

June 29, 1979

**US Department of State Cable, Request for
Indonesian Good Offices to Facilitate ROK and US
Discussions with North Korea**

Citation:

"US Department of State Cable, Request for Indonesian Good Offices to Facilitate ROK and US Discussions with North Korea", June 29, 1979, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Jimmy Carter Library, Remote Archives Capture (RAC), NLC-16-12-6-14-0. Obtained by Charles Kraus. <https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/114655>

Summary:

Cyrus Vance reveals that Jimmy Carter and Park Chung Hee hope to rely upon Indonesia to facilitate a tripartite dialogue between the U.S., South Korea, and North Korea.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Leon Levy Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 230

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 02/23/80//054

SITUATION: NODIS OLD
SUBJECT CATEGORY: FE

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

DOS REVIEWED 05-JUL-2007: DECLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE IN FULL

HCE409

STU766

IIII

DD RUEHC

DE RUEHUL #9745/01 1801607

ZNY SSSSS ZZY

O 291533Z JUN 79 ZFF#4

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN SEOUL

TO RUKOBT/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA FLASH

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5021

BT

SECRET SECTION 01 OF 02 SECT 6063

NODIS/CHEROKEE

SPECIAL ENCRYPTION

E.O. 120651

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INDOONESIAN GOOD OFFICES TO
FACILITATE ROK AND US DISCUSSIONS WITH
NORTH KOREA

EYES ONLY BALI FOR AMBASSADOR MASTERS AND JAKARTA FOR DCM

1. THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT PARK, IN SEARCH OF MEANS TO PROMOTE PEACE AND STABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND IN THE REGION, HAVE DECIDED JOINTLY TO PROPOSE THE CONVENING OF A MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES TO SEEK MEANS TO PROMOTE DIALOGUE AND REDUCE TENSIONS IN THE AREA. IN THIS CONNECTION, BOTH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS SEEK THE GOOD OFFICES OF INDONESIA TO FACILITATE THIS IMPORTANT INITIATIVE. IN ORDER TO BE EFFECTIVE, WE NEED GOI CONCURRENCE AND POSITIVE ACTION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 30.

2. FOR JAKARTA (GARDNER): THE ROK AMBASSADOR IN JAKARTA IS RECEIVING SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS AS THOSE CONTAINED IN THIS MESSAGE. YOU SHOULD URGENTLY MAKE MUTUAL CONTACT AND ARRANGE TO PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO BALI, WHERE WE UNDERSTAND ALL PERTINENT RESPONSIBLE GOI AUTHORITIES ARE.

3. FOR AMBASSADOR: TOGETHER WITH THE ROK AMBASSADOR, YOU SHOULD SEEK IMMEDIATE MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MOCHTAR AND INFORM HIM OF THE ABOVE JOINT ROK-US INITIATIVE, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN SEOUL SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE TWO PRESIDENTS. YOU SHOULD STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF ABSOLUTE SECRECY UNTIL THE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE.

4. WE SEEK URGENT CONCURRENCE OF THE INDOONESIAN GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST US IN THREE RESPECTS:

SENSITIVE

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 231

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 02/23/80//054

SITUATION: NODIS OLD
SUBJECT CATEGORY: FE

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

(1) GIVE PERMISSION FOR US TO PROPOSE THAT A TRIPARTITE MEETING BE HELD IN JAKARTA; (2) TRANSMIT PROMPTLY THIS WEEKEND AN INFORMAL ORAL MESSAGE TO NORTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES; AND (3) SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSMIT FORMJIP WRITTEN MESSAGES FROM OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO NORTH KOREA AND IN TURN CONVEY TO US THE RESPONSES FROM PYONGYANG.
5. EXPRESS REGRET FOR THE SHORT NOTIFICATION, BUT EMPHASIZE THE SERIOUS AND IMPORTANT NATURE OF OUR REQUEST AS WELL AS THE SENSITIVITY OF THIS MATTER, REQUIRING THAT ONLY THE FEWEST POSSIBLE PEOPLE BE INFORMED AT THIS STAGE.
6. OUTLINE THE FOLLOWING RAPID SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WHICH WE FORESEE IF THE GOI IS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO OFFER ITS GOOD OFFICES:

-- (A) THE GOI SHOULD IMMEDIATELY BY FASTEST POSSIBLE MEANS ALERT ITS AMBASSADOR IN PYONGYANG THAT A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED LATE SATURDAY, AND THAT IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT HE ARRANGE IN ADVANCE TO BE ABLE TO PASS THAT MESSAGE TO THE NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER (OR AT LEAST A SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL) BETWEEN 0800 AND 0900 PYONGYANG TIME SUNDAY MORNING. WE DO NOT RPT NOT WISH TS NORTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES INFORMED PRIOR TO SUNDAY MORNING THAT THE MESSAGE TO BE DELIVERED IS ON BEHALF OF ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT. THE INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR SHOULD ONLY BE INSTRUCTED THAT AN URGENT MESSAGE IS COMING, AND THAT HE MUST MAKE ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS TO DELIVER IT.

