



Director of Central Intelligence

~~Top Secret~~ TIER

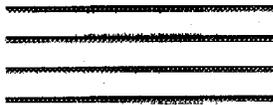


*Selected Items From the
National
Intelligence
Daily*

CIA/CPAS - INIDC 96-220C

APPROVED FOR RELEASE (b)(1)
DATE: MAY 2004 (b)(3)

Thursday, 19 September 1996



~~Top Secret~~



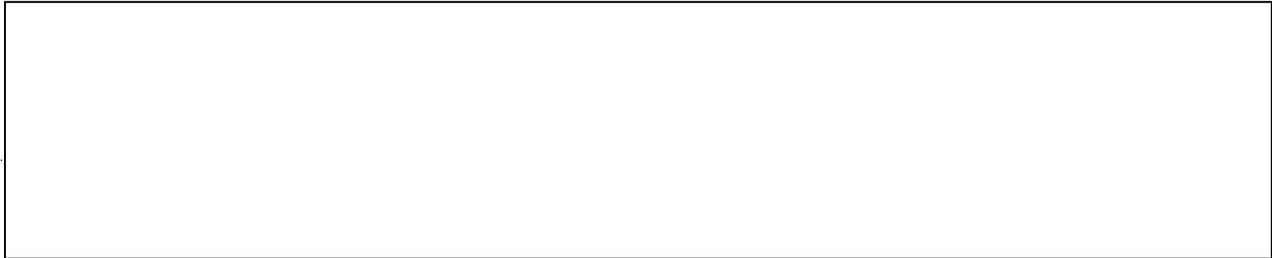
19 September 1996

COPY: 249

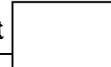
~~Top Secret~~



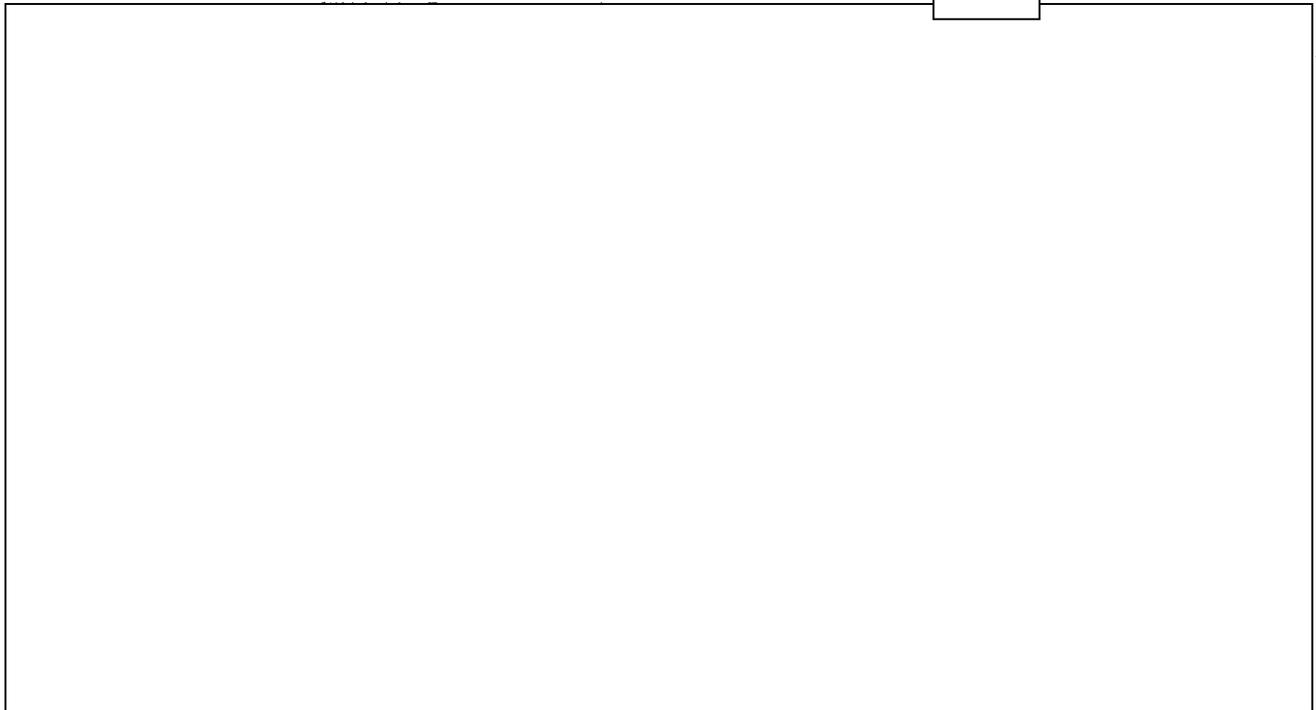
Table of Contents



SOUTH KOREA: Reaction to Infiltration Attempt



4



~~Top Secret~~
19 September 1996

Developments

SOUTH KOREA: Reaction to Infiltration Attempt [redacted]

South Korean officials are talking tough after a North Korean submarine ran aground on the east coast yesterday. The director of operations at the Joint Chiefs of Staff called the incident a grave provocation, and a Unification Ministry statement said it was a direct threat to Seoul's security, according to press reports.

— *The rhetoric probably is meant to preempt domestic pressure for a stronger response and avoid creating new obstacles to dialogue with P'yongyang.* A midlevel Foreign Ministry official [redacted] [redacted] Seoul wants to "minimize" the impact on "already bad" North-South relations. [redacted]

South Korean leaders probably would be forced to take a harder line if there were violent clashes between infiltrators and security forces or revelations that P'yongyang was targeting South Korean leaders.

— The last detected infiltration involved two agents infiltrating by sea in late October. The media afterward sharply criticized President Kim Yong-sam for his efforts to improve relations with P'yongyang, and the incident coalesced public opposition to provision of additional food assistance to North Korea. [redacted]