

NAPSNet Daily Report 07 June, 2000

Recommended Citation

"NAPSNet Daily Report 07 June, 2000", NAPSNet Daily Report, June 07, 2000, https://nautilus.org/napsnet/napsnet-daily-report/napsnet-daily-report-07-june-2000/

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I. United States

1. ROK-DPRK Summit

Reuters ("THREE ROUNDS OF TALKS EXPECTED AT KOREA SUMMIT," Seoul, 6/7/00) reported

that ROK newspapers said on Wednesday that ROK President Kim Dae-jung will hold at least three rounds of talks with DPRK leader Kim Jong-il during the inter-Korean summit. Major ROK newspapers quoted an ROK Unification Ministry official as saying that besides two rounds of exclusive talks between the two Kims, there will be another round of expanded talks attended by their aides. The Korea Herald quoted Seo Young-kyo, a director-general at the ministry, as saying, "between the two tete-a-tetes scheduled for next Monday and Tuesday, the two leaders will likely have additional talks accompanied by their official aides." The Korea Times, however, quoted unnamed ministry officials as saying that Kim Yong-nam, president of DPRK's presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, could replace Kim Jong-il during the "expanded" meeting.

The International Herald Tribune (Don Kirk, "2 KOREAS TRY TO KEEP EXPECTATIONS LOW," Seoul, 6/7/00) reported that US officials said that ROK officials are trying to keep expectations low for the inter-Korean summit. An ROK diplomat who recently visited the DPRK said, "It's expectation management. Authorities have to prepare people not to hope for too much." A typical commentary in the ROK newspaper Joongang Ilbo said, "The entire nation is expecting the South-North summit to be a turning point for resolving the many outstanding issues between South and North Korea." ROK President Kim Dae-jung has sought to tone down expectations by calling the summit meeting "a stepping-stone" to more meetings. Kim's aides said that the challenge is to build up the summit as an event of "historic" proportions with more importance in symbolism and precedent than in substance. [Ed. note: This article was included in the US Department of Defense's Early Bird news service for June 7, 2000.]

2. DPRK Diplomacy

The Washington Times (Ben Barber, "HERMIT KINGDOM MAY BE CHANGING," 6/7/00) reported that analysts and diplomats cited a number of recent developments, including DPRK leader Kim Jong-il's recent secret visit to the PRC, which indicate that the DPRK regime may be moving to reduce tensions in the Korean Peninsula. Stanley Roth, US assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs said, "The hermit kingdom has become the hyperactive kingdom. It is way too early to say that North Korea has reformed, but I think certainly its diplomacy is changing, that seems to reflect a decision that it has to change for the country's well being." William J. Taylor, senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said, "There has been a change in the [DPRK] leadership with Kim Jong- il in charge. I'm mildly or guardedly optimistic." Taylor said that he was not yet convinced that next week's inter- Korean summit will not be derailed by a border incident, but said, "If a summit takes place, it's because of Kim Dae-jung. He started the sunshine policy and has been leading all the way." Analysts believe that the DPRK's Kim may have gone to the PRC to secure support for a possible agreement with the ROK to end the state of war between them. Selig Harrison of the Century Foundation said that he believed Kim Jong-il's trip was aimed at getting PRC backing for an effort to push the US to carry out promises to end economic sanctions. Harrison said, "Kim Jong-il is in charge in North Korea but he is not unchallenged like his father." [Ed. note: This article was included in the US Department of Defense's Early Bird news service for June 7, 2000.]

3. DPRK Missile Issue

The International Herald Tribune published an opinion article by Aidan Foster-Carter, honorary senior research fellow in sociology and modern Korea at Leeds University, ("MISSILES AREN'T KEY TO KOREA SUMMIT," Leeds, 6/7/00) which said that the US and Japan fear that their own security-led agenda, currently headed by missiles, will not be high on ROK Kim Dae-jung's list of priorities at the inter-Korean summit meeting with the DPRK because the ROK has different interests. Since the

ROK is within range of the DPRK's conventional weapons, missiles add little to the DPRK's military threat to the ROK. Therefore, Foster-Carter wrote, the ROK resists US suggestions that it enroll in theater missile defense because of doubts that the system will provide adequate protection and fear that it will antagonize the PRC. Foster-Carter noted that the US and Japan already have channels to pursue the missile issue with the DPRK and "nothing will be gained, and much may be lost, if they press Seoul to carry their own baggage to a summit meeting whose potential scope is much wider. It would also give embarrassing support to the North's stock jibe that the South is a puppet of America and Japan. The United States and Japan should trust their Korean ally. The South's vulnerability to the North will always be far greater than theirs, so it is absurd to suppose that Seoul would lose sight of fundamental security issues." The best insurance against DPRK aggression, he concluded, is not missile defense but for the ROK to continue its economic cooperation with and assistance to the DPRK. [Ed. note: This article was included in the US Department of Defense's Early Bird news service for June 7, 2000.]

