

**February 28, 1978**

**TELEGRAM 066.569 from the Romanian Embassy in  
Pyongyang to the Romanian Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs**

**Citation:**

"TELEGRAM 066.569 from the Romanian Embassy in Pyongyang to the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs", February 28, 1978, Wilson Center Digital Archive, AMAE, Folder 784/1978, Issue 220: Features of political-diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and some countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, America (Cyprus, Spain, USA, Bangladesh, Philippines, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Central African Republic, Egypt, Gabon, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Nigeria, Mozambique, Syria) January 7, 1978 – September 23, 1978. Obtained and translated for NKIDP by Eliza Gheorghe. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/116417>

**Summary:**

The Swedish and Finnish governments pressure the DPRK to pay back its debts, while the PRC grants North Korea a loan to partially offset these costs.

**Credits:**

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TELEGRAM 066.569

To: the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Comrade Constantin Oancea; Ion Ciubotaru)

From: the Romanian Embassy in Pyongyang

Date: February 28th, 1978

Classification: Secret

The First Secretary of the Indian Embassy in Pyongyang, D. Singh, mentioned that the People's Republic of China granted a loan of 100 million US dollars at the end of 1977, in order to partially pay the current debts that Democratic People's Republic of Korea owes some Western countries.

Regarding the discussions of financial problems, a delegation from the Korean Bank of Foreign Trade is currently in Sweden, Switzerland, and Finland.

In this context, the Indian diplomat said that in the last few months the Swedish and Finnish governments had put pressure on Democratic People's Republic of Korea to pay the debts accumulated in the last few years, threatening to cease any technical assistance and close the Swedish and Finnish embassies and the economic sections in Pyongyang.

Signed

Dumitru Popa