

**April 1, 1963**

**Memorandum of Conversation between Soviet  
Ambassador to North Korea Vasily Moskovsky and  
North Korean Foreign Ministry Official Pak  
Yeong-guk**

**Citation:**

"Memorandum of Conversation between Soviet Ambassador to North Korea Vasily Moskovsky and North Korean Foreign Ministry Official Pak Yeong-guk", April 1, 1963, Wilson Center Digital Archive, AVPRF, fond 0102, opis 19, papka 97, delo 4, list 169. Obtained and translated for NKIDP by Sergey Radchenko.  
<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/110493>

**Summary:**

A comment made by Pak Yeong-guk raises some suspicion that the North Koreans might be insincere in their official communications with the Soviets.

**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

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In connection with the departure for the motherland of the counselor-emissary comrade Kryukov M.E., the Embassy hosted a cocktail reception in the evening. [...]

Comrade Pak Yeong-guk (head of the 1st department) spoke on behalf of the MFA DPRK. [...]

"The old diplomats understand us better" said comrade Pak Yeong-guk. It is difficult to say what he had in mind: perhaps he had the intention of causing a quarrel between the old ambassadors in the DPRK with the new ones, or perhaps he meant to thank the "old" diplomats of the Soviet Embassy for the fact that they worked for five years but stayed on the leash of the MFA DPRK and were not able to figure out that views and sentiments were being formed here that are far from compatible with the official assurances of eternal friendship.