



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/9493
31 October 1969

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 30 OCTOBER 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
UNITED STATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to convey, on behalf of the Unified Command established pursuant to Security Council resolution 84 of 7 July 1950, a report of the United Nations Command covering North Korean violations of the Armistice Agreement during the first seven months of calendar year 1969.

In conveying this report, I wish also to call the attention of the Council to three serious incidents which have occurred since the preparation of the report which underscore the unfortunate fact that there has been no change in North Korea's attitude of willful disregard of the Armistice Agreements as well as a lack of respect for humanitarian principles:

(a) On 17 August 1969, an unarmed United Nations Command helicopter, which inadvertently strayed across the demilitarized zone into North Korean territory while on a routine training flight, was immediately fired upon by North Korean units and, according to North Korean reports, shot down and its three injured crew members captured. Despite repeated requests and in violation of internationally accepted standards concerning the humane treatment of persons under detention, the North Korean authorities have thus far refused to return the crew members.

(b) On 13-14 October 1969, the armed forces of the Republic of Korea intercepted and sank in waters off the southern coast of Korea a North Korean vessel apparently attempting to infiltrate additional armed agents into the Republic of Korea.

(c) On 18 October 1969, North Korean units attacked without provocation a United Nations Command work party legitimately engaged in repairing communications lines within the demilitarized zone. Four United Nations Command soldiers were killed.

In public statements as well as in four letters forwarded this year to the United Nations Supervisory Commission, the North Koreans continue to allege United Nations Command violations of the Military Armistice Agreement provisions (paragraph 13 d) against reintroduction of reinforcing combat equipment. I would like to note for the benefit of the members of the Council that United Nations Command actions in modernizing its forces in Korea have been purely defensive and in response to clear North Korean violations of the Agreement.

Since 1953, North Korea has increased the size of its ground forces by one-third and its navy and air forces each by one-half. Increases in personnel have been concurrent with substantial increases in armament. North Korea has constructed airfields capable of handling jet aircraft, whereas it had none prior to the signing of the Military Armistice Agreement. It has acquired a formidable and threatening inventory of MIG 15, 17 and 21 aircraft, as well as medium bombers, and an offensive naval force composed of guided missile boats and motor torpedo boats, in addition to submarines. Its ground forces have been equipped with sophisticated equipment - all acquired subsequent to the signing of the Military Armistice Agreement.

When, in 1957, it became apparent that the North Korean arms build-up threatened the parity between North Korean and United Nations Command forces and after repeated requests that this build-up cease went unheeded, the United Nations Command announced the temporary abrogation of paragraph 13 d of the Armistice Agreement. United Nations Command actions nevertheless continue to be carefully measured and purely defensive.

I request that this letter, together with the report of the United Nations Command transmitted herewith, be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Accept, etc.

(Signed) Charles W. YOST

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

North Korea violations of the Armistice Agreement of 27 July 1953, committed during the first seven months of 1969, have continued. North Korean agents have committed acts of infiltration, terrorism and subversion in the Republic of Korea. Armed agents have been dispatched across the Military Demarcation Line, or they have been landed by armed agent boats along the coast of the Republic of Korea. As of 31 July of this year, North Korea has committed ninety-nine serious provocations in the Demilitarized Zone and throughout the Republic of Korea. The United Nations Command considers these North Korean violations of the Armistice Agreement to be of such seriousness as to warrant a report to the United Nations.

In violation of the Armistice Agreement, North Korean aggression in the first seven months of this year resulted in the murder of fifteen Republic of Korea civilians and the wounding of nine others. At least forty-four Koreans have been killed during engagements in the Republic of Korea and three others have been captured.

During the first seven months of 1969, the North Koreans have sent more than 190 covert agents into the Republic of Korea with missions.

- To organize underground Communist party cells in support of North Korea,
- To establish themselves as legal residents of the Republic of Korea,
- To recruit collaborators and take them to North Korea for training,
- To collect general and military intelligence.

A chronological listing of the most significant incidents which occurred during the first seven months of 1969 is attached.

APPENDIX A

Significant incidents - 1969

(a) On 25 February at 0012 hours, elements of the Republic of Korea Navy made radar contact with a North Korean agent boat in the vicinity of 125° 35' east, 37° 20' north. During the subsequent engagement a ROK destroyer suffered substantial damage in her superstructure. In addition, two of the destroyer's crewmen were killed and eight others were wounded. The agent boat also was damaged heavily, and it was taken under tow by a North Korean patrol boat which towed it into North Korean waters.

(b) On 15 March at 1535 hours, a United Nations Command work party, supported by a security patrol, was in the process of replacing Military Demarcation Line marker Number 0022, when it was taken under fire by North Korean units positioned in the northern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. In the ensuing fire fight, one United Nations Command soldier was killed and three were wounded. At 2145 hours, a UH-1B medivac helicopter, dispatched to evacuate UNC casualties, crashed, killing four crew members as well as three of the previously wounded.

(c) On 16 March, a group of North Korean agents infiltrated from the sea into the fishing port town of Chumunjin on the east coast of the Republic of Korea. They killed one Korean National policeman and attempted to abduct another. During a search by the Korean National Police and the Homeland Defense Reserve Force, a boat was observed moving away from the shore, and it was taken under fire. The boat was sunk and the bodies of nine of the North Korean agents abroad were later recovered. In addition to the policeman killed, one other Republic of Korea citizen was killed and another wounded.

