

October 3, 1968

**Letter, William B. Buffum to Mr. Liu Chieh
containing "Report of the United Nations Command
to the United Nations"**

Citation:

"Letter, William B. Buffum to Mr. Liu Chieh containing "Report of the United Nations Command to the United Nations"", October 3, 1968, Wilson Center Digital Archive, "Incidents and Disputes - PO 240 KOREA 1966-1968," S-0442 (RAG-3/7 PO) - Political and Security matters 1955-1983, S-0442-0355-02, United Nations Archives and Records Management Section (UN ARMS), New York, NY. Obtained for NKIDP by Charles Kraus. <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/117550>

Summary:

A letter from William Buffum containing a report on the continuation of serious North Korean violations of the Armistice Agreement.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Leon Levy Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

THE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

RECEIVED CONTROL

18 NOV 1968

October 3, 1968

ZK

His Excellency
Mr. Liu Chieh
President of the Security Council
United Nations, New York

PO 240 KOREA

Dear Mr. President:

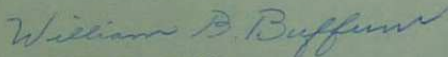
I have the honor to convey, on behalf of the Unified Command established pursuant to Security Council Resolution 84 of July 7, 1950, the latest report from the United Nations Command.

This report, like the two reports submitted over the past year (S/8217 of November 2, 1967 and S/8366 of January 27, 1968), concerns a situation which remains of serious concern: the continuation of serious North Korean violations of the Armistice Agreement of July 27, 1953 in the form of efforts to infiltrate, terrorize and subvert the Republic of Korea.

The report also serves to focus attention on the failure of North Korea to cooperate with the investigating procedure and machinery established by the Armistice Agreement. This failure has effects and implications for the future of the Armistice regime which require the most sober consideration.

I request that this letter, together with the report of the United Nations Command transmitted with it, be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Sincerely yours,



William B. Buffum

Attachment

UN 2459/890

NORTH KOREAN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE - 1968

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Since the United Nations Command Report submitted on January 26, 1968, following the North Korean attempt to assassinate President Park of the Republic of Korea on January 21 (S/8366), North Korean violations of the Armistice Agreement of 27 July 1953 in the form of efforts to infiltrate, terrorize and subvert the Republic of Korea have continued at such a dangerous level that a further report to the Security Council is considered necessary. While the effects of these North Korean efforts have been limited by the defensive measures undertaken by forces of the Republic of Korea and the United Nations Command, they nevertheless remain a source of serious concern--in part because of the human casualties and suffering they entail, in part because they demonstrate North Korea's continued hostility and determination to maintain a high state of tension in the Korean peninsula.

North Korea's Record of Armistice Violations and Armed Incidents

A demilitarized zone 4,000 meters wide stretches for 151 miles across the center of the Korean peninsula, from one side to the other. It is divided equally between the north and south by the Military Demarcation Line. Both the Demilitarized Zone and the Demarcation Line were established by the Armistice Agreement and are clearly marked. The crossing of the Military Demarcation Line by personnel of either side is prohibited by Article 1 of the Armistice Agreement, unless prior approval is obtained from the Military Armistice Commission or from the Commander of forces on the other side.^{1/}

^{1/} Article 1 reads, in part, as follows:

Paragraph 7: "No person, military or civilian, shall be permitted to cross the Military Demarcation Line unless specifically authorized to do so by the Military Armistice Commission."

Paragraph 8: "No person, military or civilian, in the Demilitarized Zone shall be permitted to enter the Territory under the military control of either side unless specifically authorized to do so by the Commander into whose territory entry is sought."

Paragraph 9: "No person, military or civilian, shall be permitted to enter the Demilitarized Zone except persons concerned with the conduct of civil administration and relief and persons specifically authorized to enter by the Military Armistice Commission."

-2-

Whereas United Nations Command Forces have been and remain under specific orders not to cross the Military Demarcation Line, the repeated conduct of North Korean forces makes it clear they are not operating under similar restraining orders. On the contrary, North Korea has continued to despatch across the Demarcation Line armed bands carrying automatic weapons, grenades, mines and explosives, for purposes of spying, murder, terrorism, and sabotage in both the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone and elsewhere in the Republic of Korea.

