

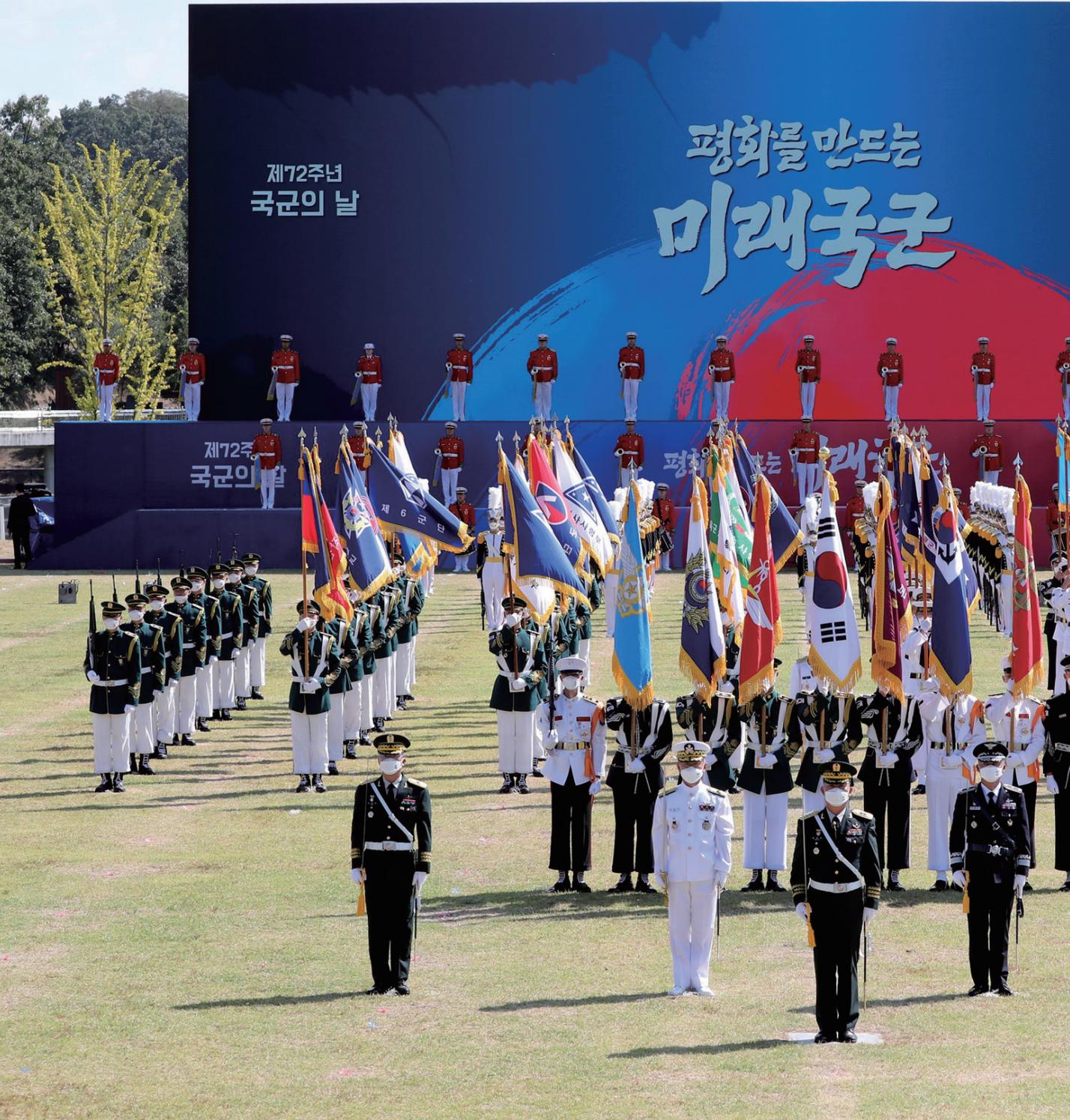
2020

DEFENSE
WHITE PAPER

제72주년
국군의 날

평화를 만드는 미래국군

제72주년
국군의 날



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72nd Armed Forces Day ceremony (September 2020)

1. Significance

The Comprehensive Military Agreement (CMA) is an addendum to the Pyongyang Joint Declaration. It was signed and concluded by the defense ministers of the two Koreas in Pyongyang on September 19, 2018 in the presence of the leaders from both sides to fulfill the historic Panmunjom Declaration in detail.

CMA aims to remove the risk of war on the Korean Peninsula through the reduction of military tensions and confidence building between the two Koreas. The agreement includes measures to militarily support the spirit of the Panmunjom Declaration and the Pyongyang Joint Declaration.

CMA still remains binding on both sides as the most effective and ground-breaking agreement since the Armistice Agreement signed in July 1953.

Unlike the ten other military agreements signed by the military authorities of the two Koreas in the past, CMA goes beyond the declaratory meaning and clearly contains actual implementation measures for military tension reduction and confidence building between the ROK and North Korea, such as measures to prevent accidental clashes at contact areas. The agreement also specifies the verification procedure for each issue that have been agreed to thereby enabling the implementation and verification of the agreement in a sound manner.

Since the conclusion of the CMA, the ROK and North Korean military authorities have ceased hostile activities against each other and completed the reciprocal withdrawal of guard posts (GP) inside the DMZ and the demilitarization of the Joint Security Area (JSA), and continues to make efforts to fulfill the agreed-upon issues such as the joint recovery of remains and joint use of the Han River estuary.

Especially, the military authorities of both sides have remained faithful in implementing the measures to cease hostile activities against each other, thereby reducing military tensions; as a result, the military situation in the contact areas on the ground, at sea, and in the air has been kept stable.

In addition, through the JSA demilitarization measures, the first-ever meeting among the leaders of the ROK, North Korea and the US was made possible at Panmunjom on June 30, 2019, and the withdrawal of GPs in the DMZ has been selected by the UN as a leading example of military confidence-building and conventional arms control.

As such, the CMA lays the foundation for transforming the long-standing hostility and confrontation on the Korean Peninsula into a new order of peace and cooperation. This has been made possible by the



Conclusion of the CMA (September 2018)

ROK citizens' desire to establish lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula over the past 70 years, relentless efforts of previous administrations to realize such goal, and the strong readiness posture of the ROK Armed Forces to support with strength.

2. Key Achievements

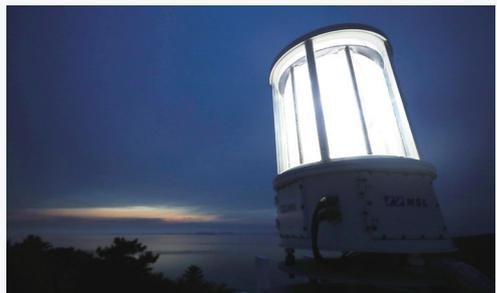
I Cessation of Mutual Hostilities I The implementation of measures by the two Koreas to cease all mutual hostilities in the contact areas on the ground, at sea, and in the air to prevent accidental clashes could be acknowledged as the biggest achievement of the CMA.

Both sides created a buffer zone stretched over 10km on the ground (5km north and south from the MDL) to pave the way for reducing military tensions, and have agreed to suspend all artillery firing and field training exercises of regiment-level or higher units in the buffer zone so as to fundamentally eliminate the risk of any accidental clashes along the MDL.

The North Korean military had previously continued to conduct multiple artillery firing and field training exercises within 5km of the MDL, but none of them have been carried out after the CMA. In addition, after the conclusion of the CMA, no military tension arose in the DMZ, where more than hundreds of shootings and shelling provocations had occurred, except for the shooting at the ROK GP in the central front in May 2020¹⁾.

To preclude any possibility of armed conflicts at sea, the two Koreas designated the area surrounding the NLL as a maritime buffer zone to prohibit artillery firing and marine training exercises within the area, and agreed to specific measures such as the installation of covers over muzzles and gun barrels as well as closure of gunports.

The North Korean military had previously conducted countless live-fire exercises in the maritime buffer zone. After the CMA, however, like the ROK Armed Forces, it has not carried out any live-fire or marine training exercises in the buffer zone except for the coastal artillery firing drill off the coast of Changlin Island in November 2019²⁾ and has not conducted military provocations to date with no North Korean naval ships intruding



Lighthouse on Yeonpyeong Island lit up for the first time in 45 years

- 1) The ROK Armed Forces regarded this incident as a clear violation of the CMA and expressed its concern, urging North Korea to immediately suspend its act through a notice in the name of ROK's senior representative to the inter-Korean general officer-level military talks.
- 2) The ROK Armed Forces regarded the incident as a clear violation of the CMA and expressed its concern, strongly urging North Korea to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

the NLL.

As such, military tension between the two Koreas has been drastically abated as the West Sea—which had been subject to tensions and conflicts due to armed conflicts caused by North Korea’s provocations such as the Battle of Yeonpyeong, Battle of Daechong, sinking of ROKS Cheonan, and Artillery Battle on Yeonpyeong—which has transformed into a sea of peace after the conclusion of CMA.

As a result, the ROK government obtained additional fishing area that is 84 times (245km²) the area of Yeouido in addition to the existing fishing area near the five West Sea islands, and allowed extended night fishing hours by one hour in 2019 for the first time since night fishing was prohibited in 1964. The government also lit up the lighthouse on Yeonpyeong Island for the first time in 45 years since 1974, guaranteeing the safe passage of ROK ships navigating the waters near Yeonpyeong Island. Such expansion of fishing area and extension of fishing hours have dramatically increased the catch of fishermen around the five West Sea islands, thereby contributing to increase in revenue.

In the air, no-fly zones have been established for each type of aircraft around the MDL to fundamentally preclude any possibility of accidental clashes between the two sides. In the past, North Korean UAV had intruded the ROK’s airspace more than 10 times, but the two Koreas have not made any unannounced flights within the no-fly zone, with no cases of North Korean operation of UAV for reconnaissance and surveillance purpose since the CMA. Under the CMA, however, the ROK Armed Forces has deployed a total of 180 helicopters in the no-fly zone to extinguish forest fires and transport emergency patients after notifying North Korea.

Since the conclusion of the CMA, military stability has been maintained on the ground, at sea, and in the air thanks to the faithful implementation of measures to cease all mutual hostilities at the contact areas.

Accordingly, while maintaining a firm military readiness posture, the ROK Armed Forces will steadfastly work hard to prevent any military personnel and citizens of the ROK from falling victim to armed conflicts in the contact areas of the two Koreas.

I Pilot Withdrawal of GPs from Both Sides I The withdrawal of GPs inside the DMZ under the CMA is a military measure to transform the heavily armed DMZ into an actual demilitarized zone, thereby fulfilling the purpose of the Armistice Agreement in 1953. The two Koreas agreed to withdraw all GPs inside the DMZ and, as a pilot measure, concurred to withdraw their GPs that are within a kilometer of each other. In accordance with the agreement, in November 2018, the two Koreas withdrew 11 GPs inside the DMZ on a trial basis, and each side agreed to preserve one GP on each side without completely destroying it considering the historical symbolism and preservation value. In December of the same year, an inter-Korean joint verification group was organized for the first time in history to visit each GP where troops

3) No-fly zones by type of aircraft and region: fixed-wing aircraft (20km to the west and 40 km to the east), rotary-wing aircraft (10km), UAV (10km to the west and 15km to the east), and hot-air balloons (25km).



Mutual verification of pilot withdrawal of GPs



Preserved GP in the ROK (Goseong-gun, Gangwon-do Province)

had been withdrawn so as to inspect and verify the withdrawal status.

Although some GPs inside the DMZ have been withdrawn, by operating mutually overlapping surveillance systems to complement any security gaps in the surveillance of GPs through scientific security systems such as unmanned surveillance cameras (CCTVs), mid-range surveillance cameras, and thermal observation devices (TODs) that are set up along fence lines of nearby GPs and general outposts (GOPs), the ROK Armed Forces maintains its readiness posture to ensure that there are no gaps in security operations.

The ROK's preserved GP in the Goseong area was registered as a cultural asset in June 2019, and the withdrawn GPs in Goseong, Cheorwon, and Paju became available for public to access as part of the "DMZ Peace Trail", attracting over 15,000 visitors between April and September 2019.

I Demilitarization of JSA I Since the JSA has been established to implement and comply with the Armistice Agreement, the two Koreas concurred on promoting the demilitarization of the JSA to fulfill and justify the purpose. Originally, the JSA was the only place inside the DMZ where guards could freely travel between the two Koreas under the Armistice Agreement; however, the Panmunjom axe murder incident on August 18, 1968 led to the establishment of the MDL and suspension of free travel inside the JSA. Since then, the JSA has been considered the most dangerous place in the DMZ, with heavily armed guards from both sides sharply confronting each other at the closest range.



Meeting of the leaders of the ROK, North Korea and the US in Panmunjom (June 2019)



Visit to the Foot Bridge at Panmunjom

As a "tripartite consultative body consisting of the ROK, North Korea, and the United Nations Command" became active under the CMA with a series of measures completed in October 2018 to demilitarize the JSA, the JSA has now transformed into a place of peace and harmony where 35 completely unarmed guards without a single pistol perform their respective duties.

These measures laid the foundation for the first-ever meeting among the leaders of the two Koreas and the US to be held at Panmunjom in June 2019. In addition, as people were allowed to access the southern side of the JSA from May to September 2019, over 24,000 visitors experienced the transformation of the JSA as a symbol of peace and harmony.

I Inter-Korean Joint Recovery of Remains in DMZ I Under the CMA, the ROK Armed Forces conducted demining and remains recovery operations in the southern part of Arrowhead Hill within the DMZ from April 2019 to November 2020, recovering over 400 remains and 85,000 relics of the deceased.

Recovered among the remains were not only those of ROK soldiers killed in action (KIA) but also the remains of soldiers of the UN forces (estimated) and a number of Chinese soldiers. Among them, the remains of 9 ROK soldiers were identified and returned to their family members.

During the Korean War, 137,000 ROK soldiers were killed, and 124,000 of their remains have yet to be found, accounting for over 90%. Many of them are believed to be inside the DMZ, where the fiercest battles took place during the war.

Going forward, insofar as North Korea agrees, the ROK Armed Forces will organize a joint agency for the recovery of remains and discuss ways to expand the areas in which remains will be sought. Furthermore, the ROK Armed Forces will examine ways to involve other belligerents of the Korean War, such as the US and China, in association with promoting the "DMZ into a peace zone" initiative.



Demining in the southern part of Arrowhead Hill



Recovery of remains in Arrowhead Hill in the DMZ

I Peaceful Utilization of the Han River Estuary I The Han River estuary is a military area where both sides have effectively banned any access except for a few special exceptions since the Armistice Agreement was signed, even though the Agreement guarantees free navigation of civilian vessels in the area. To jointly utilize the space where free access had been limited due to military tensions and create a new momentum to restore the area as another peace zone, the two Koreas agreed to seek ways to

provide military assurance for the joint utilization of the Han River estuary.

From November 5 to December 9, 2018, the two Koreas conducted a joint waterway survey on the estuary and identified essential information for safe navigation of vessels by finding over 20 reefs in a section stretching over 600km where hydrographic survey was conducted. The ROK conveyed to North Korea through working-level contacts the nautical chart, survey report, and tidal observations among others, which were created based on the joint waterway survey results.

The joint waterway survey was the first maritime survey conducted in the neutral waters of the Han River estuary, where access had been restricted for the two Koreas since the Armistice Agreement, allowing the provision of navigation information necessary for the free navigation of civilian vessels.

In 2019, the ROK held two pilot navigation events in the estuary to publicize the importance of the Han River estuary and create an opportunity for continued navigation and peaceful utilization in neutral waters of the estuary.

Going forward, the ROK Armed Forces will formulate various preparatory procedures to ensure the free navigation of civilian vessels through working-level consultations, and provide military support during discussions with North Korea for carrying out a precise waterway survey to devise a comprehensive plan for the joint utilization of the Han River estuary and a comprehensive survey on marine resources and ecology and environment.



Inter-Korean joint waterway survey on the Han River estuary



Conveyance of a nautical chart of the Han River estuary (January 2019)

3. Future Plans

While maintaining a firm readiness posture to achieve peace through strength, the ROK Armed Forces will actively create peace by continuing to implement the CMA and resolutely safeguard that peace. To this end, the ROK Armed Forces will strive to maintain military stability in the contact areas by faithfully implementing the agreed measures of the respected CMA.

As for the issues regarding free travel between the two Koreas in the JSA, withdrawal of all GPs inside the DMZ, joint recovery of remains, and assurance of free navigation of civilian vessels in the Han River estuary, which are yet to be agreed by North Korea, the ROK Armed Forces remains fully ready to

immediately pursue these issues insofar as North Korea concurs. The ROK Armed Forces will also provide active military support for inter-Korean cooperation and transforming the DMZ into an international peace zone promoted by the government.

In addition, as both parties agreed to organize and operate an Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee based on the CMA, the ROK Armed Forces will continue to make efforts to organize an Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee as early as possible and make thorough preparations to discuss not only the issues specified in the CMA but also more diverse military issues related to the settlement of peace on the Korean Peninsula.

Going forward, while maintaining a firm military readiness posture, the ROK Armed Forces, based on great strength, will support the ROK government's efforts for complete denuclearization and settlement of a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula by actively implementing the CMA.

1. Overview

The ROK government undertakes projects every year to commemorate the Korean War and publicize the value of peace, and plans to hold a large-scale government-wide event every 10 years. Considering the fact that the average age of ROK veterans who have survived the war is 90 as of 2020, the 70th Anniversary Project just may be the last such event in their lifetime. Therefore, the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Project holds more significance than ever.

In January 2020, the government launched the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee with the Prime Minister as the Chairperson, and the MND organized a separate committee¹⁾ to promote a 70th anniversary project of its own in conjunction with the government's Commemoration Committee.



Inauguration ceremony of the 70th Anniversary Project team for the Korean War (January 2020)

2. Purpose and Direction

I Purpose I The 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Project aimed to commemorate and appreciate the devotion and sacrifice of the ROK and foreign war veterans, instill a sense of national security among the citizens, and develop a consensus outside the country on peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula.

I Direction I The direction of the project is set toward conveying a message to the people that robust national security shapes peace and prosperity and expressing gratitude to war veterans for their sacrifices and dedication in safeguarding the peace of the ROK. It also aims to inspire an awareness of national security in servicemembers and youth alike.

The Commemoration Committee decided on "Remembrance, Solidarity, and Peace" as the main theme, while the MND chose "Flame of Memory! Torchlight of Peace and Prosperity!" is the slogan for

1) Organization of the project team: Stage 1 (September 11 - December 31, 2019 / 5 members); Stage 2 (January 1 - October 31, 2020 / 16 members); Stage 3 (November 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 / 5 members)

the 70th anniversary of the Korean War. The "Flame of Memory" symbolizes a sense of gratitude for war veterans and the resolve to remember their sacrifices, whereas the "Torchlight of Peace and Prosperity" represents hope that a small flame would turn into a large torchlight, transforming the wounds of war into peace and prosperity.



Government emblem marking the 70th anniversary of the Korean War

3. Organization

The 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Project is divided into Victory Events, Events for Patriots and Veterans, Culture/Arts Events, and Peace Experience Events, with a total of 15 project tasks. In detail, the Victory Events primarily consist of celebrating the three victories²⁾ and hands-on experience of major battles through virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR), whereas the Events for Patriots and Veterans are composed of the following four tasks: a memorial ceremony for the fallen heroes (return of the remains); local appreciation events for UN war veterans; a memorial exhibition for female war veterans and commemorative events; and events for the remembrance and appreciation of the ROK-US alliance. The Culture/Arts Events consist of six tasks: a special exhibition on the Korean War, academic conferences, literary activities for national defense, a production and performance of an original military musical, a production of 70th-anniversary badges, and storytelling hologram performance of the Korean War. Meanwhile, the Peace Experience Events have three tasks: Footsteps of the Youth Toward Peace, a survival competition, and a ROK-US Taekwondo event.

4. Major Projects

I Victory Event I Victory Events were held to commemorate the victory in three major battles of the Korean War that tipped the balance on the battlefield. These events were planned alongside local festivals to express gratitude to war veterans. However, with the restriction on social gatherings due to COVID-19, the events were replaced by informal events primarily focused on ceremonies and paying of respects (pagodas and stone monument for the fallen). The victory ceremony was also replaced with a commemorative video clip of commanders from foreign militaries that fought in the Korean War, which

2) Three major victory events: Incheon Landing (September), Nakdong River Defense Line Battle (October), and Battle of Chuncheon (November)

was aired online as well.

In addition, Fixed and Mobile Experience Zones were set up to allow hands-on experiences of major battles through VR and AR. The Fixed Experience Zone is installed in the War Memorial of Korea, and the Mobile Experience Zone was supposed to help participants develop an awareness on national security at Victory Events and military cultural festivals, but was restricted due to the pandemic. Nonetheless, they will come in useful at many events in the future as the Mobile Experience Zone was built to be utilized at various events in the future.



Victory event commemorating the Incheon Landing (September 2020)

I Events for Patriots and Veterans I The Events for Patriots and Veterans are meant to fulfill the nation's duty to those who have devoted their lives to the nation, including the repatriation of ROK soldiers' remains, local appreciation events for UN war veterans, and memorial exhibition for female war veterans, as well as commemorative events. First, the event for the repatriation of ROK soldiers' remains was held at Seoul Air Base with the families of the deceased, government officials, and key military figures in attendance to bring home the remains of ROK soldiers who died in North Korea during the Korean War, but were later recovered and kept at the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA).

The events were meaningful in that they contributed to fostering a perspective on national security by honoring the souls of the fallen heroes and paying respect for their noble sacrifices. It was particularly meaningful as some of the repatriated remains were identified and returned to the families of the deceased. In addition, a documentary titled "Returning Home After 70 Years" that portrayed the process of repatriating the remains was aired³⁾, touching the hearts of the public.

Local appreciation events for UN war veterans were aimed at expressing gratitude for their sacrifices



Repatriation of remains (June 2020)



Expressed gratitude to the embassies of the participating countries (October 2020)

3) Broadcast on SBS on July 5, 2020

and devotion by paying visits to the seven nations of the UN Sending States during the Korean War⁴⁾, in connection with other events such as naval cruise trainings. Due to COVID-19, however, physical visits were restricted; thus, CDs containing commemorative videos of gratitude and souvenirs (face masks, miniature of Statue of Brothers, and business card holders) were delivered to the embassies of 22 nations that participated in the Korean War.

Furthermore, in order to commemorate the 70th anniversary of female servicemembers who became part of the military for the first time during the Korean War, an exhibition of photographs and relics showing the activities of female servicemembers was held, along with souvenirs delivered to female veterans through a female veterans' organization in place of a thank-you luncheon and a memorial performance.

I Culture/Arts Events I Designed to facilitate an accurate understanding of the Korean War and instill a sense of security, Culture/Arts Events ranging from a special exhibition, academic conferences, literary activities for national defense, to a production/performance of a military original musical, production of badges, and storytelling hologram performance.

First, the special exhibition on the 70th anniversary of the Korean War displayed historical data related to the Korean War, and the Victory Events, which is attended by a large number of participants, attracted broad public attention through a tour exhibition. An international academic conference shed new light on the significance of the Korean War for future generations, thanked the nations that participated in the war, and publicized the development of the ROK as a nation. A UCC (user created content) and webtoon (online comics) contest sparked the interest in the Korean War among the younger generation and reminded them of the importance of a nation. In the contest, 32 outstanding works were selected and used as educational materials for servicemembers and youths. Moreover, an original military musical was produced for both the war generation who had experienced the Korean War and the postwar generation, allowing them to empathize and communicate with each other; the performance was broadcast live online, drawing favorable reviews from many audiences. The storytelling hologram performance is a magic show that



A military original musical (September 2020)



Storytelling hologram performance (June - July 2020)

4) Local visit (Canada, Belgium, France, and UK), cruise trainings (Thailand, Australia, and New Zealand)

depicted the process of overcoming the scars of the Korean War in a storytelling format. Although the show was supposed to be held primarily around June 25, it had to be replaced with a tour for military units in July due to COVID-19. Also, by promoting the show online, it contributed to enhancing the public's understanding of and interest in the Korean War.

Badges commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Korean War were awarded to active-duty officers and NCOs to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Korean War and boost their pride and self-esteem. Inscribed on the badge is "Powerful ROK Force", a phrase symbolizing the 70th anniversary of the Korean War.

I Peace Experience Events I Footsteps of the Youth Toward Peace, a centerpiece of the Peace Experience Events where participants visit historical battlefields and security sites (DMZ and Ganghwa Island) to establish a sense of national security among future generations, was to be held through a collaboration with the Ministry of Unification and the Ministry of Education, by publicly recruiting participants and organizing them into seven groups. The event was canceled due to COVID-19, however, and uniforms with souvenirs were distributed to participants instead.

In addition, the ROK-US Alliance Remembrance and Appreciation Event was held to create an opportunity to reinforce the ROK-US alliance and express gratitude to one another. The event was held at the US Army Garrison-Humphreys (Pyeongtaek) under the auspices of the Minister of National Defense, inviting 70 special guests who contributed to the alliance.

However, other events such as a survival contest where ROK civilian clubs, active-duty soldiers, US 8th Army, and local residents have a chance to experience scientific equipment, along with the ROK-US Taekwondo Event, to reinforce mutual harmony and alliances were canceled due to COVID-19.



Promotional materials for Footsteps of the Youth Toward Peace (June 2020)



ROK-US Alliance Remembrance and Appreciation Event (October 2020)

5. Way Ahead

The 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Project led to various achievements, showing appreciation for the UN veterans and the public for their devotion and remembering how the country overcame the scars of the war. These objectives will certainly be reflected in the Korean War commemoration projects that will continue to be held each year to ensure that the memory and sacrifice of the Korean War are not forgotten.

1. Background and Progress

In the ROK, more than 500 people on average each year refuse to serve in the military due to their religious or personal beliefs. Thus, social controversy has continued as they were sentenced to imprisonment by the court in criminal proceedings.

<Previous Status of Conscientious Objectors due to their Religious Beliefs>

2001 - June 2018 (Unit: year, persons)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
379	825	561	755	828	781	571	375	728	721
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total	
633	598	623	565	493	557	461	71	10,525	

* 99.3% for belief as Jehovah's Witnesses (10,454) and 0.7% for personal beliefs (71)
* After the Constitutional Court's decision in June 2018, those who refused to serve in the military have had their enrollment postponed until the enforcement of the program.

