



Transmission between SECSTATE WASHDC to CINCPAC Honolulu Hawaii

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SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUHQHQA/ CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY 5236
CINCUNC SEOUL PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 322415

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECT EXCLUSIVE

DECAPTIONED

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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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 322415

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

Obtained under the
Freedom of Information Act
by the Nautilus Institute
Nuclear Policy Project
99-301

DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)

EQ/PA	Mandatory Review	Declassify	Declassify in Part	Class. Ref/Renew
		()	()	()
		()	()	()
		()	()	()
		()	()	()

Exemption: B1
ARP Action Cert. 2510 00

UNCLASSIFIED

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The relationship between North and South Korea has been exceedingly fragile since the end of World War II. In June 1999, a nine-day naval battle between the two countries led to the sinking of a North Korean torpedo boat. The continued U.S. military presence in the south and China's vast influence in the north had the potential to further complicate US-PRC relations.

This report presents the reasons for exploring the possibility of increased aggression by North Korea and the influence of China on the DPRK.

"...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." (p 4)

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