(d) On 19 April at 0100 hours, three North Korean agents landed at Sibi-Dong a Do Island and kidnapped two Republic of Korea fishermen.

(e) On 14 May at 0050 hours, an unknown number of North Korean infiltrators were detected in the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone. Defensive measures resulted in the death of one of the infiltrators and the recovery of his PPS sub-machine-gun, 122 rounds of ammunition, nine hand grenades.

(f) On 15 May at 2229 hours, United Nations Command personnel, conducting a routine inspection of the southern boundary fence, came across a North Korean agent. In the ensuing fire fight, two United Nations Command personnel were wounded. A sweep of the area discovered a trail used by approximately four agents. The following equipment was also discovered: two RPG-2 rockets, one RPG anti-tank grenade, four F-1 hand grenades and one pair of water wings.

(g) On 20 May at 0420 hours, United Nations Command personnel in the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone sighted a North Korean agent when he set off a trip flare. Small arms rounds were exchanged, resulting in the death of the infiltrator.

(h) Later on the same day, at 2105 hours, North Korean agents were again sighted in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. As a result of the ensuing fire fight, one of the infiltrators was killed and two United Nations Command soldiers were wounded.

(i) On 23 May at 0135 hours, an unknown number of infiltrators were discovered cutting their way through the southern boundary fence. A United Nations Command soldier was killed while repelling the intruders. Later in the morning the dead body of one of the infiltrators was discovered.

(j) On 25 May at 1047 hours, a United Nations Command routine patrol was taken under fire by a group of North Korean infiltrators in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. Three of the intruders were killed during the exchange of fire. When United Nations Command personnel attempted to remove the dead bodies, they were fired at from a North Korean guard post. One United Nations Command soldier was wounded during the engagement.

(k) On 8 June at 0150 hours, a North Korean agent boat was detected off the eastern coast of the Republic of Korea near Pukyang. A rubber raft was observed being dispatched from the agent boat and moving toward shore. Both the boat and the raft were taken under fire from the shore. The raft sank, drowning one of the agents aboard. Another agent was captured later ashore. The agent boat fired one round of 82 mm recoilless rifle fire which impacted in a housing area, killing five civilians.

(l) On 12 June 1969, off the southwestern coast of the Republic of Korea near the Island of Tae-Huksan-do a 75-ton, 150-foot agent boat was attempting

to exfiltrate an agent from the island when it was taken under fire by Republic of Korea Navy vessels. Air Force planes joined the fight and the agent boat suffered heavy damage, and was eventually captured and boarded. Some of the agents aboard escaped to shore and were later killed or captured by Republic of Korea security units. In all, at least fourteen North Korean invaders were killed as a result of the Naval battle and the subsequent fire fights ashore. One Republic of Korea civilian was killed and a member of the Homeland Defense Reserve Forces was wounded. Numerous items of radio and radar equipment were recovered from the agent boat, along with pistols, machine-guns and other military equipment.

(m) On 14 June 1969 at 1540 hours, a Republic of Korea civilian found a rubber raft near the shore line off the western coast of the Republic. Korean National Police began an immediate search of the area and encountered three North Korean agents. All were killed in the subsequent fire fight. Four Korean National policemen were wounded during the engagement.

(n) On 12 July at 0045 hours, two North Korean agents were detected south of the Demilitarized Zone in the western sector of the Republic. In the ensuing fire fight, one of the agents was killed. Equipment recovered included two North Korean sub-machine-guns, 145 rounds of ammunition, two hand grenades, one radio, two code books, and numerous items of personal equipment.

(o) Also on 12 July, a North Korean agent was sighted and captured in a section of the Han River Estuary belonging to the Republic of Korea.

(p) On 19 July, a Republic of Korea shop owner became suspicious of an individual in his shop at Hansong-ni in the southern part of the Republic. The Korean National Police were notified and instituted an immediate search of the area. Three North Korean agents were discovered and in the fire fight that followed, one of the intruders was wounded and captured.

(q) On 27 July 1969, United Nations Command personnel sighted a North Korean intruder who was located in the vicinity of 38°00'05" north, 127°00'10" east, in the Hant'an River. When United Nations Command personnel fired on this intruder he fled. A sweep force was dispatched to look for this intruder, and they eventually killed three North Korean agents. United Nations Command personnel suffered two killed and six wounded in this action.

APPENDIX B

The level of North Korean subversive activity
against the Republic of Korea

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u> to 31 July
Significant incidents:					
DMZ - south of the Military Demarcation Line	42	37	445	542	76
Interior of ROK	17	13	121	219	23
Exchanges of fire:					
DMZ - south of the Military Demarcation Line	23	19	122	236	39
Interior of ROK	6	11	96	120	13
North Koreans killed in ROK	4	43	228	321	44
North Koreans captured in ROK	51	19	57	13	3
UNC military killed in ROK	21	35	131	162	6
UNC military wounded in ROK	6	29	294	294	24
ROK National Police and other civilians killed in ROK	19	4	22	35	15
ROK National Police and other civilians wounded in ROK	13	5	53	16	9
