Panmunjom, le 4 août 1994

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Note de dossier: Anniversaire de la NNSC

Comme chaque année aux environs du 27 juillet, les officiers de la NNSC commémorent la création de leur Commission, qui coîncide avec la signature de l'Accord d'Armistice (AA). Or, depuis la nomination du MG Hwang en qualité de Doyen de la partie Sud (UNC) de la Commission militaire d'Armistice (MAC), les Nord-Coréens de la KPA et les Chinois des CPV ont refusé de se joinde à cette manifestation qui a tout de même lieu sans eux, comme de coutume dans le baraquement de la NNSC, dans la zone de sécurité (JSA). L'organisation de cette réception est attribuée à tour de rôle à l'une des délégations de la NNSC, cette année, à la délégation suisse.

Depuis le 28 avril 1994, les Nord-Coréens refusent de reconnaître l'existence de la NNSC et de la MAC, donc de l'UNC. Dès lors, la question se posait de savoir comment les persuader de participer. En d'autres termes: la NNSC voulait-elle une présence de la KPA et, dans l'affirmative, était-elle prête à renoncer à la convier en sa qualité de "KPA-MAC", et en outre était-elle prête à renoncer à lancer une invitation au nom de la Commission des Neutres?

Mes collègues m'ayant donné carte blanche, j'ai décidé d'envoyer au Nord une invitation ne mentionnant pas la NNSC et au Sud une invitation au nom de la NNSC. Encore fallait-il avoir l'opinion du Sud. Contacté le premier, le MG Hwang, Senior Member UNC-MAC, me dit que peu lui importait à quel titre les Nord-Coréens seraient invités, pourvu qu'ils viennent.

Le décès de KIM Il-sung me donna l'occasion de solliciter un rendez-vous avec le Lieutenant Général (LTG) LI Chan-bok, sous prétexte de lui remettre ma lettre de condoléances. Cette réunion eut lieu le 14 jullet 1994. J'en ai profité pour l'informer que je lui écrirais, après les funérailles du Grand Leader, pour l'inviter à une réception commémorant le 41e anniversaire de l'AA (voir copie de cette lettre du 20.07.94 en annexe no 1). La réponse de LI Chan-bok fut d'abord positive (voir sa lettre du 26.07.94, annexe no 2), toutefois sous réserve orale qu'un Général américain à 3 étoiles (un LTG) soit présent. Malgré tous mes efforts, les Américains refusèrent de déléguer un "3 étoiles", probablement afin de ne pas reconnaître le LTG LI Chan-bok dans sa nouvelle fonction hors de la MAC, mais sous le prétexte futile que les LGT nord-coréens n'ont que "2 étoiles" à leurs épaulettes !!! Au vu de ce refus, la KPA déclina mon invitation (voir ci-joint le "Oral message der KPA, du 27.07.94, annexe no 3). Suite à ce refus, j'ai renvoyé mon Secrétaire, le Cpt Grolimund, lire à son partennaire du Nord mes "Speaking notes" que vous trouvez en annexe no 4. Cette prise de position (qui équivalait à un "take it or leave it") eut pour résultat que la KPA accepta finalement de participer, mais sans le LTG LI Chan-bok ("Oral Message der KPA", du 28.07.94: annexe no 5).



La réception du 29.07.94 s'est bien déroulée, encore que le MG Hwang fut marginalisé, les Nord-Coréens ne lui parlant pas, puis publiquement insulté par le MG RI Tok-gyu qui dirigeait la délégation du Nord et qui, à la fin de cette partie, refusa de trinquer avec le Sud-Coréen, Senior Member de l'UNC-MAC. A ce jeu, le MG RI a plus perdu que gagné: à mon grand étonnement, deux officiers nord-coréens, dont le Senior Colonel LI Chan-chol, Chef du Protocole de la KPA, ont remarqué que "what our General did was really not polite".

