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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

0012

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Roh Tae Woo, President
of the Republic of Korea (S)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Roh Tae Woo, President of the Republic of Korea
Notetaker: Karl D. Jackson

DATE, TIME November 29, 1989, 5:10 - 5:20pm EST
AND PLACE: The Oval Office

President Roh telephoned the President from London concerning changes taking place in Eastern Europe. (S)

President Roh began by saying, "I would like to congratulate you on the historic meeting that will take place on December 2 and 3. I hope this will increase harmony and peace throughout the world." (S)

The President: "It is nice of you to call with your words of encouragement. I want to stay in close consultation with our allies." (S)

President Roh: "Thank you. I am in London on a European tour witnessing the historic changes here. As President of a divided country, I feel strongly about the changes that are taking place in Eastern Europe. I wish such changes could take place in Korea." (S)

The President: "I understand how you would be interested in changes taking place in Eastern Europe. We will have Korea's interests in mind when I meet with Mr. Gorbachev. I hope we can constructively discuss the Korean peninsula with General Secretary Gorbachev. Nothing detrimental to the Republic of Korea, our friend and ally, will take place." (S)

President Roh: "Thank you. You have already said what I was going to say. I would like to remind you in your meeting with President Gorbachev of the need to open North Korea, to make it a responsible member of the world community. In Europe I have found our Northern policy to be well received, and I hope that you will ask full cooperation from President Gorbachev for further success of my Northern policy." (S)

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The President: "Yes, I am planning to do that, and I will ask President Gorbachev to encourage the North Koreans to do what they should have done, that is, sign the NPT Safeguards Agreement. " ~~(S)~~

President Roh: "I remember your warm hospitality and our fruitful discussions in Washington in October. I wish you great success in your meetings with President Gorbachev." ~~(C)~~

The President: "The only regret I have is that we did not get to have that tennis game. Have a good journey and you can rest assured that we will work hard and keep very much in mind our strong friendship with Korea. Please extend my respects to Mrs. Roh." (U)

President Roh: Please give my best regards to your wife. (U)

-- End of conversation --

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