

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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SECT 1 & 2 OF 6

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WM
Date: JUL 30 2018

~~SECRET~~ EXCLUSIVE SECTION 01 OF 02
~~SECRET~~ EXCLUSIVE FOR MR. RUMSFELD, SECDEF, FROM MR. MCAULIFFE, ASD:ISA

DELIVER DURING NORMAL DUTY HOURS
 SECRETARY RUMSFELD'S PRIVATE MEETING WITH MINISTER SUH -- 9TH ANNUAL SECURITY CONSULTATIVE MEETING (SCM)
 1. AS SCHEDULED, SECRETARY RUMSFELD MET PRIVATELY WITH THE KOREAN MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, MR. SUH, MORNING OF 27 MAY FOR TWO FULL HOURS. THE DISCUSSIONS WERE STRAIGHTFORWARD AND SUBSTANTIVE. A NUMBER OF ISSUES WERE COVERED, BUT NO SIGNIFICANT DISAGREEMENTS OR DIFFERENCES SURFACED. THE MINISTER WAS RELAXED THROUGHOUT AND SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH THE MEETING. A SUMMARY OF THE MAIN TOPICS FOLLOWS:
 2. U.S. FORCES IN KOREA: THE SECRETARY INITIATED THE MEETING BY ASSURING THE MINISTER THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO MAINTAIN A SIGNIFICANT FORCE LEVEL IN KOREA AND HAS NO PRESENT PLANS FOR WITHDRAWAL. HE RECALLED THAT THIS IS IN ACCORD WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S PACIFIC DOCTRINE WHICH STRESSES U.S. COMMITMENT TO PEACE

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AND SECURITY ON THE PENINSULA AND SHOULD PREVENT THE NORTH KOREANS FROM MISCALCULATING OUR FIRM RESOLVE. THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT THERE MIGHT BE MINOR ADJUSTMENTS UP OR DOWN AS WE WERE CONTINUALLY LOOKING FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE OUR QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY BUT THAT WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT KOREA IN AN EFFECTIVE WAY.

MINISTER SUH EMPHASIZED HOW MUCH THAT U.S. PLEDGES MEANT TO THE MORALE OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO THE SECRETARY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO DETERRENCE HAD INSPIRED THE KOREAN PEOPLE TO CONCENTRATE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. SIGNIFICANTLY, HE SUGGESTED THAT IF NORTH KOREA MADE A MISCALCULATED THRUST AGAINST THE ROK, THE REACTION SHOULD NOT ONLY BE SWIFT, BUT THAT ONE SHOULD NOT RULE OUT STRIKING NORTH AT THE HEART OF THEIR POWER.

3. SECURITY ASSISTANCE: THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE FORCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND CONGRATULATED THE MINISTER ON THE PROFESSIONALISM OF KOREAN PLANNING. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT WE WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE 421 M-48 TANKS FOR UPGRADE IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE BALANCE OF ARMOR AND QUOTED PRICES -- \$88,000 FOR AN UNSERVICEABLE TANK AND \$96,000 FOR A SERVICEABLE ONE. HE FURTHER OFFERED TO EXPEDITE THE LOA FOR SALE OF 70 REDEYE MISSILES BE EMPLOYED IN THE DEFENSE OF THE NORTHWEST ISLANDS AND EXPLAINED THAT THEY WERE TO BE USED SPECIFICALLY FOR THAT PURPOSE. HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE U.S. TO AGREE TO SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE LEVELS BUT THAT THE PRESIDENT DOES INTEND TO SEEK HIGH LEVELS OF FMS CREDIT FOR MUTUALLY AGREED PROGRAMS.

THE MINISTER OUTLINED HIS THINKING ON THE FIP AND EXPRESSED SOME DISTRESS THAT INFLATION WAS GENERATING INCREASED FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS. WHILE THE MONEY NEEDED WOULD VARY DEPENDING ON A NUMBER OF FACTORS, IT WAS STILL THE ROK'S INTENTION TO MEET THE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT GOALS. IT NOW LOOKS AS IF THERE WOULD BE A \$1.4 BILLION SHORTFALL OVER THE YEARS 1977-80 WHICH IN TURN WOULD REQUIRE ABOUT \$300 MILLION ANNUALLY IN FMS CREDIT. HE FULLY APPRECIATED THAT THE USG IS UNABLE TO COMMIT FUNDS FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE BUT HE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELP THAT WE COULD GIVE.