Les Chinois, comme toujours, ont suivi les Nord-Coréens et le MG Jheng Dao Gen, Chef de la délégation des CPV, m'avoua même qu'ils ne seraient probablement pas venus si les Nord-Coréens avaient refusé mon invitation.

Outre ma brève allocution que je joins à cette note pour compléter ce dossier, je vous remets sous ce pli le Memorandum de l'UNC-MAC, rédigé le 01.08.94 par son Secrétaire, le Col. F. Chilton. Je vous recommande vivement la lecture de ce document qui résume très bien les entretiens que les officiers de la partie Sud de la MAC (tout comme ceux de la NNSC) ont eus avec les Nord-Coréens et les Chinois et qui cerne certaines des intentions nord-coréennes telles qu'elles sont perçues par la Korean People's Army. * annexe 7

On peut dire que, mis à part l'incident survenu entre les deux généraux coréens Hwang et Ri, cette réception fut un succès. Nombreux furent ceux qui complimentèrent la Délégation suisse d'avoir pris l'initiative de l'organiser. A ma grande surprise, le MG Ri Tok-gyu, délégué spécialement de l'Etat Major général de Pyongyang, m'a même transmis les remerciements du "Supreme Commander" (KIM Jong-il ?)!!! Faut-il en déduire que les Nord-Coréens tenaient absolument à participer et que cette détermination signifie un tournant dans les relations entre militaires des deux côtés de la Ligne de Démarcation, ou est-ce simplement un signe de bonne volonté qu'ils veulent doner au moment où débutent les entretiens de Genève ? J'ajouterai que plusieurs officiers de (le Britanique, l'Australien, le Canadien) m'ont dit qu'ils considéraient cette réunion du 29 juillet comme étant un "break through". Ce jugement - que j'avais d'abord trouvé trop optimiste - semble être réaliste. En effet, le Major Bauer, officier de liaison UNCMAC-NNSC, m'a informé que les Nord-Coréens ont proposé aujourd'hui une rencontre "privée" entre Secrétaires du Nord et du Sud. Pour autant, comme on le lira dans le message oral du 27.07.94 (annexe no 3), l'attitude des Nord-Coréens à l'égard de la "old house" n'a pas changé: le mécanisme de l'Armistice doit disparaître.

Le Chef de la Délégation

(B Sandoz)

annexes ment.

NB: une copie de cette Note est adressée par Fax à la Direction politique qui, comme les autres destinataires, recevra ce dossier par courrier.

COPY

Bernard A. Sandoz, MG

Panmunjom, 20 July 1994

Dear General LI Chan-bok, Sir,

Fortyone years ago, on the 27 July 1953, your regretted President KIM Il-sung signed the Armistice Agreement in his capacity of Marshal, Supreme Commander, Korean People's Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, putting an end to the sufferings of people and soldiers on the Peninsula.

In order to commemorate this wise decision, I request the honor and the privilege of your company, with Mrs. LI Chan-bok as well as 24 General Officers and Officers from the Korean People's Army and from the Chinese People's Volunteers based in Kaesong and in Panmunjom (wives included), at a buffet-luncheon in the JSA lounge, on the 29th of July 1994 at 1200 hrs.

A similar number of General Officers and Officers (wives included) based in south Korea, such as LTG Howell M. Estes III, LTG William W. Crouch, MG Nels Running, MG Hwang Won-tak, Radm Edison L. Watkins, etc. etc. are also invited to this lunch. The Polish, Swedish and Swiss officers based in Panmunjom will also be present.

It would be highly appreciated, if your answer with a list of the participants could be forwarded to Swiss Captain André Grolimund, possibly not later than Tuesday 26 July 1994.

I take this opportunity to renew to you, dear General LI Chan-bok, Sir, the expression of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(B. Sandoz, MG)

Lieutenant General LI Chan-bok Korean People's Army Kaesong

July 26, 1994

Major General Bernard A. Sandoz

Dear General Sandoz

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you for your kind invitation of Korean People's Army General Officers and Officers to the luncheon to be given on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the conclusion of Korean Armistice Agreement.

