

**July 4, 1972**

**Note on Information provided by DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister, Comrade Kim Yong-taek, on 3 July 1972 for the Ambassadors and Acting Ambassadors of Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Romania, Hungary, and the GDR**

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<https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/113783>

**Summary:**

DPRK Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs reads a written statement on the results of the inter-Korean Red Cross talks in Panmunjeom. He describes the contents of a joint communique to be released simultaneously by the governments of North Korea and South Korea. This joint declaration lists principles of reunification and further cooperation between the North and South.

**Credits:**

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**Contents:**

Translation - English

Translation - Korean

GDR Embassy to DPRK  
Pyongyang, 4 July 1972

#### Note

On Information provided by DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister, Comrade Kim Yong-taek [Kim Ryong Thaek],

on 3 July 1972 for the Ambassadors and Acting Ambassadors of Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Romania, Hungary, and the GDR

at 20:40 hours in the DPRK Foreign Ministry

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs released important information on the problem of Korean unification. Reading from a written manuscript, he made the following statements:

The problem of unification of the country has to be solved without any interference from outside, without foreign forces, with the forces of the Koreans alone, and in a peaceful manner. Party and government of the DPRK have focused all their efforts in this direction and recently achieved important results through contacts and meetings. He [Kim Yong-taek] defined the Red Cross talks in Panmunjeom as unofficial contacts with South Korea on a low level. With the agreement on an agenda their first phase has come to a certain conclusion.

Between 2 and 5 May 1972 Lee Hu-rak, head of the South Korean intelligence service, visited the DPRK and had talks with Kim Yeong-ju [Kim Yong Ju] (Note: brother of Kim Il Sung). Among other things, during his visit he was also received by Kim Il Sung.

From 29 May to 1 June 1972 Pak Seong-cheol [Pak Song Chol], and not Kim Yeong-ju, visited Seoul and talked to the intelligence chief [Lee Hu-rak] and Park Chung Hee.

The three principles of unification were instantly agreed upon, and they will be publicized at an appropriate time. Afterwards there was another meeting where a joint declaration was agreed to become public simultaneously in the DPRK and in South Korea on the 4th of July 1972 at 10:00 hours. Yet prior to this publication, the DPRK Deputy Foreign Minister emphasized, the Foreign Ministry wants to inform the ambassadors of the fraternal countries. Then Kim Yong-taek provided more details of the joint declaration:

□□ The unification of the fatherland is supposed to occur on the basis of the agreed upon three principles:

□□

□□ The problem must be solved without any interference from outside with the Korean people's own forces;

. Unification must be implemented without any arms involved, it has to be realized in a peaceful manner;

. Notwithstanding all the ideological and other differences of the political systems, national unity, and a great, unified nation, is supposed to be created.

□□ □□

□□ An atmosphere of mutual good faith and trust has to be created. Thus all slander and military provocations have to cease in order to exclude a sudden military incursion;

□□

□□ There was a complete accord of opinion that exchanges between North and South Korea shall be opened up on all areas and levels.

□□

Both sides will work towards the success of the Red Cross talks.

□□

There was an agreement about the installation of a direct phone line between Seoul and Pyongyang to exclude a military attack and to solve all upcoming operational questions.

□□

In order to increase speed in implementing the points mentioned above, in particular the unification of the fatherland on the basis of the agreed principles, a committee for coordination and guidance shall be established with Kim Yeong-ju and Lee Hu-rak as chairmen.

□□

Both sides are convinced that the points agreed upon reflect the will of the people and shall be realized.

□□

The declaration was signed by Kim Yeong-ju and Lee Hu-rak.

Comrade Kim Yong-taek continued:

The agreement became reality since the South Koreans have adopted the correct course of the DPRK government. It is correct since it represents the path to victory.

□□

The joint agreement can become a turning point for the unification of the fatherland.

□□

Despite the agreement there are still many issues unresolved, and the struggle for the solution of the problems is complicated.

□□

Deputy Foreign Minister Comrade Kim Yong-taek requested to inform our governments as soon as possible about the above-mentioned issues. He voiced the expectation for even stronger support of the struggle of the Korean people for the unification of the country.

Note: On 3 July our Embassy was invited to a press conference for 4 July at 10:00 hours to be held by the 2nd Deputy of the Prime Minister, Pak Seong-cheol.

Merten

Embassy Counselor

CC

1x Foreign Ministry, Far East Department

1x Central Committee, Department IV

1x ZID

1x Embassy/Political Department

1x MA Comrade Grünberg

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참고: 7월 3일, 이 회의는 7월 4일 10시 20분 시작되었습니다.

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1 x MA □□□□□ (Grunberg)□□