

January 31, 1955
Letter from the Romanian Embassy in Pyongyang to the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Second Division Liaison,
January 31st 1955, 134/955

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Summary:

In a letter to the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Jianu reports on the conditions of hospitals in North Korea. There are concerns about the medical staff properly attending to the conditions of the hospitals, and "allow matters to spiral out of control." This issue was brought up in a study of the hospitals in Nampo. The ambassador notes communication difficulties with the Ministry of Health, as if they are unwilling to speak about this.

Credits:

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- English Translation

Regarding letter no. 4271 dated November 15th 1954, we inform you that Ambassador Anton Tatu Jianu's arrival in Pyongyang was not attended by anyone from the Bulgarian mission since their entire staff arrived two days afterwards.

Regarding the introductory visits to the heads of the Chinese and Polish missions, the Ambassadors announced their visits a few days after presenting the letters of credence.

Having presented their credentials later on, the Czechoslovak Ambassador and the Minister of the Bulgarian mission made introductory visits.

In regards to the discussion with the Minister of Health, our report was not explicit as to why the medical personnel do not attend to the proper functioning of the hospital and allow matters to 'spiral out of control.'

The issue raised was that the hospital in Nampho should be able to communicate directly with the Ministry when urgent matters arise.

As for the performance of the hospital's Korean leadership, I noted certain difficulties and emphasized the need to increase the standard of administrative work. This has also been acknowledged by the Ministry of Health.

We will be as explicit as possible in our future discussions with Korean officials so that you are aware of the manner in which issues have been raised.

A similar situation occurred in regards to certain visits that were to be made to representatives of the Korean party and government.

The arrangements for these visits were made by the Protocol Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, after a visit had been established, it was not subsequently postponed due to August 23rd as our report infers.

Signed: Ambassador Anton Tatu Jianu