Since January 21, when a team of 31 highly-trained North Korean commandos infiltrated into the Republic of Korea to assassinate the President of the Republic, there have been 241 serious incidents caused by armed North Korean bands which have infiltrated into the South--raising the total for the year (as of September 1) to 304. All these incidents have occurred without provocation; all have involved violations of the Armistice Agreement by North Korean forces.^{2/} Most have occurred in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone and areas of the Republic of Korea contiguous thereto; others have occurred in the interior and rear areas of the Republic. The number of the latter, fortunately, has been reduced by increasingly effective counter measures undertaken by Republic of Korea forces and the hostile reception given to infiltrators by the common people in the south.

The incidents caused by this infiltration of armed North Korean bands have resulted in a large number of casualties: the killing of 62 United Nations Command military personnel, and the wounding of 130 others; the death of 10 ROK civilians, including 3 police, and the wounding of 11 more. Verified North Korean casualties during this same period have been 121 killed. Four were captured and it is probable even larger numbers have been killed or wounded but carried back into North Korean territory.

^{2/} In addition to the provisions cited in footnote 1, the North Korean activities violate these provisions of the Armistice Agreement:

Article 1, Paragraph 6: "Neither side shall execute any hostile act within, from, or against the Demilitarized Zone."

Article 1, Paragraph 10: "...The number of civil police and the arms to be carried by them /inside the Demilitarized Zone/ shall be as prescribed by the Military Armistice Commission. Other personnel shall not carry arms unless specifically authorized to do so by the Military Armistice Commission."

-3-

The period since July 3 has been one of a particularly high level of North Korean activity and provocation. During one 7-day period alone, from July 30 to August 5, the North Koreans sent 20 bands of heavily armed agents across the Military Demarcation Line. The casualties during this short period were 8 United Nations Command soldiers killed and 23 wounded in action; at least 11 North Koreans were also killed. These infiltration operations, made across the entire length of the DMZ, clearly had as one of their objectives the deliberate provocation of retaliation by the Republic of Korea or United Nations Command forces.

Immobilization and Abuse of Armistice Agreement Machinery

In seeking to end the serious incidents and violations of the Armistice Agreement caused by North Korea, the United Nations Command has continued to place primary emphasis on resort to the machinery established by the Armistice Agreement. Specifically, the United Nations Command has made repeated proposals in the Military Armistice Commission that the incidents caused by North Korea--all of which have involved violations of the Armistice Agreement--be made the subject of investigation by Joint Observer Teams, the machinery provided for this very purpose under the Armistice Agreement.

Regrettably, though consistent with their past behavior, North Korea has either ignored or rejected these proposals and has thus prevented fact-finding investigations by Joint Observer Teams--despite the fact such investigations would not entail the entry of the Teams into territory under North Korean control. In addition, North Korea has continued to use the Military Armistice Commission, the principal machinery established by the Armistice Agreement, solely for the purpose of giving another dimension to its virulent propaganda campaign against the United Nations Command, the United States and the Republic of Korea.

The United Nations Command would welcome any suggestions about steps that could be taken to enlist North Korean cooperation in the future with the investigating procedures and machinery set down in the Armistice Agreement--or, in the absence of such cooperation, suggestions for alternative procedures that might be used to investigate incidents of the nature described in this report.

UNC Policy of Restraint

North Korea's refusal to permit the functioning of the Joint Observer Teams and its abuse of the Military Armistice Commission, apart from constituting further evidence of its unwillingness to carry out the provision of the Armistice Agreement, has left the

NORTH KOREAN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE - 1953

United Nations Command with no alternative but to institute defensive and protective measures to defend the territorial integrity of the Republic of Korea and to assure the safety of its own personnel.

In many incidents, particularly those in early August when North Korean forces fired automatic weapons across the Military Demarcation Line in support of their armed bands infiltrating the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone, there has been a clear and deliberate attempt by North Korea to provoke retaliation. The United Nations Command, however, has pursued a policy of restraint and has been successful in preventing retaliation by either counter-attacks or firing into the northern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. The United Nations Command believes such restraint, by affording no grounds whatsoever for escalation by North Korea of its hostile activities, has helped to minimize the tension and instability North Korea is intent on engendering.

