

(SBU) The Secretary's Meeting with South Korean Foreign Minister Kyung-wha Kang
Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 10 a.m., 1 hour
Foreign Minister [KAHNG kyin-wah]

LAST INTERACTION: You last spoke with Kang on September 15, 2019, about the relationship among the major countries in the northeastern Asia region. The DPRK is always a concern, and issues with China and Japan are omnipresent, as the growth of both Republic of Korea (ROK)'s and China's economies, respectively, have altered the power dynamic with Japan that existed for much of the second half of the 20th century.

PARTICIPANTS

United States

The Secretary The Secretary's right-hand man
A representative from the CDC
perhaps

South Korea (ROK)

Kyung-wha Kang
Foreign Minister The Foreign Minister's right-hand person Someone from the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. **(SBU - Health) How South Korea controlled COVID-19:** South Korea has done a spectacular job of containing COVID-19. Even though the first South Korean case of COVID-19 was announced on the same day as the first case in the U.S. in January 2020, as of May 12, 2020, they have had less than 11,000 deaths attributed to the disease and under 300 deaths. They achieved this in a country with a population of over 51 million (a little under one-sixth (1/6) of the U.S. population), and where many people in urban areas live with much less personal space.
 - **(SBU - Health) What were the precise steps that South Korea took in order to achieve this tight control over COVID?**
 - **(Unclassified) Could you please share with us some key processes that might work over here in the U.S.?**
 - **(SBU - Deliberative Process) Could you please identify how we can get ahead of ridiculous rumors about how the coronavirus is a hoax that is all about trying to control people? Or is South Korea not such fertile ground for this kind of thinking?**
 - **(SBU - Privacy or PII) When I edit this document after I have requested that the final output format be changed, does that mean that the format of the new version of the document will change?**
2. **(Unclassified) British humor sometimes does not translate across cultures so well, even within the English-speaking world. We wonder whether Foreign Secretary Kang is a fan of "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." She might be, because she earned her Ph.D. in the U.S., so we have a little test here.:** Foreign Minister:

CLASSIFIED//EXCLUSIVEDIST

Classified by: (bureau) (full title) (name)

E.O. 13526, Reason(s): 1.4 (justification section), (justification section), and (justification section)

Declassify on: Month DD, YYYY

CLASSIFIED

- (SBU) What is your name?
- (SBU - Deliberative Process) What is your quest?
- (Unclassified) What is your favorite color?
- (SBU) What is the average air speed velocity of a laden swallow?

WATCH OUT FOR/IF RAISED

1.

2.

Attachment(s):

Approved: [Bureau] – [Name] [Enter initials of approving principal]
Bureau's front office MUST approve the memo.

Drafted: [Bureau/Office] – [Name], ext. 7-1234 and home/cell: ###-###-####
The drafter must include his/her full name, telephone extension, and after hours contact information.

Cleared: D: [name] **[required clearance]**
P: [name] **[required clearance]**
S/P: [name] **[required clearance]**
Other clearances as necessary, depending on subject matter covered.

Types of clearances

(OK) [Means they cleared]
(Info) [Means paper was sent for informational purposes only]
(Info by Request) [Only if specified by clearer]
(No response) [Means clearance was requested but not received by deadline]