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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The attached letter, dated 23 January 1990, was addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations. In accordance with the request contained in the letter, the text is being circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Letter dated 23 January 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Observer Mission 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 the statement dated 22 January 1990 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I request that this letter, together with the enclosed statement, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) HO Jong
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Deputy Permanent Observer of the
Democratic People's Republic of
Korea to the United Nations

Enclosure

Statement dated 22 January 1990 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

It is a unanimous desire of the entire Korean people and the world's peace-loving people to accomplish the cause of Korean reunification in the 1990s.

The proposal to pull down the wall of division between the north and the south and ensure free travel and complete opening made by the respected leader President Kim Il Sung in his New Year Address is an epochal national salvation measure to end the nearly half-a-century-long history of Korean division and confrontation which began in the 1940s and start a new history of reunification.

This new national salvation proposal has evoked widespread repercussions at home and among the foreign public world-wide.

This indicates that the international community earnestly desires the relaxation of the situation on the Korean peninsula and its peaceful reunification.

At this very moment, the United States and the south Korean authorities have made public a plan to stage the massive "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises this year, far from showing a positive response to our new save-the-nation proposal.

This has caused the surprise of the world public and disappointed the world's people who had pinned their hopes on the promotion of the north-south dialogues and the reunification of Korea.

Moreover, the decision of the United States and the south Korean authorities to stage the large-scale nuclear attack exercises directed against the opposite side at a time when fruits are in sight at the ongoing north-south dialogues is nothing but a deliberate act of military confrontation to put a spoke in the wheel of north-south dialogues and block the relaxation of the situation of the Korean peninsula.

This is a challenge to the desire of the entire Korean people for reunification and the hope of the world's peace-loving people for disarmament and détente.

No sooner had the United States declared to the world an end to the cold war and the advent of an era of peace than it launched an armed invasion of Panama, a sovereign State. No one can vouch that it would not start a war against the north on the Korean peninsula any moment in the same way behind the smoke-screen of the "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres.

If a country staged a large-scale military exercise in the sea off the United States, how would the United States authorities react to this?

While stating that it is pursuing a "policy of détente" in Europe, the United States is increasing tensions in Asia, not lowering the level of military confrontation there.

Motivated by this policy, it seeks to keep a hold on the Korean peninsula as a source of increasing tensions and a hotbed of war.

The United States and the south Korean authorities are trying to conceal the true colour of these war exercises against peace, dialogue and reunification by pretending to have decided to cut the scale of the projected "Team Spirit" joint military exercises. But their scale can hardly be considered to be reduced even in view of the data announced by them.

And they are trying to fool the world public with their clumsy talk about an "invitation to observe" the "Team Spirit" manoeuvres. But they can never conceal the aggressive, provocative nature of this war game.

The scheme of the south Korean authorities again to stage the nuclear war exercises, threatening fellow countrymen with foreign forces, clearly proves that their deed entirely contradicts their statement that they welcome free travel and complete opening.

It is impossible either to build mutual confidence or to hold an honest dialogue under the circumstances of such nuclear war exercises as "Team Spirit". Free travel and a full-scale open-door presuppose mutual confidence and détente and they are incompatible with nuclear war exercises.

The United States and the south Korean authorities must not contend that there is no concrete wall cutting across the Korean peninsula at its waist, but must pull it down and cancel at once the plan for the "Team Spirit 90" joint military exercises which obstruct free travel and complete opening between the north and the south and the promotion of north-south dialogues.

If the United States and the south Korean authorities dare to perpetrate the war exercise on the Korean peninsula, they will invite a deserved denunciation from the entire Korean people and the world's peace-loving people and be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