Appended to this report is a tabulation of the results of the most serious incidents committed by North Korea against the Republic of Korea and the United Nations Command as of September 1 of this year, together with a narrative account of representative incidents.

NORTH KOREAN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE - 1953

Appendix A

Results of Most Serious Incidents Committed by North Korea Against
the Republic of Korea and the United Nations Command

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u> (to September 1)
Significant Incidents:				
Demilitarized Zone ^{1/}	42	37	445	260
Interior of ROK	17	13	121	44
Exchanges of Fire				
Demilitarized Zone ^{1/}	23	19	122	117
Interior of ROK	6	11	96	28
North Koreans killed within Republic of Korea	4	43	228	121
North Koreans captured within Republic of Korea	51	19	57	4
UNC military killed within Republic of Korea	21	35	131	62
UNC military wounded within Republic of Korea	6	29	294	130
ROK National Police and other civilians killed	19	4	22	10
ROK National Police and other civilians wounded	13	5	53	11

^{1/} South of the Demarcation Line

Appendix B

Narrative Account of Representative Incidents
Caused by North Korea Within or South of the Southern Portion
of the Demilitarized Zone During 1968 (Prior to September 1)

1. An hour before midnight on April 14^{1/}, six relief guards of the United Nations Command drove in a Command truck toward Panmunjom to perform routine security duties in the Military Armistice Commission Headquarters Area^{2/}. In accordance with long established practice, the truck had its lights on and flew a white identification flag. At a point 1,000 meters south of the Military Demarcation Line, North Koreans lying in ambush threw grenades at the truck -- destroying its headlights and tires and causing it to stop -- and then advanced from their ambush, firing automatic weapons. Two soldiers in the front seat of the truck were killed, and one was seriously wounded. The attackers then went to the rear of the truck and sprayed the inside with bullets, killing two more soldiers and wounding another. After the North Koreans fled, blood hounds tracked them to a point at the Military Demarcation Line where they re-entered North Korea. When the United Nations Command called for a joint investigation of the incident, the North Koreans refused to participate.

2. On April 17, at 0915 hours, an unknown number of North Koreans, concealed in camouflaged trenches approximately 100 meters north of the Military Demarcation Line, fired automatic weapons across the Line at 11 United Nations Command soldiers performing routine patrol duties in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone.^{3/} The patrol returned the fire, but was pinned down by intermittent fire from the North Korean ambush position. Eight members of the patrol, including three wounded, finally escaped to safety. The other three were never found. It is believed they were wounded or killed and their bodies dragged north across the Military Demarcation Line by North Koreans during the night.

3. On April 20, at 0745 hours, a United Nations Command patrol discovered a band of North Korean infiltrators in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. The North Koreans, armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades (both banned from the Zone by an agreement of July 31, 1953), started a fire fight in which the leader of the patrol was wounded. As reinforcements came to aid the patrol, North Koreans began firing machine guns at them across the Military Demarcation Line into the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. At 0945 hours, the North Koreans again fired automatic weapons across the Military Demarcation Line, this time at a nearby United Nations Command guard post. The United Nations Command requested a joint investigation of this

^{1/} All times given are local Korean time.

^{2/} This was under the terms of the agreement reached between the United Nations Command and the North Korean side at the 25th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission, held on October 19th, 1953.

^{3/} The patrol was in accordance with the agreement reached between both sides during the 3rd meeting of the Military Armistice Commission on July 30th, 1953.

-2-

incident and at 1400 hours had its members of the Joint Observer Team at the United Nations Command guard post. The North Koreans not only refused to participate in this investigation, but also, at 1420 hours, again fired machine guns across the Military Demarcation Line at the guard post where the United Nations Command members of the Joint Observer Team had gathered and were clearly displaying their yellow flags of identification.

The following day, at about 1600 hours, the North Koreans again fired across the Military Demarcation Line at a United Nations Command patrol. When two other patrols came to its aid, an estimated fifty North Koreans continued to fire automatic weapons across the Military Demarcation Line at the three patrols for approximately one and one-half hours. When the firing ceased, one soldier from the patrols had been killed and three wounded.