On June 28, 2018, the Constitutional Court of Korea declared that provisions related to Article 5 (1) (Categories of Military Service) of the Military Service Act are nonconforming to the Constitution¹⁾ in the judicial review of the constitutionality and adjudication on a constitutional complaint, and on July 16, 2018, led by MND, three institutions-MND, MMA, and the Ministry of Justice-organized an Alternative Service Task Force to formulate an alternative service program. To design a reasonable alternative service program that harmonizes "duty of military service" and "freedom of conscience", the TF



First public hearing (October 2018)



Second public hearing (December 2018)

1) "As the current categories of military service violate the conscience of objectors due to their religious beliefs, etc. as they all premise military training, Article 5 (1) of the Military Service Act, which does not prescribe any alternative service programs for conscientious objectors pursuant to the freedom of conscience under Article 19 of the Constitution of the Republic of Korea, does not conform to the Constitution; thus, the relevant articles shall be applicable provisionally until December 31, 2019."

conducted status checks on the actual conditions of military service areas such as social welfare, correctional, and firefighting facilities, public polls on topics such as service period, public hearings for the public, and consultation with experts.²⁾

As a result, on December 28, 2018, the MND announced its plan to introduce an alternative service program stating that "those who are entitled to engage in alternative service will serve 36 months in correctional facilities, and an alternative service review committee will be established under the MND".

2. Basis

On April 25, 2019, the MND submitted the alternative service legislation bill to the National Assembly after making a pre-announcement of the legislation³⁾ twice from December 2018 to April 25, 2019. On July 3 of the same year, the bill was introduced to the National Defense Committee of the National Assembly; on September 19, the Committee led a public hearing on the alternative service bill. A decision was made on November 13 that the MMA would establish an alternative service review committee under the resolution of the Bill Review Subcommittee of the National Defense Committee. Subsequently, the Act on the Assignment and Performance of the Alternative Service ("Alternative Service Act") was promulgated on December 31 after being passed by a plenary session of the National Assembly on December 27, entering into force on January 1, 2020.

The purpose of the Alternative Service Act is to achieve harmony between the constitutional freedom of conscience and the constitutional duty of military service by establishing systems related to assignment, screening and service in alternative service in lieu of active duty service, reserve service, or supplementary service on grounds of freedom of conscience. Key contents of the Alternative Service Act are as follows.

-
- 2) Factual survey on the service categories/fields of alternative service (July to August 2018), Advisory Committee on the introduction of alternative service program (August to December 2018 on 6 occasions), meetings among the political parties, government, and Cheong Wa Dae (September to November 2018), public hearings on the introduction of alternative service program (First hearing: October 4, 2018 / Second hearing: December 13, 2018)
 - 3) First : December 28, 2018 - February 7, 2019 / Second : April 9, 2019 - April 15, 2019

<Key Contents of the Alternative Service Act>

Classification	Main Contents
Establishment of categories of military service	Establishment of alternative service
Service period	36 months
Fields of service	Institutions prescribed by the Presidential Decree, such as correctional facilities
Service type	Camp training
Eligibility	Those who are subject to active duty, social service, and reserve forces
Service management	Head of the competent central administrative agency and Commissioner of MMA (granted the right to investigate actual conditions)
Alternative service for reservist duty	Service in the field of correction until the 8th year after service expiration (within 30 days per year)
Committee member	Commissioner of MMA
Rank of the Chairperson	Senior public official with a fixed term
Number of members / standing members	29 persons / less than 5 persons
Organizations that recommend members	National Human Rights Commission of Korea, Ministry of Justice, MND, MMA, National Assembly, and Korean Bar Association
Membership qualification	Professors, legal professionals, medical doctors, public officials, non-profit organization employees, etc.
Secretariat	Establishment of secretariat to handle committee affairs

3. Implementation Status

To ensure a smooth implementation of the alternative service program, the alternative service screening committee was organized and the statutes at the lower hierarchical levels such as the Enforcement Decree of the Alternative Service Act were enacted or amended as of June 2020. On the other hand, to ensure the independence of the alternative service screening, the screening committee consists of 29 members recommended by six organizations: National Human Rights Commission of Korea, Ministry of Justice, MND, MMA, National Defense Committee of the National Assembly, and Korean Bar Association. After hearing applicants' opinions to determine whether the applicant hasn't made any false statements conducting fact-finding surveys through written, on-site, and face-to-face investigations, eligibility for alternative service is screened and determined by the alternative service screening committee based on their findings from a preliminary screening.

The alternative service assignment screening has been available for application since June 30, 2020, and the review by the alternative service screening committee began on July 15 with 730 people being assigned to alternate service by November. In 2020, a total of 106 people were assigned to alternative service. They were trained at the alternative service training center for three weeks and were assigned to the Daejeon Prison to carry out their alternate service.

1. Background and Significance

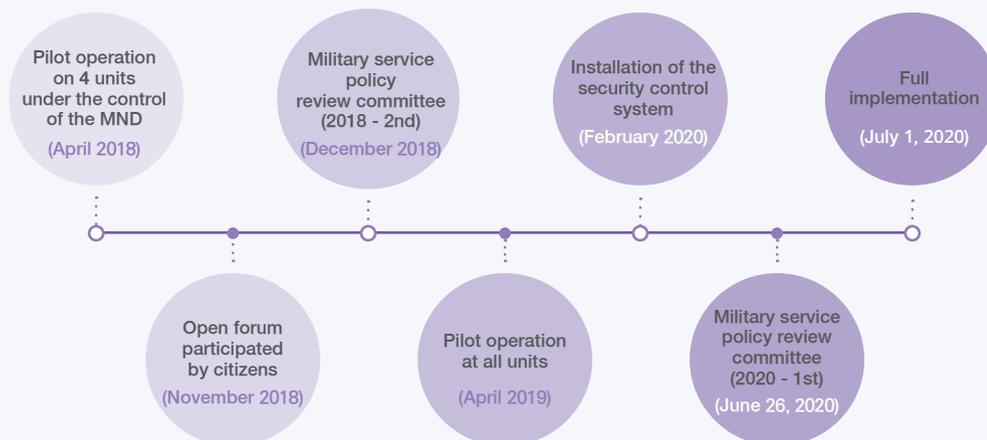
I Background I In line with Defense Reform 2.0, the MND reviewed the use of mobile phones after work (including public holidays) to acknowledge the independent personalities of and relieve their sense of isolation, promote self-development, and encourage them to make the best out their leisure time. As a result, the policy was introduced as it was determined that the "use of mobile phones for servicemembers after work" would contribute to open defense operations through civilian–military convergence as well as the establishment of an advanced military culture of respect for human rights.

I Significance I The use of mobile phones is directly related to the people's right to pursue happiness, rights to equality, and freedom of communication as the basic rights guaranteed under the Constitution. Therefore, allowing the use of mobile phones by servicemembers is part of the effort to guarantee the basic rights of servicemembers who are "democratic citizens in military uniform" under the Constitution and to connect the military and society by strengthening the former's interaction with society.

2. Promotional Details

I Progress I In April 2018, a pilot operation of allowing mobile phone use after work (18:00 - 21:00) and during public holidays (08:30 - 21:00) commenced for four units under the direct control of the MND. In April 2019, the pilot operation was expanded to cover all units except for GPs and servicemembers in

<Progress on the Introduction of the Use of Mobile Phones for Servicemembers After Work> ———



training after which various regulations and systems were updated including the development of a security control system (defense mobile security app) to prepare for the full implementation of the program. As various positive aspects were identified through an analysis of the pilot operation that was implemented for 27 months, the MND commenced full implementation of the program on July 1, 2020 after carrying out a military service policy review committee¹⁾(June 26, 2020).

I Regulation and System Updates I The regulations described below were enacted and revised to embed a healthy mobile phone usage culture and minimize adverse effects. The enacted and revised regulations require servicemembers to use and manage mobile phones autonomously and under their responsibility, and take appropriate responsibility in case incidents or accidents occur due to mobile phone usage.

<Regulations and Guidelines Related to the Use of Mobile Phones>

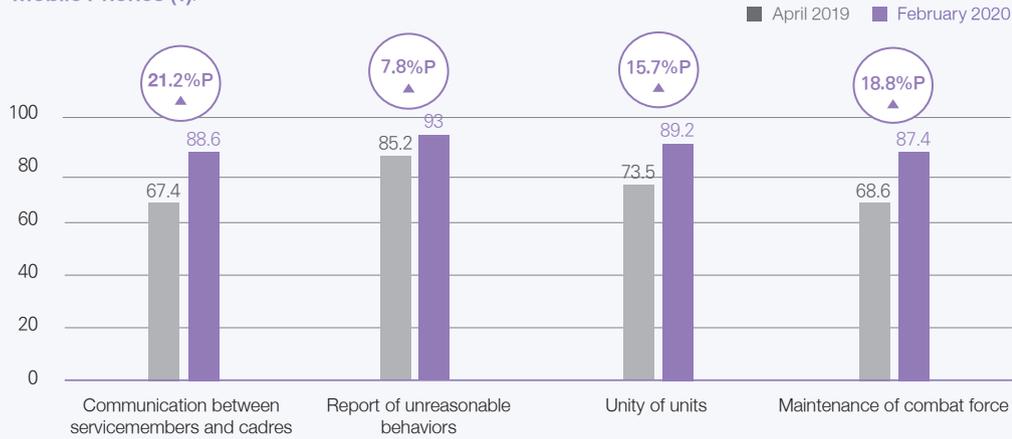
1. Established "Guidelines" for the use of mobile phones by servicemembers	4. Revised the "Defense Security Affairs Directive"
2. Revised the "Guide for Servicemembers on their Use of Social Media"	5. Established the "Instruction on Disciplinary Action against Violations of Mobile Phone Use by Servicemembers"
3. Revised the "Integrated Management Directive for Defense Cyber Disciplines"	6. Installation of the defense mobile security app, a security control system

3. Performance and Evaluation

I Changes in Command Conditions I The use of mobile phones has boosted mutual communication and reports on unreasonable behaviors in military barracks, thus improving the unity and combat power of unit members. The psychological and emotional stability ensured by the use of mobile phones has contributed to intangible military strength, thereby generating positive outcomes in maintaining combat power. It has also contributed to the improvement of transparency and rationality of command activities, such as elimination of coercive instructions, and ensured command conditions by helping servicemembers maintain their combat power through a reduction in psychological anxiety in noncombat emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

1) Under Article 8 of the Framework Act on Military Status and Service, the military service policy review committee discusses and reviews matters in relation to the guarantee of basic rights and duties of military personnel, establishment of basic policy paper on military service, and improvement of systems pertaining to military service. It is composed of 12 members, including the Minister of National Defense as the Chairperson, Chairman of the JCS, Chief of Staff of each service, and Commander of the Marine Corps and civilian commissioners (6).

<Analysis on the Effects of Changes in the Command Conditions Before and After the Pilot Use of Mobile Phones (1)>



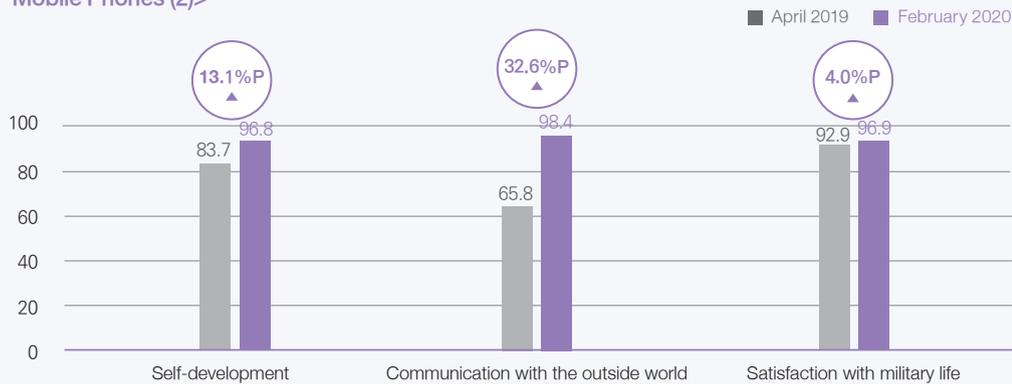
* Source: Korea Institute for Defense Analyses (KIDA), Survey target and period: the enlisted / February 2020

I Changes in Barracks Life I The use of mobile phones invigorates self-development activities, such as getting enrolled in Internet lectures and obtaining real-time information, and communication with the outside world. This relieves feelings of depression, isolation and stress and leads to psychological stability and even helps servicemembers to develop personal relationships, resulting in the facilitation of servicemembers adjusting to military service. Mobile phones are expected to contribute to the establishment of a military culture based on autonomy and responsibility in the long run.



Use of mobile phones after work (Army)

<Analysis on the Effects of Changes in the Command Conditions Before and After the Pilot Use of Mobile Phones (2)>



* Source: Korea Institute for Defense Analyses (KIDA), Survey target and period: the enlisted / February 2020

I Increase in Personal Convenience I As it is now possible to make unlimited calls and use unlimited data with the same cost as using other communication means (such as public phones) due to the introduction of a tailored mobile communication pay plan tailored to servicemembers for the purpose of reducing communication expenses, the overall communication expenses have been relative reduced. Also, mobile phone use has contributed to increasing convenience in booking public transportations and cultural events as well as engaging in online activities.

I Efforts to Prevent Adverse Reactions I Before allowing mobile phone use after work, there were concerns over some adverse reactions such as online illegal gambling, game addiction, and viewing of obscene materials.

In response, the MND continues to make active efforts in collaboration with outside professional institutions such as the Korea Communications Commission (National Information Society Agency), National Gaming Control Commission (Korea Center on Gambling Problems), and Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism (Korea Creative Content Agency) to provide preventive education through professional instructors, create and utilize content tailored to the military, and train professional military instructors. In particular, in order to prevent security accidents, the MND has established a security control system through efforts such as developing and installing a defense mobile security app that blocks the camera function on mobile phones, and is achieved effective results.



Verification at the field where the defense mobile security app is used



A meeting on mobile phone use by servicemembers

I Overcoming COVID-19 I As long-term leave, off-post activities, and staying out overnight were restricted due to the spread of COVID-19, servicemembers began to suffer from Corona Blue²⁾ such as service fatigue and intensifying stress. Under these circumstances, the use of mobile phones played a major role in overcoming Corona blues among servicemembers by allowing them to search information related to infectious diseases, attend online religious services, receive remote psychological counseling

²⁾ Corona Blue is a newly coined term combining "COVID-19" and "blue" meaning depression or lethargy caused by the spread of COVID-19.

with barracks life professional counselors, and make video calls with their family members and friends.

“The use of mobile phones plays a significant role in knocking down Corona Blue with a single blow”



Thanks to the temporary use of mobile phones, amid the spread of COVID-19, Corporal Yang ○○ of the Army Division ○○ was able to send a video message of support to his sister who was taking care of patients with COVID-19 while working as a nurse at the Chungju Medical Center, a hospital designated to treat infectious diseases.

In addition, Sergeant Lee ○○, who joined the Army Division ○○ two months after marrying his French wife, made a video call to his wife in Dijon, France for the first time in nine months, allowing him to check in on his wife whom he had been worried about as they were a great distance away from each other.

I Development of Mobile App: Youth Dream, the Armed Forces Dream I Despite the full implementation of mobile phone usage in the barracks, there was no defense mobile platform for self-development and administrative support of young servicemembers. Accordingly, the MND launched the "Youth Dream, the Armed Forces Dream" mobile app on January 1, 2020 to enable servicemembers to use their mobile phones more efficiently and productively for self-development and adaptation to military life. The mobile app supports the "Youth Dream, the Armed Forces Dream"³⁾ policy on mobile, consisting of a variety of contents including welfare benefits, employment/start-up, learning, health, and leadership. In particular, the app increased convenience through features such as mobile vacation pass and railroad reservation for servicemembers on leave and through integration of features necessary for healthy military service as well as grievance counseling and communication services such as sexual violence reports and counseling, counseling on maladjustment to barracks life, and mental and physical health test sites. In the future, a grievance counseling platform will be developed to let servicemembers receive counseling easily through their mobile phones, and various online welfare benefits will also be provided to further improve the app to provide various high-quality contents as a guide to barracks life.

³⁾ A government-wide policy aimed at motivating servicemembers with productive military service and enhancing their competencies, thereby improving national competitiveness after their discharge. It includes the expansion of universities recognizing the military service as academic credits, provision of subsidies to cover the cost of self-development of servicemembers, and career assistance programs and startup promotion contest.

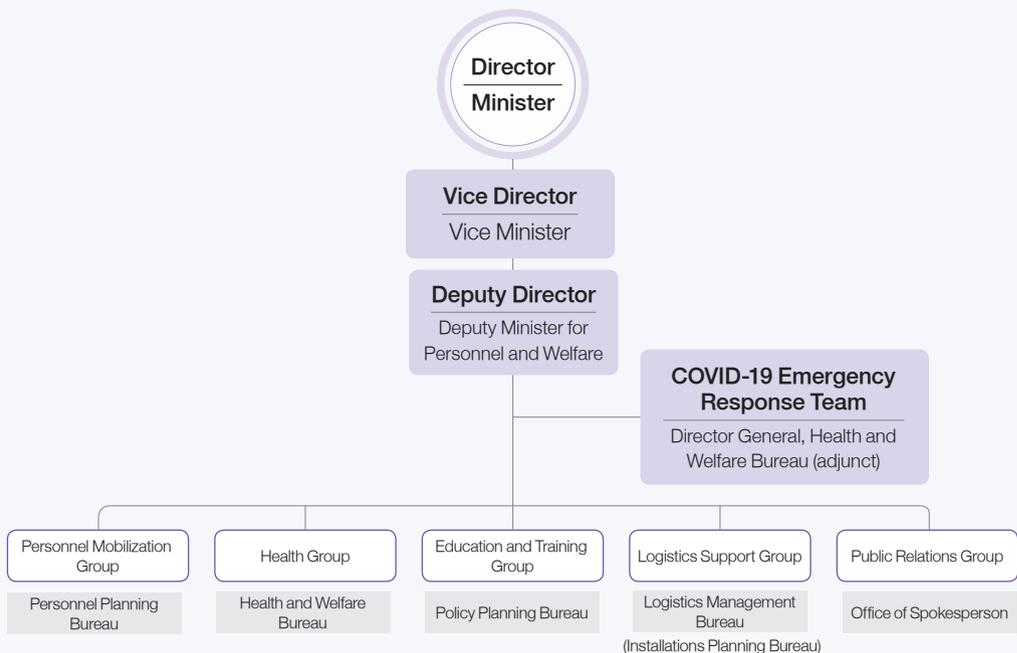
1. COVID-19 Response System of the ROK Armed Forces

I Response System of the MND and Each Service I Recognizing the COVID-19 incident as a "war-like situation", the ROK Armed Forces focused all of their efforts to overcome the national disaster by means such as preventing the inflow and spread within the military and providing support for the government-wide response to the pandemic.

In January 2020, as the health authorities elevated the crisis alert level from Yellow to Orange, the MND immediately activated the MND Countermeasures Headquarters for 24/7 operations as the infectious disease control tower. In February when the alert level was elevated to Red due to mass infections in Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, the Headquarters was further expanded and reorganized into the "MND COVID-19 Countermeasures Headquarters". Later, in July, the "COVID-19 Emergency Response Team" was formed as an official organization to control the situation in a stable manner in recognition of the need for a rapid, professional response to urgent issues with the pandemic persisting over a long period of time. Each service and the Armed Forces Medical Command (AFMC) also launched their own headquarters for epidemic control to contain the inflow and spread of COVID-19.

The MND held meetings twice a day (morning and afternoon) to identify the status of response against

<MND COVID-19 Countermeasures Headquarters>





The 5th Emergency ROK Armed Forces Senior Leaders Seminar (November 2020)

COVID-19 in the military and share and analyze the status of confirmed cases at home and abroad as well as the trend in key government measures. In particular, where a major development related to the pandemic was made, the "Emergency ROK Armed Forces Senior Leaders Seminar" organized by the MND and attended by major commanders and heads of agencies was convened to closely monitor the countermeasures against COVID-19 and reaction posture in all directions.

I Cooperation System with Foreign Countries I The MND COVID-19 Countermeasures Headquarters communicated with the central and local governments through meetings with the Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasures Headquarters (CDSCHQ). In addition, to facilitate coordination with health authorities, government officials and military personnel were dispatched to the CDSCHQ, Central Accident Investigation Headquarters, and Central Disaster Management Headquarters, thereby establishing a cooperation network.

Furthermore, the MND continued to consult with civilian, public, and military experts on the response to COVID-19. In April 2020, a video conference with COVID-19 countermeasure experts involving civilian epidemics prevention, quarantine, and medical experts was held in April 2020 to forecast the outbreak trend through an analysis of the pandemic outbreak; in-depth discussion was conducted on the policy direction of social distancing in the military. In addition, while COVID-19 has spread throughout the globe, the AFMC led a meeting on international medical cooperation in the military with the US,



Video conference of COVID-19 countermeasure experts (April 2020)



ROK-Uzbekistan conference on medical cooperation in the military (June 2020)

Uzbekistan, and more. In the meeting, the participants shared their respective military medical systems and status of the outbreak and response regarding COVID-19 and sought ways to cooperate in the future.

2. Fight Against the Inflow and Spread of Infections in the Military

I Preventive Isolation and Active Diagnostic Tests I Since the military is vulnerable to infectious diseases due to its group-oriented environment and the spread of infections directly affects the military's combat power, the ROK Armed Forces applied further intensified standards of "preventive isolation" compared to the standards of health authorities and minimized the inflow and spread of the pandemic through active diagnostic tests.

According to the MND's "Guidelines for COVID-19 Related Isolation and PCR Tests¹⁾ for Servicemembers", any person who has come into secondary contact with and who has been in the same place as coronavirus patients have been added to those who are subject to preventive isolation. As for those who are subject to preventive isolation, each person is, by default, required to stay in an isolated space away from others; if there is a shortage of isolation facilities, groups of patients are separated through cohort isolation.²⁾

<Self-Isolation Standards for COVID-19>

Isolation Standards of the Health Authorities	Self-Preventive Isolation Standards of the MND
① A person who has tested positive for COVID-19	① Self-quarantine standards of the health authorities
② A person who has come into contact with coronavirus patients	② A person who has come into secondary contact with coronavirus patients
③ A patient suspected to have the coronavirus	③ A person who has been in the same place as coronavirus patients
④ A person with symptoms awaiting to receive a test	④ Among those with symptoms but have tested negative for COVID-19, any person who has been instructed to go into self-isolation by the health authorities or deemed to be required to go into self-isolation at the discretion of the medical staff
⑤ A person who has arrived in the ROK less than 14 days ago from abroad	⑤ A person who has come into contact with anyone who had arrived in the ROK less than 14 days ago from abroad

To preemptively prevent the inflow and spread of infectious disease, the ROK Armed Forces widely conducted PCR tests. In addition to those subject to isolation under the standards of health authorities,

- 1) A polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test is a test method employed to collect RNA from swab samples such as saliva or phlegm of a patient suspected to have the coronavirus. It determines positive infection if a certain percentage of it matches the RNA of a coronavirus patient.
- 2) Measures against pandemics enforced by locking down a certain group or building as a whole to prevent the inflow or spread of infectious diseases.

tests were conducted for those who are subject to preventive isolation under the MND's own standards, thereby rapidly identifying coronavirus patients and effectively preventing the spread of the infection within the military. Furthermore, PCR tests were conducted for all new military personnel in cooperation with the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency from May 2020, testing a total of 160,000 people by November. Any troops returning home from units deployed overseas were tested with a first PCR test and isolated for two weeks after their arrival in the country. Afterward, they were tested for a second PCR test before the isolation measure was lifted so as to prevent the inflow of the virus from overseas.

I Response to Confirmed Cases I Upon recognition of any confirmed cases within a unit, the unit was required to report to the MND and AFMC, and then file a report with the local health center. The unit was also restricted from moving any of its troops inside and outside its compound. The AFMC and the medical units of each service assigned military central epidemiological investigators (contact tracers) and, depending on each situation, jointly conducted contact-tracing together with the relevant regional health centers to identify places where the coronavirus patient and those who have come into contact with him/her have been. Furthermore, those who have come into contact were categorized, and other measures such as PCR tests, epidemic control, and disinfection were carried out to identify the routes of infection, thereby precluding additional spread throughout the military and the local community. Coronavirus patients were admitted to military medical institutions, civilian hospitals, or residential treatment centers, and the ROK Armed Forces continued to monitor their health conditions until they were discharged and returned to their units. The MND especially provided vigorous psychological support to relieve depression and sense of isolation among coronavirus patients due to long-term hospitalization and preventive isolation, including thorough education for servicemembers to address anxieties and discrimination of recovered patients.

I Flexible Unit Management I The ROK Armed Forces controlled leaves, off-installation activities, and movements of cadres in line with each social distancing level of the health authorities, established basic principles of unit management for staff dinners and private gatherings, religious activities, and visits to crowded facilities, and allowed field commanders to implement detailed measures at their discretion.

When the first confirmed case arose in the military on February 21, 2020, the MND banned all servicemembers from taking leave, carrying out off-installation activities, staying out overnight, and receiving visitors starting from February 22. These were special measures implemented one month ahead of the reinforced social distancing of health authorities considering the unique nature of the



e-Sports competition of the ROKAF 20th Fighter Wing (March 2020)

military. Since then, the MND has flexibly adjusted unit management guidelines on restrictions on leave and off-installation activities in line with the trend of the COVID-19 outbreak in the ROK and the social distancing level announced by the health authorities. Various measures were also enforced to relieve stress among servicemembers amid the prolonged outbreak of COVID-19, such as offering sports and other activities to facilitate unity in the barracks, providing active support for psychological counseling, and allowing servicemembers to make video calls using their mobile phones.

I Practicing Epidemic Control in Daily Lives I What matters most in a situation where no vaccine or treatment has been developed is compliance with epidemic control in daily lives through the voluntary participation of servicemembers. In April 2020, the MND established the "guidelines for routine distancing in daily life of servicemembers", which contained detailed guidelines for each field of work, daily life, and leisure in addition to the basic guidelines. In addition, the "3-6-5 Campaign for Smart Barracks Life" was conducted to elicit a consensus among servicemembers on practicing key guidelines regarding the countermeasures for units (3), for public places (6), and for individuals (5) throughout the year in order to maintain normal body temperature of 36.5°C.