4. DPRK Nuclear Program

Agence France Presse ("NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM A KEY THREAT TO US: OFFICIAL," Hong Kong, 6/7/00) reported that US Assistant Secretary of State for Non-Proliferation Robert Einhorn said Wednesday at a talk for the Asia Society think-tank in Hong Kong that the DPRK's nuclear weapons development program is one of the main threats to the US and its allies in the Asia-Pacific region. Einhorn said the DPRK also presents a significant threat through its "indiscriminate exports of missiles and missile technology" to North Africa and South Asian countries such as Pakistan. He said, "the critical challenge is to eliminate the threat posed by North Korea's nuclear and missile programs. We seek over time to build normal and constructive relations with the long-isolated regime in Pyongyang." Einhorn also praised recent efforts by the DPRK to enhance its international dialogue, such as agreeing to participate in the inter-Korean summit.

5. Remains of US Soldiers from Korean War

The Associated Press (Ranjan Roy, "US-NORTH KOREA TALKS BEGIN," Kuala Lumpur, 6/7/00) reported that US and DPRK defense officials began new efforts Wednesday to resume the search for more than 8,000 US soldiers missing in action from the Korean War. US Defense Department's Prisoner of War and Missing in Action spokesman Larry Greer said, "our desired outcome is to get a schedule for our team to go back into North Korea as soon as possible." The talks between the US Defense Department and the DPRK's Korean People's Army are expected to last until June 8-9.

6. Korean War Massacre

The Associated Press ("U.S. STUDIES LINK BETWEEN STRAFING MEMO, NO GUN RI," 6/7/00, P.8) reported that US military investigators are searching for a link between a US Air Force memo on strafing of refugees in the early weeks of the Korean War and the reported massacre at No Gun Ri during the same period. US Defense Department spokesman Rear Admiral Craig Quigley said that investigators do not question the document's authenticity, but have not found other evidence to confirm that strafing occurred, and have not determined whether the strafing was related to the No Gun Ri incident. [Ed. note: This article was included in the US Department of Defense's Early Bird news service for June 7, 2000.]

7. Taiwan Missile Development

Agence France Presse ("TAIWAN ABLE TO PRODUCE MEDIUM RANGE GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES," Taipei, 6/7/00) reported that the Taiwanese newspaper Liberty Times said on Wednesday that a military source said that progress in the development of Taiwan's anti-missile weaponry, known as ATBM (anti-tactical ballistic missile), has brought the island to the doorstep of the club armed with ground-to-ground missiles. The source said, "due to the development of ATBM, Taiwan has acquired the expertise regarding the control of projection and launch vehicles, which may be used in the manufacturing of short- and medium-range ballistic missiles. To produce or not to produce is merely a matter of policy. Technically the barriers have been wiped out." Taiwanese Defense Minister Wu Shih-wen said Wednesday that the island is already armed with "limited" anti-missile capability against the PRC's M class ballistic missiles, but he acknowledged that Taiwan was still short of the capability to counter the PRC's Dongfeng-31 ballistic missiles, which he said could be test fired soon.

The Associated Press ("US ALLOWS TAIWAN TO TEST PATRIOTS," Taipei, 6/7/00) reported that Taiwan defense officials said on Wednesday that Taiwan has obtained permission from the US to test the US-built Patriot missiles on the island. A Taiwan military spokesman said, "we already have permission from the United States to test the PAC-2 next year. We only have to sort out the details." Taiwan has test-fired the missiles in the US, but the military wants to observe how they work in Taiwan's subtropical climate. Taiwan defense officials said they had no information on the reports, but said the island was prepared to defend itself against any threats posed by the PRC's Dongfeng-31. Wu called the Dongfeng missiles the "greatest threat" to Taiwan's national security. [Ed. note: This article was included in the US Department of Defense's Early Bird news service for June 7, 2000.]

8. US-PRC Arms Control Talks

Agence France-Presse ("CHINA EMBRACES WEAPONS TALKS," Washington, 6/7/00) reported that a senior US State Department official said on June 6 that the PRC has agreed to formal discussions with the US on nonproliferation and is moving toward talks with Taiwan. The official said, "The Chinese have agreed to start a formal nonproliferation dialogue and the details are being worked out," adding that he expected the talks to begin soon. Another official said, "We hope to find mutually convenient dates in July to hold discussions on arms control and nonproliferation issues." [Ed. note: This article was included in the US Department of Defense's Early Bird news service for June 7, 2000.]