4. In the afternoon of April 27, United Nations Command personnel performing routine patrol duties approximately 1,000 meters south of the Military Demarcation Line were ambushed by North Korean infiltrators using automatic weapons and hand grenades. One soldier from the patrol was killed and two were wounded.

5. On May 31, at 2230 hours, two communications personnel of the United Nations Command, while checking a telephone line 2 kilometers south of the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone, were attacked by a group of North Koreans using automatic weapons and hand grenades. During the ensuing fire fight, one of United Nations Command soldiers was killed, the other wounded.

6. On June 8, at 1415 hours, while repairing a fence in the vicinity of a United Nations Command guard post in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone, United Nations Command soldiers were suddenly fired upon by North Koreans with automatic weapons from north of the Military Demarcation Line. Three of the soldiers were wounded.

Later that day, at 2235 hours, a band of approximately 10 North Koreans, armed with automatic weapons and grenades, crossed the Military Demarcation Line. After penetrating approximately 100 meters into the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone, they made contact with and fired upon a defensive patrol of the United Nations Command. They continued to fire for approximately one hour before breaking contact and withdrawing into the northern portion of the Demilitarized Zone.

7. On June 17, at 0140 hours, at a defensive position in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone, United Nations Command soldiers sighted two North Korean intruders about 300 meters south of the Military Demarcation Line. A patrol sent to search the area the next morning was attacked by a band of heavily armed North Koreans. During the exchange of fire, one North Korean was killed; the other intruders fled back to the north. As they retreated, two North Korean guard posts fired across the Military Demarcation Line into the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone. The body of the North Korean, together with an automatic weapon, grenades, and a radio transmitter, was recovered by United Nations Command personnel.

8. On June 19, at 0105 hours, several North Koreans approached to within 10 meters of a United Nations Command guard position well south of the Military Demarcation Line. During the firing that ensued, four North Koreans were killed and one escaped. The surviving intruder was encountered again at dawn. Although ordered to surrender, he refused, commenced firing at United Nations Command soldiers, and was subsequently killed. Following this encounter, North Korean automatic weapons, grenades, and a large quantity of ammunition, food and clothing were recovered -- the nature and amount of equipment indicating the North Korean band had been prepared for an extended mission of reconnaissance and destruction within the Republic of Korea.

At another location on the same morning, at 0425 hours, two heavily armed North Korean infiltrators were sighted by United Nations Command soldiers well within the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. During the ensuing firing, one of the intruders was killed; the other fled back to North Korea. The large amount of North Korean equipment recovered thereafter -- including automatic weapons, hand grenades, radios and cameras -- indicated the North Koreans had been dispatched to conduct extensive reconnaissance within the Republic of Korea.

9. Just after midnight on June 22, three North Korean intruders were sighted by United Nations Command soldiers in the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone. During an exchange of fire with the North Koreans, who were carrying automatic weapons, one North Korean was killed and one United Nations Command soldier was wounded. The remaining two North Koreans fled north.

Later the same day, at 0735 hours, seven more North Korean intruders were encountered by United Nations Command soldiers conducting a routine patrol in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. The North Koreans immediately opened fire on the patrol; a running fire fight continued for three hours as the North Koreans attempted to withdraw toward North Korea. As the North Koreans approached the Military Demarcation Line, they fired a red signal flare. Immediately a North Korean guard post in the northern portion of the Demilitarized Zone opened fire with heavy caliber machine guns at the United Nations Command patrol in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. During the encounter, two members of the patrol were killed, and two were wounded; five North Koreans were killed. North Korean automatic weapons, hand grenades, and a large quantity of equipment and food was recovered, indicating the North Koreans were prepared for an extended mission into the Republic of Korea.

10. On June 25, at 1015 hours, near the east coast of the Republic of Korea approximately 10 kilometers south of the Demilitarized Zone, three North Korean infiltrators fired upon soldiers of the United Nations Command. All three of the North Koreans were killed in the fire-fight which ensued. Their equipment, which included flotation devices, indicated they had infiltrated the Republic of Korea by sea. Photographs developed from exposed film in their cameras, moreover, showed this mission was one of reconnaissance of coastal installations of the Republic of Korea.

