

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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January 22, 1979

Presidential Review Memorandum/NSC- 45

TO: The Vice President  
The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense

ALSO: The Director, U.S. Arms Control  
and Disarmament Agency  
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Toward Korea ~~X~~

The President has directed the Policy Review Committee, chaired by the Department of State, to conduct a comprehensive review of U.S. objectives and policies toward Korea in the light of recent developments affecting the Korean peninsula. The developments include: increased estimates of North Korean military order of battle; normalization of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the PRC; the conclusion of a Sino-Japanese Peace and Friendship Treaty; improvements in the US-Japan security relationship; progress in the ROK drive for accelerated industrialization and greater defense self-sufficiency; and improved US-ROK relations. ~~X~~

The review should:

-- Assess the effect of recent developments on the military balance on the Korean peninsula. Specifically analyze, in the light of the new judgments on North Korean order of battle, whether or not the ROK can repel an invasion from the North without the assistance of U.S. ground combat forces, given timely air, naval, and logistic support from the United States. ~~X~~

-- Examine diplomatic options for reducing tensions on the peninsula, including initiatives vis-a-vis the other major powers concerned, joint US-ROK steps to consolidate and strengthen existing armistice arrangements; and moves to promote the resumption of a substantive dialogue between Seoul and Pyongyang. ~~X~~

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Review on  
January 17, 1985

Declassify on: OADR

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