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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER MURAYAMA OF JAPAN
AND KIM YOUNG SAM, PRESIDENT OF SOUTH KOREA
(S)

PARTICIPANTS: President Clinton
Stanley Roth, NSC Notetaker

President Kim
Notetaker

Prime Minister Murayama
Notetaker

DATE, TIME November 14, 1994, 9:42 - 9:55pm
AND PLACE: Summit Hall, Jakarta Convention Center

The President: It's a very good thing that we spend a few minutes together. It's a good thing for the people of our country and the whole region to see us standing together on issues affecting the Korean Peninsula, on the nuclear agreement, on the need for North-South dialogue and on our common security commitments. (S)

Of course, the press wants us to answer all the details about how we will implement the agreement. They would like some sort of public statement describing who will screw the last screw in on the light water reactor. For reasons which we all understand, it is not possible to go into that level of detail. (S)

We have to give the impression that we are going to see the agreement through. We have to send a clear message to President Kim Chong-il that North-South dialogue is important, that some matters have to be resolved between North Korea and South Korea, and not between the rest of us. (S)

Thank you for spending a few minutes this evening to send this message to the rest of the world. (S)

President Kim: Today, the three of us have come together. It's very meaningful. Concerning peace on the Korean Peninsula, I think inter-Korean dialogue is very important. We have to resolve that. (S)

Cooperation among our three countries especially is needed in order to support the idea that North Korea will faithfully implement the agreement that it agreed to in Geneva. (S)

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Prime Minister Murayama: As you indicated earlier, our three countries are meeting here in the same place. In the future, close cooperation will be necessary about how we are going to respond and take actions on this agreement. The agreement that was reached in Geneva between the United States and North Korea is just an entrance. There may be some differences in the future. In that sense we have to make sure that North Korea keeps its word and implements the agreement. We have to watch carefully their future progress. (S)

I'm sure we will closely communicate and consult amongst the three of us. It should be amicable and smooth. In that direction, we have to take further actions. (S)

The North-South deal is of the utmost importance. It has implications for the entire Asia-Pacific region. (S)

President Kim: I agree fully with the Prime Minister of Japan. The threshold is testing whether North Korea in fact will carry out the agreement. To ensure this we need closer cooperation among our three countries, supported by working-level consultations. (S)

North-South dialogue is the essential key to the resolution of the Korean question. I fully agree with Prime Minister Murayama about this. (S)

The President: I agree as well with what he said. But I would like to emphasize the other side of the coin. If this agreement is carried out it will resolve the world's biggest threat of nuclear proliferation, which not only threatens the security of Asia -- and particularly Northeast Asia -- but also the security of other parts of the world, which could be threatened by the people to whom North Korea could sell nuclear weapons. (S)

So carrying through this agreement is very important. I agree with Prime Minister Murayama that we must do everything that we can to ensure that North Korea keeps its side of the bargain. We must push for the quick resumption of North-South dialogue. But we must also work in good faith to carry out the obligations of the other parties to the agreement. We don't want to give North Korea an excuse not to keep its word. (S)

We will all be pressed for details. I understand that. We must be firm and clear in our support for the agreement. We must be insistent that it be complied with. And we must support President Kim Young Sam in our clear assertion that it's time to resume the North-South dialogue. (S)

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Prime Minister Murayama: The nuclear issue is a global issue, a big issue. Therefore, if possible, the G-7 should join the process and be part of the framework. (S)

Our three nations must keep in touch very closely. We need cooperation. (S)

The President: We must work hard to ensure that, as we like to say, there is no daylight between our positions. We can't permit anyone to exploit any divisions among the three of us. (S)

Prime Minister Murayama: Yes, I understand. (S)

President Kim: It's a very important point. We must never let North Korea miscalculate the situation or underestimate our resolve, which could happen if we ever show any disagreement among the three of us. (S)

If we cooperate closely, North Korea is bound to resume the dialogue with us. Our goal is to create such an atmosphere for North-South dialogue. (S)

Prime Minister Murayama: It is important to exhaust our dialogue so that we can resolve this issue. We have to create a route to exhaust our discussion on this issue. (S)

Insofar as the agreement between the United States and North Korea is concerned, we have to make sure it leads to a successful conclusion. To that end we would like to cooperate. What kind of framework, how it should proceed, are things that should be talked about at the experts level. We need an exhaustive discussion. From now on, this will be more important. (S)

-- End of Conversation --

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