Reuters ("CHINA AGREES TO RESUME U.S. NON-PROLIFERATION TALKS," Washington, 6/7/00) reported that a senior US State Department official with first-hand knowledge of Asian affairs said on June 6 that the PRC has agreed to resume talks with the US about arms control and non-proliferation. The official said, "the Chinese have agreed to start a formal non-proliferation dialogue and the details are being worked out about the timing for that." Another US official said the meetings would include arms control and the two sides were aiming for July.

9. PRC View of US Missile Defense

Agence France Presse ("US SOOTHES CHINA CONCERNS OVER MISSILE DEFENSE PLANS," Hong Kong, 6/7/00) reported that US Assistant Secretary of State for Non-Proliferation Robert Einhorn said Wednesday that the PRC should not be concerned over US proposals for a national missile defense system (NMD). Einhorn told the Asia Society think-tank in Hong Kong, "we don't believe there would be a strategic necessity for China to build up its capability beyond that level of modernization it is already undertaking. If we proceeded with this limited defensive system it would

not in any way be directed at China. It would be directed at dealing with emerging missile threats such as those we see from down the road like North Korea or Iran. China has nothing to fear from such a limited defense system that is not directed at it." Einhorn stressed that one of the major issues facing US efforts to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in Asia was "the challenge of encouraging China to become a more consistently reliable partner in the area of non-proliferation. Non-proliferation is a global problem and we would like to see China play a more active and more positive role in proliferation trouble spots in all parts of the world." He warned that although the PRC appeared not to have exported any complete missiles since its 1994 pledge, the US had evidence of transfer of missile equipment and technology to countries including Iran and Pakistan.

II. Republic of Korea

1. Inter-Korean Summit

The Korea Herald (Chon Shi-yong, "S-N LEADERS TO HOLD TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS," Seoul, 06/07/00) reported that ROK President Kim Dae-jung and DPRK leader Kim Jong-il will have two rounds of summit talks and two official dinners during President Kim's stay in Pyongyang June 12-14, officials said on Tuesday. In addition, the ROK leader is scheduled to tour several places and watch some events. These plans are from the itinerary that the DPRK sent to the ROK Monday for President Kim's stay in the DPRK capital. Further details will not be made public under an agreement between the two Koreas, Chong Wa Dae Spokesman Park Joon-young said.

2. Effect of Inter-Korean Summit

The Korea Herald (Chon Shi-yong, "PRESIDENT AIMS TO SHOW KOREAS CAN HANDLE ISSUES INDEPENDENTLY," Seoul, 06/07/00) reported that ROK President Kim Dae-jung believes that the upcoming inter- Korean summit should serve as an opportunity to send a "clear message" to the four superpowers surrounding the peninsula that the ROK and the DPRK can handle their problems on their own, aides said on Tuesday. "The President is well aware well that the United States, China, Japan and Russia have different interests in the Korean question," a senior Chong Wa Dae official said. He noted that since the nation was divided into the capitalist ROK and communist DPRK at the end of World War II in 1945, the US and the former Soviet Union have dominated inter-Korean matters, with the two Koreas relegated to secondary roles. The aide, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the President firmly believes that the Pyongyang summit should enable the two Koreas to change this situation and demonstrate to the world, specifically the four powers, that Koreans can handle their problems independently.

3. DPRK Participation in UN Summit

The Korea Herald (Shin Yong-bae, "N.K.'S PARTICIPATION IN U.N. SUMMIT RAISES CHANCE OF SECOND INTER-KOREAN MEETING," Seoul, 06/07/00) reported that ROK President Kim Dae-jung and top DPRK leader Kim Jong-il may meet again in New York in September at the UN Millennium Summit, ROK officials said on Tuesday. "South and North Korea recently listed their president and head of state, respectively, as speakers in the summit conference," said a Foreign Ministry official. He also said that a lottery in the UN decided that the ROK would deliver a speech at the summit conference on September 6 and the DPRK would do the same on September 8. Diplomatic observers would not rule out the possibility of Kim Jong-il attending the gathering of world leaders to celebrate

the new millennium, pointing to the recent flurry of DPRK diplomatic activity.