Card news for the "3-6-5 Campaign for Smart Barracks Life"

<Overview of the Guidelines for Routine Distancing in Daily Life of Servicemembers>

To maintain health (normal body temperature of 36.5°C) by practicing routine distancing in daily life throughout the year			
Basic Guidelines	Epidemic control of units (3)	Epidemic control of public places (6)	Epidemic control of individuals (5)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Designate an epidemic control manager ② Schedule flexible daily tasks ③ Build a verification system for visitors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Ventilate and disinfect every day ② Place and use hand sanitizers ③ Maintain a healthy distance (1-2 m) ④ Check the temperature of anyone who enters the unit ⑤ Stay thoughtful toward your colleagues ⑥ Refrain from using crowded facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Make wearing a mask part of your daily routine ② Make washing your hands for 30 seconds part of your daily routine ③ Observe cough etiquette ④ Use your own things ⑤ If you feel ill, report immediately
Detailed Guidelines	Work (7)	Daily life (7)	Leisure (10)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① General (office work, administration, work, etc.) ② Conference hall ③ Command and control, training, and guard activities ④ Civil affairs ⑤ Event venue ⑥ Training center ⑦ Exam venue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Barracks ② Military housing facility ③ Means of transportation ④ Barracks cafeteria, etc. ⑤ Barracks library, etc. ⑥ Medical institution ⑦ Religious facility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Military accommodations facility ② Commissary, etc. ③ Outdoor activity ④ Hairdresser's ⑤ Bath / shower ⑥ Performance / movie ⑦ Karaoke room ⑧ Indoor sports facility ⑨ Cyber knowledge room, etc. ⑩ Visitor's room

I Adoption of Pooled Sample Testing Strategy | Due to the surge in the number of confirmed cases in Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, the Armed Forces Medical Science Research Institute sought to conduct rapid large-scale tests without affecting the accuracy of the test, which led to the application of a pooled sample testing strategy. In general, the method of collecting samples and pooling them gave rise to the issue of diluting samples and reducing accuracy, but the pooled sample testing strategy adopts the way of pooling swabs in a single culture plate at the sampling stage and restricts the number of swabs placed inside the culture plate to a maximum of five to ensure accuracy.

Since March 2020, the ROK Armed Forces has implemented the pooled sample testing strategy for those who are likely to test negative among servicemembers, in which it has resulted in a three to four-fold increase in the amount of samples tested while reducing the number of tests. Although there were concerns both inside and outside the military at the beginning of its adoption, the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency verified the validity of the testing strategy with 650 evaluations and tests. In April, the Agency also adopted the strategy as the formal diagnostic test method for COVID-19, which was used for collective testing at nursing hospitals and similar institutions.

I Adjustment of Education and Training | In 2020, the training of reserve forces were not conducted for the first time since the reserve forces training was introduced, in light of the national crisis alert level and spread of the pandemic in the ROK. However, the MND still provided non-face-to-face remote training to replace the traditional method.

Accordingly, all the reservists required to undergo training in 2020 were deemed to have completed their training, and remote training based on voluntary participation consisting of introductory education tasks including CBRN and other combat skills and reserve forces duty was carried out starting from November.

Despite the COVID-19 situation, various kinds of education and training were offered through flexible adjustment considering the essential elements of education and training and circumstances of each unit. The MND set basic principles for unit training, recruit training, school education, invitation of outside lecturers, field trips and training, and combined overseas exercises for each level of social distancing, and allowed field commanders to flexibly implement detailed measures at their discretion.

During education and training, contact with outside lecturers and civilians was minimized, and indoor education was adjusted to a small scale while strictly observing preventive measures against the epidemic. In addition to operability assessment, the guidelines were enhanced to ensure that the COVID-19 impact evaluation is carried out for combined overseas exercises.



Remote training system for reserve forces

I Development of COVID-19 App I As a small step to help the world suffering from the pandemic, the AFMC developed a COVID-19 app and released it for anyone to use for free.

In March 2020, a medical officer on active duty developed several mobile apps related to the pandemic, namely the "COVID-19 Patient Severity Classification" app, a self-diagnostic app that determines whether one needs to be tested for COVID-19, the "COVID-19 Checkup" app and the "Our Health Protection" app to record health conditions such as body temperature and share such record with designated people.

Among them, the "COVID-19 Checkup" app was listed as a COVID-19 solution for the World Health Organization's DHA project³⁾. Since then, the AFMC improved all app services related to COVID-19 and developed an integrated version of the "COVID-19 Checkup" app, which is widely used at home and abroad.



Captain Huh Joon-nyeong develops the COVID-19 Checkup app



COVID-19 Checkup app screen

3. Support for Government-wide Response to COVID-19

I Defense Rapid Support Team I The ROK Armed Forces has maintained a solid military readiness posture in the face of a national disaster caused by COVID-19, providing active support for the government-wide response to the pandemic by mobilizing all available resources as the "military for the people". The MND has continued to operate the Defense Rapid Support Team since March 2020 to effectively deal with



Daily situation evaluation meeting of the Defense Rapid Support Team (March 2020)

COVID-19, which shows different aspects from previous disasters such as a rising transportation demand throughout the nation. To enhance the efficiency of support, the Defense Rapid Support Team integrated the support system for civil authorities and established five dedicated teams (epidemic control, supplies, transportation, facilities, and welfare) and regional dedicated units for permanent operations,

³⁾ Digital Health Atlas is a project that finds solutions around the world to provide help to the medical field with the latest digital technology and offer them to the world.

thereby building a system for immediately providing available personnel, equipment, and supplies. The dedicated teams divided the country into four regions (Seoul/Gyeonggi-do, Daegu/Gyeongsangbuk-do, Daejeon/Chungcheong-do, and others) for effective management, while regional dedicated units dispatched "cooperation officers for rapid military support" to provinces and cities nationwide so as to identify and provide the required support in a timely manner before local governments request any support. The Defense Rapid Support Team managed the situation systematically by inspecting the required military support, outcomes, and plans for each dedicated team on a daily basis.

I Medical Personnel and Bed Support I As the lack of medical personnel and beds emerged as an issue due to the wide spread of the virus, the ROK Armed Forces has dispatched over 41,000 medical officers and nurses to quarantine stations, hospitals, temporary living facilities, and screening clinics from January to November 2020. In February in particular, the ROK Armed Forces adjusted the military training period of 742 new public health doctors in Daegu/Gyeongsangbuk-do and appointed them early to be deployed as field personnel. Furthermore, among candidates who were scheduled to be trained as medical officers, the ROK Armed Forces reduced the military training period of 96 candidates who volunteered to provide medical support in Daegu/Gyeongsangbuk-do and dispatched them to the field. The ROK Armed Forces also moved up the graduation ceremony and commission ceremony of the Korea Armed Forces Nursing Academy and deployed all 75 new nursing officers to the military hospital in Daegu as soon as they were commissioned, thereby actively contributing to the treatment of patients. Military medical personnel performed tasks such as collecting samples, conducting diagnostic tests, contact-tracing, and treating coronavirus patients at the forefront.

In addition, 424 negative pressure rooms in military hospitals were provided for the treatment of coronavirus patients, contributing to the resolution of the shortage in hospital beds. The Armed Forces Capital Hospital, which had previously provided state-designated negative pressure rooms (9 beds) for patients with mild to intermediate symptoms, is providing support by converting the negative pressure rooms for patients with severe symptoms, and its trauma center offers negative pressure rooms (40 beds) for patients with mild to intermediate symptoms. The Armed Forces Daegu Hospital (303 beds)



Support for collecting samples from the AFMC (May 2020)



Inpatient treatment training for coronavirus patient in a negative pressure room at the Armed Forces Trauma Center (September 2020)

and Armed Forces Daejeon Hospital (72 beds) were designated as national infectious disease hospitals in February to contribute to the treatment of coronavirus patients in Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province.

In particular, to rapidly acquire negative pressure rooms, the ROK Armed Forces, with a posture equivalent to a military operation, deployed up to 100 military engineers a day to the Armed Forces Daegu Hospital to convert 98 general rooms into 303 negative pressure rooms and helped hospitalize 300 coronavirus patients in seven days.

I Support of Manpower and Facilities I From January to November 2020, the ROK Armed Forces carried out a variety of tasks by providing around 220,000 personnel to operate newly established facilities due to the spread of COVID-19 such as residential treatment centers, temporary living facilities, and screening clinics. First, the ROK Armed Forces carried out tasks to improve the convenience of coronavirus patients such as delivering food and sorting goods at

residential treatment centers which are operated for patients with mild symptoms and temporary living facilities for short-term residents who are foreign nationals and overseas Koreans. In Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province, 13 barracks life counselors who volunteered from all over the country were dispatched as "mental health counselors against the pandemic" to provide psychological counseling for 2,000 hours to approximately 8,000 citizens who suffered from psychological anxiety.

In addition, as overseas Koreans returned from Wuhan, Hubei Province in China in February, the Korea Defense Language Institute was assigned as their temporary living facility during their isolation period, considering the overall accessibility from the airport and medical institutions, size, and amenities.

I Support for Quarantine and Epidemic Control I From January to November 2020, the ROK Armed Forces provided more than 100,000 quarantine personnel and interpreters to 20 quarantine stations at airports and ports nationwide to forestall the inflow of infections from overseas entrants. The Capital Corps and the 9th Special Forces Brigade played a leading role in operating a field command post at Incheon International Airport to which the largest number of quarantine personnel had been assigned- thereby building a seamless cooperative system with the government-wide support team within the airport- and systemically managed various matters such as allocating personnel to each quarantine desk, assigning duties and conducting education, and providing operations support. Furthermore, the forces checked the health conditions of each servicemember at all times and strictly observed the quarantine guidelines, thus completing all duties safely without a single case of infection.



Counseling support of mental health counselors against the pandemic in Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province (April 2020)



ROK Armed Forces' quarantine support at the Incheon International Airport (June 2020)



Implementation of precise measures against the pandemic using special equipment from the ROK CBRN Defense Command

The "outreach epidemic prevention" support was provided primarily to places that are vulnerable to infection such as roads, public facilities, crowded facilities, nursing facilities, and schools, with 33,000 personnel as well as 24,000 pieces of equipment, including sterilizers and decontamination vehicles, deployed from February to November. As the demand for epidemic control soared in Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do Province in March, the ROK CBRN Defense Command, Army 7th Corps, and Army Missile Command assumed the leading role in deploying more than 1,000 personnel and 300 equipment to high-risk areas, including cohort isolation facilities. Since then, the CBRN Defense Command has actively deployed military personnel and equipment to places where measures against the pandemic are needed to provide support for epidemic control by various means such as conducting precise epidemic control using special equipment applied in CBRN operations.

I Transportation Support I The ROK Armed Forces established a transportation team for emergency situations-such as transportation of anti-epidemic supplies for COVID-19 and return of overseas Koreans-and provided the means of transportation by assigning military transport aircraft, a presidential aircraft, and Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT). While the supply of face masks remained far short of the surging demand in February 2020, the ROK Armed Forces mobilized over 360 vehicles and transported anti-epidemic supplies (13 million face masks and 810,000 sets of personal protective equipment (PPE)) as well as various relief supplies, including bottled water, to the Central Accident Investigation Headquarters, Central Disaster Management Headquarters, Ministry of Food and Drug Safety, and local governments to rapidly deliver anti-epidemic and relief supplies provided by the government throughout the nation. In March, close cooperation was performed among the MND, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and ROK Embassy in Myanmar for the urgent deployment of Air Force transport aircraft in carrying 80,000 sets of PPE manufactured in Myanmar within 21 hours, thus supplying PPE to the ROK medical staff in a timely manner.

The ROK Armed Forces also provided support for Korean nationals based abroad and their safe return. When a mass infection occurred on the Japanese cruise ship Diamond Princess in February, seven Korean nationals on board the ship returned home safely using a presidential aircraft. In May, an air

charter was deployed to support the return of 60 Korean nationals residing in Africa during the rotation between the 11th and 12th dispatches of Hanbit Unit, which had been dispatched to South Sudan in Africa. In July, an MRRT was deployed for the first time for the safe return of 293 construction workers in Iraq who had been exposed to the risk of infectious diseases.



Transport of anti-epidemic supplies from Myanmar with Air Force transport aircraft (March 2020)



Support for the transport of Korean nationals aboard a Japanese cruise ship (February 2020)

I Support for Agricultural Activities I

Rural areas suffered difficulties due to a lack of work personnel caused by the suspension of foreign worker inflow and the decrease in volunteers based on social distancing guidelines in the COVID-19 environment.

In response, the ROK Armed Forces deployed 24,000 personnel to support agricultural activities in rural areas from April to November 2020. Each service gave support for rice planting, repair of agricultural machinery, and hand pollination of pear flowers to the extent that their performance of operations and duties were not affected, thereby helping farmers significantly.



ROK Army's support for the cultivation of oats (May 2020)

To ensure the safety of servicemembers during the process, the safety level of each area was examined in advance to determine whether to provide support or not, and thorough safety education was also provided. In addition, a sufficient amount of personal protective supplies such as face masks were provided during the work, and servicemembers were required to observe anti-epidemic guidelines such as properly wearing a face mask and keeping their distance with each other.

I Group Blood Donation I As the COVID-19 pandemic continued, the balance between blood supply and demand became unstable⁴⁾ throughout the nation, with the nation's blood reserves falling below three days

4) An adequate blood reserve should satisfy the demand for 5 days at least.

of supply. In response, the ROK Armed Forces practiced warm sharing of life by conducting 280,000 group blood donations at 5,300 units between January and November 2020 through various campaigns such as the "Blood Donation of Love" and "Blood Donation Relay". To ensure the safety of servicemembers during the blood donation process, the MND organized a blood collection team and the blood collecting staff was required to get tested for COVID-19 in advance. Their health conditions were monitored twice a day, and the blood collecting staff and donors were strictly monitored in wearing a face mask.



ROK Army's Blood Donation of Love Campaign (September 2020)

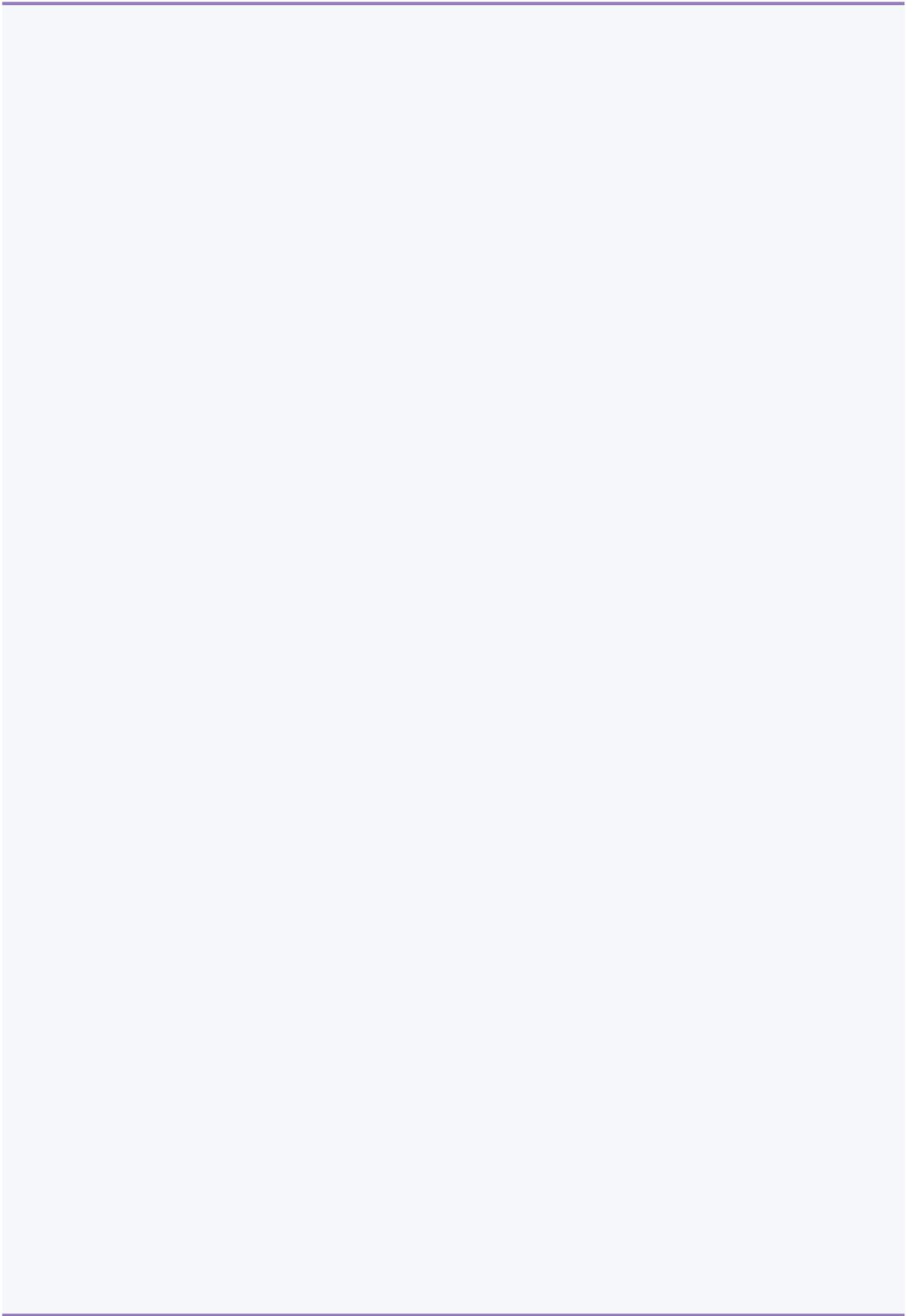
4. Maintaining a Firm Military Readiness Posture in the Face of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The ROK Armed Forces implemented highly intensive epidemic control measures and flexibly conducted various operations and drills to maintain a firm military readiness posture even in the face of a national crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. First, the ROK Armed Forces implemented unique and differentiated anti-epidemic measures for key military installations such as command and control rooms and emergency waiting rooms and assigned preliminary installations to ensure that command and control and standby for emergency were kept stable even if the existing installations were to be contaminated. Thorough measures were formulated in advance to ensure the normal operation of other standby forces, even if the force employment became limited due to infections or any other causes, by separating the time and space for key forces such as emergency standby forces and surveillance and response forces.

During the period when the number of confirmed cases in the ROK soared, operational activities were selectively adjusted and implemented. Training activities against infiltrations and local provocations were conducted at the military post while thoroughly observing preventive guidelines against infections, and the timing, size, and method varied to match the circumstances of each unit. Unit patrol and inspection activities for each level were carried out primarily by commanders to minimize the movement of personnel, and such activities were gradually expanded by devising anti-epidemic measures to the extent that no contact is made with civilians.



COVID-19
Response of the
ROK Armed Forces



Force Posture of Neighboring Countries

Overview

Classification	United States	Russia	China	Japan	
Troops	1,373,050	900,000	2,035,000	247,150	
Army	481,750	280,000	975,000	150,850	
Navy	337,100	150,000	250,000	45,350	
Air Force	325,900	165,000	395,000	46,950	
Others	Marine Corps Coast Guard 42,000	Airborne Strategic Missile Command Support Railroad Forces Special Forces Paramilitary 554,000	45,000 50,000 180,000 29,000 1,000 554,000	Rocket Forces Strategic Support Forces Others 120,000 175,000 120,000	Joint Staff 4,000

Army

Classification	United States	Russia	China	Japan
Divisions	10	9 (98 brigades)	Army Groups 13	9 (6 brigades)
Tanks	MBT 5,689	13,000	5,850	617
Infantry combat vehicles	IFV 4,931	13,660	5,800	68
Reconnaissance vehicles	RECCE 2,545	2,700	350 (Light tanks)	111
Armored vehicles	APC 18,547	12,100	3,950	795
Towed artillery	1,339	12,565	2,484	340
Self-propelled artillery	998	5,870	2,140	172
Multiple rocket launcher	600	4,082	1,570	99
Mortar	2,507	4,130	2,800	1,105
Anti-tank guided weapons	SP 1,133	GUN 2,526	SP RCL 1,000 GUN 3,966 1,788	SP 37
Ground-to-air missiles	1,183	1,520	524	327
Helicopters	3,875	-	1,015	385
Aircraft	211	-	10	7

Navy

Classification	United States	Russia	China	Japan
Tactical submarines	53	39	55	21
Strategic nuclear submarines	14	10	4	-
Aircraft carriers	11	1	2	-
Cruisers	24	4	-	-
Destroyers	67	13	28	40
Frigates	19	15	52	11
Patrol and coastal combatants	84	118	209	6
Mine sweepers	11	43	54	25
Amphibious command ships / Amphibious vessels	2 / 32	20	49	3
Landing craft	131	28	67	8
Auxiliary ships	12	269	148	18
Fighters	716	157	318	-
Helicopters	692	198	113	122
	Marine Expeditionary Force 3	Brigades 3	Brigades 7	
Marine Corps				
Tanks	447	300	75	
Infantry combat vehicles	488	1,061	10	
Assault amphibious vehicles	1,200	-	152	
Armored personnel carriers	207	400	-	
Reconnaissance vehicles	2,579	-	-	
Field artillery	1,452	383	40	
Anti-tank guided missiles	106	-	-	
UAV-ISRs	180	-	-	
Fighters	432	-	-	
Tiltrotors	309	-	-	
Helicopters	435	-	-	

Air Force

Classification	United States	Russia	China	Japan
Strategic bombers	139	138	176	-
Bombers	-	-	794	-
Reconnaissance aircraft	ISR 40	58	51	14
Command and control aircraft	4	11	5	-
Fighters	FTR-FGA-ATK 1,383	888	899	338
Transport aircraft	TPT 331	442	336	57
Tankers	TKR/TPT 237	15	13	6
AWACS	AWE&C-EW 31	9	13	18
Trainers	TRG 1,126	227	1,012	247
Helicopters	136	822	53	54
Civil Reserve Air Fleet	International/Domestic civil aircraft 553	-	-	-
EW aircraft	ELINT 22	34	18	3

*Source: The Military Balance 2018 (Center for Strategic and International Studies, February 2020)

Comparing Defense Budgets Around the World

As of 2019

Country	GDP (USD billion)	Defense Budget (USD billion)	Defense Budget-GDP Ratio (%)	Troops (thousand)	Per-Capita Defense Budget (USD)
ROK	1,646.3	42.5	2.43	579	816
United States	22,440	684.6	3.19	1,380	2,063
Japan	5,150	48.6	0.94	247	386
China	14,100	181.1	1.28	2,035	130
Russia	1,640	48.2	2.94	900	340
Taiwan	586	10.9	1.87	163	464
UK	2,740	54.8	2.00	148	837
France	2,710	52.3	1.93	204	773
Germany	3,860	48.5	1.26	181	604
Israel	388	19.3	5.82	170	2,254
Egypt	302	3.4	1.54	439	33
Saudi Arabia	779	78.4	10.06	227	2,331
Australia	1,380	25.5	1.85	57	1,074
Turkey	744	8.1	1.09	355	99
Malaysia	365	3.3	0.91	113	103
Thailand	529	7.1	1.34	361	103
Singapore	363	11.3	3.11	51	1,846
Canada	2,300	18.7	1.08	67	518

* Source: The Military Balance 2018 (Center for Strategic and International Studies, February 2020), the ROK's data is derived from government statistics.

Annual Defense Budget

Year	Defense Budget (KRW billion)		Defense Budget-GDP Ratio (%)		Defense Budget-Government Finance Ratio (%)		Defense Budget Increase Rate (%)	
	Main	Supplementary	Main	Supplementary	Main	Supplementary	Main	Supplementary
1991	7,452.4	7,476.4	3.07	3.08	27.4	23.8	12.3	12.6
1992	8,410.0	8,410.0	3.03	3.03	25.1	25.1	12.8	12.5
1993	9,215.4	9,215.4	2.92	2.92	24.2	24.2	9.6	9.6
1994	10,075.3	10,075.3	2.70	2.70	23.3	23.3	9.3	9.3
1995	11,074.4	11,074.4	2.53	2.53	21.3	21.3	9.9	9.9
1996	12,243.4	12,243.4	2.49	2.49	21.1	20.8	10.6	10.6
1997	13,786.5	13,786.5	2.54	2.54	20.4	20.7	12.6	12.6
1998	14,627.5	13,800.0	2.72	2.57	20.8	18.3	6.1	0.1
1999	13,749.0	13,749.0	2.32	2.32	17.2	16.4	△6.0	△0.4
2000	14,439.0	14,477.4	2.22	2.22	16.7	16.3	5.0	5.3
2001	15,388.4	15,388.4	2.18	2.18	16.3	15.5	6.6	6.3
2002	16,364.0	16,364.0	2.09	2.09	15.5	14.9	6.3	6.3
2003	17,426.4	17,514.8	2.08	2.09	15.6	14.8	6.5	7.0
2004	18,941.2	18,941.2	2.09	2.09	16.0	15.8	8.7	8.1
2005	20,822.6	21,102.6	2.17	2.20	15.5	15.6	9.9	11.4
2006	22,512.9	22,512.9	2.24	2.24	15.5	15.3	8.1	6.7
2007	24,497.2	24,497.2	2.25	2.25	15.7	15.7	8.8	8.8
2008	26,649.0	26,649.0	2.31	2.31	15.2	14.8	8.8	8.8
2009	28,532.6	28,980.3	2.37	2.40	14.5	14.2	7.1	8.7
2010	29,562.7	29,562.7	2.24	2.24	14.7	14.7	3.6	2.0
2011	31,403.1	31,403.1	2.26	2.26	15.0	15.0	6.2	6.2
2012	32,957.6	32,957.6	2.29	2.29	14.8	14.8	5.0	5.0
2013	34,345.3	34,497.0	2.29	2.30	14.5	14.3	4.2	4.7
2014	37,705.6	35,705.6	2.28	2.28	14.4	14.4	4.0	3.5
2015	37,456.0	37,555.0	2.26	2.27	14.5	14.3	4.9	5.2
2016	38,799.5	38,842.1	2.23	2.23	14.5	13.9	3.6	3.4
2017	40,334.7	40,334.7	2.20	2.20	14.7	14.2	4.0	3.8
2018	43,158.1	43,158.1	2.27	2.27	14.3	14.2	7.0	7.0
2019	46,697.1	46,697.1	(2.43)	(2.43)	14.1	14.0	8.2	8.2
2020	50,152.7	48,378.2	(2.62)	(2.52)	14.1	12.4	7.4	3.6

* GDP: recalculated based on the 2015 national accounts of the Bank of Korea.

* The 2020 data is based on the nominal GDP preliminary estimates of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (Economic Policy Direction of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, December 2020)

※ Nominal GDP: calculated by applying the prices of the relevant year to production in the same year.

