September 27, 1960 Journal of Soviet Ambassador to the DPRK A.M. Puzanov for 27 September 1960

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Summary:

A KWP delegation is going to Moscow to participate in the conference of the ministers of railways of the socialist countries. Beshchev thinks it strange that the ministers of railways of the socialist countries were received by Kim II, not by Kim II Sung. Pak Seong-cheol asks for the tentative schedule of N.S. Khrushchev's visit to the DPRK.

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[handwritten in the left margin: "to G. Ye. Samsonov" and two other illegible names, one followed by "delo [file]] 035" and the other by "17 October 1960"]

JOURNAL of Soviet Ambassador in the DPRK Cde. A. M. PUZANOV from 12 through 30 September 1960

Pyongyang

[...]

27 September 1960

At the Sunan airfield I saw off:

a KWP delegation headed by Ri He-sun [sic] going to Moscow;

Party and Soviet Cdes. Kashtanov, Kuratov, Grigor'yev, and Voronin who had vacationed in the DPRK;

Minister of Railways Cde. B. P. Beshchev.

The KWP, which left for Moscow to take part in the work of a commission to prepare documents for the conference of representatives of Communist and worker's Parties was composed of the following people:

Ri He-sun [sic] - Presidium member, Deputy Chairman of the KWP CC (leader of the delegation) Pak Yong-geun [sic] - CC member, Chief of the KWP International Department Choe Hui-geun [sic] - Deputy Chief of the KWP International Department Jeong Jun-gi [sic] - Chief of the KWP Agitprop Department

and five people accompanying [them] He Sek The [sic] - Chief of the Third Sector of the CC International Department; Kim Sun-ho [sic], chief of a sector of the same Department; Ok In-seop [sic], First Secretary of the DPRK MFA; Ri Sin-hyeok [sic], Second Secretary of the MFA; and Kim Yun-seon [sic], KWP CC instructor). According to a report of Embassy Counsellor V. A. Zharkov, Kim Yun-seon worked for several years in the DPRK Embassy in Peking and knows Chinese well. The delegation was also seen off by KWP CC members.

The fact that Cde. B. P. Beshchev was seen off not by DPRK Minister of Railways Kim Kye-il [sic], but his deputy, who said that the Minister "is busy with work", calls attention to itself. B. P. Beshchev was also seen off by the Minister of Railways of the Romanian People's Republic.

In the course of the conference, as Cde. B. P. Beshchev said, the ministers of railways of the socialist countries were told that Kim II Sung would receive them. However, the ministers were received by First Deputy Premier Kim II. The ministers were told that Kim II Sung was on a business trip, a quite strange and primitive explanation. Such conferences do not happen so often in Pyongyang so that Kim II Sung could not been able to receive the participants of the conference "because of a business trip".

Minister of Foreign Affairs Pak Seong-cheol asked whether the Embassy knew, even presumably, when Cde. N. S. Khrushchev would arrive in Pyongyang and how many days he would spend in the DPRK.

I replied to him that the Embassy does not have such information. Then I added that obviously it is understandable why he and the other Korean comrades have no answer yet about these questions of interest to them - Cde. N. S. Khrushchev is extraordinarily busy these days with issues connected with the work of the UN General Assembly.

Pak Seong-cheol said that they completely understand, but they ask that their interest in this issue be understood.

It was arranged to meet with the Minister on 28 September to provide information about the results of my trip to a number of enterprises and agricultural cooperatives, and also about other issues.

[...]

SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN THE DPRK [signature] (A. Puzanov)

Five copies sent 1 - Cde. A. A. Gromyko 2 - Cde. Yu. V. Andropov 3 - Cde. V. I. Tugarinov 4 - UVPI MID SSSR 5 - to file Nº 480, at 30 September 1960