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Hungarian Foreign Ministry Memorandum
16 February 1977

Territorial Department IV.
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Top Secret!
Written in six copies
Copies to: Comrade Rácz
Comrade Házi
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Communications Department
Phenyan
Personal

Memorandum

Subject: Evaluation of the PDRK proposal
of 25 January

On 14 February I received Czechoslovakian First Secretary Lehoczky at his request. Referring to a central instruction, he informed me that, according to the evaluation of our Embassy to Phenyan, the declaration of 25 January of the PDRK and her four-point proposal sounded extremely threatening. For instance, it characterized the situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula directly menacing with the breakout of a nuclear war of global dimensions. The declaration contains an implied indication that the PDRK is equipping herself with nuclear weapons.

The PDRK government started an international campaign for the support of its proposals. According to the Czechoslovakian position, the Korean side will request the socialist countries to support the four-point proposal in a government declaration.

The Czechoslovakian side could satisfy a request of such nature with difficulty.

Comrade Lehoczky inquired about the Hungarian position and the steps planned to be taken concerning the matter.

I have mentioned that we did not notice any new elements in the tone and contents of the declaration. The PDRK initiative was motivated by the intention to react to the "proposal" most recently submitted by the South-Korean regime / that the two Koreas should conclude a non-aggression pact and parallel to this, the American troops would be evacuated/ and the desire to find out about the plans of the Carter administration concerning Korea.

I informed him that Comrade Deputy Minister Házi had already received the PDRK Ambassador to Budapest. During the conversation Comrade Házi informed the Ambassador that the declaration had been positively commented on in the Hungarian press right after its publication. He repeatedly assured him that we supported their fight for the peaceful and democratic reunification of Korea. The PDRK Ambassador did not ask for the publication of a government declaration.

Budapest, 16 February 1977.