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APPEALS PANEL ACTION: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEASED
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

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APPROVED BY: S/S:SDMULL

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

Classification Extended on : 02/22/2017 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL
~ Authority: DSCG 11-1 ~ Declassify on: 06/25/2025~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STATE 121925~~EXDIS~~ **DECAPTIONED**E.O. 12958: DECL: (AFTER KOREAN REUNIFICATION)
TAGS: OVIP (ALBRIGHT, MADELINE K.), PREL, KS, KN
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH ROK FOREIGN MINISTER LEE
JOUNG-BINN ON JUNE 23, 2000, IN SEOUL, KOREACLASSIFIED BY DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STEVE MULL.
REASONS: 1.5 (B), (D).

1. (U) JUNE 23, 2000, 16:00, ROK FOREIGN MINISTRY, SEOUL.

2. (U) PARTICIPANTS:

U.S.:

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THE SECRETARY

STEPHEN BOSWORTH, AMBASSADOR

ELAINE SHOCAS, CHIEF OF STAFF

WENDY SHERMAN, COUNSELOR OF THE DEPARTMENT

STANLEY ROTH, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EAST ASIAN AND
PACIFIC AFFAIRSHAROLD KOH, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR DEMOCRACY, HUMAN
RIGHTS AND LABOR

RICHARD A. BOUCHER, SPOKESMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT

DONALD KERRICK, LTG, ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

LEE FEINSTEIN, PRINCIPAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR, S/P

TOM GIBBONS, POLITICAL OFFICER (NOTETAKER)

REPUBLIC OF KOREA:

LEE JOUNG-BINN, FOREIGN MINISTER

JANG JAI-RYONG, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

SONG MIN-SOON, DIRECTOR GENERAL, NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CHOI JONG-IL, ASSISTANT TO MINISTER
KANG KYOUNG-HWA, ASSISTANT TO MINISTER
KIM KYOU-HYUN, DIRECTOR, NORTH AMERICA DIVISION I
YOON YEO-CHEOL, NORTH AMERICA DIVISION I (NOTETAKER)

3. (G) SUMMARY: LEE TOLD SECRETARY ALBRIGHT THAT

[REDACTED]

1.4(B)
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THE SECRETARY
VOICED WARM PRAISE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE SUMMIT, AND
URGED CONTINUED CLOSE COOPERATION ON NORTH KOREA POLICY.
ON OTHER BILATERAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES, FM LEE CALLED FOR A
CONCERTED EFFORT TO RESOLVE "WORRISOME" FRICTION OVER THE
STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT. THE SECRETARY ADVOCATED A
[REDACTED] SOUGHT ROKG
SUPPORT FOR THE U.S. STANCE ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL
COURT, AND URGED SOUTH KOREA TO GIVE UP ITS 80 PERCENT
DISCOUNT ON PEACEKEEPING ASSESSMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

DPRK: KIM JONG IL IN CHARGE, ACTING PURPOSEFULLY

4. (G) FOREIGN MINISTER LEE EXPRESSED A "FIRM CONVICTION"
THAT THE ROK-U.S. ALLIANCE HAD BEEN AND WOULD CONTINUE TO
BE THE BASIC PILLAR OF SOUTH KOREA'S SECURITY POLICY. THE
FOREIGN MINISTER UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SECRETARY HAD BEEN
WELL BRIEFED ON THE OUTCOME OF THE NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT IN
PYONGYANG DURING THE VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF ROK NATIONAL
SECURITY ADVISOR HWANG WON-TAK.

[REDACTED]