III. People's Republic of Korea

1. Kim Jong-il's PRC Visit

People's Daily ("JIANG AND KIM HOLD TALKS," Beijing, 6/2/00, P1) reported that PRC President Jiang Zemin met with DPRK leader Kim Jong-il, who was paying an unofficial visit to the PRC at the invitation of Jiang, at the Great Hall of People in Beijing on June 1. The two leaders exchanged views and reached consensus on major issues in an intimate and friendly atmosphere, the report said. According to the report, leaders of the PRC and the DPRK agreed, during a time when international situations were complicated and in flux, that strengthening and developing ties between the two countries will not only conform to the common will and fundamental interests of the two peoples, but also be conducive to peace and stability of the region and the world. They said that the two parties and the two countries will make common efforts to enrich the content of PRC-DPRK friendly cooperative relations and push the friendly bilateral relations to a new phase of development. When commenting on the Korean Peninsula situation, Jiang pointed out that as a close neighbor of the Peninsula, the PRC upholds a fundamental principle in handling affairs of the Peninsula to help maintain peace and stability in the Peninsula. The PRC supports the two sides on the peninsula to independently realize peaceful reunification, and to improve their bilateral relations. The PRC welcomes a summit between the two halves of the Korean Peninsula, the report said.

China Daily ("KIM'S VISIT PROMOTES RELATIONS," 6/2/00, P1) reported that PRC Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said at a news briefing on June 1 that the visit of Kim Jong-il had been planned for a long time. She noted that the PRC and the DPRK have a tradition of regular meetings and exchanges of visits. "It is due to the DPRK side that their leaders did not visit foreign countries in quite a few years," Zhang said when asked why Kim did not visit the PRC for the past 17 years. Comparing the bilateral relations forged by the older generations of the two nations, Zhang said, "Nobody can step into the same river twice, which means that things are always changing." Both sides have consolidated bilateral relations since last year, she added, noting that the two nations enjoy the traditional friendship and believe that their relations will progress in the new century.

People's Daily (Zhang Xinghua "DPRK PRESS THINK HIGHLY OF SINO-DPRK FRIENDSHIP," 6/4/00, p2) reported that the DPRK's official newspapers Rodong Sinmun and Democratic Korea each issued editorials evaluating highly the general secretary of the DPRK Labor Party Kim Jong-il's visit to the PRC. The editorials said that the PRC and the DPRK share a traditional friendly relationship, and comrade Kim's recent visit to the PRC will strengthen the friendly cooperative relations between the two parties and the two countries and provide important opportunity for promoting bilateral ties.

2. International Views of Kim's Visit

People's Daily (Yu Qing and Guan Kejiang "OTHER COUNTRIES WELCOME KIM'S VISIT TO CHINA," 6/3/00, p3) reported that officials from Japan, the US, and the ROK expressed their concerns and welcome for DPRK leader Kim Jong-il's visit to the PRC. According to the report, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori said that Kim's visit is a good matter. The Japanese Foreign Minister pointed out that Kim's visit is an important part of the DPRK's positive diplomacy and will bring about a positive influence on the upcoming summit between the DPRK and the ROK. According

to the report, Sandy Berger, national security adviser to US President Bill Clinton, commented that the US government welcomed Kim's visit. The ROK Foreign Ministry also expressed that the meeting between PRC and DPRK leaders will be conducive to the summit between the DPRK and the ROK, the strengthening of dialogues and cooperation, and the maintenance of stability and peace on the Korean Peninsula.

3. ROK Attitude toward Inter-Korean Summit

People's Daily (Wang Linchang, "KIM: WORK HARD FOR A SUCCESS OF SOUTH-NORTH SUMMIT," Seoul, 6/6/00, P6) reported that ROK President Kim Dae-jung said in Seoul on June 5 that he would do his utmost to make the ROK-DPRK summit, to be held on June 12-14 in Pyongyang, become a starting point of peace, conciliation and cooperation on the Korean Peninsula. Kim said that during the summit, he would suggest discussing the realization of peace between the ROK and the DPRK, the ending of the cold war, economic cooperation, the resolution of the problem of separated families, setting up permanent representative offices, etc. Kim said that all questions should be discussed without bothering with formalities. The two sides should begin with issues that can be easily agreed on, Kim said. As to the issues on which the two sides cannot reach an agreement immediately, Kim thought they ought to be resolved in the second or third summit. In addition, the report said, the ROK side officially released the list of Kim's 130 entourage members, including the ROK reunification minister, ROK financial and economic minister, the official in charge of culture and tourism, and representatives from economic circles, social organizations, and women's societies.

4. Implementation of Agreed Framework

People's Daily (Zhang Xinghua "DPRK URGES US TO FULFILL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT," 6/5/00, P6) reported that the DPRK's Korean Central News Agency released a statement on June 4 urging the US to loyally carry out the Framework Agreement. The statement said that the US authority recently questioned the effectiveness of the Framework Agreement and wanted to set up a "monitoring system" nationwide in DPRK. The DPRK side strongly criticized this attempt as deliberately designed to break the Framework Agreement, the report said. The statement urged the US to stop immediately playing all sorts of tricks, provide all the heavy oil on time, and compensate the DPRK for the losses brought about by the US delay in light-water reactor construction.