11. On July 8, at 0915 hours, in an area well south of the Demilitarized Zone, three North Koreans armed with sub-machine guns fired upon a United Nations Command patrol. Before the North Koreans broke contact and withdrew toward North Korea, two United Nations Command soldiers were wounded. Early the next morning two of the intruders were intercepted on the southern bank of the Imjin River -- in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone -- and were killed in the fire-fight which developed when they resisted capture. When United Nations Command forces attempted to recover the bodies, a North Korean guard post located directly across the river -- in the North Korean portion of the Demilitarized Zone -- opened fire on the United Nations Command forces with heavy machine guns and 82mm mortars. A short time later, two more North Koreans were intercepted as they attempted to return to North Korea. In the exchange of fire, one United Nations Command soldier was wounded and both North Koreans were killed.

12. On July 11, at 2350 hours, a United Nations Command patrol in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone sighted a small band of North Koreans armed with sub-machine guns and hand grenades attempting to infiltrate into the Republic of Korea. During the ensuing fire-fight, one member of the patrol was wounded and one North Korean was killed. The other North Korean infiltrators fled northward. The next afternoon North Korean infiltrators were again sighted south of the Military Demarcation Line, and two of them were killed. As the remaining infiltrators fled north to the Military Demarcation Line, they were supported by heavy machine gun fire from a North Korean guard post in the northern portion of the Demilitarized Zone.

13. On July 18, at 2345 hours, a United Nations Command position on the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone was attacked by a band of heavily armed North Korean intruders, who had apparently crossed the Military Demarcation Line and passed through the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. One United Nations Command soldier was seriously wounded before the North Koreans withdrew to the north.

14. On July 20, at 0940 hours, a United Nations Command patrol on routine duty south of the Military Demarcation Line sighted a band of North Korean infiltrators heavily armed with automatic weapons and grenades. One officer of the patrol was killed during the ensuing exchange of fire.

Later the same day, at 1645 hours, while conducting a routine patrol south of the Military Demarcation Line, United Nations Command soldiers were ambushed by a band of North Koreans armed with sub-machine guns and hand grenades. One member of the patrol was killed before the North Koreans withdrew across the Military Demarcation Line to North Korea.

VIOLATION OF VIOLENCE - 1968

-5-

15. On July 21, at 2335 hours, while performing routine patrol duty in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone, United Nations Command soldiers sighted a band of North Koreans armed with automatic weapons. During the firing that followed, two members of the patrol were wounded. The defensive firing of the patrol finally drove the infiltrators back across the Military Demarcation Line. A sub-machine gun and other equipment of North Korean origin were left behind by the intruders.

16. On July 23, at 0915 hours, a United Nations Command patrol operating in the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone, was ambushed by a band of North Koreans armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades. Four soldiers in that patrol were killed and two others were wounded before the intruders withdrew to North Korea.

17. On July 28, at 1910 hours, while patrolling in the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone, a United Nations Command patrol was suddenly attacked at close range by a band of North Korean infiltrators armed with sub-machine guns and hand grenades. One member of that patrol was wounded and captured by the North Korean raiders, though he later escaped and returned to his comrades. A second member of the patrol, however, is missing as a result of this action and is believed to have been kidnapped and taken into North Korea.

NORTH KOREAN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE - 1963

-6-

Later the same day, at 2135 hours, two other United Nations Command soldiers located near the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone, were attacked by a band of North Koreans armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades. One was killed and the other was wounded before the infiltrators withdrew to the north.

18. On July 29, 1968, two farmers working in their field on an island off the southwest coast of the Republic of Korea were approached by two North Korean agents armed with sub-machine guns and hand grenades. When a third farmer approached the group, the North Korean agents shot and killed him. In fleeing, the agents commandeered a fishing boat with three civilians aboard and forced them to go to a nearby island. The next day Republic of Korea security forces sighted the North Korean agents; they were engaged in a fire fight in which they were killed and one Republic of Korea policeman was wounded. Republic of Korea forces subsequently found in the area 995,000 Republic of Korea won (approximately \$3,600 U.S. dollars), hand grenades, a compass and radio crystals of North Korean origin.

