

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Boris Yeltsin of Russia on
13 June 1994

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Yeltsin
Interpreter: Dimitry Zarechnak
Notetaker: Steven Aoki

DATE, TIME 11 June 1994, 1:24 (EDT)
AND PLACE: The White House

President Clinton: Hello

President Yeltsin: Hello, Bill.

President Clinton: It's nice to hear your voice.

President Yeltsin: It's a pleasure to hear your voice as well.

President Clinton: I received your letter about the G-7 and the possibility of your coming here this fall. I am very interested in that and will be back in touch with you on that. I wanted to talk with you first a bit about North Korea.

President Yeltsin: Okay.

President Clinton: The UN Security Council will soon be considering sanctions on North Korea. We have important common interests at stake there, as you know, both in the stability of the Korean peninsula and in the global nonproliferation regime. Kozyrev and Christopher discussed a common basis for a UN Security Council resolution, one which includes sanctions phased in and also refers to your proposal for an international conference.

President Yeltsin: I'm listening.

President Clinton: The conference would not delay the date that sanctions are imposed if the North Koreans fail to comply and the sanctions can be phased in. We believe that the conference should be held as an incentive if North Korea refuses to comply.

We need to coordinate with South Korea. President Kim made clear to me that the conference should not be used only to delay

taking a resolution. I think I persuaded him of the idea that holding out the conference as a carrot, an incentive to the North Koreans, is a good thing.

President Yeltsin: You see, Bill, I agree with you, but it is very important to have a unanimous vote of all the permanent members of the Security Council, including China. The conference should be on an equal level with sanctions. There should be parity between the two ideas, sanctions and a conference. It is another situation if North Korea does not wish to participate in an international conference. Then the sanctions would remain and we would continue to support such an option. We've discussed the option and agreed on it before.

President Clinton: I want to make sure there is no misunderstanding between what I am saying and what you are saying back to me. We'd intended to offer phased in sanctions, an approach which would begin with fairly moderate sanctions because of the determination of North Korea to break the chain of proof and not to permit us to examine what happened with refueling in 1989. We would not undertake stricter sanctions unless they took steps that would undermine our ability to monitor what they are doing from this point forward. We can consider a conference but we cannot walk away from what they have already done. It is especially important now because we have information that North Korea now says it wants to withdraw entirely from the IAEA and not allow any inspections there. If they did this it would be a very negative step and would force us to impose greater sanctions. I hope you and the Chinese convince them not to do this because it is a very different thing if they are going to get out of it altogether. I agree with you that we should give parity between the idea of a conference and sanctions in the resolution. I hoped we could start the process in a moderate way and hold the conference out to North Korea as a carrot to start talking. I hoped this would also encourage China to vote for the resolution or at least not to veto it. I agree with you that it is very important to include China. I agree that it is important to have the concept of parity in the resolution but I don't think we should use the conference to put sanctions off. This would reward North Korea's behavior.

President Yeltsin: We think the same way, Bill. I also believe we shouldn't begin with the conference. Rather, we should begin with phased in, moderate sanctions, then have a conference that will determine the future stages of the sanctions. The next steps would be determined by the conference which might reduce the sanctions if North Korea goes into negotiations. We would have to see how the situation develops.

President Clinton: This approach will be very difficult for us if they don't comply. For example, under the resolution we have before the Security Council now, they would be forcing us to put on stronger sanctions earlier rather than later if they withdraw from the IAEA.

President Yeltsin: I agree with that. Bill, I agree.

President Clinton: Okay. I have one suggestion. I think we have to have Kozyrev and Christopher talk one more time to make sure we are together on the facts. It is very important that we stand together on this. It is important that there be absolutely no misunderstanding. I'd like Kozyrev and Christopher to meet on this once more so we can be sure we have identical positions.

President Yeltsin: Fine, Bill. I agree. I will tell Kozyrev this right away. It will be up to him and Christopher to fix the time of their meeting.

President Clinton: Let me thank you for a couple things and make a remark before we get off the phone.

President Yeltsin: I'm listening.

President Clinton: President Kim told me that during a recent discussion with you, you agreed to suspend the automatic involvement clause in your treaty with the DPRK and that North Korea will no longer be receiving arms and spare parts from Russia. I want to thank you for this.

President Yeltsin: Bill, we have discontinued all supplies already.

President Clinton: I also want to congratulate you on Russia's decision to join the Partnership for Peace. I hear Christopher and Kozyrev had a good meeting in Istanbul. I hope you will be able to present your framework agreement in Brussels before you come to the meeting in Naples. I think this will be something we can really celebrate and highlight at Naples. It would cement the partnership between the G-7 and Russia.

President Yeltsin: Fine, Bill.

President Clinton: I want to tell you one more thing. I hope you can help me. Because North Korea's reactions are unpredictable and it has been acting in an aggressive manner and because I have 40,000 soldiers in South Korea and there are also soldier from other countries there, I may well take some prudent, defensive measures regarding our forces in South Korea. North

Korea must understand that we have no hostile intent against it. The measures are just defensive. We have no hostile intent. But I have to make sure I am doing all I can to protect our people.

President Yeltsin: I understand. You plan to somewhat strengthen your military troops in South Korea.

President Clinton: I plan to do some things that will improve our position if anything happens. Nothing to take hostile action against North Korea, just to increase the chance of our defending ourselves.

President Yeltsin: I understand.

President Clinton: Let's keep working together and remain in close contact. I agree with what you said in our letter about our maturing relationship. Thank you for our good relationship. I hope to talk to you soon.

President Yeltsin: Thank you, Bill. I am also satisfied with the conversion we have just had and also with the way our relations have been developing. I warmly shake your hand. Until we meet in Naples.

President Clinton: Thank you. Good-bye.

President Yeltsin: Good-bye.

-- End of Conversation --