HE WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED ABOUT THE REDEYE OFFER AND ASKED THAT FOLLOW-UP ACTION BE TAKEN ASAP. HE THEN ADDRESSED THE M-48 TANKS. THE MINISTER QUERIED THE SECRETARY AS TO WHETHER THE QUOTED PRICES WERE FINAL OR NEGOTIABLE AT THE POLICY LEVEL. IN PASSING, HE MENTIONED THAT HE REMEMBERED AN ACTUAL INSTANCE LESS THAN A YEAR AGO WHEN SIMILAR TANKS WERE OFFERED FOR SALE BETWEEN \$20-\$30,000.

THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE \$88,000 AND \$96,000 FIGURES TO BE THE BOTTOM PRICE, BUT SO THERE WOULD BE NO MISUNDER-

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STANDING, HE WOULD ASK SECRETARY MCAULIFFE TO EXAMINE THE MATTER AGAIN. AT THE SAME TIME, HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE IS A PRESSING DEMAND IN OTHER PLACES FOR THESE TANKS.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS: THE SECRETARY THEN EXPLAINED THAT IN THE DEBATE IN CONGRESS ADDRESSING THE KOREAN TROOP PRESENCE AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE WE WERE HEARING MORE AND MORE ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOREA, THE FRASER AMENDMENT WHICH THREATENS TO LIMIT FMS FOR KOREA CITED THE ROK'S EFFORTS TO SILENCE ITS CRITICS, WHILE THE ADMINISTRATION ATTEMPTS TO DIVORCE SECURITY ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE FACT REMAINS THAT SUPPORT FOR THE ROK IS ERODING AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND IN CONGRESS, BECAUSE OF THE STRONG FEELING IN THE U.S. ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT BE AWARE OF THIS AND MAKE AN EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN THE HAND OF THOSE IN THE CONGRESS WHO WANT TO SUPPORT THE ROK.

MINISTER SUH EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE FOR PRESIDENT FORD'S EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF THE ROK. HE WENT ON TO BLAME THE FOREIGN PRESS FOR PAINTING A DISTORTED PICTURE OF CONDITIONS IN KOREA AND EXPLAINED THAT THE ROK IS A COUNTRY GOVERNED BY LAW AND A CONSTITUTION ADOPTED BY POPULAR MANDATE. HE INSISTED THAT THERE IS NO DISCRIMINATION AND ENDED THE DISCUSSION OF THIS TOPIC BY AGAIN EXPRESSING HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE USG'S EFFORTS TO HELP THE ROK.

5. THIRD COUNTRY PURCHASE AND SALES: THE SECRETARY TOLD THE MINISTER THAT HE WAS AWARE OF ASSURANCES THAT SUH GAVE FORMER SECRETARY SCHLESINGER LAST YEAR CONCERNING THIRD COUNTRY SALES AND APPRECIATED ROK'S EFFORTS TO CONSULT IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR MUNITIONS CONTROL LAWS BEFORE SELLING CERTAIN ITEMS TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THE MINISTER REPLIED THAT THE ROK POLICY ON THIRD COUNTRY SALES REMAINS UNCHANGED.

6. NUCLEAR MATTERS: THE SECRETARY CONGRATULATED THE MINISTER ON THE ROK DECISION NOT TO PROCEED WITH ITS PLAN FOR A NUCLEAR PROCESSING PLANT, EXPLAINING THAT ANY OTHER DECISION WOULD HAVE HAD AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF U.S.-ROK RELATIONSHIPS. THE MINISTER MADE ONE COMMENT -- THE ROK HAS NO PLANS INVOLVING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

7. U.S. SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DEFENSE INDUSTRY: MINISTER SUH BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. SEOUL HAS DONE VERY WELL IN THIS AREA BUT WOULD LIKE MORE IN THE WAY OF TECHNICAL DATA. AS A RESULT OF U.S. SUPPORT, CO-PRODUCTION OF M-16 RIFLES, AND TACTICAL RADIOS IS PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY, BUT THE ROK WOULD LIKE TO DO MORE. THE MINISTER VISITED GENERAL DYNAMICS LAST WEEK TO SEE THE F-16. THE ROK WISHES TO CO-PRODUCE THE F-16 AND THE MINISTER REQUESTED THAT THIS PROJECT BE GIVEN FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION. THE SECRETARY REPLIED THAT WE WERE SYMPATHETIC TO SUCH REQUESTS.

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Office of the Secretary of Defense

Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

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