-- (B) AT 1600 SEOUL TIME SATURDAY (1430 IN JAKARTA) ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK WILL CALL IN THE INDONESIAN CHARGE IN SEOUL. HE AND THE SECRETARY TOGETHER WILL PROVIDE THE CHARGE WITH AN INFORMAL MESSAGE TO BE DELIVERED ORALLY IN PYONGYANG. (NOTE THAT THIS SCHEDULE REQUIRES OUR CONFIRMATION FROM YOU OF INDONESIAN AGREEMENT.)

-- (C) THE ORAL MESSAGE SHOULD BE DELIVERED IN PYONGYANG SUNDAY MORNING JULY 1 BETWEEN 0800 AND 0900 ON BEHALF OF THE ROKG AND THE USG TO A SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL (TO FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM IF AT ALL POSSIBLE).

-- (D) ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON (OR MONDAY) THE INDONESIAN CHARGE IN SEOUL WILL BE GIVEN A WRITTEN MESSAGE FROM FOREIGN MINISTER PARK AND THE SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER HO TAM MAKING A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR A TRIPARTITE MEETING TO BE CONVENED IN JAKARTA IN SEPTEMBER.

BT

#9745

NNNN

SENSITIVE

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 232

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 02/23/80//054

SITUATION: NODIS OLD
SUBJECT CATEGORY: FE

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE410

STU770

IIIII

OO RUEHC

DE RUEHUL #9745/02 1801615

ZNY SSSSS ZZY

O 291553Z JUN 79 ZFF-4

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN SEOUL

TO RUKOBT/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA FLASH

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5022

BT

SECRET SECTION 02 OF 02 SECTO 6063

NODIS CHEROKEE

SPECIAL ENCRYPTION

WE WILL REQUEST THAT THE TEXT BE CABLED TO JAKARTA FOR
TRANSMISSION OF THE ENCLOSED MESSAGE TO PYONGYANG AS
QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. (WE WILL ALSO CABLE TEXT TO YOU
AND YOU SHOULD CONFIRM RECEIPT BY THE GOI).

7. YOU MAY POINT OUT THAT WE WILL BE REQUESTING THE
NORTH KOREANS TO REPLY JOINTLY TO SOUTH KOREA AND THE
UNITED STATES THROUGH THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE INDONESIAN
GOVERNMENT.

8. PROVIDE US A YES OR NO ANSWER BY FASTEST POSSIBLE MEANS
AND IF AT ALL POSSIBLE PRIOR TO SCHEDULED MEETING WITH THE
INDONESIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES HERE IN SEOUL SATURDAY AFTER-
NOON. OPEN TELEPHONE LINE YES WILL BE UNDERSTOOD. IT MAY
BE NECESSARY FOR YOU TO MAKE CONTACT THROUGH S/S OFFICE AT
HOTEL SHILLA (THROUGH EMBASSY SEOUL SWITCHBOARD). S/S IN
TURN CAN TELEPHONE US AT THE OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN
MINISTER IF WE ARE ALREADY ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS THERE.

VANCE

BT

#9745

NNNN

SENSITIVE

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 233

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 02/23/80//054

SITUATION: NODIS OLD
SUBJECT CATEGORY: FE

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

HCE671

STU943

11111

ZZ RUEHC

DE RUEHLH #0012 1810933

ZNY SSSSS ZZH ZZY

Z 300930Z JUN 79

FM USDEL BALI

TO RUEHLH/AMEMBASSY SEOUL FLASH 0010

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 0009

BT

SECRET USDEL BALI 00012

NODIS

SPECIAL ENCRYPTION CHEROKEE FOR THE SECRETARY
STATE ALSO PASS JAKARTA

E.O. 120651

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INDOONESIAN GOOD OFFICES TO
FACILITATE ROK AND US DISCUSSIONS WITH
NORTH KOREA