I consider that General Sandoz is going to arrange the luncheon with a good intention to promote peace and sability on the Korean Peninsula and to make it an opportunity for reconciliation and trust between both Commands.

Accordingly, you are kindly informed that the KPA side will attend with pleasure at the luncheon to be arranged by General Sandoz.

I will be accompanied by the following officers at the luncheon.

List of Participants from KPA side

1. LTG Ri Chan Bok

2. MG Ri Tok Gyu

3. Sen. Col. Pak Rim Su

4. Sen. Col. Ri Jong Chol

5. Col. Yu Yong Chol

6. Col. Ji Song Guk

7. Lt. Col. Sin Gun Song

8. Lt. Col. Ri Jong Sop

9. Lt. Col. Ri Sang Hwan

10. Lt. Col. Jo Yun Chol

ll. Maj. Ri Kwon

12. Capt. Jon Chang Jae

Yours sincerely,

Lieutenant General Ri Chan Bok Korean People's Army Representative Panmunjom Mission, Korean People's Army

List of Participants from CPV side

1. Maj. Gen. Jheng Dao Gen

2. Col. Jim De Fu

3. Lt. Col. Wu Xin Jheng

4. Major Wang Qing She

5. 1/Lt. Wang Jia Ye

Official oral Message der KPA on 27th of July, 1600 hours, regarding the NNSC Luncheon at 29.7.1994 to GR (Present: Liaison Officer PMJ Mission KPA, LTC Sin Gun Song with Interpreter MAJ Ri Kwon)

"Unchangeable is our position relating the MAC, the Armistice Organ and the Armistice Agreement.

MG Sandoz organized a party and said LTG Estes and LTG Crouch will take part. We appreciate MG Sandoz' efforts to make both sides meet. However we cannot find the names of LTG Estes or LTG Crouch on the list presented to us. We intended to take part in a meeting with high level generals and to inform either of them about important things. It is regrettable that neither of them could come. Therefore and according to the situation as it stands now, our LTG Ri Chan Bok does not need to attend a luncheon to meet only MG Running and MG Hwang. Without our Representantive LTG Ri Chan Bok, no other officer will attend.

MG Sandoz took the best measure to play intermediator between both sides. It is up to him, to show whether LTG Estes or LTG Crouch will attend. Anyway, it was our intention to participate in an event to improve both sides understanding."

Hints made by the KPA in the following discussion and off the record

It seems to be misunderstood that the Supreme Commander of the KPA has promoted Ri Chan Bok to get out of the MAC Level into a higher one. It would therefore make no sense for the South Side to promote a MAC General.

Since the only reason for the two american LTGs not to attend is another inconvenience at this very same date, the party could be postponed to another date. Or the party may take place and a second one would be held a couple days later.

Cpt A. Grolimund Secr. Swiss Deleg. NNSC

Panmunjom, le 27 juillet 1994

Speaking notes regarding Armistice Anniversary party on July 29, 1994 to be read to the KPA Liaison Officer

On 27 July 1994, LTC Sin Gun-song informed Cpt Grolimund (through interpreter LI Kwon) that the KPA will not attend the party on 29 July 1994. The reason given is that no LTG on the UNC side will participate. But LTC Sin proposed to postpone the party to the 30th of July.

In our opinion, there seems to be a misunderstanding of the real facts.

On 20 July 1994, MG Sandoz wrote to LTG LI Chan-bok:"...A similar number of General Officers and Officers (Wives included) based in south Korea, such as LTG Howell M. Estes III, LTG William W. Crouch, MG Nels Running, MG Hwang Wontak, Radm Edison L. Watkins, etc. etc. are also invited to this lunch. The Polish, Swedish and Swiss officers based in Panmunjom will also be present."

please note:"...are also invited...", and not "... will participate..."

On 26 and 27 July, MG Sandoz contacted MG Running to see if a UNC LTG could change his schedule and attend the party. On the 26th, MG Running said it was not possible, due to previous commitments. On 27th (evening) MG Running said it was to "short notice" to schedule a lunch on Saturday 30th for LTG Crouch.

