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Report from Etre Sándor, 'Korean interest in the Hungarian visit of Rogers'

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Summary:

A report by Etre Sandor describing the North Korean Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Ri Man-seok's interest in the visit made by the US Secretary of State to Hungary.

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS Regional Division IV Korean Branch Etre Sándor

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Record

Subject: Korean interest in the Hungarian visit of Rogers

On June 29, Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Ri Man-seok [Ri Man Sok] and his escorts left Budapest. Just before, during the wait at the airport, Korean ambassador Pak Gyeong-sun [Pak Kyong-sun] showed active interest in the objective of [US Secretary of State William] Rogers' Hungarian visit while talking to Comrade Kádas. (According to my knowledge, the Korean comrades inquired to Comrade Csatorday regarding this matter as well.)

The ambassador asked what the objective of the American foreign minister could be by visiting Hungary at this time. This time, when the American imperialists are in a difficult internal and external political situation, would this visit help them? How many Hungarians live in the USA, and would their situation change by this visit? By asking these and similar questions, it became apparent that the Korean comrades have some worries and reserve towards the visit of Rogers. It is obvious that this inquiry was due to orders from above. (During the time when we informed the ambassador about the visit of Rogers, he did not ask any questions, but merely said that he will forward this information home.)

Budapest, 1972 July 1.