



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/20964
13 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The attached letter dated 13 November 1989 from the Permanent Observer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations was addressed to the President of the Security Council. In accordance with the request contained in the letter, the text is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Letter dated 13 November 1989 from the Permanent Observer of the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations
addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward to you a statement dated 9 November 1989 by the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador

Enclosure

Statement dated 9 November 1989 of the Foreign Ministry of the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

To prevent the danger of nuclear war and ensure peace on the Korean peninsula is a great concern of mankind and one of the urgent tasks for world peace.

Despite the present new trend towards international détente and the gradual reduction of nuclear weapons, the situation on the Korean peninsula is getting aggravated and the danger of nuclear war is increasing.

These developments cause serious uneasiness and deep apprehensions among the world's peace-loving people.

The Government of our Republic took a series of important initiatives to ease the tense situation on the Korean peninsula and remove the danger of nuclear war and has so far made continued efforts for their realization.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has already clarified at home and abroad its stand for the creation of a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula through the statement dated 23 June 1986 (S/18191) and the statement of the Foreign Ministry dated 13 July 1987 (S/18981).

However, instead of responding to our peace-loving proposal, the United States is stepping up nuclear war preparations while further increasing nuclear armed forces under the cloak of what they call "security" allegedly to protect south Korea from the fictitious "threat of southward invasion".

As a result today, south Korea has turned into a comprehensive nuclear offensive base full of various nuclear weapons, means of nuclear delivery, nuclear bases and depots and into a hotbed of nuclear war threatening peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The United States not only turned south Korea into the biggest nuclear forward base in the Far East but also frequently conducts large-scale military exercises in a bid to provoke a nuclear war in Korea.

Every year the United States conducts the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises together with south Korea, mobilizing nuclear offensive means including nuclear war command aircraft on the ground, in the air and at sea and it staged the large-size "Pacex 89" military game in broad areas of the Pacific.

This is, too, part of the nuclear war preparations and a test nuclear war for a surprise attack on our Republic.

Owing to such adventurous war provocations on the part of the United States, a very acute situation has been created on the Korean peninsula where a war may break out at any moment.

It is quite imaginable that if a war is ignited on the Korean peninsula, it will easily spread into a global nuclear war and bring a catastrophic nuclear disaster not only to our people but also to all mankind.

We do not want a thermonuclear war to be ignited with the Korean peninsula as a fuse.

It is the invariable stand of our Republic to ease tension on the Korean peninsula and secure peace in Korea and Asia and the rest of the world through dialogue and negotiation.

In the light of the acute situation created on the Korean peninsula, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea considers it necessary immediately to hold negotiations among the parties concerned to discuss the issue of establishing a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula and take practical measures to guarantee its position safely.

First, the question of turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone is the issue to be discussed and solved between the north and the south. But, since United States nuclear weapons are actually deployed in south Korea, tripartite talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United States and south Korea should be held to discuss and solve the question of withdrawing the nuclear weapons from south Korea.

We propose to hold such negotiations at Geneva or any other mutually agreeable place within this year.

Secondly, if in the tripartite talks an agreement is reached on the withdrawal of United States nuclear weapons, the north and the south of Korea should hold talks to adopt a joint declaration on turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and discuss and settle the question of demanding the nuclear Powers to give legal guarantees.

The north-south joint declaration should include the question of declaring the Korean peninsula and its 12 miles of territorial waters and air a nuclear-free zone, the question of refraining from the testing, production, storage and introduction of nuclear weapons by the north and south and the question of banning the deployment of foreign nuclear weapons, entrance and exit and passage of foreign nuclear vessels and aircraft carrying nuclear weapons and matters related to mutual information and the order of verification of progress in the withdrawal of United States nuclear weapons from south Korea and the implementation of the commitments by the north and south.

The document whereby the nuclear Powers give guarantees should stipulate their obligations to respect the position of the nuclear-free zone of the Korean peninsula and desist in any case from nuclear threat and attack against the north and the south of Korea.

The north-south talks may be divided into expert-level talks for drafting a joint declaration and guarantee document and the talks of representatives of authorities for their formal adoption.

The United States has no ground to deploy massive nuclear weapons in south Korea and make south Korea a nuclear base to confront us, a non-nuclear State.

Denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is a task which brooks no further delay because it is a matter of removing one of the most dangerous sources of nuclear war in the world.

If the Korean peninsula is converted into a nuclear-free zone, the people in this region will be free from the danger of nuclear war and make a substantial contribution to the cause of peace in Korea and the rest of the world.