MG Sandoz tried hard*to bring both sides together and the KPA was kind enough to recognize this fact. MG Sandoz bears no responsibility for the UNC side not being able to send a LTG but he of course takes note of the misunderstanding between what he wrote in his letter of 20 July 1994 and LTC Sin's declaration of 27 July 1994.

On 26 July 1994, LTG LI Chan-bok wrote to MG Sandoz:"... you are kindly informed that the KPA side will attend...I will be accompagned by..."

MG Sandoz deeply regrets that the KPA cannot participate to this event who was only meant to be a celebration of the Armistice and to improve both sides understanding, though it was KPA first intention to do so.

* see attached letter: answer MG Sandoz to LTG LI Chan-bok from 26.07.94

Passed oral message by Cpt Grolimund, Secr. Swiss Deleg. NNSC, to KPA on 28.07.94, at 1100

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Bernard Sandoz, MG

Panmunjom, 26 July 1994

Hear Several hi, Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter of today accepting my invitation for the luncheon I will organize on July 29, 1994 and I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for this constructive attitude and this positive gesture of goodwill.

Herewith please find the list of the participants from the other side, as of 20 July 1994 (this means that some minor modifications could still occur at the last minute).

As for the presence of an American Lieutenant General, I wish to inform you that LTG Estes and LTG Crouch have declined my invitation on the 20th of this month due to prior engagements. I have however contacted them again today through MG Running who promised me to see if one of these General Officers could reschedule his program. I will inform you as soon as possible about their definitive decision.

Should they not be in a position to come to Panmunjom on Friday, I nevertheless do hope that you will be able to attend. Your presence would show your magnanimity and demonstrate your willingness to seize every opportunity to work for reconciliation and trust between both Commands.

With the expression of my highest consideration and of my gratitude for your kind gesture, I remain

with best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Sandoz MG

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Lieutenant General LI Chan-bok Korean People's Army Kaesong

Oral Message der KPA on 28th of July, 1600 hours, regarding the NNSC Luncheon at 29.7.1994 to GR (Present: Chief Liaison Officer PMJ Mission KPA, COL Yu Yong Chol with Interpreter MAJ Ri Kwon)

Actually, there is reason not to participate because we do not recognize the MAC and the NNSC anymore. But there are also three reasons to think positively about a participation:

- 1. To commemorate the signing of the AA by our great leader Kim Il Sung and to honor him for his work.
- 2. MG Sandoz organized this function in his name and not in the name of the NNSC.
- 3. We hoped for a contact between high ranking generals, because MG SA has written in his letter that he has invited LTG Crouch and LTG Estes.

But the KPA PMJ Mission is very unhappy that no LTG from the south side is participating and therefore originally decided not to participate, because there will be no counterpart. However, it has received orders from its superiors to take part, despite the missing counterparts. The KPA PMJ Mission will therefore participate, but without its representantiv. The representantiv, LTG Li Chan Bok regrets not to be able to participate, since he would have no counterpart. Our delegation at the party will be lead by MG Ri Tok Gyu.

We will not shake hands with the south side at the beginning. During the meeting however, counterparts will of course shake hands individually.

Remarks

KPA wanted to know, if it is not a coincidence that no LTG would attend from the south side. I told them that I would not know, but that I personally took this also into consideration.

KPA was not saying one word about the CPV. Would they have come without the KPA? Or was the whole game of the KPA just a try to pressure the south and the withdrawal of the application fake?

