

March 16, 1973

ROK Foreign Ministry, "An Incident of Armed Agents Infiltration"

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Summary:

A confidential note by the Secretariat on an incident of armed agents infiltration on March 4, 1973 and a shooting incident along the Military Demarcation Line on March 7, 1973.

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Information Note
No. 10/73

16 March 1973

CONFIDENTIAL

Note by the Secretariat:- Reproduced below is information provided by the ROK Foreign Ministry on recently reported security incidents.

Subject : An incident of armed agents infiltration

Date : March 4, 1973 0030 hours

Location : U-do Island, 3.5 kilometers off Cheju-do (Yunpyong-ri, Kuchua-myun, Pukcheju-kun, Cheju-do Province)

Details : A small number of armed agents, believed to be two or three, infiltrated into U-do at 0035 hours and shot on a fisherman (Yim Soon-ho, 26) who was going to the sea-shore, together with another fisherman (Ko-Je-soo, 32) to watch their sea weed farm. Yim soon-ho was shot through the abdomen when they found an armed agent and failed to answer the pass-word.

Two unidentified boats were also found about the same time by Kang Chun-kwan, 39, a farmer, who was also proceeding to the coast to join Yim and Ko.

A searching operation was immediately launched by military personnel, policemen and members of Homeland Reserve Forces.

According to the above witnesses, the armed agents used a pass-word and called each other "tongmoo" or the north Korean Communists version of "comrade". A bullet shell of a north-Korean-made quick-firing-gun was also found on the spot.

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Subject : A shooting incident along the Military Demarcation Line

Date : March 7, 1973, from 1314 hours through 1940 hours

Location : Military Demarcation Line in DMZ, 15 kilometers north of Chulwon

Details : 1314-1321 hr.- About 60 military personnel led by Army Captain Hwang Young-bok of the 3rd Division of ROKA were fired on

by small arms from north Korean GP 560 during their routine work of setting up MDL markers. Capt. Hwang was shot through the head and a First Class Sergeant through the leg.

1430-1614 hr.:- Smoke bombs were fired by our side to help withdraw them and rescue the wounded, but the six men rescuing team was unable to approach the scene because of incessant north Korean shootings.

1610-1625 hr.:- Our side requested north Korean side to discontinue the shootings through the loudspeakers located in GP 613.

1620 hr.:- Seven members of Joint Observer Team of the Armistice Affairs Division (AAD) arrived at CP to investigate the incident, who subsequently made an official report to the Armistice Commission.

1700-1940 hr.:- North Korean army discontinued shootings at 1700 hours and the body of Captain Hwang was taken back by the rescuing team at 1940 hours.

Casualties:- The dead: Captain Hwang and a Sergeant. The wounded: a First Class Sergeant.

Other Information

MDL markers:- In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Armistice Agreement, MDL markers have been set up by both our side and the north Korean side along the Military Demarcation Line. The Demilitarized Zone is divided into two areas, area A and B. The ROK side is responsible for setting up MDL markers in area A, while the north Korean side holds the same responsibility in area B.

Notification:- A written notification was served in advance to the north Korean side by UNC through the Armistice Commission informing the north Korean side of the mission of Capt. Hwang and his army personnel.
