

August 28, 2000

To: DRL - Michael Parmly

From: DRL - George Lister *✓*

Subject: Dominican Republic - South Korea

I was encouraged by your remarks at last Friday's staff meeting regarding my invitation to Hipolito Mejia's inauguration. In that connection I believe you will be interested in the attached report on my attendance at Kim Dae Jung's (KDJ) 1998 inauguration. And please note the final attachment.

When I first met KDJ in early 1983 he was widely regarded in the State Department as "a flake" and "a trouble maker". Even the Desk was reluctant to meet with him. EAP was not ready for human rights at that time, and we had good relations with South Korea's military dictatorship.

But human rights is a winner.

Thanks once again.