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INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

11 OCT 1979 10 35

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

11 OCT 1979

In reply refer to:
I-24679/79

R-STATE

11 OCT 1979
SECDEF HAS SEEN

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Your Asian Trip and the F-5 Assembly Issue

Attached is a memorandum to the President for your signature. It describes in brief compass what you plan to do during your stopover in Korea and Japan.

There is one problem. The memo mentions your intent to inform the ROK of Presidential approval of their request to co-assemble F-5s. Unfortunately State has not yet forwarded a recommendation for approval to the White House, and we hear that Cy Vance harbors some reservations about it. Whether these reflect concerns over timing in light of the Kim Yong Sam case or broader arms transfer concerns is unclear.

I believe we must avoid any linkage between this decision and the Korean internal situation. A swift and positive resolution of the matter is essential. Bill Gleysteen agrees with this, and he will be meeting with Vance at 3:00 on Thursday to discuss it. It would be useful if you gave Cy a call before 3:00 to request a quick and favorable decision on the issue.

David E. McGiffert
Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

DEM- 10/11
Cy will see

Gleysteen tomorrow
& will decide his view
promptly then. If Bill
All no human - rights timing
problem, I think Cy will go along.
ASD(ISA)

HJB

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Declassify on _____
Date 31 Dec 87~~

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