TO: EAP - Mr. Anderson  
FROM: EAP/K - Charles Kartman  
SUBJECT: Next Steps for North Korea

Norm Hastings, leaving EAP/K after two years of outstanding work on North Korea, has done the attached paper as a suggested outline for future policy planning. In essence, Norm has assumed that North Korea will meet our preconditions and we will be able to begin a policy level dialogue within the next few months. In anticipation, we should review our existing, post-1988 agenda and anticipate DPRK interest in discussing such matters as light water reactors. We should also establish -- and prepare to discuss with both the ROK and Japan -- a policy framework that focuses on Korean unification and our role and interests in it, and the place of U.S.-DPRK normalization within that framework.

His assumptions, particularly regarding DPRK compliance with its nuclear obligations, may stretch available evidence at present. I believe they are on target, however. In any event, it is clear that the ROK, Japan, and others are thinking beyond the nuclear issue, and we should as well.

I expect Norm's paper will eventually form the basis of a Department recommendation to a DC. The DC might be asked to:

The next step should be a small group meeting in your office (NSC, DOD, PM -- essentially the group Bill Pendley informally gathered last week), before which I propose to circulate to the invitees Norm's paper, if you approve.

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