Force Posture of the Two Koreas

As of December 2020

Classification		South Korea	North Korea		
Troops (peace time)	Army	420,000	1,100,000		
	Navy	70,000 (including 29,000 Marine Corps)	60,000		
	Air Force	65,000	110,000		
	Strategic Force	-	10,000		
Total		555,000	1,280,000		
Major Forces	Units	Corps (including Marine Corps)	13	15	
		Divisions (including Marine Corps)	37	84	
		Brigades (independent brigades) (including Marine Corps)	34	117	
	Army	Tanks (including Marine Corps)	Approx. 2,130	Approx. 4,300	
		Armored vehicles (including Marine Corps)	Approx. 3,000	Approx. 2,600	
	Equipmen	Field artillery (including Marine Corps)	Approx. 6,000	Approx. 8,800	
		MLRS/MRLs (including Marine Corps)	Approx. 270	Approx. 5,500	
	Navy	Ground-to-ground guided weapon		Approx. 60 launchers	(Strategic Force) Approx. 100 launchers
		Combatants		Approx. 100	Approx. 430
		Surface Vessels	Amphibious ships		Approx. 10
Mine countermeasures vessels (mine sweeper)			Approx. 10	Approx. 20	
Auxiliary ships		Approx. 20	Approx. 40		
Submarines		Approx. 10	Approx. 70		
Air Force	Fighter aircraft		Approx. 410	Approx. 810	
	Surveillance and control aircraft (including those belonging to the Navy)		Approx. 70	(Reconnaissance aircraft) Approx. 30	
	Transport aircraft (including AN-2)		Approx. 50	Approx. 350	
Trainers		Approx. 190	Approx. 80		
Helicopters (Army/Navy/Air Force)		Approx. 660	Approx. 290		
Reserve forces		3.1 million (including officer candidates, wartime labor call, and secondment and alternative service personnel)	7.62 million (including Reserve Military Training Unit, Worker-Peasant Red Guards, and Red Youth Guard))		

- * Units and equipment of the other services are included in the number of units and equipment of the Army to compare military strength between the two Koreas.
- * The number of North Korean field artillery do not include 76.2 mm guns that are infantry regiment-level artillery.
- * The table above only provides a quantitative comparison between the military force of South Korea and North Korea. A more meaningful comparison requires qualitative assessment based on comprehensive consideration of the relevant factors such as performance level and years-in-service of the equipment used by the two sides, levels of training, and operational concepts of joint forces.
- * As for army brigades, independent brigades organized under corps or higher-level echelons such as artillery, engineering, and aviation brigades are included. Therefore, the 14 brigades under the command of the two North Korean mechanized corps were not included in the figures of the North Korean brigades as the corps have been modified into divisions.
- * The KPA Special Operations Force of North Korea is included in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

Comparing the Economic Indicators of the Two Koreas

Classification	South Korea		North Korea		South Korea / North Korea	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Nominal GNI (KRW trillion)	1,905.8	1,935.7	35.9	35.6	53.1 times	54.4 times
Per-Capita GNI (KRW 10,000)	3,693.0	3,743.5	142.8	140.8	25.9 times	26.6 times
Economic Growth Rate (%)	2.9	2.0	-4.1	0.4	-	-
Trade Volume (USD billion)	1,140.06	1,045.58	2.84	3.24	400.9 times	322.2 times
Population (thousand)	51,607	51,709	25,132	25,250	2.1 times	2.0 times

* Source: Bank of Korea

* Gross National Income (GNI): Since 1993, major countries and international organizations, such as the UN and IMF, have replaced GNP with GNI (GNI≡GNP).

UNSC Resolutions on Sanctions Against North Korea

Classification	Background	Major Details (summary)
Resolution 1695 (July 15, 2006)	North Korea's long-range missile launch (July 5, 2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands member states to prevent and monitor the transfer of materials, technologies, and financial resources related to WMD and missile activities
Resolution 1718 (October 14, 2006)	North Korea's 1st nuclear test (October 9, 2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embargo, shipment inspection, asset freezing, and travel control • Sets up sanctions committee on North Korea under the UN Security Council
Resolution 1874 (June 12, 2009)	North Korea's 2nd nuclear test (May 25, 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete embargo against arms imports with an exception to small arms • Ban on all financial services and support that could contribute to North Korea's WMD and missile activities • Sets up an expert panel to support the sanctions committee on North Korea
Resolution 2087 (January 22, 2013)	North Korea's long-range missile launch (December 12, 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursues introduction of standards to strengthen search activities of suspicious vessels in open waters • Reinforces "catch-all" export control against North Korea • Urges enhanced monitoring of all activities involving North Korean financial institutions
Resolution 2094 (March 7, 2013)	North Korea's 3rd nuclear test (February 12, 2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands embargoed items related to nuclear weapons and missiles • Reinforces financial sanctions (suspension of activities of North Korean banks violating the resolution)
Resolution 2270 (March 2, 2016)	North Korea's 4th nuclear test (January 6, 2016) / North Korea's long-range missile launch (February 7, 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits cooperation with North Korean military and police • Introduces mandatory search of shipments to and from North Korea and prohibits entry of sanctioned vessels or vessels suspected of involvement in illegal activities • Demands closure of overseas branches and offices of North Korean banks within 90 days • Introduces import ban on North Korean minerals (coal, iron, gold, etc.)
Resolution 2321 (November 30, 2016)	North Korea's 5th nuclear test (September 9, 2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits scientific and technological cooperation with North Korea • Prohibits rental of aircraft and vessels and provision of crew to North Korea; States mandatory search of travel baggage to and from North Korea • Closes foreign financial institutions in North Korea • States additional mineral items that are banned for export (silver, copper, zinc, and nickel) and bans the export of sculptures • Caps North Korea's coal export
Resolution 2356 (June 2, 2017)	North Korea's launch of IRBM (May 14, 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands the scope of sanctions
Resolution 2371 (August 5, 2017)	North Korea's launch of ballistic missiles (July 4 and 28, 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds WMD and conventional weapon dual-use control items • Grants the committee authorities to designate vessels involved in prohibited activities and requires member states to deny entry of suspected vessels • Restricts member states' employment of North Korean workers • Bans North Korea's export of coal, iron, and iron ores • Bans North Korea's export of lead, lead ores, and seafood
Resolution 2375 (September 11, 2017)	North Korea's 6th nuclear test (September 3, 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds WMD and conventional weapon dual-use control items • Urges search of vessels suspected of carrying banned items with the consent of flag state • Bans granting a work permit to North Korean workers • Bans North Korea's textile export • Restricts fuel supply to North Korea
Resolution 2397 (December 22, 2017)	North Korea's launch of Hwasong-15 (November 29, 2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capture, search, and seizure of vessels suspected or involved in the transportation of banned items or prohibited activities within territories and territorial waters • Repatriates North Korean works to North Korea within 24 months • Restricts fuel supply to North Korea • Bans North Korea's export of food, agricultural products, machinery, electronics, minerals, soil, stone, wood, and vessels • Bans export of industrial machinery, means of transportation, iron, and other metals to North Korea • Expressly bans trading of fishing rights

Key Denuclearization Agreements Regarding the North Korean Nuclear Issue

Agreement	Major Details (summary)
① Geneva Agreed Framework (October 21, 1994)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to cooperate in replacing graphite-moderated reactors with light-water reactors • Agreed to work toward the complete normalization of political and economic relationship between North Korea and United States • Agreed to cooperate for peace and security on the denuclearized Korean Peninsula • Agreed to cooperate for the consolidation of the nuclear non-proliferation regime
② September 19 Joint Statement (September 19, 2005)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reaffirmed verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula • Pledged to promote economic cooperation in energy, trading, and investment • Pledged to take joint efforts for permanent peace and stability in Northeast Asia • Agreed on phased implementation of the agreement
③ February 13 Agreement (February 13, 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed on the closure and sealing of nuclear facilities in North Korea, return of IAEA inspectors to North Korea, and preparation of a list of all nuclear programs • Began bilateral talks for the normalization of US-North Korea and North Korea-Japan relationships • Agreed to provide economic, energy, and humanitarian aid to North Korea • Agreed to convene a separate forum with directly concerned parties to negotiate a peace regime for the Korean Peninsula
④ October 3 Agreement (October 3, 2007)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to disable all existing nuclear facilities and to declare all nuclear programs in a complete, accurate manner • Reaffirmed North Korea's pledge not to transfer nuclear materials, technologies, or knowledge • Agreed to provide economic, energy, and humanitarian aid to North Korea corresponding to 1 million tons of heavy fuel oil
⑤ February 29 Agreement (February 29, 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Korea agreed to take preliminary measures for denuclearization • The United States agreed to provide 240,000 tons of nutrition aid • The United States confirmed that it does not have any hostile intention toward North Korea • Agreed to improve US-North Korea relations and expand civilian exchanges in culture, education, and sports
⑥ Panmunjom Declaration (April 27, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual prosperity and self-reliant unification • Mitigation of military tension • Establishment of a permanent, stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula • Achieve a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization
⑦ US-North Korea Joint Statement (June 12, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to establish a new US-North Korea relationship • Agreed to make joint efforts to build a permanent, stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula • North Korea reaffirmed the Panmunjom Declaration and agreed to make efforts for the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula • Agreed to recover the remains of POWs and MIAs and repatriate the identified remains
⑧ Pyongyang Joint Declaration (September 19, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to cease military hostility and expand exchanges and cooperation • Agreed to dismantle the Dongchang-ri missile engine test site and launch platform • Agreed to dismantle the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon as the United States takes reciprocal measures

Status and Assessment of North Korean Nuclear and Missile Development

1. Status and Assessment of Nuclear Development

I Construction of Nuclear Infrastructure I Immediately following the Korean War, North Korea began the groundwork for the use of nuclear energy, such as basic research and workforce cultivation, while carrying out postwar restoration efforts. The physics department of Kim Il-sung University opened a nuclear physics course in 1955, followed by the launch of a nuclear physics lab in the Academy of Sciences of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (formerly known as the "National Academy of Sciences") in 1956. That same year, North Korea signed a nuclear cooperation agreement with the Soviet Union and sent scientists to the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna, establishing the foundation for acquiring advanced technologies and training experts. In 1959, North Korea signed a nuclear cooperation agreement with China as well. North Korea obtained research reactors with the help of the Soviet Union in 1963, with which it began the construction of a large-scale nuclear complex in Yongbyon, North Pyongan Province in 1965. At the same time, North Korea developed uranium mines and built uranium refineries in Pyongsan, Suncheon, and Bakcheon. Subsequently, North Korea built a series of additional nuclear facilities capitalizing on its rich uranium reserve.

I Full-fledged Nuclear Development I In the 1980s, North Korea launched full-fledged nuclear development efforts by building production facilities for weapons-grade nuclear materials, training nuclear experts, and expanding its infrastructure for nuclear weapon development including nuclear test sites. The Yongbyon Nuclear Complex saw the construction of key plutonium production facilities including nuclear reactors, reprocessing facilities, and nuclear fuel rod fabrication facility. North Korea developed a 5 MWe graphite-moderated reactor on its own, which was completed and activated in 1986. In 1985, it built a radiochemical laboratory capable of reprocessing spent nuclear fuel, which was fully activated in 1989.

At the same time, North Korea began the construction of a 50 MWe graphite-moderated reactor in the Yongbyon complex with 1995 as the target year and established a plan to build a 200 MWe graphite-moderated reactor in Taechon.

In 1989, North Korea came under suspicion when the Yongbyon Nuclear Complex was discovered by



5 MWe reactor located in Yongbyon

a French commercial satellite. Under pressure from the international community, North Korea signed a safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1991, followed by a dispatch of an investigation team from IAEA the following year. However, the inspection fueled the suspicion of North Korea's nuclear development as the team identified material inconsistencies in the nuclear activities declared by North Korea. The IAEA requested a special inspection for further verification, which resulted in North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The Clinton administration considered all options, including military actions, but the nuclear issue came to a dramatic resolution¹⁾ with the conclusion of the US-North Korea Geneva Agreed Framework in 1994.²⁾ Under the framework, North Korea halted its nuclear activities until 2002.

Despite the agreement, however, North Korea covertly carried out a uranium enrichment program in the mid-1990s with support from Pakistan. North Korea denied the existence of the program at first. In 2010, however, it invited Dr. Siegfried Hecker from the United States and revealed its uranium enrichment facilities, raising concerns in the international community.

In 2002, the Bush administration withdrew from the agreed framework, citing the incompleteness of the agreement and suspicion regarding North Korea's uranium enrichment activities, and discontinued the heavy oil supply and light-water plant construction. In response, North Korea also declared its withdrawal from the framework and resumed production of nuclear materials after deporting IAEA inspectors, reactivating the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, and reprocessing spent nuclear fuel rods. Subsequently, North Korea secured a significant amount of plutonium by reprocessing the spent rods twice in 2003 and 2005. Moreover, North Korea declared possession of nuclear weapons in February 2005, followed by its first underground nuclear test in Punggyeri, Gilju-gun, North Hamgyong Province, in October 2006.

The ROK Meteorological Administration measured the strength of artificial seismic waves from the test site at 3.9mb, indicating that the yield of the nuclear explosion was below 1kt. Based on the result of the nuclear test, it was assessed that, although North Korea's nuclear technology was not at the level of nuclear weapon employment, the country had passed the threshold of manufacturing and detonating nuclear explosive devices.

I Advancement of Nuclear Capabilities I Following its first nuclear test, North Korea spurred efforts to advance its nuclear capabilities with focus on enhancing the power of its nuclear warheads, mounting warheads on missiles, and achieving mass production. North Korea disabled key nuclear facilities in Yongbyon during the Six-Party Talks until the end of 2008 and temporarily discontinued the production

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- 1) In exchange for the abandonment of its nuclear development program by North Korea, the United States agreed to provide heavy oil, construct two modern light-water reactor power plants, and normalize the US-North Korea relationship.
 - 2) Adopted for the resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue after three meetings between high-ranking officials (October 21, 1994).

of nuclear materials. After the talks fell through over disagreement on the verification issue, however, in 2009, North Korea reactivated the nuclear facilities that were in the process of being disabled and conducted the second nuclear test in May. The yield of the explosion in the second test was measured at 3 to 4kt, representing significant improvement over the first test. Nevertheless, the yield was still less than the force of the nuclear bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which led to the assessment that North Korea's nuclear capability was lacking in terms of actual employment.

<North Korean Nuclear Tests>

Classification	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Date	October 9, 2006 (Monday) 10:36 a.m.	May 25, 2009 (Monday) 9:54 a.m.	February 12, 2013 (Tuesday) 11:57 a.m.	January 6, 2016 (Wednesday) 10:30 a.m.	September 9, 2016 (Friday) 9:30 a.m.	September 3, 2017 (Sunday) 12:29 p.m.
Magnitude (mb)	3.9	4.5	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.7
Yield (kt)	Approx. 0.8	Approx. 3-4	Approx. 6-7	Approx. 6	Approx. 10	Approx. 50

After putting forward the dual-track policy of economic and nuclear development in 2012, North Korea spurred its efforts for advancing its nuclear and missile capabilities. The efforts resulted in four additional nuclear tests in February 2013, January and September of 2016, and September 2017. The sixth test in particular recorded an explosive force of around 50kt, and the significantly increased yield suggests that a hydrogen bomb test was carried out.

After the nuclear tests, North Korea stressed its status as a nuclear state and claimed that it had achieved the standardization, specification, miniaturization, weight reduction, and diversification of nuclear warheads³⁾. It also declared its willingness to mass-produce and field deploy warheads and missiles.

2. Status and Assessment of Missile Development

To secure long-range delivery capabilities for its nuclear weapons, high explosives, and chemical/biological weapons, North Korea has been committing workforce and resources to missile development

3) Meaning of standardization, specification, miniaturization, weight reduction, and diversification claimed by North Korea (published on Rodong Sinmun on May 21, 2013 / Announced by the Nuclear Weapon Research Center on September 9, 2016)

- Standardization: refers to standardizing warheads so that they can be mounted on multiple types of missiles
- Specification: refers to determining the specifications of warheads and their components for mass production
- Miniaturization: refers to producing weapons with the explosive power of nuclear warheads less than 15kt
- Weight reduction: refers to reducing the total mass of nuclear warheads for mounting on missiles
- Diversification: refers to producing multiple types of nuclear weapons for different military objectives. Nuclear weapons can be divided by type of nuclear reaction-atomic, hydrogen, and neutron bombs-as well as by range: strategic, tactical, and theater weapons.

programs since the mid-1960s. In 1976, North Korea secured from Egypt Scud-B missiles and reverse-engineered them for the production of its own Scud-B missiles. Then, North Korea completed the deployment of an improved version of its Scud-B missile in 1988. In the 1990s, it developed and field deployed the Nodong 1,300km-range missile and launched a Taepodong-1 missile in 1998 and Taepodong-2 missiles in 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2016 on the pretext of a satellite launch. North Korea also adopted the old Soviet Union's Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) technology and developed the Musudan intermediate-range missile (range of over 3,000km) which was field deployed in 2007 without a test launch. Subsequently, North Korea continued to develop various types of ballistic

<North Korea's Missile Test-Launches>

After January 1, 2019

Date	Major Details
May 4, 2019	Launched 19-1 SRBMs (wheeled) (a new-type tactical guided projectile, as North Korea claims) on Hodo Peninsula, South Hamgyong Province
May 9, 2019	Launched 19-1 SRBMs (tracked) (a new-type tactical guided projectile, as North Korea claims) in Gusong, North Pyongan Province
July 25, 2019	Launched 19-1 SRBMs (wheeled) (a new-type tactical guided projectile, as North Korea claims) on Hodo Peninsula, South Hamgyong Province
July 31, 2019	Launched 19-2 missiles of unknown design (a new-type large-caliber MRL, as North Korea claims) in Wonsan, Gangwon Province
August 2, 2019	Launched 19-3 missiles of unknown design (a new-type large-caliber MRL, as North Korea claims) in Yeongheung, South Hamgyong Province
August 6, 2019	Launched 19-1 SRBMs (wheeled) (a new-type tactical guided missile, as North Korea claims) in Gwail, South Hwanghae Province
August 10, 2019	Launched 19-4 SRBMs (a new-type projectile, as North Korea claims) in Hamheung, South Hamgyong Province
August 16, 2019	Launched 19-4 SRBMs (a new-type projectile, as North Korea claims) in Tongchon, Gangwon Province
August 24, 2019	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (wheeled) (a super-large MRL, as North Korea claims) in Sondok, South Hamgyong Province
September 10, 2019	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (wheeled) (a super-large MRL, as North Korea claims) in Gaecheon, South Pyongan Province
October 2, 2019	Launched 19-6 SLBM (a dubbed Pukguksong-3, as North Korea claims) off the sea near Munchon, Gangwon Province
October 31, 2019	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (wheeled) (a super-large MRL) in Suncheon, South Pyongan Province
November 28, 2019	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (wheeled) (a super-large MRL, as North Korea claims) in Yonpo, South Hamgyong Province
March 2, 2020	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (wheeled) (an MRL, as North Korea claims) in Wonsan, Gangwon Province
March 9, 2020	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (wheeled) (a long-range projectile, as North Korea claims) near Sondok, South Hamgyong Province
March 21, 2020	Launched 19-4 SRBMs (a tactical guided projectile, as North Korea claims) in Sonchon, North Pyongan Province
March 29, 2020	Launched 19-5 SRBMs (tracked) (a super-large MRL, as North Korea claims) in Wonsan, Gangwon Province

missiles.

In 2016, North Korea developed Paektusan, an advanced high-yield engine. The development provided the country with a foundation for the development of nuclear-capable ballistic missiles. In May, August, and September 2017, North Korea launched a Hwasong-12 Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM). In July and November 2017, North Korea launched the Hwasong-14 and Hwasong-15 missiles, which are assessed to be Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs), respectively.

In August 2016, North Korea used the old Soviet Union’s SLBM technology to test-launch an SLBM (Pukguksong) from a Gorae-class submarine and test-launched in 2017 two Pukguksong-2 missiles as a ground-to-ground variation. In 2019, North Korea developed and test fired various types of new solid-propellant short-range ballistic missiles and TELs (both wheeled and tracked) and test-launched the Pukguksong-3 in October 2, 2019 using the new underwater launch tube.

<North Korean Missiles and Their Specifications>

Classification	Scud-B/C	19-1 SRBM	19-4 SRBM	19-5 SRBM	Scud-ER	Nodong	Musudan
Range (km)	300 - 500	Approx. 600	Less than 600	Approx. 400	Approx. 1,000	1,300	At least 3,000
Mass (kg)	1,000	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	500	700	650
Remarks	Field deployed	Test-launched	Test-launched	Test-launched	Field deployed	Field deployed	Field deployed

Classification	Taepodong-2	Pukguksong/ Pukguksong-2	Pukguksong-3	Hwasong-12	Hwasong-14	Hwasong-15
Range (km)	At least 10,000	Approx. 1,300	Approx. 2,000	5,000	At least 10,000	At least 10,000
Mass (kg)	500 - 1,000	650	Unknown	650	Unknown	1,000
Remarks	Launched	Test-launched	Test-launched	Test-launched	Test-launched	Test-launched

Agreement on the Implementation of the Historic Panmunjom Declaration in the Military Domain

Based on the common understanding that easing military tension and building confidence on the Korean Peninsula is integral to securing lasting and stable peace, South Korea and North Korea reached a comprehensive agreement on the following with a view to fully implementing the historic "Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula" in the military domain.

1. South Korea and North Korea agreed to completely cease all hostile acts against each other in every domain, including land, air and sea that are the source of military tension and conflict.

- ① The two sides discussed various measures to prevent armed conflict in every domain, including land, air and sea.

The two sides agreed to consult and resolve all matters that may lead to military conflict in a peaceful way and preclude the use of military force under any circumstance.

The two sides agreed to refrain from any action of infiltrating, attacking or occupying each other's area of jurisdiction by any means or method.

The two sides agreed to have consultations on matters including large-scale military exercises and military buildup aimed at each other, various forms of blockade, interdiction and obstruction of navigation as well as reconnaissance activities against each other through the "Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee".

The two sides agreed to continue to have consultations on various implementation measures related to the "Panmunjom Declaration", in which both sides agreed to realize phased arms reduction, in accordance with alleviation of military tension and confidence building.

- ② The two sides agreed to cease various military exercises aimed at each other along the Military Demarcation Line from November 1, 2018.

On ground, the two sides agreed to cease all live-fire artillery drills and field training exercises at the regiment level and above within 5km from the MDL.

At sea, the two sides agreed to cease all live-fire and maritime maneuver exercises within the zone north of Deokjeok-do and south of Cho-do in the West Sea, and within the zone north of Sokcho and south of Tongcheon in the East Sea. The two sides also agreed to install covers on the barrels of coastal artillery and ship guns and close all gunports within the zones.

In the air, the two sides agreed to ban tactical live-fire drills involving fixed-wing aircraft, including the firing of air-to-ground guided weapons within the designated No Fly Zones over the eastern and western regions of the MDL.

- ③ The two sides agreed to designate No Fly Zones for all aircraft types above the MDL, effective from 1 November 2018, in the following way:

For fixed-wing aircraft, No Fly Zones will be designated within 40km from the MDL in the East (between MDL Markers No. 0646 and 1292) and within 20km from the MDL in the West (between MDL Markers No. 0001 and 0646).

Other No Fly Zones will be designated in the following way: for rotary-wing aircraft, within 10km from the MDL; for UAV, within 15km from the MDL in the East and 10km from the MDL in the West; for hot-air balloons, within 25km from the MDL.

However, when the employment of aircraft becomes necessary such as in the cases involving fire-fighting, ground & maritime rescue, medical evacuation, weather observation and farming support, aircraft will be permitted to fly subject to prior notification to the other side. The No Fly Zones mentioned above do not apply to commercial aircraft (including cargo planes).

- ④ The two sides agreed to take measures to prevent any accidental military clash at all times in every domain, including land, air and sea.

To this end, the two sides agreed to apply a five-step procedure (Initial warning broadcast → Secondary warning broadcast → Initial warning fire → Secondary warning fire → Military action) on ground and at sea, and a 4-step procedure (Warning radio & signal interdiction flight → Warning fire → Military action) in the air.

The two sides agreed to implement the above revised procedures from November 1, 2018.

- ⑤ The two sides agreed to solve all military issues through peaceful consultations by maintaining permanent communication channels in order to prevent at all times any accidental military clash in every domain, including land, air and sea and by immediately notifying each other when an abnormal situation arises.

2. South Korea and North Korea agreed to devise substantive military measures to transform the Demilitarized Zone into a peace zone.

- ① The two sides agreed to completely withdraw all Guard Posts (GP) that lie within 1km of each other as a preliminary measure to withdrawing all GPs within the DMZ. 【Annex 1】
- ② The two sides agreed to demilitarize the Joint Security Area. 【Annex 2】
- ③ The two sides agreed to proceed with a pilot project of an Inter-Korean Joint Operation to Recover Remains within the DMZ. 【Annex 3】
- ④ The two sides agreed to continue consultations on military assurance measures related to joint survey and excavation of historical remains within the DMZ.

3. South Korea and North Korea agreed to take military measures to prevent accidental military clashes and ensure safe fishing activities by turning the area around the Northern Limit Line in the West Sea into a maritime peace zone.

- ① The two sides reaffirmed the agreement related to the "prevention of accidental military clashes in the West Sea," signed during the 2nd Inter-Korean General-level Military Talks on 4 June, 2004 and agreed to fully restore and implement it.
- ② The two sides agreed to establish a maritime peace zone and a pilot joint fishing zone in the West Sea. 【Annex 4】
- ③ The two sides agreed to fully guarantee the safety of personnel and vessels that enter the maritime peace zone and the pilot joint fishing zone.
- ④ The two sides agreed to devise and implement inter-Korean joint patrol measures in order to deny illegal fishing and to ensure safe fishing activities for South and North Korean fishermen in the maritime peace zone and the pilot joint fishing zone.

4. South Korea and North Korea agreed to devise military assurance measures necessary for invigorating exchanges, cooperation, contacts and visits.

- ① The two sides agreed to establish military measures to ensure passage, communication and customs in the East and West Transportation Corridors.
- ② The two sides agreed to devise military assurance measures to connect and modernize eastern/western railways and roads.
- ③ The two sides agreed to establish a plan regarding issues related to permitting the use of Haeju Passage and Jeju Strait for North Korean vessels through consultations at the Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee.
- ④ The two sides agreed to devise military assurance measures for the shared use of Han River (Imjin River) Estuary. 【Annex 5】

5. South Korea and North Korea agreed to devise various measures for mutual military confidence building.

- ① The two sides agreed to continue consultations regarding the installation and operation of direct communication lines between the respective military officials.
- ② The two sides agreed to have detailed consultations to resolve the issues concerning the composition and operation of the Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee.
- ③ The two sides agreed to fully implement all agreements reached between inter-Korean military authorities, and to regularly examine and assess the implementation progress.

6. This Agreement is effective from the date of exchange of the signed documents, following the procedures required for ratification from each party.

- ① Revisions and additions to the Agreement are permitted subject to agreement between both parties.
- ② Two copies of the Agreement have been made with equal effect.

September 19, 2018

Republic of Korea
Minister of National Defense
Song, Young Moo

Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Minister of People's Armed Forces
Korean People's Army General No, Kwang-chol

[Annex 1]

Withdrawal of Guard Posts (GP) within the DMZ

1. The agreement is reached to completely withdraw all guard posts within the DMZ according to the following phases:

- ① Phase 1 : Withdrawal of all firearms and equipment
- ② Phase 2 : Withdrawal of all personnel on duty
- ③ Phase 3 : Complete destruction of all facilities
- ④ Phase 4 : Mutual verification

2. Various measures for the withdrawal of all guard posts from the DMZ will be implemented through close mutual coordination.

3. Historical landmarks, remains and artifacts that lie within the DMZ will be restored to their original state and managed as joint assets of the Korean people.

4. The 11 guard posts that lie within 1km of each other in the DMZ from each side will be withdrawn as a preliminary measure.

