

March 26, 1984

**Cable from Ambassador Katori to the Foreign
Minister, 'Prime Minister Visit to China (Foreign
Ministers' Discussion - The State of the Korean
Peninsula)'**

Citation:

"Cable from Ambassador Katori to the Foreign Minister, 'Prime Minister Visit to China (Foreign Ministers' Discussion - The State of the Korean Peninsula)'" , March 26, 1984, Wilson Center Digital Archive, 2002-113, Act on Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs. Also available at the Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Obtained for CWIHP by Yutaka Kanda and translated by Ryo C. Kato. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/119557>

Summary:

A more detailed overview of Wu Xueqian and Abe Shintaro's exchanges on the Korean Peninsula in the aftermath of the Rangoon Bombing.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from MacArthur Foundation

Original Language:

Japanese

Contents:

Original Scan
Translation - English

秘密指定解除
情報公開室

極秘

- 注意
1. 本電の取扱いは慎重を期せられたい。
 2. 本電の内容に関する照会、要望等は検閲班 (TEL 2171, 2174) に。
 3. 本電の主旨変更は記帳班 (TEL 2172) に連絡ありたい。

電信写

が三者会談をいうにしても誠意を示すべきであるという韓国の主張には、それなりの理くつがある。ビルマ政府の発表では、北朝鮮の犯行であると同政府が断定しており、北朝鮮が何らかの誠意を示すべきであるという南朝鮮の主張は当然であると思う。

(2) また、北朝鮮は、在韓米軍を前提としては韓国と話し合いを出来ないと言っているが、話し合いの結果として撤退するという形であればともかく、あらかじめ撤退というのでは、米、韓は話にのれない。ラングーン事件で北の誠意が何らかの形で示されることが重要である。

(3) 日本は朝鮮半島の緊張緩和に期待し努力をしている。日本は韓国と密接な関係にあるが、北朝鮮とも文化、経済等の交流を持つている。朝鮮半島の安定をいいつており、三者会談、四者会談といった話が出ているが、日本もこのような動きをみて努力していきたい。

これに対し、ゴ部長より、首のう会談で原則的立場については、話合われたので、補足的に説明したいとして次のとおり述べた。

(1) 米国は本来三者会談に賛成していたのに、その態度を変えたのは、ラングーン事件に原因があると思う。同事件については、ビルマ、北朝鮮ともに中国の友好国であるので、双方の発表を全く同じ扱いで報道した。中国側はこの事件につき論評を加えなかつたが、中国としてテロリズムに反対するとの立場には変りはない。

(2) 現在、北朝鮮が三者会談を提案しているが、中国としては、話合わないより、話しをする方がよいと考えている。しかし、実際に問題が解決出来るかという点、複雑な要素が多くあり、時間がかかると思う。 (了)

Number R037955

Primary: Asia and China

Sent: China 16:40 Year Month 26

Received: MOFA 17:49 1984 March 26

To: The Foreign Minister From: Ambassador Katori

Prime Minister Visit to China (Foreign Ministers' Discussion - The state of the Korean Peninsula)□

Number 1370 Top Secret Top Urgent Q36A

In regards to wire1339

The following is a more detailed proceeding of the foreign ministerial dialogue on the state of the Korean peninsula from the above Separate Wire 4. Furthermore, the Cabinet Minister raised the current topic before discussing Japan-U.S. relations, Japan-Soviet relations. Foreign Minister Wu raised Sino-U.S. relations Sino-Soviet relations, Hong Kong, Southeast Asia, and, finally, bilateral relations.

1. Following the statement guidelines, Cabinet Minister Abe conveyed that the resolution to the Korean peninsula issue should be based on the right to self-determination, and should begin with dialogue between the North and the South. The deepening of a trustful relationship is important. If both North and South approves other relevant countries can participate in the dialogue. Furthermore, the North insists on the withdrawal of U.S. forces in South Korea; however the U.S. forces in Korea is based on the U.S.-Korea mutual defense treaty, and it is something that South Korea would not allow to be meddled with. Such claims by North Korea cannot be recognized by South Korea.

(1) North Korea claims that South Korea lacks ultimate authority. If such claims are maintained, South Korea will never join in dialogue. South Korea takes issue with the Burma Incident. It is understandable that South Korea demands from North Korea to show some sincerity regarding the trilateral talks, given that so many cabinet ministers were killed in the terrorist bombing, not to mention that [South Korean President] Chun Doo-hwan was also targeted. The Burmese government has announced that North Korea was responsible for the incident. It is a matter of fact that South Korea would demand that North Korea show some sign of sincerity.

(2) It is one thing for the North Koreans to seek the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea. However, neither the U.S. nor South Korea will join the talks if North Korea asserts that the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea as a pre-condition. It is important for North Korea to show some sort of sincerity regarding the Rangoon Incident.

(3) We are putting in effort and are hopeful for the relaxing of tensions on the Korean Peninsula. Although we share a tight relationship with South Korea, we also have cultural and economic exchange with North Korea. We pray for the stability of the Korean Peninsula. There are talks of trilateral or quadrilateral dialogues. Japan would also like to put in effort in this regard.

Foreign Minister Wu responded that he would like to supplement the principal standpoints discussed during the summit meeting.

(4) We believe that the U.S. changed its attitude regarding the trilateral talks due to the Rangoon Incident. Regarding the Incident, both Burma and North Korea are

friendly nations of China's, so the same announcements were made in the media. China did not comment on the incident, but China's stance in opposition to terrorism remains unchanged.

(5) There is a proposal from North Korea regarding trilateral talks. We believe it is better to engage in dialogue than not engage in dialogue. However, regarding the question of whether or not a resolution can be actually reached: we believe that there are too many complex factors and that it will take time. (End)