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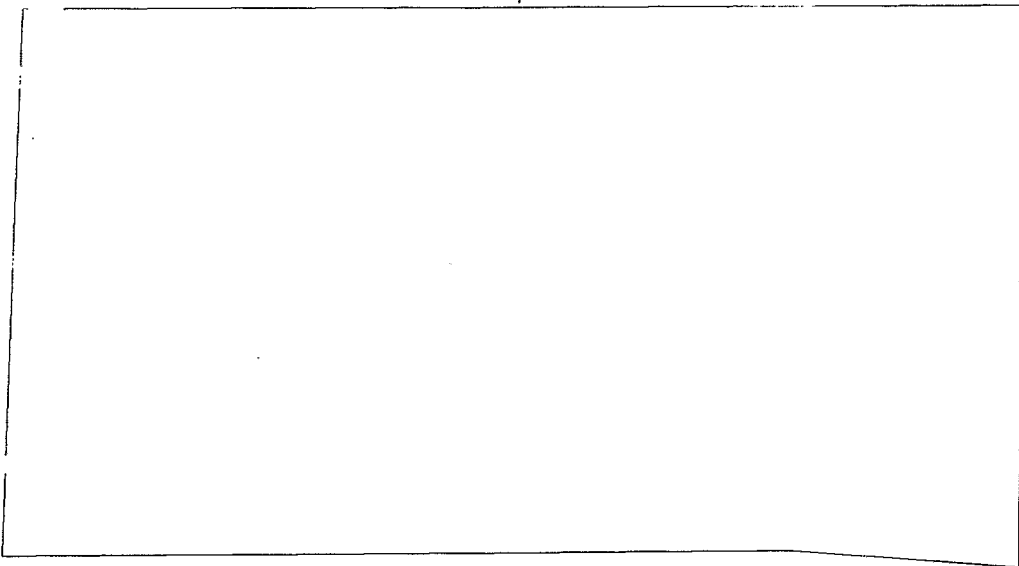
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1.4(B)
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B1

ENCOURAGING SIGNS OF RAPPROCHEMENT

9. (S) THE ROKG JUDGED THAT THE SUMMIT PRODUCED SOME TANGIBLE RESULTS SO FAR, ACCORDING TO FM LEE. FIRST, NORTH KOREA HAD STOPPED BROADCASTING PROPAGANDA ALONG THE DMZ AND ITS MEDIA HAD STOPPED DENOUNCING THE ROK. SECOND, IN A DISPLAY OF "UNPRECEDENTED COOPERATION," THE DPRK HAD RETURNED, AFTER ONLY BRIEF INTERROGATION, SEVERAL ROK FISHING VESSELS THAT HAD CROSSED THE NORTHERN LIMIT LINE, THE DISPUTED MARITIME BOUNDARY IN THE YELLOW SEA. THIRD, THIS YEAR THE DPRK HAD PROHIBITED ITS FISHING VESSELS FROM CRABBING IN THE SOUTHERN WATERS OF THE YELLOW SEA, TO PREVENT A REPETITION OF A SITUATION WHICH HAD TOUCHED OFF A NAVAL ENGAGEMENT LAST SUMMER. FINALLY, NORTH KOREA HAD DISPLAYED A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ON THE QUESTION OF VISITS FOR SEPARATED FAMILY MEMBERS. THE ROKG ANTICIPATED THAT SOME 100 SEPARATED FAMILY MEMBERS WOULD MEET AROUND AUGUST

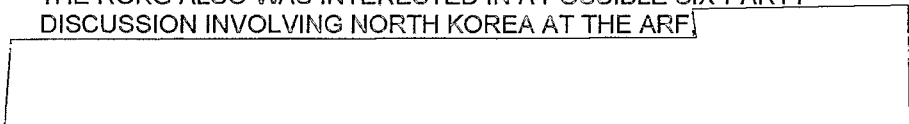
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15. RED CROSS TALKS ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD TAKE PLACE JUNE 27-30.

ROK SUPPORTS U.S.-DPRK CONTACT AT ARF

10. (S) FOREIGN MINISTER LEE STATED THAT THE ROKG "FULLY SUPPORTS" THE IDEA OF A MEETING AT THE UPCOMING ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM (ARF) BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND DPRK FOREIGN MINISTER PAEK NAM-SOON, AS THIS WAS A GOOD WAY TO HAVE A HIGH-LEVEL DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN. THE ROKG ALSO WAS INTERESTED IN A POSSIBLE SIX-PARTY DISCUSSION INVOLVING NORTH KOREA AT THE ARF



