
DR
VDPO
DIO (Mr. Desaulniers)
JS
VDP
SecArmy
ACSI DA (4)
SecNav
DNI Navy (4)
SecAF
ACSI USAF (4)
Dir of Intel, USMC (4)
DC
JRC
CIA (30)
IC Staff (10)
NFIB Secretariat for NFIB Principals (10)
NSA (30)
SWS (2)
CS-3



~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~

Hyland, LL

FBIS 06*****

ROK SPOKESMAN REJECTS DPRK MESSAGE TO UNC

SEOUL REPORTS TEXT OF KIM IL-SONG 21 AUG VERBAL MESSAGE

OW230232 SEOUL DOMESTIC SERVICE IN KOREAN 0200 GMT 0200 GMT 23 AUG 76 OW

(TEXT) FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN HONG IL, COMMENTING ON THE 21 AUGUST VERBAL MESSAGE OF KIM IL-SONG IN THE CAPACITY OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE NORTH KOREAN PUPPETS' PEOPLE'S ARMY TO UNC COMMANDER STILLWELL, HAS SAID THAT THE MESSAGE OFFERS NEITHER AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE 18 AUGUST PANMUNJOM MURDER INCIDENT, NOR ACKNOWLEDGES RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INCIDENT. IN ESSENCE, HE ADDED, THE MESSAGE MERELY REPEATED THEIR PREVIOUS STAND.

HONG IL SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE GRAVITY OF THE 18 AUGUST INCIDENT PROVIDED BY THE NORTH KOREAN PUPPETS, THE VERBAL MESSAGE OF THE NORTH KOREAN PUPPET CANNOT BE REGARDED AS SATISFACTORY AND THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE ROK AND THE UNITED STATES SHARE THE VIEW THAT THE MESSAGE IS UNACCEPTABLE.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE CONTENT OF THE MESSAGE WHICH WAS DELIVERED BY HAN CHU-KYONG, THE SENIOR DELEGATE OF THE NORTH KOREAN PUPPET SIDE TO THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION TO ADMIRAL FRUDDEN, SENIOR UNC MAC DELEGATE, ON 21 AUGUST:

IT WAS FORTUNATE THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO SERIOUS INCIDENTS IN PANMUNJOM FOR A LONG TIME, BUT IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT AN INCIDENT OCCURRED IN THE JOINT SECURITY AREA IN PANMUNJOM THIS TIME. AN EFFORT MUST BE MADE SO THAT SUCH INCIDENTS DO NOT RECUR IN THE FUTURE. BOTH SIDES SHOULD MAKE EFFORTS TO THIS END. WE URGE YOUR SIDE TO PREVENT PROVOCATION. OUR SIDE WILL NEVER PROVOKE FIRST, BUT WILL TAKE SELF-DEFENSIVE MEASURES ONLY WHEN A PROVOCATION OCCURS. THIS IS OUR CONSISTENT POSITION.

THAT WAS THE FULL CONTENT OF KIM IL-SONG'S VERBAL MESSAGE WHICH THE SENIOR MAC DELEGATE OF THE NORTH KOREAN PUPPET SIDE DELIVERED TO ADMIRAL FRUDDEN, SENIOR MAC DELEGATE OF THE UNC SIDE, ON 21 AUGUST.

23 AUG 0313Z MJL/NB*****



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05834

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction

TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

TITLE Panmunjom Incident

DESCRIPTION Final situation report as of 0600
hours, August 22

CREATION DATE 08/22/1976

VOLUME 1 page

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064

COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Council)

DATE WITHDRAWN 09/29/1993

WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST GG

~~RESTRICTED~~

10/15/01

14
~~SECRET~~/SENSITIVE

PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

Final Situation Report as of 0600 Hours, August 22

Situation Remains Calm

North Korean tactical aircraft were identified as airborne for the first time since August 18, presumably taking advantage of a break in the weather to make 30 minute flights for training or weather observation. Rain and low visibility are forecast for the area above the DMZ August 23-24.

The Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang reported that there have been no additional air raid drills in the city.

Media Reaction

The latest North Korean media commentary follows along previous lines, calling the tree cutting an unpardonable open challenge carried out under direct instructions of U.S. "ruling circles". Commentary also lists U.S. military moves to support assertion that the U.S. is trying to ignite a war. However, commentary also includes the theme that the U.S. should be aware of North Korean readiness and act "discreetly" and "sensibly".

Yugoslavia Reportedly Urged North Korea to Raise Tensions

A [redacted] source, much of whose reporting has been reliable, stated sometime the week of August 9 that a member of the Executive Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia took with him on his vacation trip to North Korea a message from President Tito to Kim Il-song. Tito reportedly advised Kim to raise in as sharp a manner as possible prior to the Non-Aligned Conference the question of Korean reunification and the presence of U.S. troops in South Korea, and if possible to provoke some clash or violation at the DMZ. [redacted] comments that the chronology of acquisition of the above information makes it virtually impossible that the source could have known about the August 18 incident.



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With PORTIONS EXEMPTED
E.O. 12958 Sec. 1.5 (c)

11
MIA-15, #23; At. rev. 9/17/01
By dal NARA, Date 10/15/01

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05983

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report
DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Panmunjom Incident
CREATION DATE 08/21/1976
VOLUME 3 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)
DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

REDACTED 8/7/04

DECLASSIFIED • E.O. 12958 SEC. 3.8
WITH PORTIONS EXEMPTED
E.O. 12958 SEC. 1.5 (c)

SECRET

MR 01-19 #24; CIA-ULL 11/30/05

PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

BY dal NARA DATE 8/7/06

Situation Report as of 1800 Hours, August 21

Aftermath of Tree Felling Operation

The situation in Korea following the tree felling operation remains calm.

Augmentation of U.S. Forces in Korea and the War Powers Resolution

Deputy Legal Adviser George Aldrich informs us he has concluded that the War Powers Resolution does not require a War Powers Report to the Congress on the augmentation of U.S. forces in Korea. Aldrich believes it would be an undesirable precedent to construe the Resolution, which is primarily concerned with numbers of personnel and not equipment, as requiring a report where a relatively small number of personnel have been added to an existing force. Defense is being notified of this view. The 48-hour deadline for such a report, if it were required, expires at 0455 EDT, August 22.

North Korean Involved in Hit and Run Case

New York Police have reported to USUN that a member of the North Korean Observer Mission to the UN was the driver of a car that struck and slightly injured a bicyclist in New York City. The North Korean fled the scene of the accident. The New York police, at USUN's urging, are attempting to locate witnesses who may be able to identify the driver of the car. The Mission has not cooperated with New York police in the past. We may wish to consider declaring the Mission member persona non grata.

Media Reaction

-- Department Spokesman Brown was told by DOD that Newsweek is undertaking extensive interviewing in Korea and plans a major story on the tree felling for its edition to appear August 23.

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-- The Associated Press has filed extensive coverage of the tree felling operation.

-- A Reuter's report from Japan quotes the North Korean Central News Agency of accusing the U.S. of provocation by sending a helicopter into North Korean airspace along the DMZ. This apparently refers to the helicopter which was fired upon during the tree felling operation as it flew along the northeast corner of the JSA.

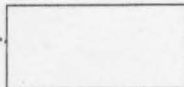
-- KCNA has also stated that the movement of the Midway and the other deployments clearly shows that the "provocation" in the JSA was "a carefully prearranged and deliberate one aimed at finding a pretext to unleash another war." The KCNA also denounced the Secretary's mention of reparations as an attempt to shift responsibility for this provocation.

-- The London Times suggests that the Panmunjom incident was violence in line with "North Korea's wish to draw attention to the survival of this tense boundary and that Kim Il-song may have hoped to influence either the anti-imperialist sentiments of the Non-Aligned Conference in Colombo or the American political scene."