① The 11 guard posts from each side that will be withdrawn are as follows:

- Eastern region

- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 1273 and 1278
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 1123 and 1135
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0799 and 0808

- Midlands

- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0652 and 0660
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0679 and 0683
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0717 and 0724

- Western region

- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0023 and 0027
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0034 and 0043
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0155 and 0166
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0212 and 0216
- GPs from each side in between MDL Markers No. 0233 and 0240

② Withdrawal of the above 11 guard posts will be completed by December 31, 2018.

[Annex 2]

Demilitarization of the 'Joint Security Area in Panmunjom'

1. As a first step, a trilateral consultative body between South Korea, North Korea, and the United Nations Command (UNC) will be established to consult and implement measures to demilitarize the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom.

- ① South, the North and UNC (hereinafter referred to as “The three parties”) will remove all mines in the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom within 20 days, beginning on October 1, 2018.
- ② The three parties will completely withdraw guard posts, personnel, and firearms within 5 days after the minesweeping is completed in the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom.
- ③ The three parties will withdraw unnecessary surveillance equipment from the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom, install any necessary surveillance equipment through consultations, and share related information with each other.
- ④ The three parties will jointly verify the completion of the measures to demilitarize the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom over 2 days.
- ⑤ The three parties will consult and decide on various matters such as the composition, mission and operation method of a joint administrative body that will be established after the demilitarization of the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom.

2. The Joint Security Area in Panmunjom will be managed after demilitarization in the following way:

- ① Guard duty personnel and installation of guard posts
 - Guard duty will be carried out by up to 35 unarmed personnel from each side.
 - The shift work of personnel and matters related to patrol will be decided by each side unilaterally and notified to the other party.
 - Guard duty personnel from both sides will wear a 15 cm wide yellow armband with the words “Panmunjom Civil Police” written in blue on his/her left arm.
 - A new Southern guard post will be installed at one end of the 'Panmunjom Bridge' in Northern Panmunjom; a new Northern guard post will be installed in the area near the entry check point of Southern Panmunjom. South and North Korean personnel will be on duty side-by-side.
- ② Building management
 - Each side will manage the buildings on its side of the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom.
 - In case a building in the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom requires repair or construction, such work will proceed subject to approval by the joint administrative body.
- ③ Visits
 - Visits to the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom will be permitted between 0900 and 1700 hours.
 - Freedom of movement is allowed for visitors and tourists within the Joint Security Area in Panmunjom.

[Annex 3]

Pilot Inter-Korean Joint Remains Recovery Project within DMZ

1. Designation of Joint Remains Recovery Site and minesweeping

- ① Site designation for the joint recovery of remains
 - The site for the pilot joint remains recovery project will be set in between MDL Markers No. 0489 and 0497 in Cheorwon, Gangwon Province, setting the MDL as the standard. The end coordinates for the site will be as follows:
 - North: a) 38°17'35"N 127°05'22"E
 - b) 38°18'23"N 127°06'52"E
 - South: a) 38°16'38"N 127°06'04"E
 - b) 38° 7'26"N 127°07'33"E
 - All guard posts and obstacles within the joint remains recovery site will be withdrawn.
- ② Minesweeping
 - All mines and explosives within the site for the pilot joint remains recovery project will be completely removed between October 1 and November 30, 2018.
 - The two sides will each carry out minesweeping operations from each end of the DMZ and work in the direction of the MDL.
 - The two sides will conduct minesweeping operations for 4 hours each day from 1000 to 1200 hours and from 1500 to 1700 hours. The hours may be reduced or extended according to each circumstance.
 - The two sides will install markers around the border of the mine-cleared area within the site designated for the pilot joint remains recovery project and notify the other side accordingly.
 - The use of equipment and material necessary for minesweeping will be mutually coordinated.
 - Any remains recovered during minesweeping operations will be exhumed and jointly identified, consulted, and processed.

2. Establishment of an inter-Korean road within the joint remains recovery site

- ① A 12 m-wide road will be constructed between South Korea and North Korea within the pilot joint remains recovery site in order to facilitate seamless progress in the joint efforts to recover the remains within the DMZ.
- ② Minesweeping will take place from each end of the DMZ towards the MDL prior to road construction. The road will be connected along the MDL.
- ③ The use of material and equipment necessary for road construction, including excavators, will be mutually coordinated.

- ④ Personnel necessary for construction, quantity and identification of equipment, and working hours will be decided unilaterally at each side's convenience and notified to the other side.
- ⑤ If any personnel or vehicle needs to cross the MDL for the purpose of road construction, prior notification should be provided to the other side.
- ⑥ Road construction must be completed by December 31, 2018.

3. Composition and operation of the Joint Remains Recovery Team

- ① Composition of the Joint Remains Recovery Team
 - The two sides will establish a joint investigation team and a site command team, each with 5 members and headed by a colonel-level official.
 - The Joint Remains Recovery Team will be comprised of personnel numbering 80 to 100 from each side.
 - The two sides will complete the composition of the Joint Remains Recovery Team and notify each other by the end of February 2019.
- ② Operation of the Joint Remains Recovery Team – The joint investigation team and the site command team will jointly consult and resolve any practical issue that may arise with regard to the pilot joint remains recovery project within the DMZ.
 - Joint remains recovery operations at the pilot site will take place from April 1 to October 31, 2019.
 - In consideration of the seasonal climate, working hours for remains recovery at the pilot site will be from 0900 to 1200 hours and from 1500 to 1800 hours. If needed, the hours may be reduced or extended subject to the agreement of both sides.

4. Security assurance and joint management

- ① Any action violating the personal safety of personnel from the other side is prohibited during the joint remains recovery process.
- ② Any material or equipment that may threaten personal safety, such as weapons and explosives, is not allowed into the joint remains recovery site.
- ③ Any action provoking the other side in the joint remains recovery site is prohibited.
- ④ In case a natural disaster occurs within the joint remains recovery site, the two sides will establish damage repair measures and cooperate accordingly.
- ⑤ Once joint remains recovery is completed, each side will manage its own area and road between the MDL and its end point of the DMZ. Matters regarding the use of roads will be decided in the future through consultations.

[Annex 4]

Preventing Accidental Military Clashes, Establishing a Maritime Peace Zone and Ensuring Safe Fishing Activities in the West Sea

1. Establishment of a maritime peace zone

- 1) Scope of the maritime peace zone The scope of the maritime peace zone will be determined in consideration of the factors including geographic location of the islands under the jurisdiction of each side, density of passage of vessels and fixed sea routes. Specific boundary lines will be established through consultations at the Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee.
- 2) Rules pertaining to entry into the maritime peace zone
 - ① Only unarmed vessels of the two sides will be allowed entry into the maritime peace zone. If the entry of naval ships is unavoidable, they can enter the zone subject to prior notification to and approval of the other side.
 - ② The number of vessels operating in the maritime peace zone will be decided by the two sides through consultations. The plans for entry and operation of vessels within the maritime peace zone will be notified to the other side 48 hours prior to entry.
 - ③ Entry hours are as follows: from April to September, 0700 to 1800 hours; from October to March, 0800 to 1700 hours. When necessary, the entry hours may be revised through mutual consultations.
- 3) Rules pertaining to activities within the maritime peace zone
 - ① Vessels from the South will not cross the Northern boundary line of the maritime peace zone, and vessels from the North will not cross the Southern boundary line of the maritime peace zone. All activities are limited to those of peaceful in nature. Vessels that commit hostile acts against the other side on the other side's waters, outside the peace zone, will be restrained immediately. After the matter is reported to the other side, the vessel will be dealt with through inter-Korean consultations.
 - ② For the purpose of identification within the maritime peace zone, vessels from both sides must hoist a 900 mm wide, 600 mm long Korean Peninsula flag. Vessels from the South must hoist the flag on the left of the mast, and vessels from the North, on the right of the mast.
 - ③ Any words and actions that may provoke the other side, including psychological warfare, are not allowed within the maritime peace zone.
 - ④ If an accidental clash occurs between civilian vessels in the maritime peace zone, each side must immediately withdraw all of its vessels from the zone, resolve the matter through either inter-Korean military communication lines or inter-Korean working-level military talks, and establish meticulous plans to prevent any recurrence.

4) Humanitarian cooperation in the maritime peace zone

If individuals, vessels, naval ships or aircraft enter the maritime peace zone in unavoidable situations such as engine failure, distress, or misnavigation resulting from deterioration of weather, each side must immediately notify the other side through communication means at its disposal.

When such emergency situation arises within the maritime peace zone, necessary measures will be taken through mutual cooperation.

5) Utilization of the maritime peace zone

The two sides agreed to continue to explore options for peaceful utilization of the zone, including marine survey, joint survey, and passage of civilian vessels in accordance with the principle of easing of military tension, confidence building as well as common prosperity and mutual benefit.

2. Establishment of a pilot joint fishing zone

1) Scope of the pilot joint fishing zone

The pilot joint fishing zone will be established between Baengnyeong-do (South) and Jangsan-got (North). Specific boundary lines will be established through consultations at the Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee.

2) Operation of the pilot joint fishing zone

- ① Vessels that wish to operate within the pilot zone will submit an entry request document 2 days (48 hours) prior to the planned entry, including the name of organization, name of the captain (representative), crew list, vessel name, entry route, and date of operation.
- ② The responsible agencies of each side must notify the other side of the result of its review of the request document 1 day (24 hours) prior to departure. If entry of a vessel is denied, the agencies will also notify the valid reasons for denial.
- ③ The responsible agencies of each side will allow vessels to remain within the pilot fishing zone for up to 5 days, if the vessel had requested permission for consecutive fishing operations for a certain period.
- ④ Vessels entering the pilot joint fishing zone will use the mutually approved route and will be controlled by fishery guidance boats from each side.
- ⑤ If, in the future, the joint fishing zone is expanded within the maritime peace zone, entry regulations for South and North Korean fishing vessels will be implemented through mutual consultations.

3. Joint patrol to interdict illegal fishing vessels and ensure safe fishing activities

1) Organization of the Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team

- ① The two sides will establish an 'Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team' composed of maritime coast

guard boats (patrol boats). The joint patrol boats will displace 250 tons or below.

- ② 3 joint patrol boats will be assigned to each side (total of 6), but the number may be adjusted subject to agreement.
- ③ The boats that belong to the Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team will hoist a 900 mm wide, 600 mm long yellow flag on the top of the mast.

2) Mission of the Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team

- ① The Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team will interdict illegal fishing vessels from third countries that attempt to enter the maritime peace zone through the pilot joint fishing zone and will control and deal with them through close coordination.
- ② The Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team will maintain order among fishing vessels from the South and North as well as control fishery guidance boats that enter the pilot joint fishing zone.
- ③ The Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team will rescue vessels from the two sides drifting due to engine failure, distress, deterioration of weather, etc. and will return them based on humanitarian principles.

3) Operation of the Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team

- ① Patrol boats of the Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team will be prohibited from entering the joint fishing zone. However, in case of emergency such as distress or rescue of personnel within the joint fishing zone, the patrol boats may enter upon notification to the other side.
- ② Joint patrol will take place on a date agreed upon by the two sides in consideration of the fishing schedule and interdiction of illegal fishing vessels from third countries.
- ③ Joint patrol will take place in principle during the day (April – September: 0800 –1800 hours, October – March: 0900 –1700 hours). Each side will notify its patrol team's schedule to the other side 24 hours in advance. Any situation that arises during the night will be resolved through consultations between the two sides.
- ④ The joint patrol route will follow around the outer boundary of the joint fishing zone either clockwise or anti-clockwise, depending on mutual agreement.
- ⑤ The Inter-Korean Joint Patrol Team will follow each of its own superior authority's command. Communications and call signs between patrol boats will adhere to the 'June 4 Agreement' of 2004.
- ⑥ The two sides will refrain from any provocative comment or action during joint patrol. In the event of a contingency, the patrol boat will be immediately separated, and the matter must be resolved through mutual consultations.

[Annex 5]

Military Assurance for the Joint Use of Han (Imjin) River Estuary

1. Establishment of a joint utilization zone

- ① The zone within the Han (Imjin) River Estuary stretching 70km long—in the South, from the northeastern end point of the Gimpo peninsula to the southwestern end point of Gyodong-do, and in the North, from Imhan-ri, Panmun-gun, Kaesong-si to Haenam-ri, Yeonan-gun, North Hwanghae Province—will be designated as the joint utilization zone.
- ② All practical military matters arising from within the joint utilization zone will be dealt with through consultations between the two sides.

2. Joint survey

- ① Field survey on the joint utilization zone will be carried out by the end of December 2018.
- ② The joint survey team will be composed of about 10 people from each side, including experts on the subject matter.
- ③ Matters regarding the use of equipment, hardware, and vessels required for the joint survey will be subject to mutual cooperation.
- ④ Any comment or action that may provoke the other side will be prohibited among the site survey crew. They may not carry any explosives, weapons, or live rounds.
- ⑤ In case of an emergency during the joint survey such as natural disaster, the team may anchor at a nearby location under the other side's jurisdiction, and the safety and comfort of the team members will be ensured.

3. Military assurance measures within the joint utilization zone

- ① A document that includes information on the personnel and vessel (type, length and weight, purpose of entry, size of crew, cargo on board) due to enter the joint utilization zone will be delivered to the other side 1 day in advance via the Western inter-Korean military communication line.
- ② Checkpoints for each side in the mutually agreed-upon locations within the joint utilization zone will be established, where personnel and vessels will be inspected.
- ③ All vessels sailing through the joint utilization zone will not be allowed to approach within 100 m of the other side's boundary line.
- ④ In consideration of the seasonal influence on visual identification capability, passage hours for vessels in the joint utilization zone will be as follows: 0700 to 1900 hours from April 1 to September 30; and 0800 to 1800 hours from October 1 to March 31.
- ⑤ No personnel or vessel sailing through the joint utilization zone is allowed to carry surveillance

and reconnaissance equipment, explosives, other weapons, or live-rounds.

- ⑥ Any comment or action that may provoke the other side will be prohibited in the joint utilization zone.
- ⑦ Vessel from each side may not contact or communicate with vessels from the other side except for the purpose of exchanging navigational signals to avoid mutual collision.
- ⑧ If a vessel or individual drifts within the joint utilization zone or an emergency situation arises due to other causes, the two sides will cooperate based on humanitarian principles.

4. Military assurance measures related to inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation within the joint utilization zone will be devised through consultations between the two sides.

Chronicle of Inter-Korean Military Relations

December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2020

North Korea	Date	South Korea
Soldier (1) defected to South Korea from the 22nd Division across DMZ (defected)	December 1, 2018	
	December 4, 2018	Pilot withdrawal of GPs (11 locations) opens passages for mutual verification (December 4 - 11)
	December 9, 2018	Inter-Korean joint waterway survey of Han River estuary completed (November 5 - December 9)
	December 12, 2018	Both Koreaes conduct mutual site verification for the pilot withdrawal of GPs (11 locations)
	December 28, 2018	The ROK delivers goods for normalization of military communication lines in Transportation Corridor West (Kaesong)
Chairman Kim Jong-un delivers New Year's address * Thorough implementation of inter-Korean agreements; expansion and development of cooperation and exchanges	January 1, 2019	The ROK government announces its welcome stance
North Korea–China summit (January 7 - 10; Chairman Kim visits China)	January 8, 2019	
High-level official meeting between Kim Yong-chol and Michael Richard Pompeo (Washington, D.C.)	January 18, 2019	The White House announces the 2nd US–North Korea summit to be held at the end of February
	January 28, 2019	The UN Security Council (UNSC) waives sanctions on North Korea for the joint remains recovery
	January 30, 2019	The two Koreaes hold military working-level talks; South Korea delivers the nautical chart of Han River estuary to North Korea
The US and North Korea and the US hold working-level negotiations for the summit (February 6 - 8, Pyongyang) * North Korea (Kim Hyok-chol) and US (Stephen Biegun)	February 6, 2019	
Chairman Kim visits the North Korean Ministry of Defense on Military Foundation Day * "...promote the advancement of revolutionary armament capabilities"	February 8, 2019	
US–North Korea summit (February 27 - 28, Hanoi) * Denuclearization negotiations break down	February 27, 2019	
Foreign Minister Ri Yong-ho holds an emergency late-night press conference * Insists on partial removal of sanctions rather than full removal	March 1, 2019	
	March 2, 2019	The ROK Minister of National Defense and the US Secretary of Defense talk over the phone to announce the end of "KR/FE"
	March 3, 2019	The ROK and the US defense authorities announce the joint exercise "19-1 Dong Maeng"
	March 4, 2019	The ROK and the US conduct the 19-1 Dong Maeng Exercise (March 4 - 12)
	March 6, 2019	The ROK government announces the "Ulchi Taegeuk Exercise" (to be conducted in May)
	March 8, 2019	UNSC waives sanctions against North Korea for the reunion of separated families in North and South Korea
Senior North Korean diplomat Choi Sun-hee holds a press conference related to the US–North Korea summit * "...we have no plans to enter into negotiations like this one"	March 15, 2019	
	April 1, 2019	The ROK removes additional mines on the south side of Arrowhead Hill and initiates basic excavation

North Korea	Date	South Korea
	April 3, 2019	The ROK announces the opening of three DMZ Peace Dulle-gil (currently known as the DMZ Peace Trail)
14th Supreme People's Assembly holds the first meeting (April 11 - 12)	April 11, 2019	
Chairman Kim delivers an administrative speech at the Supreme People's Assembly * "...transform inter-Korean relations into solid reconciliation and cooperation relations"	April 12, 2019	
	April 22, 2019	The ROK and the US conduct a combined air exercise (2 weeks) * Alternative to Max Thunder
North Korea–Russia summit (Vladivostok) Spokesperson of the National Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Fatherland issues a statement condemning the combined air exercise * "...the ROK–US combined air exercise violated the military agreement" North Korean Minister of Defense gives a speech in relation to the peace regime (Moscow) * "...must move from armistice agreement to peace regime"	April 25, 2019	
	April 27, 2019	The ROK government holds a "peace performance" (JSA) The ROK government opens "DMZ Peace Trail" in Goseong to the public (Step 1)
	May 1, 2019	The ROK government resumes tours to the south of JSA
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Wonsan) * Chairman Kim instructs a fire strike exercise in the eastern area	May 4, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range missile launches * "...inconsistent with the purpose of the CMA"
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs answers, * "...it was just part of normal military exercise" Spokesperson for the delegation of general-level military talks condemns the ROK military authorities, * "...they have no right to bring up the military agreement"	May 8, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range missile launches
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Gusong, North Pyongan Province) * Chairman Kim instructs a fire strike exercise in the western area	May 9, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range ballistic missile launches * "...very concerned that such missile launches will not at all help efforts to improve inter-Korean relations and alleviate military tensions on the Korean Peninsula"
	May 10, 2019	President Moon Jae-in's interview on the 2nd anniversary of his inauguration * "...have warned the North that if this behavior continues, it may make inter-Korean dialogue and negotiations difficult"
	May 27, 2019	Ulchi Taeguk Exercise (May 27 - 30)
	June 1, 2019	The ROK government opens "DMZ Peace Trail" in Cheorwon to the public
	June 3, 2019	The ROK and the US Defense Ministers hold talks, announcing the end of the Ulchi-Freedom Guardian (UFG) Exercise
	June 11, 2019	The ROK holds a burial ceremony for the remains presumed to be part of the UN Forces found at Arrowhead Hill The ROK Navy tows a drifting fishing boat from North Korea in the East Sea and repatriates it to North Korea

North Korea	Date	South Korea
	June 15, 2019	North Korean fishing boat (4 people aboard) found (Samcheok Port off East Sea)
	June 18, 2019	North Korean citizens (2 persons) repatriated to North Korea (JSA)
North Korea–China summit (June 20 - 21; Xi Jinping visits North Korea)	June 20, 2019	
	June 30, 2019	ROK–US summit (Seoul) Leaders of the ROK, North Korea, and the US gather in Panmunjeom; North Korea and US hold talks
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs demands the suspension of combined exercises	July 16, 2019	
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Wonsan) * Chairman Kim instructs firing a new-type tactical guided weapon in a show of force	July 25, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range ballistic missile launches * "...expressed our concerns that the North's missile launches does not help in the effort to alleviate military tensions on the Korean Peninsula"
North Korea repatriates Russian fishing boat (2 South Korean sailors, Sokcho Port)	July 28, 2019	The ROK Navy tows a fishing boat from North Korea in East Sea (3 persons aboard) and repatriates it to North Korea
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Wonsan) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a new-type large-caliber MRL	July 31, 2019	The ROK finds a body suspected to be a North Korean soldier (1st Division, Imjin River) JCS responds to North Korean short-range ballistic missile launches * "...expressed our concerns that the North's missile launches will not help in the efforts to alleviate military tensions on the Korean Peninsula"
	August 1, 2019	Soldier (1) defects to South Korea via Imjin River (defected) UK, France, and Germany issue a joint statement condemning the launch of ballistic missiles from North Korea
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Yeongheung, South Hamgyong Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a new-type large-caliber MRL	August 2, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range ballistic missile launches * "...urged North Korea anew to stop their acts that are non-conducive to the efforts made to alleviate military tensions on the Korean Peninsula"
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs criticizes the joint statement made by the UK, France, and Germany * "...rights to self-sovereignty and self-defense have been violated"	August 3, 2019	
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Gwail, South Hwanghae Province) * Chairman Kim instructs firing a new-type tactical guided missile in a show of force Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a criticism in relation to the combined exercise * "...the drive behind the dialogue will continue to decelerate"	August 6, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range ballistic missile launches * "...perceiving the current situation seriously, paying close attention to the trend through close cooperation between the ROK and the United States and strengthening the maintenance of thorough readiness posture"
ational Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Fatherland issues a statement disclosing the truth, criticizing the combined exercise * "...violation of the agreement to suspend all hostile acts"	August 8, 2019	
	August 9, 2019	ROK–US Defense Ministers' Talks

North Korea	Date	South Korea
North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles (Hamheung, South Hamgyong Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a new-type weapon	August 10, 2019	The ROK government opens "DMZ Peace Trail" in Paju to the public The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range missile launches * "...North Korea's missile launches are likely to raise military tensions on the Korean Peninsula; we urge cessation"
A US-related director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement * "...self-defense armed forces construction project"	August 11, 2019	ROK-US combined command post exercise (CPX) (August 11 - 20) * Verified the initial operational capacity (IOC) in preparation for wartime OPCON transition
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Tongcheon, Gangwon Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a new-type weapon Spokesperson of the National Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of Fatherland issues a statement condemning the combined exercise on Liberation Day * "...the loss of the drive behind the inter-Korean dialogue is entirely attributable to the South Korean authorities"	August 16, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range missile launches * "...urged North Korea to stop their acts that are non-conducive to the efforts made to alleviate military tensions on the Korean Peninsula"
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement condemning the South for bringing in strategic weapons * "...not interested in any dialogue accompanying military threats"	August 22, 2019	
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Sondok, South Hamgyong Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a super-large MRL	August 24, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range missile launches * "...urged North Korea to stop their acts that are non-conducive to the efforts made to alleviate military tensions on the Korean Peninsula"
	August 27, 2019	UK, France, and Germany issue a joint statement condemning the launch of ballistic missiles from North Korea
14th Supreme People's Assembly holds the second meeting * Chairman Kim is absent; Chairman Kim's status and powers reinforced Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement condemning the joint statement issued by the UK, France, and Germany * "...they need to realize that their acts only make dialogue less likely"	August 29, 2019	
Chairman Kim calls for an emergency extended meeting of the Central Military Commission * Appointed General Park Jong-chon as Chief of Staff	September 6, 2019	
Senior North Korean diplomat Choi Sun-hee issues a statement, proposing North Korea-US talks * "...an alternative based on acceptable calculation methods"	September 9, 2019	
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Gaechon, South Pyongan Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a super-large MRL	September 10, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range ballistic missile launches * "...strong concern over the launch of short-range projectiles, the overall military security situation will be inspected on the Korean Peninsula"
	September 19, 2019	UNC contacts North Korean military staff officer (T-3)
	September 23, 2019	ROK-US summit (Washington, D.C.)
	September 24, 2019	President Moon delivers keynote speech before the UN General Assembly (New York) * No war is acceptable, mutual guarantee of security, and mutual prosperity

North Korea	Date	South Korea
	September 30, 2019	National Assembly passes resolution condemning North Korean nuclear advancement and missile provocation
Senior North Korean diplomat Choi Sun-hee issues a statement, disclosing schedule for working-level negotiations between the US and North Korea * Preliminary contact (October 4), Working-level negotiation (October 5)	October 1, 2019	
Test fires Pukguksong-3 (SLBM) (Wonsan) * Chairman Kim is absent	October 2, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean missile launch * "...concerned over the launch of projectiles ahead of the working-level negotiations between North Korea and the United States...will put diplomatic efforts for the successful holding of working-level negotiations, complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and establishment of permanent peace"
Working-level negotiation between the US and North Korea (Stockholm) Ambassador Kim Myong-gil of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs holds a press conference, announcing the breakdown of negotiations	October 5, 2019	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement condemning the US for the breakdown of negotiations * "...the fate of the dialogue depends on the attitude of the United States, and the time limit ends late this year"	October 6, 2019	
	October 8, 2019	European Union (UK, France, Germany, Belgium, Poland, and Estonia) issues a joint statement condemning the launch of SLBM
Chairman Kim visits Mt. Kumgang, issues remarks on demolishing ROK facilities in Mt. Kumgang	October 23, 2019	
	October 28, 2019	The ROK government proposes a working-level meeting between the two Koreas regarding Mt. Kumgang
North Korea refuses ROK's proposal to hold a working-level meeting regarding Mt. Kumgang	October 29, 2019	
Chairman Kim delivers condolence for the death of President Moon's mother (Panmunjom)	October 30, 2019	
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Suncheon, South Pyongan Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a super-large MRL	October 31, 2019	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range missile launches * "...show strong concern over North Korea firing short-range projectiles"
	November 2, 2019	The ROK Navy captures a fishing boat from North Korea (2 people aboard) (East Sea) * Repatriated to North Korea on November 2 (2 persons)
	November 4, 2019	US Department of Defense (DoD) announces that a ROK-US combined air exercise will be carried out in December
	November 5, 2019	The ROK government proposes a visit to North Korea by the facility inspection team related to Mt. Kumgang * No response from North Korea
Ambassador Kwon Jong-gun of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement condemning the announcement of the resumption of a combined air exercise * "...a declaration to confront us, a damp cast over dialogue"	November 6, 2019	US DoD announces that the exercise will be carried out regardless of the condemnation
Spokesperson of the State Affairs Commission issues a statement condemning the combined air exercise * "...we will contemplate over how the 'new path' will affect the future of the United States"	November 13, 2019	US Secretary of Defense says "military exercise may be adjusted to improve dialogue"

