

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND
MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION
APO 301

TWO HUNDRED FORTY SECOND MEETING OF THE SECRETARIES

HELD AT MAC HQ AREA, KOREA

28 FEBRUARY 1962

MEMBERS PRESENT

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND

COLONEL WHEELER G. MERRIAM, USA
COLONEL VINCENT F. GOODSSELL, USA

KOREAN PEOPLE'S ARMY
CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEERS

COLONEL LEE YOUNG IL, KPA
COLONEL HAN JU KYONG, KPA

Meeting convened at 1100 hours

KPA/CPV:

While committing hostile acts of dispatching its military aircraft and naval vessels into the territorial air space and the coastal waters of our side, your side has recently staged clamorous military maneuvers on a large scale along the front line. And following them, it has perpetrated a provocation designed to cause serious trouble in the Demilitarized Zone which was established as a buffer zone.

Namely, around 1335 hours on February 22, 1962, eight armed persons of your side attacked with sudden fire our civil police personnel who were on routine patrol duty in the vicinity of 38 degrees 19 minutes 00 seconds North, 127 degrees 48 minutes 24 seconds East in our portion of the Demilitarized Zone.

It was observed by the personnel of our side that your personnel directly laid their guns and fired at our personnel relying on the structures by the civil police post of your side in the vicinity of 38 degrees 18 minutes 56 seconds North, 127 degrees 47 minutes 54 seconds East in your portion of the Demilitarized Zone and that the bullets fired by your personnel fell all around the civil police personnel of our side, endangering their lives.

Unless our civil police personnel had not taken a prompt evasive action from the sudden attack by your side at this critical moment, there would no doubt have been a loss of their lives. Especially, it is evident what consequences may be entailed by such a provocation against the other side in the Demilitarized Zone where the personnel of both sides are pitted against each other with arms in their hands.

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KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

As is clearly demonstrated by the facts disclosed, this hostile act committed by your side recently forms part of the sinister scheme for another war frantically furthered in South Korea and is a planned and deliberate challenge designed to murder the civil police personnel of our side and then cause serious trouble.

This dangerous prank with fire of your side which means the Korean armistice, disturbs peace and further intensifies the tension in Korea, should be denounced scathingly and curbed immediately.

I have been directed by the Senior Member of our side to lodge a serious protest with your side against its intentional and grave hostile act committed against our side again recently in violation of the Preamble of the Armistice Agreement as well as Paragraphs 6, 12 and 14 thereof in disregard of the repeated protests and warnings from our side.

At the same time, I demand that your side punish severely, as required by the Armistice Agreement, your personnel who are indulged in dangerous play with fire and take thorough and responsible action to prevent a recurrence of similar incidents.

UNC:

Your charges concerning firings in the Demilitarized Zone will be investigated and a report made to the Military Armistice Commission.

KPA/CPV:

I have noted your statement that an investigation will be made into the provocative firing by your personnel.

I will make a statement on another subject.

Various ground violations by your personnel in the southern portion of the Demilitarized Zone have continued to occur recently.

During the period from December 21, 1961 to February 20, 1962, your side again committed 79 cases of various ground violations such as detonating explosives, allowing your civil police personnel to carry automatic weapons and displaying no appropriate distinctive insignia and marking by the personnel and vehicles of your side in the Demilitarized Zone.

KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

I now pass your side two copies each of Korean and English versions of a list containing the details of the above-mentioned ground violations by your side.

The ground violations continuously committed by your side as mentioned above bespeak the fact that your side has no concern about the compliance with the appropriate provisions of the Armistice Agreement concerning the control and maintenance of the Demilitarized Zone.

I have been instructed by the Senior Member of our side to lodge a protest with your side against the continued violations of the Armistice Agreement committed by your side in the Demilitarized Zone regardless of our reiterated protests. At the same time I demand that your side take thorough steps to prevent a recurrence of similar ground violations.

UNC:

Your charges concerning the alleged violations occurring within the Demilitarized Zone will be investigated in accordance with the spirit and letter of the Armistice Agreement. A report will be made on these alleged charges at a subsequent meeting.

KPA/CPV:

I note your statement that your side will conduct investigations into the violations by your personnel of the provisions concerning the control and maintenance of the Demilitarized Zone.

I demand that your side will take complete action to prevent a recurrence of such violations in the future.

UNC:

An investigation of the charges passed at the 239th Secretaries meeting on 28 December 1961 by your side has been completed. All but 46 of the charges relate to United Nations Command personnel in the Demilitarized Zone without proper identification. In each instance investigation disclosed that the allegations concerned work parties involved in the construction of the civil police posts of our side.