19. On July 30, at 0015 hours, North Korean infiltrators with hand grenades and sub-machine guns attacked soldiers of the United Nations Command located near the southern boundary of the demilitarized zone. One of the soldiers was killed, and three others were wounded. The North Korean infiltrators finally retreated across the Military Demarcation Line into North Korea, carrying what appeared to be two dead bodies and two wounded.

Later the same say, at 1055 hours, a team of three North Korean infiltrators, heavily armed with automatic weapons and grenades, was detected in the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone in the area adjacent to the Military Armistice Commission Headquarters Area. One North Korean was killed and one United Nations Command soldier was wounded in the exchange of fire. The remaining two agents escaped north across the Military Demarcation Line.

Still later the same day, at 1800 hours, United Nations Command soldiers in a defensive position on the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone, sighted and were fired upon by seven North Korean infiltrators armed with automatic weapons and grenades. Three of the soldiers were wounded and one North Korean was killed in the exchange of fire.

20. On July 31, at 0240 hours, a band of North Koreans armed with automatic weapons and grenades was seen infiltrating into the Republic of Korea by United Nations Command soldiers near the southern boundary of the Demilitarized Zone. In the exchange of fire, three North Korean infiltrators were killed. Automatic weapons, grenades, ammunition and other equipment of North Korean origin were found with their bodies.

-7-

Later the same day, at 0950 hours, five United Nations Command soldiers were sent to investigate an unidentified individual sighted in the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone. They were suddenly attacked by an eight-man band of North Korean infiltrators armed with sub-machine guns and hand grenades. One soldier was killed and two were wounded before the North Koreans were forced to retreat across the Military Demarcation Line into North Korea. They were observed carrying one dead and one wounded.

Again the same day, at 1100 hours, a United Nations Command patrol on a routine operation in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone was ambushed by a band of North Korean infiltrators attacking with hand grenades. One member of the patrol was wounded before the North Korean infiltrators fled north.

21. On August 1, at 0255 hours, at a point south of the Military Demarcation Line, a band of North Korean infiltrators suddenly attacked United Nations Command soldiers in a defensive position, with hand grenades and sub-machine guns. Three of the soldiers were wounded.

At 2120 hours on the same day, North Korean infiltrators, using automatic weapons and hand grenades, attacked a United Nations Command patrol in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. One member of the patrol was killed, another wounded. At dawn the next day, a North Korean body was found, together with weapons, a knapsack and other equipment which indicated that he was a member of a larger infiltration team from North Korea.

22. On August 3, at 1430 hours, a band of twenty heavily-armed North Korean infiltrators attacked a routine United Nations Command patrol in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. The North Koreans fired sub-machine guns and threw anti-tank grenades. North Koreans on the north side of the Military Demarcation Line, moreover, supported their agents by opening fire with heavy machine guns across the Military Demarcation Line. One member of the patrol was killed and one wounded.

23. On August 4, at 0145 hours, in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone, an armed North Korean was sighted infiltrating into the Republic of Korea. More North Koreans joined the infiltrator and engaged United Nations Command soldiers in a fire fight with grenades and automatic weapons. One North Korean was killed; weapons and equipment of North Korean origin were found on the body.

At 0450 hours the same day, a United Nations Command patrol in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone encountered a band of North Koreans heavily armed with automatic weapons and grenades. Three members of the patrol were wounded before the North Korean infiltrators were driven back across the Military Demarcation Line

into North Korea.

At 0935 hours the same day, three United Nations Command soldiers located in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone were suddenly attacked with automatic weapons and hand grenades by a band of North Korean infiltrators. One of the soldiers, as well as one North Korean, was killed. Another engagement with the North Korean infiltrators later in the day resulted in the wounding of two United Nations Command soldiers and the killing of three more North Koreans. An inspection of the area later revealed a cache of equipment containing sub-machine guns, clips of ammunition, grenades, bayonets, knives and a mine detector -- all of North Korean origin -- as well as crudely-fabricated insignia of military rank and unit resembling those used by United Nations Command soldiers.

In the evening of the same day, at 2155 hours, United Nations Command soldiers in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone encountered a band of North Korean infiltrators heavily armed with automatic weapons and grenades. One of the soldiers was wounded during an exchange of fire which continued for three hours.