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*Korean
File*

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Hyland, LL

AM-KOREA-INQUIRY 8-24

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- REP. JOHN MURPHY, D-N.Y., BACKED BY 66 OTHER HOUSE MEMBERS, TUESDAY PROPOSED A CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER OF TWO AMERICANS BY NORTH KOREAN TROOPS, AND URGED THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY.

MURPHY SUGGESTED THE MOVES IN TWO RESOLUTIONS HE INTRODUCED, EACH WITH 66 CO-SPONSORS. HE ALSO INTRODUCED A THIRD MEASURE WITH 70 CO-SPONSORS THAT WOULD PUT THE HOUSE ON RECORD AS CONDEMNING THE MURDERS AND EXPRESSING REGRETS TO SURVIVORS.

MURPHY SAID THE AX MURDERS OF MAJ. ARTHUR G. BONIFAS AND 1ST LT. MARK T. BARRETT ON AUG. 18 ONLY "REPRESENT THE CULMINATION OF A LONG SERIES OF NORTH KOREAN VIOLATIONS OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT."

"DURING THE PAST 23 YEARS, 49 AMERICANS AND 1,000 REPUBLIC OF KOREA ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN ADDITION TO MANY MORE THAT HAVE BEEN WOUNDED IN THE KOREAN DEMILITARIZED ZONE," SAID MURPHY, A STRONG SUPPORTER OF CONTINUED U.S. MILITARY AID TO SOUTH KOREA.

IN ADDITION TO THE CONDEMNATION RESOLUTION, MURPHY'S SECOND MEASURE WOULD INSTRUCT THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE "TO MAKE A STUDY" OF THE LATEST ATTACKS AND REPORT BACK TO THE FULL HOUSE BY JAN. 3, 1977, WITH ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ACTION.

THE THIRD MEASURE IS A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUIRING SENATE APPROVAL THAT STATES THE "SENSE OF CONGRESS" THAT THE PRESIDENT PUT THE LATEST ATTACK ON THE UNITED NATIONS AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AS A "THREAT TO THE PEACE ..."

"IT IS OBVIOUS THAT ANY UNIFICATION (OF THE TWO KOREAS) WILL BE BROUGHT ABOUT BY BRUTE FORCE AND THAT THESE MAD DOG ACTS OF PERFIDY AND MURDER BY THE PROTEGES OF THE INTERNATIONAL GANGSTER, NORTH KOREA'S KIM IL SUNG, WOULD GO ON UNABATED," SAID MURPHY.

DUPLICATE TO 8-WIRE POINTS

UPI 08-24 10:05 PED



NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

WITHDRAWAL ID 05980

REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea, 0900 hours
CREATION DATE 08/25/1976
VOLUME 7 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
Security Advisors)
BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)

DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

REDACTED

11/3/11

SECRET

NISR 6-76

25 AUGUST 1976

0900 Hours



NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SITUATION REPORT

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KOREA

DECLASSIFIED w/ portions exempted
E.O. 13526 (as amended) SEC 3.3

DIA 113/11 MR # 10-231-1113 CIA 4/24/11
DOS 3/29/11 NSA 4/5/11 OSD 4/14/11
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0900 EDT

25 August 1976

National Intelligence Situation Report

K O R E A

Summary

..... North Korean actions at the Military Armistice Commission meeting this morning were generally restrained and indicated an interest in pursuing discussion of the issue of personnel security in the Joint Security Area. In the near term, North Korea will probably continue to attempt to defuse the current crisis.

Military Situation

UN Command forces remain in DEFCON 3. The additional two tactical fighter squadrons--the F-4 squadron at Kunsan and the F-111 squadron at Taegu--deployed to Korea in the wake of the August 18 incident remain there.