UNC: (CONT'D)

At the 145th Military Armistice Commission meeting on 16 September 1961, the Senior Member of our side informed your side that the United Nations Command would replace approximately 30 personnel shelters for use of our sides civil police in the Demilitarized Zone. The Senior Member of our side stated that these shelters would be constructed between markers 0490 and 1290 beginning in the month of September 1961.

On 20 October 1961 our side notified your side through the Joint Duty Officer of the work parties involved in the shelter construction and where they would be working. All of the personnel involved in these work parties were properly authorized to be in the Demilitarized Zone and wore normal identification, as stated in the message sent to your side.

As the result of the investigation conducted by the United Nations Command, it is realized that there were times when men working on construction might have removed their shirts during the heat of the day. It is possible that this was used as a basis for your charges. However, it is apparent that these men were not violating the spirit or terms of the Armistice Agreement. Your charges therefore, are rejected.

As regards the remaining 46 charges, which concern, primarily, the carrying of automatic weapons in the Demilitarized Zone by personnel of our side, investigation reveals these also have no basis in fact. These charges, therefore, are rejected.

KPA/CPV:

You have admitted in your statement just made that the work personnel of your side were engaged in work without wearing the distinctive insignia.

Then, on what ground do you deny those violations?

UNC:

The majority of the personnel involved in construction were civil police who had normal identification. Others wore proper identification which may at times have been laid beside them when working. We frankly and honestly admit this. This is not a violation. As you well know, we see your personnel in the DMZ working and doing calisthenics with shirts

UNC: (CONT'D)

off. We do not charge you with a violation in these cases.

KPA/CPV:

You have excused yourself alleging that since your personnel took off the clothes upon which they placed their distinctive insignia, that did not constitute any violation.

According to your logic, it follows that any person should be considered to have worn the distinctive insignia even if he had placed his clothes with the insignia on it somewhere in the Demilitarized Zone and move around freely.

According to your logic, it also follows that you and your personnel present here in this room may be permitted to enter here leaving their coats with the distinctive insignia on them in the duty officer's room of your side.

What a contradiction logic this is.

The violation should be determined not by the fact of bringing into the Demilitarized Zone of the clothes with the distinctive insignia on them, but by whether any person wears the distinctive insignia or not.

Therefore, isn't it a fantastic sophism for you to allege that although you admit the failure by your personnel to wear the distinctive insignia, it does not constitute any violation.

Your remarks that your personnel took off their insignia and so did not wear them have already been placed on record.

UNC:

Do you have any further business?

KPA/CPV:

Noting that your side has admitted the violations by your personnel of the provisions concerning the distinctive insignia, I now go to another subject.

At the 240th and 241st Secretaries' meetings, your side submitted the lists charging our side as if there had been any QUOTE violations of the Armistice Agreement and the agreements and understandings UNQUOTE by our personnel.

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KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

Our side has conducted concrete and thorough-going investigations into all the violations set forth in those lists.

The result of the investigations showed that not a single one of the violations with which your side had charged our side could be found to have any basis in fact, and that all of them were fabrications.

I categorically deny all the charges contained in the lists presented by your side at the 240th and 241st Secretaries' meetings. At the same time, I demand that your side give up at once such improper action as to slander our side wildly by fabricating unfounded incidents.

Does your side have any other matter to offer at this meeting?

UNC:

I again reject your charges made at the 239th meeting of the Secretaries.

I note your statement denying the violations of the Armistice Agreement charged at the 240th and 241st Secretaries' meeting.

It is obvious that no investigation into these charges was made since all of the charges made by the United Nations Command were carefully and fully investigated prior to being charged against your side. These violations were observed in the Demilitarized Zone by the civil police personnel of our side at the locations, times, and dates indicated in our charges.

Your denial of these valid charges reveals your side's insincerity towards the Armistice Agreement. For more than eight and one-half years now you have been arbitrarily denying, without investigation, each and every one of our valid charges. At no other conference table in the world is there more falsehood and less sincerity than has been exhibited by your side since the Armistice Agreement was signed on 27 July 1953.

Your insincere acts are unprecedented.

I have no further business.

KPA/CPV:

You have repeatedly and clearly announced, through your own statements, the fact that the personnel of your side have not worn the insignia.

Whatever you may say, your side's violations will remain in the record forever along with your statements.

It is very absurd for you to take such attitude of making complaints about the fact that our side did not admit the so-called violations cooked up by your side.

I will once again stress that our side can never admit the so-called violations your side has fabricated on the table in an attempt to cover up its own criminal acts of incessantly violating the Armistice Agreement and to slander and defame the opposing side without foundation.

With any tricks, your side can neither defame our side which has been observing the Armistice Agreement consistently and faithfully, nor cover up its own foul character as a swindler.