North Korea	Date	South Korea
Kim Yong-chol issues a statement urging the US to cease the combined air exercise	November 14, 2019	The ROK and the US hold the 51st SCM (at the MND) UK, France, and Germany issue a joint statement condemning the launch of ballistic missiles from North Korea
Chairman Kim attends the Air and Anti-Air Forces Combat Flight Competition	November 16, 2019	
	November 17, 2019	The ROK and the US Defense Ministers postpone the combined air exercise
Chairman Kim instructs a parachute infiltration drill for Air and Anti-Air Forces An adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kim Gye-gwan issues a statement urging the withdrawal of hostile policies before the US-North Korea summit * "...if the United States do not wish to give up on dialogue, they must make a decision to withdraw their hostile policies that view us as an enemy first"	November 18, 2019	President Trump urges 3rd US-North Korea summit
Kim Yong-chol issues a statement urging the withdrawal of hostile policies prior to the US-North Korea summit * "...only after the threats are clearly removed will we discuss the issue of denuclearization" Ambassador Kim Myong-gil of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement before the US-North Korea summit urging the withdrawal of hostile policies	November 19, 2019	
Chairman Kim inspects the defense unit on Changrin Island along the border * Orders coastal artillery to fire	November 23, 2019	
	November 25, 2019	The ROK government expresses condemnation and urges the prevention of recurrence of the military agreement violation for firing coastal artillery on Changrin Island * Delivers a written protest
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Yonpo, South Hamgyong Province) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a super-large MRL	November 28, 2019	JCS responds to North Korean short-range projectile launches * "...North Korea's actions are non-conducive to the efforts made to alleviate tensions on the Korean Peninsula. The ROK Armed Forces hereby express strong condemnation and repeatedly urge North Korea to immediately cease raising military tensions"
Rhee Tae-Sung, Vice Director in charge of the US at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, states that the deadline at the end of the year is imminent, urging the US to make a decision * "...the choice for Christmas present is entirely up to the United States"	December 3, 2019	President Trump mentions possible use of force * "...we surely don't want to, but if military force is necessary, we would definitely forge it"
Chief of General Staff Park Jong-chon issues a statement * "...if the United States use force, we will also act accordingly"	December 4, 2019	UNSC holds a closed-door meeting to discuss North Korean missile launch * Six European Union countries—UK, France, Germany, Belgium, Poland, and Estonia—issue a joint statement Minister of National Defense Jeong Kyeong-doo: "...tensions are rising as North Korea claims the 'new path', and we are staying alert" * Remarks at the meeting of major commanders of the entire army
The ROK and the US Presidents talk over the phone, "...consensus on maintaining denuclearization dialogue momentum"	December 7, 2019	The ROK and the US Presidents talk over the phone, "...consensus on maintaining denuclearization dialogue momentum"
Spokesperson of the Academy of National Defense Science announces that an important test is in progress * "...a very significant test is in progress at the West Sea satellite launch site" (December 7, in the afternoon)	December 8, 2019	President Trump says, "If North Korea acts hostile, they will lose everything" US Secretary of Defense says, "We are always open for dialogue with North Korea"

North Korea	Date	South Korea
Kim Yong-chol issues a statement, * "We have nothing more to lose" Ri Su-yong of the Central Military Commission urges President Trump to stop using blunt language	December 9, 2019	
	December 10, 2019	Defense Ministers from the ROK and Australia urge North Korea to stop increasing tension and resume dialogue
	December 11, 2019	Pompeo (US) says, "...expect North Korea to abort its ICBM launch and to comply with its commitment to denuclearization" Convened the UNSC US Ambassador to the United Nations, "...North Korea must make a bold decision" "...North Korea's 'new path' signifies a serious provocation" UN General Assembly adopts 3 resolutions including the call for abandonment of nuclear weapons
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues a statement in response to the UNSC * "...it provided decisive help for us to make a clear decision on which path to take"	December 12, 2019	
Chief of General Staff Park Jong-chon, in relation to the important test, urges refraining from provocations to North Korea * "...they will be able to rest throughout the end of the year only if they refrain from any words or actions that provoke us" Spokesperson of the Academy of National Defense Science announces that an important test is in progress * "a very significant test is being carried out again at the West Sea satellite launch site" (December 13)	December 14, 2019	
	December 16, 2019	Biegun (US) proposes holding talks to North Korea * North Korea showed no response
	December 21, 2019	The ROK rescues North Korean sailors (2 persons), and turns them over to North Korea (East Sea)
Chairman Kim attends the 3rd expanded meeting of the 7th Central Military Commission * "...discussed important military issues and countermeasures"	December 22, 2019	
	December 24, 2019	President Trump in relation to North Korea's Christmas gift: "...we will take care of it, so let's keep an eye on them"
The 5th Plenary Meeting of the 7th Workers' Party of Korea takes place (December 28 - 31) * "...powerful political, diplomatic, and military offensive guarantees victory of a frontal breakthrough"	December 28, 2019	
Omits New Year's address (replaced by the 5th Plenary Meeting) * "...let's break through all obstacles head-on"	January 1, 2020	President Trump: "Good relationship with Kim Jong-un"
	January 2, 2020	US Secretary of Defense, "...will review the resumption of combined exercises depending on North Korea's action"
	January 10, 2020	Director of National Security returns home from the US * "...delivered President Trump's birthday message to Chairman Kim Jong-un to North Korea"
An adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kim Gye-gwan issues a statement * "...a hand-written birthday message of President Trump was directly delivered...it is presumptuous to intervene between Chairman Kim and President Trump"	January 11, 2020	

North Korea	Date	South Korea
	January 12, 2020	US National Security Advisor says, "The United States conveyed its message to North Korea to resume dialogue"
North Korea declares conversion into a national emergency defense system in response to COVID-19	January 24, 2020	
North Korea enforces measures to restrict inter-Korean traffic due to COVID-19; temporarily shuts down the Liaison Office in Kaesong	January 30, 2020	
North Korea notifies the delay in demolition at Mt. Kumgang due to COVID-19; suspends international travel via air, train, and ship	January 31, 2020	
Chairman Kim observes a joint strike drill of defense units in the eastern region	February 28, 2020	
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Wonsan) * Chairman Kim instructs test firing of a super-large MRL	March 2, 2020	The ROK government condemns the North Korean fire strike drill * "...strong concern over North Korea's behavior that raises military tension"
Kim Yo-jong issues a statement * "...fire combat exercise is a self-defense action...any condemnation or request to stop is presumptuous"	March 3, 2020	
	March 6, 2020	Ambassadors of five European member states of the UNSC (UK, France, Germany, Belgium, and Estonia) issue a joint statement condemning North Korean provocations
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs refutes the statement of condemnation of five member states * "...it was a conventional drill"	March 7, 2020	
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Sondok, South Hamgyong Province) * Chairman Kim again instructs a fire strike exercise for long-range artillery at the front line	March 9, 2020	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range projectile launches * "...we hereby point out again that continuing large-scale joint strike drills is not conducive to peace settlement efforts on the Korean Peninsula"
Chairman Kim instructs artillery firefighting competition (7th and 9th corps)	March 12, 2020	
Chairman Kim instructs artillery firefighting competition (3rd, 4th, and 8th corps) North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Sonchon, North Pyongan Province) * Chairman Kim instructs tactical guided weapon demonstration shooting	March 21, 2020	JCS responds to North Korean short-range projectile launches * "...North Korea's military action is extremely inappropriate in the midst of global difficulties due to COVID-19...we urge immediate cessation"
North Korea fires two short-range projectiles (Wonsan) * Chairman Kim is absent, instructs test firing of a super-large MRL	March 29, 2020	The ROK government responds to North Korean short-range projectile launches * "...we are keeping an eye on related trends as we continue to receive reports on the North Korean short-range projectile launches from the Ministry of National Defense and the National Intelligence Service"
Chairman Kim instructs mortar artillery firing drill * "...reinforce artillery, focus on artillery"	April 10, 2020	
Chairman Kim inspects the Pursuit and Raid Regiment in the Western District	April 11, 2020	
North Korea fires cruise missiles (Chairman Kim is absent)	April 14, 2020	US JCS in relation to cruise missiles * "...we do not believe it was a provocation. We believe it was related to an internal commemorative event"
Shooting at GP (3rd Division)	May 3, 2020	JCS responds to GP shooting * "...a violation of the CMA"
	May 6, 2020	The ROK Armed Forces conduct combined defense training on the northwestern islands * ROKAF Air Combat Command and Navy 2nd Fleet

North Korea	Date	South Korea
Spokesperson of the Ministry of Defense condemns military drill in the West Sea * "...everything is going back to where it used to be before 2018"	May 8, 2020	
Chairman Kim attends the 4th expanded meeting of the 7th Central Military Commission * Further reinforcement of nuclear war deterrence; Ri Pyong-chol elected as Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission	May 24, 2020	
Kim Yo-jong issues a statement * Condemns North Korean defectors' anti-republican acts	June 4, 2020	
Spokesperson of the United Front Department issues a statement * Foretells the launch of a review project for the practical execution in relation to the June 4 dialogue of First Deputy Director Kim Yo-jong (closure of the Joint Liaison Office)	June 5, 2020	
Korean Central News Agency announces the "complete shutdown of all communication lines between South and North Korea" from 12 p.m., June 9"	June 9, 2020	
Jang Kum-chol, Director of the United Front Department, issues a statement * "...from now on, it will be truly regrettable and painful for the South Korean authorities"	June 12, 2020	
Kim Yo-jong issues a statement * "...they will have to witness the Inter-Korean Joint Liaison Office collapsing without any trace...will hand over the right to exercise the next hostile act to the General Staff Department of the Korean People's Army"	June 13, 2020	
2:50 p.m., North Korea destroys the Inter-Korean Joint Liaison Office in Kaesong	June 16, 2020	Vice Minister of Unification gives a briefing on the current issue * "...the destruction of the inter-Korean Joint Liaison Office is a violation of the 2018 Panmunjom Declaration" Deputy Director of National Security gives a briefing on the results of a NSC meeting * "...we gravely warn that we will act strongly if North Korea continues to take actions that will further deteriorate the situation"
Kim Yo-jong, Jang Kum-chol, Director of the United Front Department, and spokesperson of the General Staff Department issue a statement * "...impudent sophistry that has shifted the responsibility...slavishness and subordination" (Kim Yo-jong) * "...there will be no further exchanges or cooperation with the South Korean authorities in the future" (Jang Kum-chol) *Announced four major military operations plans (Spokesperson of the General Staff Department)	June 17, 2020	Chief of Operations at the JCS briefs on the current situation * "...we express our deep concern over the announcement that various military plans will be ratified" Vice Minister of Unification gives a briefing on the current issue * "...we express strong regret over North Korea's announcement that the Mt. Kumgang tourist district and the Kaesong Industrial Complex will be militarized" Senior Presidential Secretary for Public Affairs gives a briefing * " "...we express strong regret over the unprecedented, nonsensical behavior, as it has intentionally distorted the purpose of the proposal to dispatch a special envoy to North Korea"
Spokesperson of the United Front Department sends message that the North's plan to send leaflets remains unchanged * "...we have no intention of reconsidering or changing our plans"	June 20, 2020	

North Korea	Date	South Korea
Chairman Kim holds the 5th preliminary meeting of the 7th Central Military Commission * Withholds military action against the ROK	June 23, 2020	
Kim Yong-chol issues a statement in relation to the remarks of Minister Jeong Kyeong-doo: "...complete withdrawal of military action against South Korea, not postponement" * "...it won't be fun when our postponement becomes reconsideration"	June 24, 2020	
First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Choi Sun-hee issues a statement * Condemns the ROK's intention to mediate, denying the possibility of US-North Korea talks for internal political purposes; demands a change in the US attitude, pressing the US	July 4, 2020	
Director-general for US affairs Kwon Jong-gun issues a statement * Continues to dismiss any possibility of US-North Korea summit in line with a US high-ranking official's visit to the ROK; condemns the role of 'mediator' of the ROK for US-North Korea talks	July 7, 2020	
Kim Yo-jong issues a statement * While dismissing the possibility of a US-North Korea summit within the year, North Korea emphasizes its firm determination to denuclearize and urges the US to change its attitude	July 10, 2020	
Chairman Kim instructs the 5th expanded meeting of the 7th Central Military Commission * Points out a series of issues raised in the military industry; holds a closed-door meeting to discuss the key issues to reinforce war deterrence	July 18, 2020	
Chairman Kim calls for an extended emergency meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee * Seals off Kaesong and declares a state of emergency; decides to convert the "national emergency epidemic prevention system" into a "maximum emergency system"; urges strict punishment and countermeasures against units that have allowed troops to defect to the ROK	July 25, 2020	
Chairman Kim supervises a commemorative event for the occasion of Victory Day (July 27) * Visits the war veterans' tomb; awards the "Baekdusan Commemorative Pistol" (July 26); holds the National Veteran's Contest (July 27) * Participates in the National Veteran's Contest to deliver a congratulatory speech mentioning that the national safety and future will be firmly guaranteed with nuclear deterrence	July 27, 2020	
	July 31, 2020	Minister of Unification visits the Donghae Line Inter-Korean Transit Office and Jejin Station * "...we will actively seek ways to resume tourism in Mt. Kumgang and create a new economic order on the Korean Peninsula by promoting inter-Korean railroads and road connections"

North Korea	Date	South Korea
	August 15, 2020	President Moon delivers National Liberation Day congratulatory remarks * "...we look forward to the day when the citizens of the two Koreas will practically avail themselves to the benefits of peace through cooperation in the prevention of epidemics and joint management of shared rivers"
Chairman Kim presides over the 6th Plenary Meeting of the 7th Central Military Commission * "...the severe internal and external situation persists...the planned growth goals of the national economy are seriously underachieved and people's lives have not been remarkably improved" ** Agenda of the 8th Party Congress: program types of this year; overview of the Central Military Commission's program; program direction for the next year and; five-year economic development plan	August 19, 2020	
	September 23, 2020	President Moon delivers a speech at the UN * "...war must come to a complete and permanent end on the Korean Peninsula"
	September 24, 2020	ROK fisheries official * The shooting of a ROK civilian and damage to the body cannot be justified; the ROK government strongly condemned this incident; North Korea must apologize for this incident and take clear measures to prevent its recurrence
	September 25, 2020	Suh Hoon, Director of National Security, gives a briefing on a telephone message from North Korea - Chairman Kim expressed regret over the death of the ROK fisheries official in the West Sea * "...it was an unexpected and unsavory incident that took place in our waters, which added great disappointment to President Moon and the South Koreans...we truly apologize for the incident"
	September 25, 2020	Director of National Security briefs on the letters of the leaders of the two Koreas - President Moon's letter (September 8) * Salutes the Chairman of the State Council for his strong commitment to respect for life. "...it is regrettable that we are unable to help each other when each day is at stake. We sincerely hope that all difficulties will be overcome as the Chairman wishes" - Chairman Kim's letter (September 12) * "...through this opportunity, I would like to extend my sincerity without any pretense to the President and the South Koreans. Hearing the news of malignant virus and typhoon damage reminded me of the President's tireless efforts...I am waiting for the terrible time of this year to pass and for the days when good things will arrive one after another"
	September 27, 2020	The NSC Secretary gives a briefing regarding the telephone message from North Korea on the death of a ROK fisheries official * Positively evaluates North Korea's prompt apology and promise to prevent recurrence; requests a joint investigation to discover the truth; requests the restoration and re-operation of military communication lines
Chairman Kim sends a consolation message to President Trump and his wife after they were tested positive for COVID-19 * "...I sincerely wish you and your wife complete recovery as soon as possible"	October 3, 2020	

North Korea	Date	South Korea
North Korea holds military parade celebrating the foundation of the Workers' Party of Korea * (Voice speech) Lauds the efforts of the Korean People's Army; sends a message of appeasement to the ROK	October 10, 2020	
	October 14 - 15, 2020	The ROK and the US hold the 52nd SCM (Washington, D.C.)
Korea Central News Agency expresses its position one month after its expression of regret over "the death of a ROK citizen in the West Sea" (September 25) * "...South Korea is primarily responsible for the unfortunate event...our position is to hope that the unpleasant precedent that caused the North and South relations to deteriorate will not happen again"	October 30, 2020	
	November 4, 2020	Minister of Unification delivers congratulatory remarks at the opening ceremony of the Panmunjom Tour Support Center * "...proposed to North Korea the restoration of inter-Korean communications and Joint Liaison Office and the reunion of separated families"
	November 6, 2020	President Moon delivers a keynote speech at the Jeju Peace Forum * "...the determination of the two Koreas and multilateral cooperation will bring peace on the Korean Peninsula and contribute to world peace. A multilateral peace regime is an essential spirit for establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia"
	November 9, 2020	President Moon's remarks at a senior aides' meeting * "...we are ready to make active efforts for establishing peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula, along with building a community for life and safety"
North Korea publishes a photo book that summarizes the weapons systems developed after Chairman Kim took office	November 24, 2020	

Chronicle of North Korea's Infiltrations and Local Provocations against the ROK

Status of Infiltrations and Local Provocations by Year

As of November 30, 2020

Classification	Total	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s
Total	3,120	398	1,336	403	227	250
Infiltrations	2,002	379	1,009	310	167	94
Local provocations	1,118	19	327	93	60	156

Classification	2000s	2010 - 2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	241	264	0	0	1
Infiltrations	16	27	0	0	0
Local provocations	225	237	0	0	1

Chronicle of Infiltrations and Local Provocations

(December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2020)

Date	Main Contents
May 3, 2020	North Korean GP fires at South Korean GP in Cheorwon area (four shots)

Detailed Status of Infiltrations and Local Provocations by Year and Type

As of November 30, 2020

Classification	Total	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010 - 2017	2018	2019	2020
Total	3,120	398	1,336	403	227	250	241	264	0	0	1
Direct	1,749	375	988	298	38	50	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect	214	0	0	0	127	44	16	27	0	0	0
Infiltrations Espionage using ROK defectors to NK and ROK citizens abducted by North Korea	39	4	21	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	2,002	379	1,009	310	167	94	16	27	0	0	0
Local provocations Land	503	7	298	51	44	48	42	12	0	0	1
Sea	559	2	22	27	12	107	180	209	0	0	0
Air	51	10	7	15	4	1	3	11	0	0	0
Electronic warfare	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Subtotal	1,118	19	327	93	60	156	225	237	0	0	1

Combined · Joint Exercises and Training

ROK–US Combined Exercise

Name	Type	Purpose	Description
Combined command post training in the first half and second half (CCPT)	Command post exercise (CPX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Command theater operations and gain proficiency with warfighting procedures under the current combined defense system • Improve ROK–US combined operations and rear area defense operations capabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial response to crisis management • Gain proficiency with wartime transition procedures • Gain proficiency with operational plan execution procedures • Gain proficiency with reception, staging, onward movement, and integration procedures within the combined operational areas

* Concurrently verify and evaluate the operational capabilities of the F-CFC in preparation for the wartime OPCON transition under the ROK–US agreement

ROK Armed Forces Joint Exercise and Training

Name	Type	Purpose	Description
Ulchi Taegeuk Exercise	Theater-level CPX and government exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultivate the joint operational command capabilities • Gain proficiency with procedures for carrying out the Chungmu plan and warfighting SOPs in association with military exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National crisis response support • Crisis management procedure exercise • Wartime transition procedure exercise
Hoguk Training	Operational command-level field training exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish military readiness posture and cultivate joint operations execution capabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational plan execution training in preparation for local provocations and full-scale war • Exercise to apply operations execution procedures according to changes in the operational environment
Comprehensive rear area training (Hwarang Training)	Integrated civil–government–military–police defense training by area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain proficiency with wartime and peacetime operational plan execution procedures • Enhance the residents' security awareness • Confirm the integrated civil–government–military–police defense posture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counter-terrorism operations • Operations to prepare against infiltrations and local provocations • Wartime transition • Operations to prepare against a full-scale war

Joint Communiqué of the 51st ROK–US Security Consultative Meeting

Seoul, November 15, 2019

- 1.** The 51st Republic of Korea (ROK)–United States (US) Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) was held in Seoul, on November 15, 2019. ROK Minister of National Defense Jeong Kyeongdoo and US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper led their respective delegations, which included senior defense and foreign affairs officials. On November 14, 2019, ROK Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Park Hanki and US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, presided over the 44th US–ROK Military Committee Meeting (MCM).
- 2.** The Minister and the Secretary pledged to continue close communication and cooperation to develop the ROK–US Alliance, which has served as the linchpin of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the Northeast Asian region, in a mutually reinforcing and a future-oriented manner. Both sides praised the SCM’s effective handling of Alliance policy coordination over the past half-century in full expectation that it should continue as the cornerstone venue to affirm national commitments designed to develop the Alliance and enhance security and prosperity in the region. They also assessed the results of the Joint Study for the Future Defense Vision of the ROK–US Alliance regarding future defense cooperation areas of the Alliance and reaffirmed the common understanding that the scope and level of the future Alliance cooperation should continuously expand and deepen.
- 3.** The Minister and the Secretary reviewed the current security environment in the Korean Peninsula and the region and discussed cooperative measures between the two nations. Both sides reaffirmed the need for close coordination and cooperation to achieve their common objective of complete denuclearization in a verifiable manner and the establishment of permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula. They also recognized the historic achievements made by the meetings between the leaders of the ROK, the United States, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) during 2018 and 2019 including the ROK–US–DPRK meeting in June 2019 that was held at Panmunjom, a place that once served as a symbol of division. They also decided to continue their efforts towards creating an environment conducive to the implementation of the commitments in the Panmunjom Declaration on Peace, Prosperity, and Reunification of the Korean Peninsula (Panmunjom Declaration), the Pyongyang Joint Declaration of September 2018 (the Pyongyang Joint Declaration), and the Joint Statement of President Donald J. Trump and Chairman Kim Jong Un at the Singapore Summit. They engaged in in-depth discussions on the repeated missile launch activities by the DPRK and pledged to remain closely aligned. They also affirmed the importance of full enforcement of UN Security Council resolutions by the international community.

4. The Minister and the Secretary assessed that the various actions undertaken by the ROK and the DPRK defense authorities to implement the Panmunjom Declaration and the Pyongyang Joint Declaration set conditions for the easing of military tensions and reducing the threat of war on the Korean Peninsula. Minister Jeong noted that all mutual hostilities in the ground, sea, and air have ceased in the border areas and that key projects such as the demilitarization of the Joint Security Area (JSA) and the mutual pilot withdrawal of Guard Posts within the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) have been successfully completed through the implementation of the Comprehensive Military Agreement (CMA). Both sides assessed that the aforementioned efforts supported the stable management of the border areas with no instance of military tension in the border areas over the past year. The Minister and the Secretary pledged to continue to maintain close coordination and cooperation to implement the CMA and emphasized the importance for the DPRK to resume discussions through means including, but not limited to, holding the Inter-Korean Joint Military Committee to implement the CMA fully.

5. The Minister and the Secretary assessed that the United Nations Command (UNC)'s administering of the Armistice Agreement has contributed to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and enabled the implementation of inter-Korean confidence building measures contained in the CMA. The Minister also stated that the ROK fully supports and respects the Armistice Agreement and the authorities and responsibilities of UNC. In addition, noting that the Northern Limit Line (NLL) has been an effective means of separating ROK and DPRK military forces and preventing military tension to date, the Minister expressed his expectation that the buffer zone, which was agreed through the CMA, would contribute to preventing unplanned encounters and contribute to the establishment of a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula. The Secretary shared his understanding that the military confidence-building measures are important for establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula, and noted the important role performed by UNC in implementing the Armistice Agreement and enabling the smooth implementation of confidence-building measures.

6. The Minister and the Secretary assessed that the US–ROK Alliance is strong and reaffirmed the two nations' mutual commitment to the defense of the ROK and the enhancement of mutual security of both nations based on the US–ROK Mutual Defense Treaty and a robust combined defense posture. The Secretary reaffirmed the continued US commitment to provide extended deterrence to the ROK using the full range of military capabilities, including US nuclear, conventional, and missile defense capabilities. The Minister and the Secretary also assessed that the results of the Joint Study on Extended Deterrence brought to light measures to enhance cooperation designed to strengthen extended nuclear deterrence. Both sides pledged to continue to explore jointly measures to enhance the Alliance deterrence posture and implement the Tailored Deterrence Strategy while considering the effects of changes in the security environment on the Peninsula and in the region.

7. The Minister and the Secretary noted that the US forces in the ROK have played a critical role in maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula over the past 66 years, and reaffirmed that US Forces, Korea (USFK) will continue to play an important role in preventing armed conflict on the Korean Peninsula and promoting peace and stability in Northeast Asia. Given the current security environment, the Secretary also reaffirmed the commitment to maintain the current level of the US military personnel in the ROK and to enhance combat readiness.

8. The Minister and the Secretary reviewed preparations for the relocation of the Combined Forces Command (CFC) Headquarters to Camp Humphreys that had been approved by the two sides at the June 3, 2019, ministerial-level meeting. The Minister and the Secretary confirmed that the CFC Headquarters relocation strengthens the ROK–US combined defense posture, and pledged to complete the CFC Headquarters relocation expeditiously. The two sides also pledged to work together so that the relocation contributes toward a stable transition following transfer of wartime operational control (OPCON) in accordance with the Alliance Guiding Principles and the Conditions-based OPCON Transition Plan (COTP).

9. The Minister and the Secretary exchanged views on how the adjusted ROK–US combined exercise and training supported the existing diplomatic efforts to achieve complete denuclearization and permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula. The two sides also assessed that the adjusted combined exercise and training maintained the ROK–US combined defense posture and military readiness while contributing to an environment conducive to OPCON transition, and pledged to continue close coordination on the actions to be implemented in this regard. Both sides assessed that the ROK–US Alliance must continue to focus on military readiness and the combined defense posture to address the dynamic changes on the Peninsula.

10. The Minister and the Secretary committed to cooperate closely to develop comprehensive Alliance capabilities in response to common security threats. The Minister emphasized the plans of the ROK to continue to reinforce its defense capabilities in order to respond proactively to omnidirectional security threats and to be capable of leading future security environment changes through the ongoing Defense Reform 2.0. The Secretary expressed his expectations that the ROK military’s defense reform would contribute to the enhancement of comprehensive Alliance capabilities and to the establishment of a robust US–ROK binational Future-CFC commanded by a ROK general/flag officer.

11. The Minister and the Secretary reviewed the progress of relevant tasks for OPCON transition, discussed the way-ahead, and commended realistic achievements and strides made in preparation for the wartime OPCON transition to a ROK-commanded Future-CFC. The two sides reaffirmed the implementation of the Alliance Guiding Principles that had been signed in 2018 to maintain a steadfast

combined readiness posture, even after OPCON transition. The Minister and the Secretary concurred in the important role that this year's combined command post training had played in maintaining a strong ROK-US combined defense posture and in conducting the certification assessment for the future ROK-US CFC Initial Operational Capability (IOC). After review of the assessment report produced by the combined certification team and the MCM, the Minister and the Secretary reviewed the IOC certification assessment results. The Minister and the Secretary decided to pursue an assessment of Full Operational Capability (FOC) for the Future CFC in 2020 and pledged to implement necessary steps, including the development of Strategic Documents, for the FOC certification assessment.