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Political Situation

At the scheduled meeting of the Military Armistice Commission this morning (1600 Korean time on 25 August), the North Koreans proposed complete separation of the security personnel of the two sides as one way to avoid further violent incidents in the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom. Specifically, they suggested that guard posts of the two parties be set up only on their respective sides of the military demarcation line as it runs through the Joint Security Area. North Korean press and radio commentary suggested that separation be enforced even in the conference hall at the site. The commentaries argued in restrained language for the "reasonableness" of the Northern proposal which, in effect, substantially modifies the agreed 1953 ground rules of the Military Armistice Commission.

At the same time, however, the North Korean senior representative at the Military Armistice Commission meeting evaded direct comment on the UN representative's demand that Pyongyang ensure the safety of UN Command personnel at Panmunjom and punish those responsible for the 18 August murders.

Meanwhile, a South Korean news service has characterized the North Korean posture these past few days as a virtual "capitulation."

Assessment

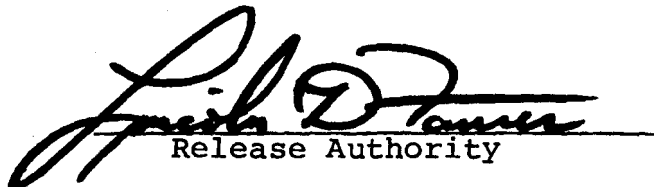
Our best judgment is that the North Korean Armed Forces are not preparing any major military response to US actions. Since the August 18 incident at Panmunjom, North Korean actions have been primarily cautious and defensive in nature and have not reflected intent to conduct open hostilities. The military alert, publicly announced on August 19, will likely remain in effect until Pyongyang is convinced that the threat of military action by the US and its South Korean ally has been reduced. In the near term, North Korea will probably continue to attempt to defuse the current crisis. In the longer term, however, Pyongyang will continue to try to



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focus world attention on the US presence in Korea, emphasizing claims that the US is responsible for tensions on the peninsula. In this respect, we would expect continuing harassment, propaganda, and diplomatic initiative. We would, however, expect North Korea to avoid actions that could lead to new confrontations with US forces. (SECRET



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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction

TYPE OF MATERIAL Report

DESCRIPTION Situation report--Korea

CREATION DATE 08/25/1976

VOLUME 3 pages

COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064

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8/18/76 (1)-(3)

DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993

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REASON FOR WITHDRAWAL National security restriction
TYPE OF MATERIAL Report
DESCRIPTION Situation Report--Korea, 1200 hours
CREATION DATE 08/24/1976
VOLUME 6 pages
COLLECTION/SERIES/FOLDER ID . 027500064
COLLECTION TITLE HENRY A. KISSINGER AND BRENT SCOWCROFT
PARALLEL FILE OF DOCUMENTS OPENED FROM
UNPROCESSED COLLECTIONS (National
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BOX NUMBER A1
FOLDER TITLE Korea - North Korean Tree Incident,
8/18/76 (1)-(3)
DATE WITHDRAWN 10/08/1993
WITHDRAWING ARCHIVIST KBH

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Hyland, LL

FIRST EXPANDED SUMMARY-TAKE 3

KOREA

NORTH KOREA PROPOSED TODAY THAT ITS TROOPS AND THOSE OF THE U-S BE SEPARATED PHYSICALLY IN THE PANMUNJOM TRUCE VILLAGE TO PREVENT CLASHES LIKE THE ONE IN WHICH TWO AMERICANS WERE KILLED LAST WEEK.

GUARDS FOR EACH SIDE WOULD BE SEPARATED BY THE MILITARY DEMARCATION LINE RUNNING THROUGH THE CENTER OF THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. THE DEMARCATION LINE DIVIDES THE PANMUNJOM SECURITY AREA EXACTLY IN HALF.

THE NORTH KOREANS ALSO REPEATED A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT KIM IL-SUNG TERMING THE FIGHT LAST WEDNESDAY "REGRETFUL," BUT DECLINING TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY.

THE U-S NEGOTIATOR AT TODAY'S PANMUNJOM CONFERENCE -- REAR ADMIRAL MARK FRUDDEN -- CALLED THE PROPOSAL AND THE ACCOMPANYING EXPRESSION OF REGRET "A POSITIVE STEP." BUT HE SAID IT'S STILL

"UNSATISFACTORY," AND HE PRESSED NORTH KOREA TO BE MORE SPECIFIC.

