

May 27, 1993

Letter from G.F. Kunadze to E.A. Ambartsumov

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Summary:

G.F. Kunadze is alarmed over North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

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Ministry of
Foreign Affairs
of the Russian Federation

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TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LIAISON COMMITTEE OF THE SUPREME
SOVIET
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
E.A. AMBARTSUMOV

COPY TO THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL
ECONOMIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION I.I. ANDRONOV

In response to 7-3-1530 dated 12.05.93

Esteemed Evgenii Arshakovich,

Sharing the concern of the Committee of which you are the head in connection with the decision of the D[emocratic] P[eople's] R[epublic] K[orea] to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), we would like to relate the following:

Russia, as an NPT depository state, cannot regard with indifference such actions on the part of the DPRK, or of any state, which lead to the undermining of the international regime of nuclear non-proliferation. Our principled position on this account was explained in the Statement of the MFA of Russia dated 12 March 1993. We called upon the DPRK to review its decision and return to the treaty; we are encouraging it to do so even now, using different diplomatic means.

As an initial reaction to the actions of North Korea in relation to the NPT we, in accordance with the decree (249-rp dated 19 April 1993) of the President of the R[ussian] F[ederation], announced the suspension, until the DPRK reviews its decision, of cooperation with this country in the sphere of nuclear energy (preparation of cadres, exchange of specialists, assistance in the construction of a N[uclear] P[ower] P[lant], supply of nuclear fuel).

M[inistry] F[oreign] A[ffairs] RF continues to closely work on this problem, it is analyzing the probably development of the situation, the consequences for Russia and for Russian-North Korean relations, of possible actions on the part of the international [52] community in case of the DPRK's refusal to return to the NPT and resume its cooperation with the IAEA. Our final position on this question has not yet been determined. MFA RF is interested in joint work with the International Affairs Committee in connection with the aforesaid actions of the DPRK. We are prepared to exchange opinions on this question.

DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

G. KUNADZE