Today, you have again talked about the QUOTE insincerity UNQUOTE of our side toward the Armistice Agreement alleging that our side has admitted no violation.

Utterly ridiculous is this charge you have harped on like a prayer at almost every meeting of late.

What on earth do you want our side which has always been faithful toward its obligations assumed under the Armistice Agreement and committed no violation at all to admit?

Though your charge is a preposterous one which deserves no comment at all, I will cite, in order to clarify the facts, a few examples proving the preposterousness of the alleged violations your side has repeatedly charged our side with.

At the 219th Secretaries' meeting held on October 21, 1960, your side charged our side alleging that our side had brought tanks into the Demilitarized Zone. But it was established on the spot of the investigations conducted by a Joint Observer Team that they were not tanks but paddy ricks.

This rare story like a fable in which paddy ricks turned into tanks is known to the world public and now is made a laughing stock among them.

KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

At the 196th Secretaries' meeting held on August 31, 1959, your side also alleged that our personnel had fired rifles in the Demilitarized Zone toward your side.

The alleged spot where they fired and the alleged spot which was fired at were invisible from each other and besides, a hill is located between them. Under such circumstances, if anyone had wanted to fire at the spot alleged by your side to have been fired at, he should have had a "high-angle rifle" or such a queer weapon as is capable to pierce a hill. Have you ever seen such small arms?

All of your charges are, without exception, lies such as a talk that ice is burnt red hot.

As for the numerous lists your side has fabricated, loudly clamouring about ground violations, they are complete jumbles of lies.

In the list submitted at the 198th Secretaries' meeting held on November 24, 1959, your side charged our side with the alleged violations that our personnel had entered the Demilitarized Zone without wearing armbands four times, namely, on April 6, 13, and 16 and June 19 of that year.

The four spots your side pointed out were, however, not in the Demilitarized Zone but in the territory under the military control of our side.

Of course it was not the only case where your side made such charges. The list submitted by your side at the 183rd Secretaries' meeting held on September 20, 1958 contained as many as seven charges as preposterous as mentioned above.

Are you really unaware of the fact that the rules for the distinctive insignia are applicable only in the Demilitarized Zone?

If your side should order your soldiers to wear armbands in the territory under the military control of your side for some reasons, you would be free to do so. But it cannot but be regarded as the height of folly of you to force our side to do so.

KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

At the 198th Secretaries' meeting held on November 24, 1959, your side also alleged that our personnel were observed to be without armbands in the Demilitarized Zone on June 1, September 13 of that year.

Contrary to the above-stated cases, however, this time all the spots pointed out by your side were in the territory under the military control of your side as far as 5 to 30 kilometers away from the Demilitarized Zone.

At that meeting, your side also charged our side with the alleged violations that our personnel had entered the Demilitarized Zone without wearing armbands on September 2 and 3 of that year.

But the spots where our personnel allegedly were present were located across a hill, 600 to 1,000 meters high, which could by no means be observed from your side. In addition, the actual terrain there showed that the spots pointed out by your side were on a precipice on which even wild animals, to say nothing of human beings, are unable to stand.

Let me cite another example. Your side charged our side at the 227th Secretaries' meeting held on February 14, 1961 with the alleged violation that our personnel carried automatic weapons in the Demilitarized Zone. However, the very spot your side pointed out was not in the Demilitarized Zone but in the territory under the military control of our side as far as 20 kilometers away from the Zone.

Accustomed though you are in meddling in another's business, what had your side got to do with our personnel either carrying automatic weapons or rifles or pistols in the territory under the military control of our side?

As was exposed at the 237th Secretaries' meeting, which was held a short time ago, your side went so far as to make charges that our farmers who were authorized by the Military Armistice Commission to enter the Demilitarized Zone to engage in farming did not wear armbands.

The facts I have just cited above are but the examples which were disclosed at several meetings.

The alleged violations by our side of the Armistice Agreement about which your side has been vociferous are all like these.

KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

Such being the case, how dare you utter the term "sincerity", still more, how dare you mouth such preposterous quibble that our side has not admitted anything?

Isn't it clear that our side cannot admit such false violations arbitrarily framed up by your side with a view to covering up its violations of the Armistice Agreement, deceiving the world public, and slandering and defaming our side?

All the facts disclosed so far irrefutably prove that it is precisely your side that has been frantic in further aggravating tension in Korea continuously violating the Armistice Agreement while wrecking and infringing it and that has been bent on practicing frauds by incessantly framing up groundless incidents with the aim of defaming the other side.

I firmly denounce the shameless attitude on your part and demand that your side promptly desist from the fraudulent acts of trumping up groundless incidents and take practical measures for the complete implementation of the Armistice Agreement.