EARLIER TODAY. NORTH KOREAN RADIO ACCUSED THE U-S OF STAGING LAST WEEK'S INCIDENT.

06:19AED 08-25-76



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PM-KOREA SKED 8-25

PICTURE

BY PAUL SHIN

PANMUNJOM, KOREA (UPI) -- THE UNITED STATES FORMALLY CALLED ON NORTH KOREA TODAY TO PUNISH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING TWO AMERICAN OFFICERS IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE LAST WEEK.

U.S. NAVY REAR ADM. MARK FRUDDEN, CHIEF DELEGATE OF THE U.N. COMMAND, MET WITH NORTH KOREAN ARMY MAJ. GEN. HAN JU-KYONG IN THE 380TH MEETING OF THE KOREAN ARMISTICE COMMISSION.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED BY THE UNITED STATES TO SEEK ASSURANCES FOR THE SAFETY OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL ALONG THE KOREAN TRUCE FRONT.

FRUDDEN DEMANDED FIRM ASSURANCES FROM NORTH KOREA FOR THE SAFETY OF UNC PERSONNEL ALONG THE BORDER, BUT HAN SAID A MESSAGE BY NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT KIM IL-SUNG LAST SATURDAY EXPRESSING REGRET FOR THE ASSAULT CONTAINED EVERYTHING.

"WE CONSIDER THIS STATEMENT OF YOURS A POSITIVE STEP," FRUDDEN REPLIED. "HOWEVER, THE FACT REMAINS THAT TWO U.S. OFFICERS WERE BRUTALLY BEATEN TO DEATH WITHOUT PROVOCATION AND THAT FACT CALLS FOR PUNISHMENT OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACT."

THE TWO AMERICANS, CAPT. ARTHUR BONIFAS, 33, OF NEWBURGH, N.Y., AND 1ST LT. MAK BARRETT, 25, OF COLUMBIA, S.C., WERE ACCOMPANYING A TREE-TRIMMING WORK PARTY IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE AUG. 18 WHEN THEY WERE HACKED TO DEATH BY NORTH KOREAN GUARDS. BOTH WERE BURIED WITH MILITARY HONORS TUESDAY.

A UNC WORK PARTY RETURNED TO THE SITE SATURDAY AND, WITH HEAVILY ARMED TROOPS AND HELICOPTERS LOOKING ON, CUT DOWN THE POPLAR TREE.

THE UNITED STATES FIRST REJECTED KIM'S MESSAGE OF REGRET AS UNACCEPTABLE, SINCE IT DID NOT CONTAIN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ATTACK. BUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT LATER SOFTENED ITS POSITION AND SAID THE MESSAGE WAS A "POSITIVE STEP."

THE NAFWO PRESS, A PRIVATE SOUTH KOREAN NEWS AGENCY, TODAY SAID KIM'S MESSAGE REPRESENTED A VIRTUAL "CAPITULATION," FORCED BY STRONG AMERICAN REACTION TO THE KILLING.

THE 42,000 U.S. TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA WERE PLACED ON ALERT AND TWO AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS MIDWAY, A GUIDED MISSILE CRUISER AND FOUR FRIGATES WERE DISPATCHED OFF SOUTH KOREA AFTER THE SLAYINGS.

THE UNITED STATES ALSO FLEW IN TWO SQUADRONS OF F4 PHANTOMS, SNA F111 FIGHTER-BOMBERS AND THREE F52 STRATEGIC BOMBERS TO BASES IN SOUTH KOREA.

NORTH KOREA'S 563,000 REGULAR FORCE AND 1.5 MILLION-MEMBER MILITARY UNITS WERE PLACED ON FULL ALERT SHORTLY AFTER THE SLAYINGS.

UPI 08-25 04:44 AED

Hyland, Hatching, LL