12. The Minister and the Secretary also affirmed that progress has been made in meeting the conditions for wartime OPCON transition. The two sides noted that the special Permanent Military Committee (PMC) was held to assess the critical military capabilities and the efforts of the special PMC promoted the credibility of the evaluation. The Minister emphasized that the ROK military will continue to acquire defense capabilities necessary to command the future combined defense system and to pursue wartime OPCON transition in a systematic as well as proactive manner. The Secretary reaffirmed the US commitment to continue to provide bridging capabilities until the ROK acquires these capabilities, as well as enduring capabilities. The Minister pledged to acquire these capabilities expeditiously. The two sides pledged to engage in regular evaluation and review of progresses in OPCON transition implementation at the annual SCM and MCM in order to maintain a steadfast combined defense system.

13. The Minister and the Secretary received a report on the results of the US-ROK MCM from the US-ROK CFC Commander and expressed their satisfaction with the progress in enhancing combined defense capabilities and developing relevant operational plans as well as Strategic Documents early next year. The two sides agreed to conduct a joint study on the development of a combined joint multi-purpose live fire training complex.

14. The Minister and the Secretary decided to continue to strengthen cooperation in various areas, including space and cyber, in order to ensure an effective joint response against newly emerging threats and to bolster comprehensive Alliance response capabilities. The Minister and the Secretary acknowledged the efforts of the respective defense authorities to attain space capabilities, including the founding of the US Space Command and the establishment of a space surveillance system in the ROK. The two sides also pledged to explore further cooperative measures to strengthen space capabilities as an Alliance, such as space situational awareness information sharing systems, and to expand bilateral and multilateral combined exercises and training events to improve space operation capabilities. They also pledged to continue engaging in cooperation to develop space professionals equipped with the capabilities to address new space threats and challenges.

15. The Minister and the Secretary reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen Alliance cyber capabilities in light of the increasing scope of cyber security threats. The two sides committed to maintain close communication and coordination in the cyber domain, including sharing trends of cyber threats as well as corresponding policy changes in their respective nations and discussing common issues of interest.

16. The Minister and the Secretary noted that the ROK–US science and technology cooperation has expanded in several domains such as cyber defense, artificial intelligence, automation, and directed energy. The two sides assessed that cooperation is continuing to develop in a way that furthers ROK–US mutual interests.

17. The Minister and the Secretary concurred in the need to strengthen the national defense capabilities of the Alliance, and to establish more efficient and effective collaboration in their development, acquisition, and employment. The two sides concurred in the importance of expanding and deepening cooperation in the areas of defense research and development, industrial cooperation, capability acquisition, and logistics and sustainment, with a focus on strengthening the national defense capabilities of the Alliance as well as interoperability. Going forward, the two sides pledged to continue to devise and deepen cooperative efforts through the regular consultative bodies that support these domains, and approved a reform of those consultative bodies to strengthen their alignment with Alliance policy and strategy.

18. The Minister and the Secretary pledged to continue and to enhance defense cooperation to address wide-ranging global security challenges of mutual interest, including through peacekeeping operations (PKO), counter-piracy operations, stabilization and reconstruction efforts, regional security cooperation initiatives, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. The Minister highlighted the effective global leadership demonstrated by the United States in response to various global security challenges. The Secretary praised the ROK's dedication and contribution to various global security efforts, including the counter-piracy activities in the Gulf of Aden, UN peacekeeping operations, and the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). Based on the common understanding of the Alliance against threats posed by Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), the Minister and the Secretary praised the efforts to improve response capabilities and to guarantee interoperability in the combined force to respond against WMD threats in contingency and to interdict WMD proliferation. They also resolved to continue to strengthen cooperation to improve WMD response capabilities, including efforts that go through the DoD Cooperative Threat Reduction Program.

19. The Minister and the Secretary concurred in the importance of US–ROK–Japan trilateral security cooperation based on common security interests despite the challenges. They committed to continue

ROK–US–Japan trilateral cooperation such as high-level policy consultations, combined exercises, information-sharing, and personnel exchanges. The two sides also pledged to seek ways to expand such efforts into multilateral regional cooperation to promote peace and stability in Northeast Asia.

20. The Minister and the Secretary reaffirmed that an expeditious approach to USFK base relocation and returns is in the interest of both countries and pledged to work together closely on relevant matters including environmental conditions to ensure timely base returns in accordance with the US–ROK Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). With regard to the four installations that require an expeditious approach for returns, the Minister and the Secretary commended the efforts to discuss various measures through the SOFA channel. The Minister and the Secretary also reaffirmed their intent to continue to discuss relevant issues through regular consultations in accordance with the SOFA in order to reach mutually acceptable solutions. The two sides also noted that the responsibility to restore the facilities and areas should be determined pursuant to agreements between the two countries and committed to enhance transparency regarding release of relevant information.

21. The Minister and the Secretary shared the view that ensuring continuous training opportunities for USFK is an essential element to maintaining a strong combined defensive posture. They also concurred in the importance of communication and cooperation between the ROK Ministry of National Defense and the USFK to strengthen civilian–military engagement with local civilians to allow for more effective joint usage of training ranges and to ensure combined live-fire training conditions to sustain the combined defense posture.

22. The Secretary offered his appreciation for the ROK’s contributions toward ensuring a stable stationing environment for US forces in Korea while emphasizing the importance of defense cost sharing. The Minister and the Secretary noted that the Special Measures Agreement (SMA) has greatly contributed to strengthening US–ROK combined defense capabilities and recognized the desire to conclude the 11th SMA before the expiration of the 10th SMA. Furthermore, the two sides shared the understanding that future SMA contributions must be set at a fair and mutually agreeable level.

23. Minister Jeong and Secretary Esper expressed appreciation for the courtesy, hospitality, and work by both sides that contributed to the success of this year’s SCM. The Minister and the Secretary affirmed that the discussions during the 51st SCM and the 44th MCM contributed substantively to strengthening the ROK–US Alliance and further enhanced the development of the bilateral defense relationship into a mutually reinforcing Alliance. Both sides expect to hold the 52nd SCM and 45th MCM in Washington, D.C., at a mutually convenient time in 2020.

Future ROK–US Alliance Defense Vision

The ROK–US Alliance has contributed to the deepening political, social, and economic ties between the United States and the ROK over the past 66 years, while also growing into a mutually beneficial Alliance based on the common values and robust trust between the two nations. ROK and US authorities are closely coordinating defense activities to support the establishment of complete denuclearization in a verifiable manner and a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula, while maintaining a steadfast combined defense posture with the ROK–US Alliance as the linchpin for peace, stability, and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula and the region.

At the 50th Security Consultative Meeting on October 31, 2018, the ROK Minister of National Defense and the US Secretary of Defense pledged to engage in discussions on a joint defense vision to advance Alliance defense cooperation in a mutually reinforcing and future-oriented manner while taking into consideration dynamic changes in the security environment. These discussions were based on the understandings of the Presidents of the ROK and United States during the ROK–US summit of June 30, 2019, where both Presidents pledged to pursue harmonious cooperation between the ROK New Southern Policy and the US Indo-Pacific strategy under the regional cooperation principles of openness, inclusiveness, and transparency.

The US and ROK defense cooperation flows from a commitment to common principles that underpin order of the Korean Peninsula, the region, and the global arena. These principles include:

- a. Striving towards peace and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula, Northeast Asia, and the world;
- b. Respect for sovereignty and independence of all nations;
- c. Peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with internationally established laws and norms; and
- d. Adherence to international rules and norms, including those of free access, navigation, and overflight.

The ROK and United States intend to develop defense cooperation in a future-focused manner, based on the aforementioned common principles even following the establishment of peace on the Korean Peninsula. Going forward, both countries pledge to protect shared national security interests on the Korean Peninsula, in the Northeast Asian region, and the global arena.

Alliance defense cooperation is to be pursued so that the two nations may be able to effectively respond to new challenges and security threats. To this end, the US and ROK decide to deepen and expand the degree and scope of defense cooperation to incorporate new nontraditional and transnational threats such as cyber, space, maritime, and environmental issues. The two countries also decide to cooperate to build regional partner capacity to respond to transnational and non-traditional security threats to advance shared values and common principles.

The Alliance decide to deepen cooperation in traditional areas, such as preventing and responding to potential chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats, and preventing the proliferation

of CBRN capabilities and delivery system-related materials. The United States and ROK decide to continue to strengthen extended deterrence, ensuring that deterrence remains credible, capable, and enduring. The Alliance also intends to collaborate to identify opportunities for future-oriented defense science and technology cooperation, including cyberspace, unmanned and autonomous technologies, and supply networks of strategic material and technology.

Moving forward, the United States and ROK reaffirm to continue to work to ensure that the ROK–US Alliance works to ensure security, stability, and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula, the Northeast Asian region, and the world.

Joint Communiqué of the 52nd ROK–US Security Consultative Meeting

Washington D.C., October 14, 2020

1. The 52nd United States (US)–Republic of Korea (ROK) Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) was held in Washington, D.C., on October 14, 2020. US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and ROK Minister of National Defense Suh Wook led their respective delegations, which included senior defense and foreign affairs officials. On October 13, 2020, US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, and ROK Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Won In-choul, presided over the 45th US–ROK Military Committee Meeting (MCM).
2. The Secretary and the Minister noted that the SCM has played a pivotal role in the development of the US–ROK Alliance. The two leaders recognized that the SCM would continue to be a cornerstone venue to discuss and affirm national commitments. Both sides pledged to continue to develop the Alliance—the linchpin of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia—in a mutually reinforcing and future-oriented manner. The Secretary and the Minister also noted that future defense cooperation, mutual trust, and shared values such as freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law—on which the relationship is built—would be further enhanced through continued commitment to the objectives set forth in the Joint Study for the Future Defense Vision of the ROK–US Alliance.
3. The Secretary and the Minister reviewed the current security environment on the Korean Peninsula and in the region and discussed cooperative measures between the two nations. The two sides additionally had an in-depth discussion on North Korean military activities. In recognition of the significant threat that North Korea’s nuclear and ballistic missile programs pose to international security, both sides reaffirmed the need for close coordination and cooperation to establish a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), as well as dismantlement of its ballistic missile program, consistent with multiple United Nations Security Council Resolutions. The Secretary and the Minister urged North Korea to fulfill its commitments under the Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity, and Reunification of the Korean Peninsula, the Singapore Summit Joint Statement between President Donald J. Trump and Chairman Kim Jong Un, and other relevant arrangements and agreements.
4. The Minister noted that the various measures carried out by the ROK and North Korean military authorities for the implementation of the Panmunjom Declaration and the Comprehensive Military

Agreement (CMA) set conditions for the easing of military tensions and reducing the threat of war on the Peninsula. The two leaders concurred that the cessation of hostilities on the ground, and in the sea and air, through the inter-Korean implementation of the CMA, and continued United Nations Command (UNC) enforcement and management of the Armistice Agreement, maintained stability and significantly reduced the possibility of accidental clashes. The Minister reaffirmed the ROK's commitment to ensure that the implementation of the CMA contributes to the establishment of peace on the peninsula. The Minister also expressed his expectation that the buffer zone, agreed to through the CMA, would contribute to preventing accidental clashes and supporting military confidence-building measures on the Korean Peninsula. He expressed that the CMA implementation efforts should continue, including: the withdrawal of guard posts in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), and the establishment and functioning of the inter-Korean joint military committee. Both sides decided to continue to seek means of enhancing our security dialogues to better meet today's security environment.

5. The Secretary and the Minister reaffirmed the role of the United Nations Command (UNC) in maintaining and enforcing the Armistice Agreement. Both leaders affirmed that the UNC has contributed to the successful maintenance of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula for 67 years and continues to carry out its mission and tasks with the utmost respect for ROK sovereignty. The Minister additionally noted that the Northern Limit Line (NLL) has been an effective means of separating ROK and DPRK military forces and preventing military tension to date. The Secretary acknowledged that military confidence-building measures are important for establishing peace on the Korean Peninsula, and he noted the important role performed by the UNC in implementing the Armistice Agreement and enabling confidence-building measures on the Korean Peninsula. The Minister affirmed his support for the roles and responsibilities assigned to the UNC in accordance with the Armistice Agreement and the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

6. The Secretary and the Minister assessed that the US–ROK Alliance is strong and reaffirmed the two nations' mutual commitment to a combined defense as agreed in the US–ROK Mutual Defense Treaty to defend the ROK. The Secretary and the Minister noted that US forces in the ROK have played a critical role in maintaining peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula for more than 67 years, and reaffirmed that US Forces Korea (USFK) are to continue to play an important role in preventing armed conflict on the Korean Peninsula, and in promoting peace and stability in Northeast Asia. The Secretary reaffirmed the unshakable commitment of the United States to the combined defense of the ROK, as enshrined in the Mutual Defense Treaty. The Secretary also reaffirmed the continued US commitment to provide extended deterrence to the ROK using the full range of military capabilities, including US nuclear, conventional, and missile defense capabilities. The Secretary and the Minister committed to ensure that the Alliance deterrence posture remains credible, capable, and enduring. To this end, the two leaders

pledged to enhance deterrence through the implementation of many of the policy recommendations from the Extended Deterrence Joint Study. The two leaders committed to make a long-term plan to establish the conditions for the stable stationing of the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) battery at Camp Carroll as part of this commitment. The two leaders also pledged to explore jointly measures to enhance the Alliance deterrence posture and implement the Tailored Deterrence Strategy while considering the effects of changes in the security environment on the Peninsula and in the region.

7. The Secretary and the Minister received a report on the results of the US–ROK MCM from the US–ROK Combined Forces Command (CFC) Commander, General Robert Abrams, which highlighted that the combined defense posture is capable and ready to “Fight Tonight” and is prepared to respond effectively to any security challenge. The Secretary expressed commitment to the CFC Commander’s efforts to update operational plans and Alliance procedures to respond to situations on the Korean Peninsula or in the region, considering changes in the operational environment relevant to the current CFC.

8. The Secretary and the Minister reaffirmed the need to continue to conduct combined exercises and training events on the Peninsula to strengthen Alliance readiness. The two sides also assessed that the 20-2 Combined Command Post Training, undertaken despite the COVID-19 pandemic, and other combined training events performed throughout the year in a balanced manner, added strength to the US–ROK combined defense posture and military readiness. Each side assessed that the US–ROK Alliance must continue to focus on military readiness and on the combined defense posture to address the dynamic changes on the Peninsula.

9. The two leaders also emphasized that continuous training opportunities for USFK are critical to maintaining a strong combined defense posture. The Secretary and the Minister concurred in the importance of communication and cooperation between the ROK Ministry of National Defense (MND) and USFK to coordinate for more effective and productive joint use of ROK facilities and airspace for the USFK training required to maintain readiness within our strong combined defense posture. The two leaders also committed to continue cooperation on and set tangible milestones for the development of a combined joint multi-purpose live-fire training complex.

10. The Secretary and the Minister expressed appreciation for the CFC, which has played a central role in deterring war on the Korean Peninsula and defending the ROK since its establishment in 1978. The Secretary and the Minister reviewed preparations for the relocation of the CFC Headquarters (HQ) to Camp Humphreys. The two leaders also expressed their expectation that the CFC HQ relocation would contribute to an enhanced combined defense posture and shared the understanding that the relocation

would be expeditiously completed as soon as the site was administratively and operationally suitable. Both sides also pledged to work together to carry out the CFC Headquarters relocation with purpose in a safe, seamless, and effective manner.

11. The Secretary and the Minister reviewed the progress on directed tasks from the Conditions-based Operational Control (OPCON) Transition Plan (COTP). The two sides noted progress made in the COTP and discussed the way forward for wartime OPCON transition to the Future Combined Forces Command (F-CFC) including the FOC certification. The two leaders reaffirmed that the conditions stated in the mutually agreed COTP must be fully met before the wartime OPCON is transitioned to the F-CFC. The two sides also reaffirmed the intent to comply fully with the 2015 COTP Base Plan as well as the 2018 COTP Change One. The Secretary and the Minister positively noted the development this year of a single set of bilaterally formulated strategic documents for use in the assessments of Initial Operational Capability (IOC) and Full Operational Capability (FOC) for F-CFC. They further applauded the efforts of the Alliance to complete the F-CFC IOC certification assessment during the Crisis Management Staff Training (CMST) this Fall and the Secretary also noted the necessity of updating the 2016 Crisis Management Memorandum of Agreement (CM MOA) by the end of the year.

12. The Secretary and the Minister acknowledged that great progress had been made toward meeting the conditions for wartime OPCON transition through US–ROK joint efforts. The two sides noted multiple Permanent Military Committee Meetings (PMCs) on COTP topics were held in 2020 and concurred that the activities of the PMCs promoted the credibility of the evaluation and understanding of the conditions. The Minister reaffirmed that the ROK military will continue to acquire defense capabilities established in the conditions-based plan signed in 2015 and its change in 2018, and would pursue the plan’s objectives in a systematic manner. The Secretary and the Minister also affirmed the necessity to cooperate closely to strengthen the Alliance’s combined defense capabilities and committed to continuing efforts to meet the conditions for transition through a joint study on bridging and enduring capabilities. The Secretary committed to the provision of bridging capabilities, but noted the need first to understand ROK acquisition plans in order to determine what specific capabilities are needed, and for how long. Owing to South Korea’s economic and military advances, the Minister noted that the ROK will acquire, develop, and provide these capabilities, and committed to more robust discussions on ROK acquisition planning. The Minister reaffirmed the ROK commitment to acquire appropriate defense capabilities of the ROK military necessary for the defense of the Korean Peninsula. The Secretary and the Minister pledged to continue the joint study to optimize the bridging and enduring capabilities in conjunction with the development of the ROK capabilities. The two sides pledged to engage in regular evaluation and review of progress in OPCON transition implementation at the annual SCM and MCMs in order to maintain a steadfast combined defense system.

13. The Secretary and the Minister decided to continue strengthening cooperation in various areas, including space and cyber, in order to ensure an effective response against newly emerging threats and to bolster comprehensive Alliance response capabilities. The Secretary and the Minister acknowledged the efforts of the respective defense authorities working to promote critical infrastructure, including information and space systems, and to improve the security of such systems. The two sides expressed their shared goal of fostering closer space policy development for the Alliance. The two sides pledged to explore further cooperative measures to strengthen space capabilities as an Alliance, such as improving space situational awareness information-sharing systems, and expanding bilateral and multilateral combined exercises and training events to improve the Alliance space operation capabilities. The Secretary and the Minister also committed to exploring opportunities to develop space professionals. The two sides committed to maintain close communication and coordination regarding the cyber domain through sharing trends of cyber threats as well as discussing corresponding policy changes. They also concurred in the need for exchanges between the respective cyber commands with the aim of discussing and promoting mutual interests.

14. The Secretary and the Minister reaffirmed their commitment to advancing Alliance priorities and plans in the areas of capability development, interoperability, acquisition, and sustainment by more effectively leveraging US–ROK consultative bodies and activities that address defense research and development, as well as industrial cooperation, capability acquisition, life cycle logistics, and technology security. The two sides also pledged to pursue expeditiously revisions of bilateral consultative bodies while continuing to coordinate objectives and activities across these areas to provide timely and integrated capability solutions to Alliance requirements.

15. The Secretary and the Minister also noted that US–ROK science and technology cooperation has expanded in several domains such as cyber defense, artificial intelligence, automation, and directed energy. The two sides assessed that such cooperation is continuing to develop in a way that furthers US–ROK mutual interests.

16. The Secretary and the Minister pledged to continue enhancing defense and security cooperation to address wide-ranging global security challenges of mutual interest given the complex security dynamics in the region and around the world. In that sense, they also emphasized the need to seek synergies in US and ROK regional strategies. The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of the rules-based international order and adherence to international rules and norms, including those of freedom of navigation and overflight. They further expressed their intent to work together for that purpose. They also reiterated their commitment to peacekeeping operations (PKO), counter-piracy operations, stabilization and reconstruction efforts, regional security cooperation initiatives, and humanitarian assistance and

disaster relief. The Secretary highlighted the effective leadership of the ROK in response to COVID-19 and expressed appreciation for the personal protective equipment (PPE) support that the ROK provided to the United States earlier this year. The two sides committed to continuing close coordination and cooperation to deal with this global pandemic. The Minister also noted the COVID-19 support that the United States and the ROK were providing to various nations in the region and the stringent measures USFK was taking to ensure COVID-19 protection. The Secretary also separately expressed appreciation for the ROK's dedication and contribution to various global security efforts, including the Proliferation Security Initiative. The Secretary and the Minister applauded the US–ROK Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) efforts to enhance the Alliance's combined response capabilities to prevent the acquisition and use of WMD, and, if necessary, to respond to mitigate WMD threats. They resolved to continue discussions about strengthening cooperation through the ROK–US Counter WMD Committee (CWMDC), which has enhanced the Alliance CWMD capabilities.

17. The two leaders committed to continue US–ROK–Japan trilateral defense cooperation such as information-sharing, high-level policy consultation, including the defense trilateral talks (DTT), combined exercises, and personnel exchanges to maintain the peace and security of Northeast Asia.

18. The Secretary and the Minister reaffirmed that expedited USFK base relocations and land returns including those of the Yongsan Garrison are in the interest of both countries and pledged to work together closely on relevant matters, including environmental conditions, to ensure timely base returns in accordance with the US–ROK Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). The US side noted that seventeen sites are ready for return to the ROK Government at this time. The Secretary and the Minister confirmed their intent to continue to discuss relevant issues through the established processes of the US–ROK SOFA Joint Committee.

19. The Secretary offered his appreciation for the ROK's contributions toward ensuring a stable stationing environment for US forces in Korea while emphasizing the importance of defense cost sharing. The Secretary noted that the current lack of a Special Measures Agreement (SMA) could have lasting effects for Alliance readiness if an expeditious agreement is not reached. The two sides concurred in the necessity of expeditiously resolving the SMA negotiations, in a fair, equitable, and mutually agreeable manner, particularly in light of the impact of the lapse on the ROK–US Alliance.

20. Secretary Esper and Minister Suh expressed appreciation for the courtesy, hospitality, and work by both sides that contributed to the success of this year's SCM. The Secretary and the Minister both assessed that the discussions during the 52nd SCM and the 45th MCM contributed substantively to strengthening the ROK–US Alliance and further enhanced the development of the bilateral defense

relationship into a mutually reinforcing Alliance. Both sides expect to hold the 53rd SCM and 46th MCM in Seoul at a mutually convenient time in 2021.

Guiding Principles Following the Transition of Wartime Operational Control

October 31, 2018

(Purpose) After the decision between the Presidents of both nations in 2017 to “expeditiously enable the conditions-based transition of wartime operational control (OPCON) of ROK forces”, the Ministry of National Defense of the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as “the ROK MND”) and the Department of Defense of the United States of America (hereinafter referred to as “US DoD”) have formulated the following Alliance Guiding Principles in order to maintain a strong combined defense posture after the transition of wartime operational control.

(Preamble) The ROK MND and US DoD recognize that since the signing of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the Republic of Korea (hereinafter referred to as “ROK”) and the United States of America (hereinafter referred to as “US”) in 1953, the ROK–US Alliance, built on mutual trust as well as shared values of liberal democracy, human rights, and rule of law, has served a critical role in the security, stability, and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula and the Asia-Pacific Region.

The ROK MND and US DoD confirm that the contributions of the ROK–US Alliance are to continue into the future, carrying on the spirit of the ROK–US Mutual Defense Treaty to prevent armed conflict on the Korean Peninsula, promote peace and stability in Northeast Asia, and contribute to global peace.

Together in this recognition, the ROK MND and US DoD mutually approve the following Alliance Guiding Principles in order to maintain a reinforced combined defense posture even after the transition of wartime operational control.

As a symbol of the commitment pursuant to the Mutual Defense Treaty, US Forces Korea (USFK) is to continue to be stationed on the Korean Peninsula and firmly fulfill the security commitment to the ROK.

The ROK–US post-OPCON transition Combined Forces Command and its subordinate combined component commands are to be established to deter external aggression and, if deterrence fails, to defend the ROK.

The post-OPCON transition Combined Forces Command is to operate as a separate standing entity, and receive strategic direction and operational guidance from a Military Consultative Committee which receives bilateral guidance from the ROK and the US national command authorities.

The national authorities of the ROK are to appoint a General or an Admiral to serve as the Commander of the post-OPCON transition Combined Forces Command, and the national authorities of the United States are to appoint a General or an Admiral to serve as the deputy commander of the post-OPCON transition Combined Forces Command.

The ROK MND and US DoD are to continue to maintain and support the United Nations Command,

which has served the function of preventing armed conflict on the Korean Peninsula, and develop the mutual relationships between the ROK Joint Chiefs of Staff, the post-OPCON transition Combined Forces Command, USFK, and the United Nations Command.

The ROK MND is to continue to develop capabilities to lead the combined defense, while the US DoD provides bridging and enduring capabilities for the defense of the ROK.

The ROK MND is to expand its responsibilities in deterring external aggression, while the US DoD continues to provide extended deterrence.

The ROK MND and US DoD are to engage regularly in consultations even after the transition of wartime operational control in order to strengthen the combined defense posture.

Therefore, together in the recognition that the combined defense structure following the transition of wartime operational control serves to strengthen further the peace and security on the Korean Peninsula provided by the ROK–US Mutual Defense Treaty, the ROK MND and US DoD commit to strive towards developing the Alliance in a mutually reinforcing and future-oriented manner.