UNC:

Are you condemning the United Nations Command for its sincerity and honesty in carrying out faithfully the provisions of the Armistice Agreement?

It is hardly understandable that the United Nations Command can be condemned for its sincerity and honesty.

At this meeting our side has again demonstrated sincerity and honesty in investigating your charges, no matter how preposterous they are and submitting a fair and honest report. Your side should take this attitude in replying to our charges.

The United Nations Command has always maintained a sincere and honest attitude with regard to compliance with the Armistice Agreement. All of your charges have been fully and completely investigated in accordance with the spirit and letter of the Armistice Agreement. When investigation discloses that a charge is supported by facts the United Nations Command

UNC: (CONT'D)

openly and frankly admits to this charge. When your charges are not supported by facts, as is true with most of them, we reject them.

KPA/CPV:

The eight year and seven month history of the armistice eloquently shows what you allege to be your high regard and sincerity signify.

As our side has repeatedly pointed out, your side from the very first days following the signing of the Armistice Agreement has incessantly perpetrated and is still perpetrating various provocative and hostile acts against our side on the ground, at sea and in the air in gross violation of the Armistice Agreement, which your side signed itself.

In disregard of the stern requirements of the Armistice Agreement for taking all necessary action to prevent the violations of the Armistice Agreement and for punishing the violators of it, your side has flatly denied its own violations of the Agreement in order to cover them up, but also actively defended and countenanced the violations by your personnel.

Now, do you mean that such overt perfidious acts of your side towards the Armistice Agreement are really due to its high regard for or its implementation with sincerity of the Agreement?

As is clearly proven by all facts, what you allege to be a regard for the Armistice Agreement means the very disruption and infringement of it and your so-called sincerity in its implementation means the very negligence and evasion of it.

Accordingly, it only discloses graphically the brigandish character of the U.S. imperialists that your side is shameless enough to talk about its regard for and sincerity towards the Armistice Agreement while systematically undermining and infringing it.

Moreover, your side has alleged that its statement: QUOTE Investigation will be conducted UNQUOTE into its violations of the Armistice Agreement, was a manifestation of some sincerity, but it is a ridiculous sophistication.

KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

All that should be done by your side is, first of all, to commit no violation of the Armistice Agreement, and, if once committed, to conduct a responsible investigation of it actually, instead of simply mouthing about QUOTE investigation UNQUOTE, admit the hard fact candidly, punish its personnel involved, and take thorough action to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

Facts in the past show, however, that your side behaved quite contrary to what is mentioned above; your side only repeated the despicable practice of flatly denying hard facts later, while stating at first that investigations would be made whenever it was charged with violations by our side.

This fact inexcusably testifies that the sophistry you repeated whenever your side was subjected to protests by our side was a pretext aimed at extricating yourselves from a predicament, a trickery intended to deceive people and an excuse for resorting to another provocation.

With no subterfuges can your side be relieved from its responsibility.

UNC:

I realize your charge of United Nations Command insincerity towards the Armistice Agreement is probably not your own feeling but is made as part of the master plan of false propaganda. You try to cover with a smoke screen the fact that your side habitually disregards the provisions of the Armistice Agreement whenever it fits your side's aggressive designs.

Are you required to read any more ridiculous statements?

KPA/CPV:

Reduced to a nonplus and running out of argument because of its own criminal acts, your side is now attempting to be freed from its responsibility and evade the performance of its obligations with such a word as QUOTE propaganda UNQUOTE following its usual practice.

But your attempt is ill-advised.

It is not propaganda but a stern requirement of the Armistice Agreement

KPA/CPV: (CONT'D)

for our side to denounce the impostors who cook up unfounded incidents in an attempt to make wild slanders against the other side.

With no subterfuges can your side be relieved from its responsibility.

Since you state that your side has nothing further to offer, I propose to recess.

UNC:

I agree to your proposal to recess.

Meeting recessed at 1344 hours.

Following UNC Advisory Group Members attended:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>
Australia	Major Richard D. G. Rolfe
Canada	Major John C. Whalley
Ethiopia	Major Makonnen Assefa
France	Major Henri R. P. Bernard
Republic of Korea	Captain <u>LEE</u> Bok Hyung
Thailand	Major Songkrohphand Dej
United Kingdom	Major Kenneth Scragg
United States of America	Lt Col Jack F. Belford

AUTHENTICATED:

WHEELER G. MERRIAM
Colonel, GS
Chief

The list of 79 DMZ alleged violations passed by the KPA/CPV is retained in the files of the Armistice Affairs Division, United Nations Command Headquarters, APO 301, Seoul, Korea.