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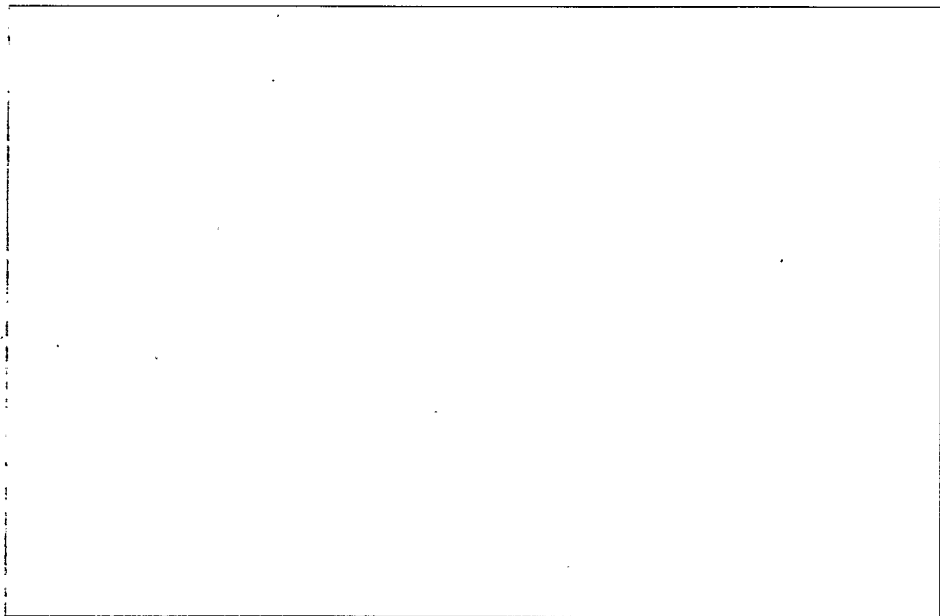
MINISTER SAID.

N-S SUMMIT "SPECTACULAR" ACCOMPLISHMENT

11. (C) RESPONDING TO FM LEE'S EXTENSIVE PRESENTATION, THE SECRETARY LAUDED THE ROK LEADERSHIP'S OUTSTANDING SUCCESS AT THE PYONGYANG SUMMIT, WHICH DESERVED "THE GREATEST CONGRATULATIONS." THIS WAS TRULY ONE OF THE REMARKABLE EVENTS OF OUR ERA, A SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENT IN MOVING TO RESOLVE THIS LONG-STANDING SITUATION.

12. (C) THE SECRETARY CONVEYED TO FM LEE THE USG'S WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OPENING SUCCESS OF THE ROKG'S
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INITIATIVES TOWARD THE NORTH, WHICH CONSTITUTED THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP POSSIBLE IN MOVING FORWARD WITH NORTH KOREA AND WAS FULLY IN LINE WITH THE GOALS OF THE PERRY PROCESS. THE SECRETARY OUTLINED FOUR AREAS WHERE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION AND FUTURE PROGRESS. FIRST, IT WOULD HELP TO KNOW AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION OF NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION ON SUCH ISSUES AS ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AS WELL AS SEPARATED FAMILY MEMBERS. SECOND, IT WOULD HELP TO KNOW MORE ABOUT NORTH KOREAN ATTITUDES TOWARD THE U.S. AND ITS SECURITY PRESENCE HERE, WHICH WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE PENINSULA AND THE REGION. THIRD, THE USG APPRECIATED THE ROKG'S EFFORTS TO RAISE NUCLEAR AND MISSILE ISSUES WITH THE NORTH. FOURTH, IT WAS VERY POSITIVE TO LEARN THAT DPRK PROPAGANDA AGAINST THE SOUTH HAD ENDED, BUT THE QUESTION REMAINED WHY THE U.S. WAS STILL TARGETED BY THE NORTH.



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1.4(B)
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15. (S) TURNING THE TO UPCOMING ARF, THE SECRETARY SAID THAT SHE WAS PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE DPRK FOREIGN MINISTER AT THE ARF.

[REDACTED]

ALSO CONSIDERING THE IDEA THAT

NORTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES MIGHT BE ABLE TO DISCUSS TERRORISM, THE ENVIRONMENT AND CRIME AT THE ARF.

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1.4(B)
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1.4(B)
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B1

DPRK POLICY COORDINATION VITAL

17. (S) THE SECRETARY VOICED THE HOPE THAT THE OUTSTANDING COORDINATION WHICH HAD MARKED OUR JOINT NORTH KOREA POLICY SO FAR WOULD CONTINUE, WITH THE NEXT TRILATERAL COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT GROUP (TCOG) MEETING SET TO TAKE PLACE IN HONOLULU NEXT WEEK. IT WAS ALSO IMPORTANT TO COORDINATE POLICY WITH THE EU AND ASEAN. THE SECRETARY SAID.