REF: A. STATE 168481/01 B. SECTO 6063

FROM AMBASSADOR MASTERS

1. SECRET-ENTIRE TEXT

2. ROK AMBASSADOR HAHM AND I JUST HAD AN HOUR WITH MOCHTAR AND DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AMWAR SANI GOING ROUND AND ROUND ON THE
PROPOSAL REFTEL. ALTHOUGH MOCHTAR DEFERRED A FINAL DECISION UNTIL 2200
HOURS TONIGHT JAKARTA TIME, WHEN DIFFICULT ASEAN MEETING IS EXPECTED TO
BE FINISHED, HE SEES NO WAY INDONESIA COULD GEAR ITSELF UP TO MOVE IN
THE TIMEFRAME SUGGESTED REFTEL. MOCHTAR STRESSED THE FOLLOWING POINTS.

A. HE IS IN THE MIDST OF CHAIRING ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASEAN
MEETINGS IN THE HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION. SESSION SHOULD HAVE ENDED
AT NOON BUT DEBATE WAS SO HOT THAT AGREEMENT ON FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS
IMPOSSIBLE. MOCHTAR EXPECTS THE MEETING TO LAST WELL INTO THE EVENING.
MAJOR PROBLEM IS SINGAPORE WHICH IS TAKING WHAT MOCHTAR VIEWS AS AN
EXTREMELY HAWKISH LINE TOWARDS HANOI.

B. MOCHTAR COULD NOT UNDERTAKE ANY INITIATIVE OF THE IMPORTANCE
SUGGESTED REFTEL WITHOUT SUHARTO'S FULL APPROVAL. HE SAYS HE CANNOT WORK
THIS OUT BY TELEPHONE WITH SUHARTO. THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT DO BUSINESS
THIS WAY. MOCHTAR SAYS HE CANNOT GO TO JAKARTA HIMSELF BECAUSE OF THE

ASEAN MEETING, AND ARRIVAL OF VISITING FOREIGN MINISTERS TOMORROW.
IN ANY EVENT HE BELIEVES SUHARTO WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT AGREE ON SUCH
SHORT
NOTICE TO SOMETHING OF THIS IMPORTANCE ON WHICH HE HAS BEEN INADEQUATELY
PREPARED.

SENSITIVE

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0

SENSITIVE

PAGE 1 - 234

SITUATION LISTING

DATE 02/23/80//054

SITUATION: NODIS OLD
SUBJECT CATEGORY: FE

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

C. INDONESIA HAS BEEN "CAUGHT COLD" BY THIS PROPOSAL AND NEEDS CAREFULLY TO CONSIDER ALL RAMIFICATIONS. HIS INFORMATION IS THAT NORTH KOREA IS STILL NEGATIVE TOWARD CONTACTS WITH SEOUL. HE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE HIS OWN READINGS ON THIS. HE SEES POLITICAL PROBLEMS IF THE GOI GOOD OFFICES WERE REJECTED OUT OF HAND BY PYONGYANG
3. MOCHTAR IS CONCERNED ABOUT A POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECT OF HIS RELUCTANCE TO COOPERATE ON US-INDONESIAN RELATIONS. HE HOPES WE WILL UNDERSTAND BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES HAHM AND I WENT OVER THE GROUND, STRESSING THE POSITIVE BENEFITS OF GOI AGREEMENT TO OUR PROPOSED SCENARIO, HE RETURNED ALWAYS TO THE RESERVATIONS NOTED ABOVE. HE ASKED US TO INQUIRE OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS IF THE COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED BY PRESIDENTS CARTER AND PARK COULD NOT BE WORDED IN A WAY WHICH PROVIDED MORE TIME TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF JUST HOW THIS PEACE PROPOSAL WOULD BE PUT INTO EFFECT. HE WILL SEE HAHM AND ME AGAIN AT 2200 HOURS TONIGHT TO SEE IF WE HAVE ANY FURTHER WORD FROM OUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS AND TO GIVE US ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS
HE MAY HAVE AFTER THE AGONIZING ASEAN MEETING IS FINISHED. PLEASE ADVISE BY FLASH TELEGRAM IF THERE ARE ANY FURTHER POINTS I SHOULD MAKE

BEYOND THE REFTEL IN OUR MEETING TONIGHT.

UNSIGNED

BT

#0012

NNNN

SENSITIVE

No Objection To Declassification 2008/06/10 : NLC-16-12-6-14-0