

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(U) ISSUE: Korean Request to Coproduce the Thick Walled Cannons

(S) DISCUSSION: Dr. DeLauer, USDR&E, met with Representative Stratton, D-NY, on 21 September 1981 to discuss outstanding issues relating to foreign requests to manufacture thick-walled cannons. Based on these discussions, an immediate message was released on 28 September 1981 to CJUSMAGK Seoul for DepSecDef's party which provided information for him to use in his discussions with Korean officials. The message asked that he convey the following U.S. position:

-- The U.S. Government confirms its position that any arrangement under which Korea would coproduce the M109A2 howitzer would require that the M185 cannon and the M178 gun mount assembly be procured from the U.S. under foreign military sales (FMS).

-- The U.S. Government has reexamined its previous position regarding Korean coproduction of the M68 cannon for its M48 tank upgrade program and for its indigenous tank (ROKIT) program. Korea is authorized to manufacture the M68 cannon for both endeavors with the stipulation that the forgings for each M68 cannon manufactured by Korea be procured under FMS. This authorization is limited to Korean manufacture of the M68 cannon for indigenous use only.

Army is taking immediate action to provide the requisite number of cannon forgings beginning as early as November to preclude delay in Korea's M48 tank upgrade program.

(S) ACTION TAKEN: DepSecDef should provide this position to Korean officials. We are working with the Army to meet Korean delivery requirements and anticipate a prompt response to an incoming CJUSMAGK Seoul immediate message of 29 September 1981 which requests initial delivery of 30-40 M68 forgings (copy attached).

5 USC 552

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 18 Feb 2016 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: _____
MDR: 16 -M- 0900

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: FEB 18 2016

~~Classified by: Director, D3AA~~
~~Declassify on: 29 September 1987.~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

16-M-0900

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF MESSAGE CENTER

OTTCZYUW RUAGOTC3554 2720724
IMMEDIATE
O 290333Z SEP 81

FM CJUSMAGK SEOUL KOREA //MKDA-A//

TO SECDEF WASHINGTON DC //DSAA/OPS-E//

INFO DA WASHINGTON DC //DALO//
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC //PM-SAS//
AMEMBASSY SEOUL KS //MILPOL// CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

BT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: KOREAN COPRODUCTION OF THICK-WALLED CANNONS.

A. YOUR 281848Z SEP 81, SAB.

1. ~~let~~ ROKG TO BE NOTIFIED OF REF CONTENTS SHORTLY. IN ANTICIPATION OF POSITIVE RESPONSE, INFO REGARDING SHIPMENT OF FORGINGS REQUIRED.

2. ~~let~~ ROKG PREVIOUSLY STATED THAT 70 TUBES WERE REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY. OUR ANALYSIS INDICATES THAT THEY COULD KEEP PRODUCTION LINE MOVING WITH CRASH ACTION TO DELIVER 30 - 40 TUBES WITH REMAINDER OF 146 TUBES TO BE DELIVERED AT A MORE NORMAL PACE.

3. ~~let~~ REQUEST YOUR PROGNOSIS REGARDING DELIVERY OF FIRST 30 OR 40 TUBES AND WHAT ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED BY ROKG/JUSMAG-K FOR THOSE TUBES PLUS REMAINDERB.

~~DECL 29 SEP 85~~

BT

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WWS
Date: FEB 18 2016

ACTION USDP (15) (M)
INFO USDRE (3) DPSECDEF (1) SECDEF: (1) SECDEF (7) NMIC (1)
SWS (1) AAT-X (1) DIO (1) VP-A2 FRD (1) DE (1) DB-2 (1)
DB-2D (1) DB-4A (1) DB-5 (1) DIA (1)

MCN=81272/00921 TOR=81272/0723Z TAD=81272/0748Z CDSN=MAJ359

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 1 OF 1
290333Z SEP 81