5. DPRK-Britain Relations

China Daily ("DPRK DOING WELL WITH BRITAIN," Tokyo, 06/01/00, P11) reported that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea said on May 31 that recent talks with Britain to improve ties were extensive and fostered mutual understanding. The two sides met in Pyongyang from May 16 to 20 in a continuation of earlier talks, the official Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, quoted a Foreign Ministry official as saying. "We will as ever make positive efforts to develop relations with all countries that respect our sovereignty and are friendly to us, including Britain," he said.

6. PRC-ROK Relations

Wen Hui Daily (Gao Haorong, "ROK ACTING PM MEETS CPC LEADER," Seoul, 6/6/00, P1) reported that ROK Acting Prime Minister Lee Han-dong on June 5 spoke highly of the PRC's important role in maintaining peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. Lee made the remarks when meeting

Huang Ju, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee. He also hailed the developing ties between the PRC and the ROK since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1992. Lee emphasized that the ROK-PRC relationship had entered a new phase when ROK President Kim Dae-jung and PRC President Jiang Zemin agreed in Beijing in 1998 to establish partnership ties oriented into the 21st century. The acting prime minister said that Huang's visit will help develop relations between ROK political parties and the CPC and further strengthen the relations between the two nations.

7. PRC-Russian Relations

China Daily (Shao Zongwei "PUTIN SLATED TO VISIT CHINA," 6/1/00, p1) reported that Russian President Vladimir Putin will visit the PRC this summer, a PRC Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said on May 31. The head of state is expected to exchange views with PRC leaders on Russian-PRC relations and other issues, said spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue. However, Zhang said, a date has not yet been finalized. The visit will be Putin's first to the PRC in his current position.

8. PRC View of US Missile Defense

China Daily (Shao Zongwei, "NMD SYSTEM HINDERS NUKE DISARMAMENT," 6/5/00, P1) reported that Sha Zukang, director-general of the Department of Arms Control and Disarmament of the PRC Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that the US development of a missile shield would upset the world strategic balance and hinder the process of international nuclear disarmament. Sha said that the missile shied would "severely damage" the integrity and vitality of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty and global strategic balance and stability. Also threatened would be the basis for US-Russia bilateral nuclear reductions, he said. Given the significant role of the US and Russia, the two nations with the biggest nuclear arsenals in the world, the US action would impede the international nuclear disarmament process, and in turn, shatter the prerequisite and basis for international nuclear nonproliferation, Sha said. "Russia's ratification of START II and the CTBT (Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty) has created a ray of hope for the nuclear disarmament process," said Sha. "We hope that the countries concerned will seize this opportunity and get back on the right track of arms control and disarmament." Stressing that nuclear disarmament is a "comprehensive" and "irreversible" process, Sha urged the US and Russia to faithfully implement their obligations for nuclear disarmament. "If they were only to reduce obsolete nuclear weapons while enhancing nuclear weapons capabilities, or reduce the number of deployed nuclear weapons while putting the decommissioned nuclear warheads into a so-called 'inactive reserve' that allows them to be maintained or even renewed, ready for redeployment at any time, such a practice would by no means amount to genuine nuclear disarmament," said Sha.

9. US-Russian Summit

People's Daily (Sun Zhanlin, "AGREEMENT NOT REACHED ON US-RUSSIAN SUMMIT," 6/6/00,p2) reported that Russian President Vladimir Putin met with US President Bill Clinton during the latter's working visit to Russia on June 4. The two sides exchanged their views on issues of strategic stability, nuclear disarmament, bilateral relations, regional conflicts, environmental protection, and economic cooperation. Although the leaders of the two countries reached consensus on some issues and signed relevant documents, they made no substantive progress on the key problem of nuclear disarmament, the report said. At the news conference held after their talks, however, Putin said that the two sides agreed that they will make common efforts to resolve a series of international problems. He emphasized that they have a common basis even on the most complicated and

sensitive issue--the modification of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

The NAPSNet Daily Report aims to serve as a forum for dialogue and exchange among peace and security specialists. Conventions for readers and a list of acronyms and abbreviations are available to all recipients. For descriptions of the world wide web sites used to gather information for this report, or for more information on web sites with related information, see the collection of other NAPSNet resources.

We invite you to reply to today's report, and we welcome commentary or papers for distribution to the network.

Produced by the Nautilus Institute for Security and Sustainable Development in partnership with:

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