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RISING CONCERN OVER SOFA

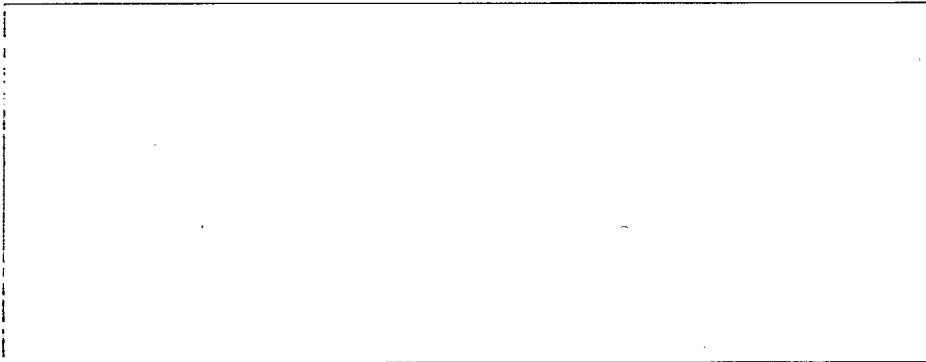
18. (C) ON OTHER ISSUES OF BILATERAL CONCERN, FM LEE SAID THAT THE MAJORITY OF ROK CITIZENS HOPE FOR THE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSE TIES WITH THE U.S. AND FOR A STABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE STATIONING OF U.S. FORCES IN KOREA.

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BOTH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE TO EXERT ALL THEIR EFFORTS TO RESOLVE TENSIONS OVER THE STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENT (SOFA), WHICH WERE APPROACHING "WORRISOME" LEVELS IN SOUTH KOREA, DESPITE MOFAT EFFORTS TO COMMUNICATE TO ROK CITIZENS THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. IT WOULD TAKE A STRONG EXERTION OF LEADERSHIP ON BOTH SIDES TO REALIZE THE SOFA REVISION, GIVEN THE INCREASE OF ANTI-AMERICAN FEELING AMONG SOME GROUPS.

19. (C) THE SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT AMBASSADOR BOSWORTH HAD PRESENTED THE USG SOFA PROPOSAL AT THE END OF MAY AND THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ONLY THE ISSUE OF CRIMINAL CUSTODY. THE USG WAS READY TO SEND A STATE/DOD TEAM TO SEOUL AS SOON AS THE ROKG RESPONDED TO OUR PROPOSAL AND REQUESTED A DATE FOR TALKS.



1.4(D)
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INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

21. (C) THE SECRETARY STRONGLY URGED THAT THE ROKG SUPPORT ONGOING USG EFFORTS IN NEW YORK TO ALLOW THE U.S. TO ABIDE BY THE ROME TREATY ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT. WHILE THE U.S. COULD NOT SIGN THE TREATY AND DID NOT WANT TO REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS ON IT, IT HAD PROPOSED SOME IDEAS WHICH WOULD HELP RESOLVE THE SITUATION. IT WOULD BE VERY VALUABLE IF THE ROK DELEGATION IN NEW YORK COULD LEND ITS STRONG SUPPORT FOR U.S. EFFORTS, GIVEN THAT THE ROK WAS HOST TO SUCH A SIGNIFICANT FORCE OF U.S. TROOPS. FM LEE NOTED THAT THE ROKG HAD SIGNED THE ROME TREATY AND SAID THAT MOFAT WOULD KEEP THE U.S. REQUEST IN MIND.

UN PEACEKEEPING ASSESSMENTS

22. (S) THE SECRETARY ALSO MADE A STRONG CASE FOR THE ROKG TO FOREGO ITS CURRENT 80 PERCENT DISCOUNT ON UN PEACEKEEPING ASSESSMENTS. MANY OTHER COUNTRIES HAD RENOUNCED THEIR DISCOUNTS, AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE ROK ALSO TO DO SO GIVEN ITS GLOBAL ECONOMIC STATUS. FM LEE SAID THAT MOFAT WAS "DOING ITS BEST" TO INCREASE THE ROK'S PKO CONTRIBUTION, BUT THAT DIFFICULTIES REMAINED WITH THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. STILL, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH ON THIS MATTER.
PICKERING

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