Cpt A. Grolimund Secr. Swiss Deleg. NNSC

Annexe no 6/1



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED NATIONS COMMAND MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION UNIT #15259 APO AP 96205-0032

UNCMAC

1 August 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR: UNCMAC Members and UNC Liaison Group Members

SUBJECT: Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission (NNSC) Anniversary Observance

1. General. The Swiss delegation hosted the NNSC Anniversary Observance at the NNSC building at 1200, 29 Jul 94. Enclosure 1 lists attendees. The UNC side entered first, followed shortly by the KPA/CPV side. MG Sandoz, the head of the Swiss delegation, made a brief speech, proposed a toast, and requested that no one else make a formal statement. Immediately, MG Ri Tok-kyu (KPA) publicly thanked the CINC for offering condolences over death of Kim II-sung. Following that, attendees broke down into small groups for a buffet lunch and informal individual discussions. MG Sandoz concluded the reception with a final toast at about 1400. Afterwards, UNC attendees jointly discussed their observations at Camp Bonifas.

2. Summary of KPA/CPV comments.

a. KPA.

- (1) Third Round of Talks at Geneva. The upcoming third round of discussions with the U.S. in Geneva is very important. The north Koreans' main agenda item is the light water reactor. A KPA officer stated that this would resolve all north Korean problems with the ROK, the U.S., and Japan. The KPA also said this reactor is necessary for power generation in the north. Additionally, one mention was made of a peace treaty.
- (2) New House. The KPA officers pressed the UNC to replace the MAC with a "New House" to match their own. They stated that the current MAC is not working. They also said that if it is not changed soon (possibly within one to three months), they might quit meeting with UNC officers. Nothing negative will apparently happen until after the Geneva meetings. The KPA also indicated that they wanted a meeting at the General Officer or Secretary level to discuss the New House. They told the UNCMAC members who are attachés that they were happy to meet with them in their attaché role, but not in their role as UNCMAC representatives. The KPA showed no change in their attitude toward the NNSC.
- (3) Meeting Atmospherics. There was initial confusion about whether or not the KPA would attend this function and who from their side would attend. They stated that they initially believed that LTG Crouch and LTG Estes would attend. They initially withdrew when they found out this was not true. They finally announced at 1600 on 28 Jul 94 that they would attend the NNSC function. They later stated that Kim Jongil made the decision that allowed them to attend. They also commented that they would like to repeat this type of activity every three to six months. The KPA officers were very cordial to everyone, to include the ROK Advisory Group members. The exception was that they avoided interaction with MG Hwang. This was apparently done to continue

protesting his appointment as the UNCMAC Senior Member. BG Huh, the other ROK member of UNCMAC, was treated cordially, as were ROKAG representatives and the other nations' representatives. The general KPA line throughout the afternoon was that there is good mutual understanding among those at the lower levels, especially among soldiers since they would rather talk than fight.

- (4) General KPA Theme. The KPA expressed irritation because the ROK government did not send condolences over the death of Kim II-sung. They showed gratitude to the U.S. for President Clinton's condolence message and also to CINCUNC for the UNC statement. The UNC statement was not a condolence message but the KPA still treated it as one. Additionally, they did not criticize the representatives from other countries that did not send condolences, such as the United Kingdom and Australia.
- (5) Korean War Remains. The KPA did not make an objection to joint searches for UNC remains, but do object to having a ROK member on the "remains working group." At least one KPA officer expressed interest in the proposal made by the UNC side last year for a KPA tour of the Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii (CILHI). The KPA said they are still waiting for compensation for UNC remains. It is important to note that they have not made a demand for a specific dollar amount for each set of remains.
- b. CPV. The CPV want to continue meeting with UNCMAC personnel and expand the scope of these meetings to enhance cooperation and mutual understanding. The CPV agreed that there must be change but were noncommittal about the "new house." It depends on their government's final position. They also agreed that there must be South-North talks.
- 3. Conclusions of UNCMAC Representatives at the Function. This was the first time the KPA attended this type of function since MG Hwang's appointment in 1991. It may indicate a trend of change within north Korea. China may be very important in this process. Kim Jong-il decided that the KPA would attend this function, perhaps to advance the party line or to improve relations prior to the third round of talks. The KPA's most important agenda item at the Geneva talks will probably be the light water reactor which is needed to improve the power situation in the north. They also used this opportunity to criticize the ROK and the MAC. Finally, the remains issue is still on hold.