24. On August 5, at 1400 hours, a United Nations Command patrol operating in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone was suddenly attacked from concealed positions by a North Korean force armed with hand grenades and automatic weapons. Three members of the patrol were killed and two were wounded; one North Korean was killed. The remaining North Koreans were pursued to the Military Demarcation Line, where they returned to North Korea.

This incident occurred only 3,000 meters from the Military Armistice Commission conference site at Panmunjom while a meeting of the Commission, called by the North Koreans for no apparent reason, was in progress. When the United Nations Command Senior Member proposed an immediate investigation of the incident by a Joint Observer Team, the North Koreans refused to participate.

25. On August 7, at 2230 hours, at a point in the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone, a band of North Korean infiltrators suddenly attacked United Nations Command soldiers in a defensive position with hand grenades and sub-machine gun fire. One of the soldiers was killed, and one was wounded.

26. On August 8, at 0240 hours, United Nations Command soldiers in the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone, sighted a band of North Koreans armed with automatic weapons and grenades infiltrating into the Republic of Korea. During the ensuing exchange of fire, two North Korean infiltrators were killed. Automatic weapons, grenades, ammunition and other equipment of North Korean origin were found with the bodies.

-9-

27. On 13 August, at 0040 hours, United Nations Command soldiers in a defensive position well within the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone sighted three armed North Korean intruders. They were engaged in a fire fight that lasted approximately one-half of an hour. All three North Koreans were killed. The large amount of equipment of North Korean origin that was subsequently found in the area -- including radios and cameras -- indicated the North Koreans had been dispatched to conduct extensive reconnaissance within the Republic of Korea.

On the same morning at 0140 hours, a band of three more heavily armed North Koreans infiltrating into the Republic of Korea was sighted by a United Nations Command position well within the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone. All three North Koreans were killed in an exchange of fire. A large amount of equipment of North Korean origin was later recovered from the area, including anti-tank mines, radios and a camera with a telephoto lens.

Later the same day, at 2330 hours, an unknown number of North Koreans using hand grenades suddenly attacked another United Nations Command defensive position well within the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone.

28. On August 14, at 0315 hours, a United Nations Command defensive position in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone sighted a heavily armed North Korean a few meters from their position. The North Korean infiltrator was killed in an exchange of fire.

Later that morning, at 0630 hours, a United Nations Command patrol in the southern half of the Demilitarized Zone encountered a band of North Koreans, heavily armed with automatic weapons and grenades. During an exchange of fire, one of the North Korean intruders was killed; the rest fled back across the Military Demarcation Line.

29. On August 18, at 1905 hours, a United Nations Command patrol encountered eight North Korean infiltrators 300 meters south of the Military Demarcation Line. During the exchange of fire, two members of the patrol were killed by North Korean automatic weapons fire.

30. On August 20, at 2250 hours, a North Korean agent boat was sighted attempting to land agents near the shore of Cheju-do. An exchange of small arms fire took place between the boat and United Nations Command forces on shore. When the boat started to flee the area, United Nations Command units took pursuit. A running gun battle ensued until the following morning at 0415 hours, when the North Korean boat was disabled by naval gun fire. During this action, two North Koreans were captured and twelve were killed. The boat was found to be armed with recoilless rifles and numerous automatic weapons.

NORTH KOREAN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE - 1965

-10-

31. On August 29, at 2045 hours, at a point 17 kilometers south of the Demilitarized Zone, a band of North Korean intruders was engaged in a firefight by a United Nations Command patrol. One North Korean was killed; the rest fled. An inspection of the area revealed an AK-47 assault rifle, grenades, a radio, money and other miscellaneous equipment of North Korean origin.

32. On August 31, at 0800 hours, a band of North Korean infiltrators armed with automatic weapons and hand grenades was sighted by a United Nations Command patrol located 500 meters south of the Military Demarcation Line. During the firefight that followed, a North Korean guard post north of the Demarcation Line fired automatic weapons across the Line in support of the North Korean infiltrators. In this encounter, one member of the patrol was wounded and one North Korean infiltrator was killed.

NORTH KOREAN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE - 1968
TOTAL OF MAJOR AGGRESSIVE NORTH KOREAN VIOLATIONS OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT 1 Jan - 1 Sep 68

