

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APPR _____ DRAFT _____
CLEAR 1 _____ 2 _____
3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____
6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

SECRET

RELEASED IN FULL

R1224

EAP/K:JGOLDSTEIN:JLG
04/11/96 75727 SEKPOL 8674
S/NIS:JHERBST

EAP:WORLD
EAP:TCHUBBARD
P:DRUSSEL
S/S-O:

NSC:
EAP/K:DBROWN
S/S:

IMMEDIATE MOSCOW

IMMEDIATE SEOUL

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR PICKERING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 4/11/2016

TAGS: PREL, US, KN, KS, RS

SUBJECT: INFORMING RUSSIA OF NEW US-ROK PEACE PLAN

1. SECRET -- ENTIRE TEXT.
Classified by S/NIS Deputy Coordinator John Herbst.
Reason 1.5(d), 1.6X6.

ACTION REQUEST

2. Ambassador Pickering should convey the following advance information about a ROK-US peace initiative to Foreign Minister Primakov or other senior MFA official on Monday, April 15, stressing the need to maintain confidentiality until Presidents Clinton and Kim announce the initiative on April 16. End Action Request.

TALKING POINTS

3. Following talking points are for the Ambassador's use in briefing the GOR.

Begin Talking Points:

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

2

- As Deputy Secretary Talbott mentioned during his visit last week we have been seeking ways to encourage a constructive process toward peace on the Korean peninsula.
- I have been asked to provide you with advance information on a proposal that will be announced during President Clinton's stop in Korea.
- ~~When the ROKG invited President Clinton to stop in~~ Korea, it also suggested that the President's stop would provide a good forum for announcing a new, constructive proposal for engaging North Korea.
- Consequently, at a press conference on April 16, the two Presidents will propose to convene a Four Party Meeting of representatives of the ROK, DPRK, US and PRC as soon as possible, and without preconditions. The purpose of this meeting would be to initiate a process aimed at achieving a permanent peace.
- We agreed to the ROK proposal out of a belief that it is very important to security and stability in Northeast Asia to explore ways for the North and South to engage and improve their relations.
- We have worked quietly with the ROKG to craft a constructive proposal. This proposal reflects ROKG concerns. While we are not certain if it will be acceptable to the DPRK, we hope it will lead to a process toward peace.
- We hope the fact that this plan is being announced jointly by Presidents Clinton and Kim will convince the North that this is not simply a propaganda ploy but a serious, constructive initiative. To stress the seriousness of the proposal, both we and the ROK will brief the DPRK before the public announcement.
- The US understands that the security situation in Korea is an issue of deep interest to Russia as well. That is why we are briefing you in advance on this new initiative.
- The efforts which DPM Ignatencko and VFM Panov made last week to urge the DPRK to abide by the armistice and avoid provocations on the DMZ and seek dialogue with the ROK were very positive.

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

3

- Russia and the United States have worked together to promote peace around the world.
- We would like to do the same in Northeast Asia. You are a neighbor of the Koreans and, like us, have great interest in stability on the Korean Peninsula.
- It would be helpful if you could find a way to convey to the DPRK that this is a serious proposal and to encourage them to explore its possibilities.
- It is not clear whether and how a process towards peace may unfold. Recognizing that we share a common desire to promote stability on the peninsula, I can assure you that the US will continue to consult with Russia on these matters.
- I'm sure you can understand the sensitivity of this new initiative. It is critical that no word of the initiative leak to the press before the Presidents make their announcement.

(If Asked:)

- We have had some preliminary consultations with the Chinese, but are not yet certain what if any role they are willing to play in this process.
- We agreed with the ROK that the Four Party formula was most workable as it involves the three countries with troops deployed on the peninsula and China, a direct participant in the Korean War and the armistice.

End Talking Points.

YY

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED