

March 20, 1972 Report from Dr. Pataki János, 'The visit of DPRK ambassador Pak Gyeong-sun'

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Summary:

A report by Dr. Pataki Janos on a conversation with North Korean ambassador Pak Gyeong-sun, discussing Korean reunification and the invitation of some UN Representatives from Africa to North Korea.

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Record

Subject: The visit of DPRK ambassador Pak Gyeong-sun [Pak Kyong-sun]

On March 20 I received Comrade Pak Gyeong-sun, the DPRK's ambassador in Budapest, at his request.

His visit was inaugural and therefore the conversation mainly touched on general topics.

Comrade Pak Gyeong-sun said that he considers Comrade Pak Seong-cheol's [Pak Song Chol] recent visit to Budapest valuable and useful; in general the Korean leadership makes huge efforts to let the progressive international public opinion know about the issues surrounding the struggle for a peaceful reunification. He talked about the role of American imperialism hindering the peaceful reunification, and stressed especially the recently surfacing plans of Japanese militarism for South Korea. He explained in a lengthy speech that the Japanese military already has its presence in South Korea in accordance with the current Japanese-South Korean pact.

Speaking about more concrete issues, Comrade Pak Gyeong-sun said that every bit of help is especially important to them due to the current state of the DPRK where it is a member in only a few international organizations. It is quite possible that they will ask for the help of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs multiple times in the future as well. I reassured him on my part that he can always count on our support.

At last, we touched on the case of invitations detailed in the 88/NkSz/1972 record. (The invitation of some African UN Permanent Representatives to the DPRK with the help of Comrade Szarka.) We agreed that regarding this issue, we would inform Comrade Szarka without delay and ask for his assistance. Referring to the request for resources and materials detailed in the 278/NkSz/1972 record, the ambassador comrade proposed sending adequate information as soon as possible.

The friendly, genial conversations lasted for 60 minutes.

Budapest, 1972 March 20.

Note: We will send the request about the African invitations to Comrade Szarka via mail.