

UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 322415
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INFO RUHQHQ/ CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY 5236
CINCUNC SEOUL PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 322415

DECAPTIONED

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 322415 ACTION BEIJING TOKYO INFO
SEOUL MOSCOW SECDEF WASHDC DEC 14

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 322415

EXDIS, MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 12065: RDS-2 AND 3, 12/14/89 (HOLBROOKE, RICHARD)

TAGS: MPOL, PINR, KN, KS, CH, JA

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL RISK OF NORTH KOREAN MILITARY ACTION
AGAINST SOUTH KOREA
FOR AMB MANSFIELD AND CHARGE ROY FROM HOLBROOKE

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

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PAGE 02 STATE 322415

2. THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IS URGENTLY TAKING A NEW
LOOK AT THE RISK OF NORTH KOREAN MILITARY ACTION AGAINST

DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)	Mandatory Review	Date 05/10/00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Declassify <input type="checkbox"/> Declassify in Part <input type="checkbox"/> Class. Rev/Renew	
EOIA/PA	Exemptions	ARP Action Cert.
Exercise	B1	

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THE SOUTH IF RECENT EVENTS IN THE ROK SHOULD LEAD TO A FURTHER SCHISM WITHIN THE ROK ARMY OR AN UNRAVELING OF COMMAND AND CONTROL CONFIDENCE OVER AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF SEVERAL WEEKS. IN ADDRESSING THIS QUESTION, WE ARE MINDFUL THAT PYONGYANG MIGHT THINK AT THIS TIME THAT THE USG IS SO HEAVILY ENGAGED IN A CRISIS IN THE NEAR EAST THAT OUR ATTENTION AND RESOURCES MIGHT BE DIVERTED FROM NORTH ASIA TO A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE.

3. WE HAVE FOUND THE RECENT DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND ADDRESSEE POSTS REGARDING [] TO BE MOST USEFUL, BUT WOULD LIKE ANY FURTHER INSIGHTS AND ASSESSMENT YOU CAN EACH OFFER FROM YOUR OWN VANTAGE POINTS AT THIS TIME ON THE NORTH KOREAN QUESTION AND ON LEVERAGE WHICH YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE OR BE ABLE TO EXERCISE TO DETER AGGRESSION.

4. FOR CHARGE ROY ESPECIALLY: I CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO

[] WHICH SEEMS TO US TO BE A STRONGER EXPRESSION OF CHINESE ASSURANCES ON NORTH KOREA THAN WE HAVE YET DETECTED. AMONG OTHER COMMENTS, I WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHETHER YOU FEEL THIS IN ANY WAY AFFECTS YOUR ASSESSMENT IN BEIJING 9078 THAT THE CHINESE POSITION ON KOREA HAS NOT SHOWN ANY CHANGE. PICKING UP ON;

PERHAPS YOU CAN FIND AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO CITE THE DISCUSSION [] TO A SENIOR PRC OFFICIAL TO SEE IF YOU CAN EVOKE A SIMILAR RESPONSE IN A DEFINITIVE MANNER, EXPLORING TO THE DEGREE POSSIBLE WHAT
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PAGE 03 STATE 322415

LIES BEHIND THE CHINESE ASSURANCES. IN TRYING HERE TO ASSESS THE DEGREE OF CHINESE LEVERAGE OVER PYONGYANG, PETROLEUM HAS BEEN MENTIONED. IS THIS REALISTIC?

5. FOR ALL -- I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD PROVIDE US WITH YOUR BEST INSIGHTS BY MONDAY A.M. IN WASHINGTON, WITH ANY FOLLOW-UP AFTERWARD AS INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE. CHRISTOPHER

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