FORREST S. CHILTON, IV

COL, Military Police Secretary, UNCMAC

cf DCS UNC

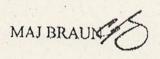
29 JULY 1994 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MAJ GEN RUNNING	FLY
MAJ GEN HWANG	FLY
RADM WATKINS	GOV
BG AND MRS HUH (ROK MB)	FLY/GOV
BRIG AND MRS PARR (COMMONWEALTH COMMANDER)	GOV
COL AND MRS CHILTON	GOV
COL LEE (ROKAG CHIEF)	GOV
MR JIMMY LEE (UNCMAC)	BUS
COL MC CORMACK (AUSTRALIAN LIAISON CHIEF)	GOV
COL ACREMAN (CANADIAN LIAISON CHIEF)	GOV
COL LUMANG (PHILIPPINE LIAISON CHIEF)	
COL AND MRS PUTAMANONDA (THAI LIAISON CHIEF)	GOV
LTC KIM (ROKAG)	GOV
LTC AND MRS MARTIN (UNCMAC)	GOV
MAJ BRAUN (UNCMAC)	BUS
MALLEWIS (YO TO MALCEN PURPORTS)	GOV
MAJ LEWIS (XO TO MAJ GEN RUNNING)	FLY
LCDR GRUBER (UNCMAC JDO)	N/A
LCDR MONTI (UNCMAC)	N/A
MAJ AND MRS THARP (UNCMAC)	BUS

INTERPRETERS:

DAVID WEI (CHINESE) H.K. HONG (KOREAN) C.S. CHO (KOREAN) C.Y. YI (KOREAN)

LIST AS OF 271600 JUL 94.



General Officers, Officers, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

As the organizer of today's birthday party, it gives me great honor and pleasure to greet you here in Panmunjom.

As you all know, the Armistice was signed 41 years ago, on the 27th of this month. This reminder could be thought of as a banal statement if one would not realize that this document was signed (and here I quote the preamble of this Agreement):"...in the interest of stopping the Korean conflict, with its great toll of suffering and bloodshed on both sides, and with the objective of establishing an armistice which will insure a complete cessation of hostilities and of all acts of armed forces in Korea until a final peaceful settlement is achieved...".

To sign such a document during the fierce battles that were still going on during the two years of negotiations was not only an absolute necessity, but also an act of wisdom if one remembers that the conflict could have escalated into a worse one, directly involving the great powers with possibly mass destruction weapons.

The 3 men who signed the Armistice Agreement, in the order mentioned at the end of the document, were

Marshal KIM IL SUNG, for the Korean People's Army

Commander PENG TEH-HUAI, for the Chinese People's Volunteers, and

US Army General Mark W. CLARK, for the United Nations Command.

Like so many of their fellow fighters, these 3 men are dead today, the last survivor, Marshal KIM II-sung, having passed away on the 8th of this month.

Irrespective of our differences of opinion, we must pay tribute to the intentions the 3 signatories expressed in the Armistice Agreement, as well of course as to all those who were wounded and all those who had made the ultimate sacrifice during this 3 years long conflict.

One can say, that the goals set by the Armistice Agreement are still not achieved. I agree with you that the last, the peace, is still not completed. But, Ladies and Gentlemen, think! Is it not a great achievement that, for now 41 years, thanks to this Agreement there has been no fighting on this peninsula?

Of course, I know that we, all present here today, are not in a position to complete the deal made in 1953. But, in my opinion, the fact that you made the decision to come here today is the proof of your goodwill and of your commitment to the cause of peace, the proof of your desire to see one day the peace this Armistice Agreement was supposed to bring.

I wish therefor to thank you all, in the name of those who made this gathering possible, I mean the Polish, Swedish and Swiss officers who prepare this party with me.

A last information: since this party is not meant as a political meeting, there will be no other speech. Thank you!

Please join me for a toast:

to a peaceful settlement of the Korean problems

to a successful reunion today

to the good health of all present here, to your families, and to the countries you represent.