

March 22, 1977

**Telegram 01/02585 from the Romanian Ministry of
Foreign Affairs to the Romanian Embassy in
Pyongyang**

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Summary:

The Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs the Romanian Embassy in Pyongyang of the US's commitment to maintain strategic and military balance in the Korean Peninsula, and its continued insistence on South Korean participation in negotiations with the DPRK.

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Classification: Secret

Comrade chargé d'affaires ad interim,

American sources in Washington inform us that, during a meeting between President J. Carter and the South Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, the latter reaffirmed the United States' commitment to maintain and preserve South Korea's security and ensured that US troop withdrawal from South Korea will be gradual and in cooperation with Seoul and Tokyo. J. Carter noted that, in this manner, the strategic and military balance in the Korean Peninsula will not be damaged.

The US reiterated its position of not accepting to discuss solutions to the Korean issue without the participation of envoys from Seoul.

Regarding the DPRK's message to initiate a dialogue with the US in view of signing a North Korean-American peace treaty, the US responded that it cannot accept a dialogue which excluded South Korea.

The above are for your information.

Signed: Ion Ciubotaru