

July 26, 1977

US Presidential Memorandum, Jimmy Carter Administration, Talks between North Korea and South Korea

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Summary:

The Jimmy Carter administration attempts to develop a diplomatic strategy for inter-Korean talks in the wake of anticipated U.S. troop withdrawals.

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MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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SECRET

July 26, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

DAVID AAR

MIKE ARMACOST

SUBJECT:

Talks Between North Korea and South Korea

Attached is the President's indication that we should develop a diplomatic strategy to accompany our troop withdrawals. Please develop a scenario and appropriate instruction to the Department of State.

Also indicate the substantive objectives of a negotiation and your recommendations on how we might, within the U.S. Government, develop our negotiating position.

FR

Attachments

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D. <u>Talks Between South Korea and North Korea with or without PRC</u> Participation:

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Let's more mis This has been the missing dimension in our troop withdrawal policy. It would be appropriate soon to initiate talks with South Korea regarding a joint initiative along these lines, or regarding an initiative by the United States, but with South Korean approval. My own view would be to first discuss the subject with South Korea, then to inform and consult both the Chinese and the Russians separately, and on that basis then decide whether we issue a call for tripartite talks (North Korea, South Korea, and the US), or talks which would involve the major powers in the neighborhood, in which case we might consider including Japan as well. A discussion of this subject with South Korea, undertaken without excessive haste or pressure; might help to give the South Koreans the feeling that their concerns are being fully considered and that we are anxious to create a proper international context for the forthcoming military adjustments.

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