Direct and Indirect Financial Support for the Stationing of USFK

Details of Continuous Financial Support: Approximately KRW 2.9 trillion

Unit: KRW billion

Classification	Category	Subcategory	Items	2018
Direct Support		Defense burden sharing	Labor cost (371), military construction (444.2), and logistics support (145)	960.2
			Use of US communication lines and combined C4I systems	20.9
	Defense budget	Budget other than defense burden sharing	KATUSA troop support (basic wages, clothing expenses, and other operational support expenses)	19.2
			Base maintenance and relocation expenses	266.1
			Property support	7.3
		Support from sources other than defense budget	Maintenance in areas around camps (surrounding road projects and regional development)	497.1
			Total direct support	1,770.8
Indirect Support		Opportunity cost	Appraisal of rent of lands granted free of charge	891.9
			Opportunity costs for KATUSA	86.8
			Support for training field use	27.8
	Waived and reduced expenses		Waiving of tariffs, domestic taxes, local taxes, and taxes on oil import and sales	121.5
			Reduction of water/sewage bills, electricity bills, gas bills, and phone bills	9.7
			Waiving of road, port, airport, and railroad fees	9.2
		Total indirect support	1,146.9	
		Total	2,917.7	

Description by Item

Classification	Description	Legal basis
Cost for using US communication lines and combined C4I systems	Fee for using US communication lines and subsidies for combined C4I systems	ROK-US Combined Forces Command Agreement on the Sharing of Communications Expenses; Implementation Agreement Regarding Cost Sharing and Information Interoperability System
KATUSA troop support (basic wages, clothing expenses, and other operational support expenses)	Basic wages, clothing expenses, and other operational cost support for the ROK Armed Forces support group	Verbal agreement between President Rhee Seung-man and UNC Commander MacArthur
Base maintenance and relocation expenses	Costs for demolition of old facilities inside returned bases and environmental cleanup costs, outsourced services related to the US military base relocation, etc.	Articles 2 and 5 of SOFA; Articles 2 and 3 of Agreed Understandings; Article 78 of the Act on Acquisition of and Compensation for Land, Etc. for Public Works Projects; Article 2 of the Act on National Defense and Military Installations Projects
Property support	Expenses for purchase, use, and compensation of facility and used sites	Article 4 of the ROK-US Mutual Defense Treaty; Articles 2 and 5 of SOFA; Articles 2 and 3 of Agreed Understandings; Article 78 of the Act on Acquisition of and Compensation for Land, Etc. for Public Works Projects and Article 40 of its Enforcement Decree; Article 2 of the Act on National Defense and Military Installations Projects
Maintenance in areas around camps (surrounding road projects and regional development)	Development costs for areas around USFK bases (surrounding road maintenance and regional development support costs)	Article 4 of the ROK-US Mutual Defense Treaty; Articles 2, 3, and 5 of SOFA; Special Act on Support for Areas, Etc. Adjacent to Districts Granted to the United States Armed Forces in Korea and the Special Act on Support, Etc. for Pyeongtaek-si, Etc. Following the Relocation of US Military Bases in Korea
Appraisal of rent of lands granted free of charge	Opportunity costs of rent for donated land and buildings provided to USFK free of charge	Article 4 of the ROK-US Mutual Defense Treaty; Article 2 of SOFA; Article 32 of the State Property Act and Article 29 of its Enforcement Decree
Opportunity costs for KATUSA	Additional expenses to be borne by the US forces if KATUSA personnel were US military personnel	Verbal agreement between President Rhee Seung-man and UNC Commander MacArthur
Support for using training ranges	Costs to support the use of USFK live fire training ranges	Articles 2 and 5 of SOFA; agreements and MOUs regarding the use of ROK military training areas and firing ranges by the USFK
Waived and reduced expenses	Waiving and reduction of various taxes and charges	Articles 6, 10, 14, and 16 of SOFA

Status of Defense Industry Cooperation Agreements with Foreign Countries

Countries that have signed defense industry cooperation agreements (MOUs) with the ROK: 39 countries

As of December 2020

Country	Signed in	Country	Signed in	Country	Signed in	Country	Signed in
United States	June 1988	Thailand	November 1991	Spain	March 1992	France	March 1992
UK	September 1993	Philippines	May 1994	Israel	August 1995	Indonesia	October 1995
Canada	May 1996	Germany	November 1997	Russia	November 1997	Romania	November 1997
Netherlands	June 1999	Turkey	December 1999	Venezuela	December 1999	Vietnam	August 2001
Ukraine	December 2006	Colombia	May 2008	Egypt	December 2009	Ecuador	January 2010
Peru	June 2010	UAE	September 2010	Norway	September 2010	Denmark	May 2011
Poland	May 2014	Chile	August 2015	Czech Republic	August 2015	Finland	June 2016
Hungary	July 2016	Botswana	January 2017	Estonia	February 2017	Croatia	February 2017
Saudi Arabia	September 2017	Kazakhstan	October 2017	Argentina	February 2019	Uzbekistan	April 2019
New Zealand	May 2019	Sweden	June 2019	Paraguay	October 2019		

Status of other agreements (MOUs) on defense industry cooperation

As of December 2020

Classification	International technical cooperation and protection agreements (18 countries)	Quality assurance agreements (24 countries)	Agreement to provide price information (4 countries)
Country	<p>Multilateral* among the US, France, UK, Israel, India, Colombia, Indonesia, Singapore, and Australia</p> <p>* Signed multilateral agreements with 14 countries including the US (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK, US, and ROK)</p>	<p>US, UK, France, Spain, Switzerland, Canada, Netherlands, Denmark, Australia, Philippines, Germany, Israel, Turkey, New Zealand, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Sweden, Peru, Norway, Colombia, Vietnam, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan</p>	<p>US, UK, Germany, and Netherlands</p>

Defense Cooperation Agreements with Foreign Countries¹⁾

As of November 2020

Country	Concluded in	Country	Concluded in	Country	Concluded in	Country	Concluded in
Germany	May 1994	Jordan (treaty)	October 2009	Philippines	October 2013	Fiji	January 2017
Canada	May 1995	Singapore	December 2009	Poland (treaty)	October 2013	Egypt	March 2017
Israel	August 1995	Lithuania	February 2010	Azerbaijan	December 2013	Angola	March 2017
Russia	November 1996	India	September 2010	New Zealand	May 2014	Myanmar	September 2017
Turkey	November 1999	Kazakhstan	September 2010	Qatar (treaty)	November 2014	Cambodia	September 2018
Mongolia	December 1999	Vietnam	October 2010	Czech Republic	February 2015	Brunei	September 2018
Kuwait	November 2004	Romania	October 2010	Colombia	March 2015	Italy (treaty)	October 2018
Brazil (treaty)	March 2006	Gabon	October 2011	Bulgaria	May 2015	Chile (treaty)	April 2019
Ukraine	September 2006	Peru	October 2011	Turkmenistan	May 2015	Bahrain	June 2019
UAE (treaty)	November 2006	Australia	December 2011	Paraguay	January 2016	Oman	October 2019
Spain	December 2006	Thailand	March 2012	Ethiopia	May 2016	Senegal	October 2019
Uzbekistan	June 2008	China	July 2012	Uganda	May 2016	Hungary	November 2019
Japan	April 2009	Saudi Arabia (treaty)	February 2013	Ecuador	July 2016		
Sweden	July 2009	Indonesia (treaty)	October 2013	Botswana	January 2017		

1) Significance: This is a document on the basic agreement for promoting mutual defense cooperation, stating comprehensive provisions such as cooperation principles, sectors, and methods.

Standardization: refers to standardizing warheads so that they can be mounted on multiple types of missiles

Content: cooperation principle (mutual reciprocity, etc.), cooperation scope (military information, military personnel exchanges, defense industry, logistics, etc.), administrative matters (cost burden, effect, etc.)

International Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Agreements and Organizations

As of November 2020

Classification	Number of Member States (Effective/Established)	Membership Status of the ROK and North Korea	Main Contents	
UN Organizations	First Committee of the UN General Assembly	193 (October 1945)	ROK (September 1991) North Korea (September 1991)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of six committees in the UN General Assembly (UNGA) to discuss issues concerning disarmament and international security • Recommends 50 to 60 draft resolutions annually to UNGA, and most of them are adopted by UNGA
	UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC)	193 (January 1952)	ROK (September 1991) North Korea (September 1991)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects three major issues concerning disarmament and nonproliferation and submits a report to UNGA after in-depth review • A deliberative body to elicit directions and principles of the international community's agreement concerning major issues
	Conference on Disarmament (CD)	65 (February 1984)	ROK (June 1996) North Korea (June 1996)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The only international negotiation body that is in charge of multilateral disarmament • Majority of key disarmament-related multilateral treaties are established through negotiations in CD • Although not an organization directly under UNGA, it is operated by a regular UN budget and its agendas and standing rules independently • Submits an annual report to UNGA
Nuclear Weapons	Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT)	191 (March 1970)	ROK (April 1975) North Korea (December 1985) * Withdrew in January 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technological support to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy • Prevents the diversion of nuclear materials from civilians to military purposes
	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	172 (July 1957)	ROK (September 1999) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits all nuclear tests in all environments (including the atmosphere, outer space, underground, and underwater)
	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)	184 (not effectuated)	ROK (September 1999) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits all nuclear tests in all environments (including the atmosphere, outer space, underground, and underwater)
Missiles and Space	Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOG)	143 (November 2002)	ROK (November 2002) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary and political code of conduct to prevent the proliferation of ballistic missiles
	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)	95 (December 1959)	ROK (September 1994) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides the basic principles for technical and legal issues regarding the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space
Biological and Chemical Weapons	Biological Weapons Convention (BWC)	183 (March 1975)	ROK (June 1987) North Korea (March 1987)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of biological weapons (agents or toxins)
	Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)	193 (April 1997)	ROK (April 1997) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling, and use of chemical weapons • Mandates the destruction of all chemical weapons within 10 years of accession to CWC * If inevitable, the deadline may be extended by 5 years

	Classification	Number of Member States (Effective/Established)	Membership Status of the ROK and North Korea	Main Contents
Biological and Chemical Weapons	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)	193 (April 1997)	ROK (April 1997) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An executive body to monitor and inspect member states to ensure their implementation of CWC obligations
	Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)	110 (December 2014)	ROK (February 2017) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributes to world peace and security by preventing the illicit trade of conventional weapons and their diversion Prescribes matters in relation to the regulations of international trade of conventional weapons
Conventional Weapons	(Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW))	125 (December 1983)	ROK Protocol I (May 2001) (Amended) Protocol II (May 2001) Protocol V (January 2008) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full title: Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects -Protocol I: prohibits the use of fragmentary ammunitions undetectable by X-rays -Protocol II: prohibits or restricts the use of mines, booby traps and other devices -Protocol III: prohibits and restricts the use of incendiary weapons -Protocol IV: prohibits the use of blinding laser weapons -Protocol V: regulates the explosive remnants of war
	United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNRCA)	193 (December 1991)	ROK (March 1993) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires all member states to register their status of imports and exports records and possessions of conventional arms at the UN Seeks to enhance confidence by sharing information on the conventional arms transfer and improving transparency in armaments
	Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention)	164 (March 1999)	Not acceded by the ROK/ North Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete prohibition of the production, use, stockpiling, and transfer of anti-personnel mines Requires the destruction of anti-personnel mines (within 4 years for stockpiles; within 10 years for mines planted in the soil) * If inevitable, the deadline may be extended by 10 years
	Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)	110 (August 2010)	Not acceded by the ROK/ North Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete prohibition of the production, use, stockpiling, and transfer of cluster munitions * Current stockpiled cluster munitions should be destroyed within 8 years

Classification	Number of Member States (Effective/Established)	Membership Status of the ROK and North Korea	Main Contents	
Zangger Committee (ZC)	39 (August 1974)	ROK (October 1995) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any exports of nuclear-related materials to non-NPT members that possess no nuclear weapons are conditional on the IAEA safeguards Only NPT members are allowed to join 	
Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)	48 (January 1978)	ROK (October 1995) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export control of nuclear substances, technology, equipment, and dual-use items Export control of all non-nuclear weapon states regardless of their NPT member status 	
Multilateral Export Control Regimes	Australia Group (AG)	43 (June 1985)	ROK (October 1996) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export control regime to prevent the proliferation of chemical and biological weapon-related substances, dual-use items, and technologies to states of concern
	Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)	35 (April 1987)	ROK (March 2001) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A regime that voluntarily controls the proliferation of rockets, unmanned aerial vehicles, and related equipment and technology capable of carrying WMD
	Wassenaar Arrangement (WA)	42 (July 1996)	ROK (July 1996) North Korea (not a member)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Export control regime regarding conventional weapons, dual-use items, and technologies
Prevention of Proliferation WMD	Proliferation Security Initiatives (PSI)	107 (June 2003)	ROK (May 2009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International cooperative activities with the aim of cutting off the illicit trade of WMDs, missiles, and related supplies by rogue states and terrorist groups and preventing the proliferation of such items

Status of the Overseas Deployment of ROK Armed Forces

Total of 1,038 personnel deployed to 14 countries

As of November 2020

		Classification	No. of Personnel	Region	Initial Deployment	Rotation Cycle	
UN PKO	Units	Dongmyeong Unit in Lebanon	280	Tyre	July 2007	8 months	
		Hanbit Unit in South Sudan	270	Bor	March 2013		
	Individuals	UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)	8	Srinagar	November 1994	1 year	
		UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)	7	Juba	July 2011		
		UN-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID)	1	Darfur	June 2009		
		UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)	4	Naqoura	January 2007		
		UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)	3	Laayoune	July 2009		
		UN Mission to Support the Hodeidah Agreement (UNMHA)	-	Al-Hudaydah	July 2019		
Subtotal		573					
Peace Operations of Multinational Forces	Units	Cheonghae Unit in the Coast of Somalia	306	Coast of Somalia	March 2009	6 months	
		Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) in Bahrain	Staff officer	4	Manama	January 2008	1 year
	Individuals	Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA)	Coordination officer	1	Djibouti	March 2009	1 year
		US Central Command (CENTCOM)	Coordination group	3	Florida	November 2001	1 year
		US Africa Command	Coordination officer	1	Stuttgart	March 2016	1 year
		Kuwait	Coordination officer	2	Camp Arifjan	December 2019	1 year
		European Union Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) Somalia (CTF-0465)	Staff officer	1	Coast of Somalia	March 2020	1 year
		Subtotal		318			
Defense Cooperation Activities	Units	Akh Unit in the United Arab Emirates	147	Abu Dhabi	January 2011	8 months	
	Subtotal		147				
Total		1,038					

* UN Mission to Support the Hodeidah Agreement (UNMHA): scheduled to resume the mission in 2021 due to COVID-19.

Changes in Enlisted Servicemember Salaries

Unit: KRW

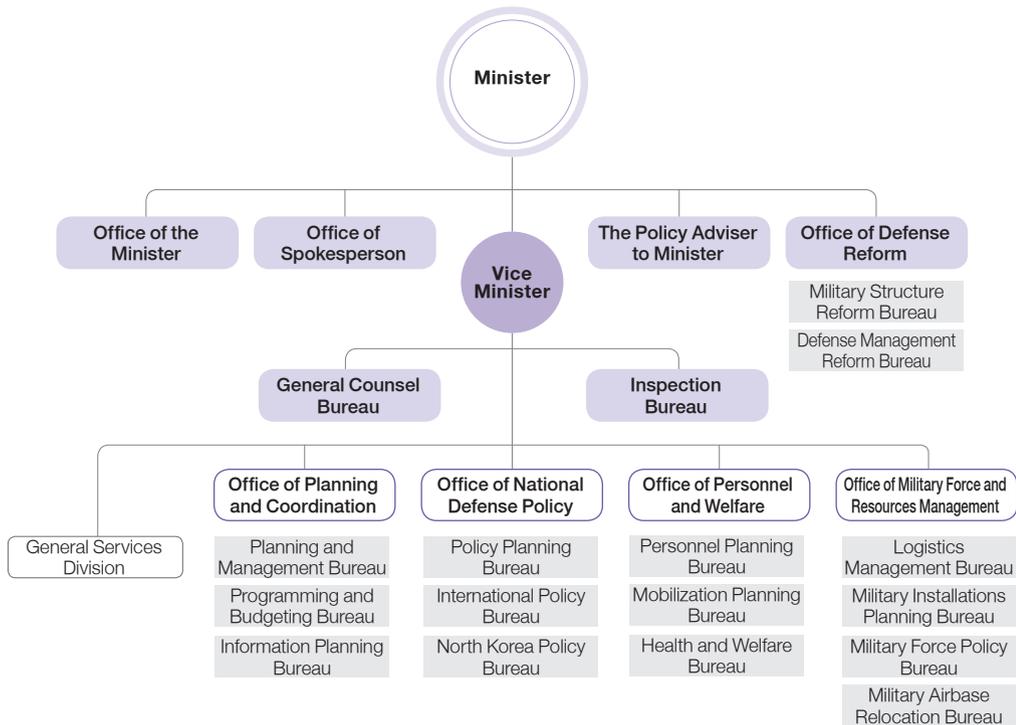
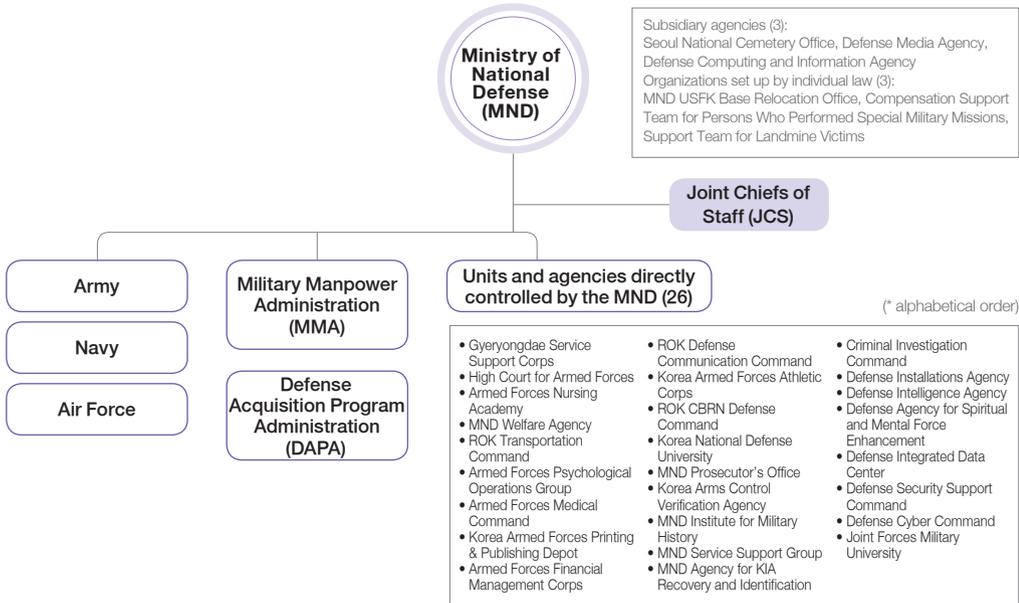
Year	Sergeant	Corporal	Private First Class	Private	Year	Sergeant	Corporal	Private First Class	Private
1970	900	800	700	600	2001	19,600	17,700	16,000	14,800
1971	1,030	920	800	690	2002	21,900	19,800	17,900	16,500
1972	1,200	1,050	900	800	2003	23,100	20,900	18,900	17,400
1973	Freeze				2004	34,000	30,700	27,800	25,600
1974	1,560	1,370	1,170	1,040	2005	44,200	39,900	36,100	33,300
1975	Freeze				2006	72,000	65,000	58,800	54,300
1976	2,260	1,990	1,700	1,510	2007	88,600	80,000	72,300	66,800
1977	2,890	2,540	2,170	1,930	2008	97,500	88,000	79,500	73,500
1978	3,460	3,050	2,600	2,320	2009	Freeze			
1979	3,800	3,300	2,900	2,600	2010	Freeze			
1980	3,900	3,400	3,000	2,700	2011	103,800	93,700	84,700	78,300
1981	Freeze				2012	108,000	97,500	88,200	81,500
1982	4,200	3,700	3,300	3,000	2013	129,600	117,000	105,800	97,800
1983	4,500	3,900	3,500	3,200	2014	149,000	134,600	121,700	112,500
1984	Freeze				2015	171,400	154,800	140,000	129,400
1985	4,600	4,000	3,600	3,300	2016	197,000	178,000	161,000	148,800
1986	4,900	4,300	3,900	3,500	2017	216,000	195,000	176,400	163,000
1987	5,100	4,500	4,000	3,600	2018	405,700	366,200	331,300	306,100
1988	7,500	6,500	6,000	5,500	2019	Freeze			
1989	8,300	7,000	6,500	6,000	2020	540,900	488,200	441,700	408,100
1990	9,400	8,200	7,300	6,600					
1991	10,000	9,000	8,000	7,200					
1992	10,900	9,800	8,700	7,800					
1993	11,300	10,100	9,000	8,100					
1994	11,700	10,400	9,300	8,400					
1995	12,100	10,700	9,600	8,700					
1996	12,700	11,200	10,100	9,100					
1997	13,300	11,800	10,600	9,600					
1998	Freeze								
1999	Freeze								
2000	13,700	12,200	10,900	9,900					

* Source: - Attached Table 13 (Salary table of military personnel) in 1983–2020 Public Officials Remuneration Regulations (Presidential Decree)
- Attached Table 2 (Salary table of military personnel) in 1970–1982 Enforcement Decree of the Military Personnel Remuneration Act (Presidential Decree)

Changes in Mandatory Military Service Period

Year	Period of Service (months)			Reasons for Adjustment
	Army and Marine Corps	Navy	Air Force	
1952 or earlier	No discharge system			Normal implementation of the Military Service Act was impossible due to the Korean War
1953	36	36	36	Discharge of long-term servicemembers after the Korean War
1959	33	36	36	Mitigation of the conscription burden for enlisted servicemembers
1962	30	36	36	Mitigation of the conscription burden for enlisted servicemembers
1968	36	39	39	Extension of the military service period due to the January 21 Incident
1977	33	39	39	Reduction of surplus resources and provision of industrial technical expert support
1979	33	35	35	Mitigation of difficulties with acquiring enlisted servicemembers for Navy and Air Force
1984	30	35	35	Mitigation of the conscription burden for enlisted servicemembers
1990	30	32	35	Mitigation of difficulties with acquiring enlisted servicemembers for Navy
1993	26	30	30	Reduction of surplus resources due to abolishment of secondary reserve system
1994	26	28	30	Mitigation of difficulties with acquiring enlisted servicemembers for Navy
2003	24	26	28	Mitigation of the conscription burden for enlisted servicemembers
2004	24	26	27	Mitigation of difficulties with acquiring enlisted servicemembers for Air Force
2008	24 → 18	26 → 20	27 → 21	Reduction of military service period by six months to ease the burden of military service (phased implementation by 2014)
2011	21	23	24	Adjustment of the previous reduction of six months to three months due to the attack on the ROKS Cheonan and shelling of Yeonpyeong Island
2018	21 → 18	23 → 20	24 → 22	Transformation of troop-centered military forces into elite military forces powered by science and technology and mitigation of the conscription burden for enlisted servicemembers (Defense Reform 2.0)
2020	18	20	22 → 21	Follow-up measures for Defense Reform 2.0

National Defense Organizations



Assignments and Functions of the MND Subsidiary Agencies and Organizations Set Up by Individual Laws

Classification		Assignments and Functions
Subsidiary Agencies	Seoul National Cemetery Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements memorial services including burial and enshrinement • Establishes and implements plans for visitors who pay respects • Establishes and implements educational initiatives to honor patriotic martyrs for the country and engages in PR activities for the Seoul National Cemetery • Manages and operates the facilities, graves, and surrounding forest of the Seoul National Cemetery
	Defense Media Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engages in military PR activities and education of servicemembers through Korea Defense Daily, Defense TV, Defense FM radio, etc. • Disseminates defense news and current affairs reports and engages in cyber PR activities • Shoots photographs and manages records related to defense events and activities
	Defense Computing Information Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops and maintains defense resources management information systems • Procures and operates communications networks and computing equipment for the MND and its subsidiary agencies and units • Procures, operates, and supports computing equipment and software for office use at the MND and its subsidiary agencies and units • Designs and implements information educational programs
Organizations Set Up by Individual Laws	MND USFK Base Relocation Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes implementation plans for USFK installation-related projects • Executes, manages, and supervises USFK installation-related projects • Provides support for the management and operation of special accounts for relocating USFK bases • Engages in other affairs related to the pursuit of USFK installation-related projects
	Compensation Support Team for Persons Who Performed Special Military Missions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepares and provides support for deliberations of the Compensation Deliberation Committee for Persons Who Performed Special Military Missions and its subcommittees • Compiles and executes budgets for compensation payment, etc. • Verifies and investigates applicants' submitted materials • Responds to lawsuits and civil complaints in relation to compensation under the laws and regulations
	Support Team for Landmine Victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepares and provides support to the deliberation committee for victim support, working-level committee for evaluating victims and bereaved families, and working-level committee for determining the handicap level • Compiles and executes budgets for compensation payment, etc. • Verifies and investigates applicants' submitted materials • Provides support for tasks and response to civil complaints regarding landmine victims

Assignments and Functions of Public Institutions

Classification		Assignments and Functions
Public Institutions	Korea Institute for Defense Analyses (KIDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducts studies on security environment and basic defense policies and develops alternatives • Conducts studies on military strategies, military force buildup, selection of weapons systems, and acquisition policies • Conducts studies on defense workforce, resources management, and defense science and technology management policies • Conducts studies on defense informatization policies and provides support and technical advice on the development of defense informatization-related projects • Collects and analyzes materials related to national defense and provides information services
	War Memorial of Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operates and manages the War Memorial of Korea and monuments • Collects, preserves, manages, exhibits, investigates, and studies war and military relics • Conducts studies on war history and military relics, searches for patriots and honors them, and engages in other academic activities • Engages in PR activities for and education on commemorative projects and produces and disseminates relevant publications
	Military Outplacement Training Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers outplacement training for servicemembers facing retirement and improves the employment capabilities of job seekers • Promotes the employment of servicemembers facing retirement by means such as providing employment information and holding job fairs • Manages the database and maintains/analyzes statistics for job seekers among servicemembers facing retirement • Conducts studies on outplacement support-related policies and systems development for servicemembers facing retirement

Modification of Laws and Regulations Under the Jurisdiction of the Ministry of National Defense

Breakdown of Modified Legislation (December 1, 2018 - November 30, 2020)

Total	Laws	Presidential Decrees	Ministerial Ordinances
157	43	66	48

Laws

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Military Court Act	Partial Amendment No. 15983 (December 18, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflected the amendments to the "Criminal Procedure Act" such as allowing signatures in addition to name and seal as a method of verifying the identity in relation to the documents and write summons for non-public officials
Special Act on the Payment of Severance Benefits for Servicemembers Retiring Before December 31, 1959	Partial Amendment No. 16029 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended the application deadline for severance benefits to June 30, 2021; allowed the Minister of National Defense to request registered entries, resident registration information, and family relations of people of national merit from relevant agencies to carry out its tasks
Protection of Military Bases and Installations Act	Partial Amendment No. 16030 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since it has been pointed out in the enforcement rules that allowing the Minister of National Defense or the commander of the jurisdictional unit to set conditions and agree without any delegation of the parent law violates the principle of reservation of law, and such may infringe upon the rights of the people, such details were specified in the Act
Military Mutual Aid Association Act	Partial Amendment No. 16031 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified the term relating to "remaining period" to help the public understand the legal terms
Military Welfare Fund Act	Partial Amendment No. 16032 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified the "jeonse (deposit-based lease) loan account" to "residential support account" and added more types of residential support to the purposes, including the security deposit, to the residential support account
Framework Act on Military Welfare	Partial Amendment No. 16033 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide rental fund for private housing, such as the interest for the fund borrowed for lease deposit or security deposit, so as to provide the financial support required for the military personnel's resident stability
Framework Act on Military Status and Service	Partial Amendment No. 16034 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescribe matters to ensure that no military personnel is coerced into participating or restricted from participating in any religious rituals against their will, and that all the necessary measures are enforced such as rapid protection of victims when they are faced with difficulties such as infringement upon their basic rights
Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 16224 (January 15, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce sexual crime as one of the reasons for disqualification of military personnel to ensure that strict measures are enforced against any sexual crime; clearly specify the reasons for disqualification of cadets; and allow military personnel to take a leave of absence to take care of their grandparents or grandchildren as allowed for public officials, thereby striking a balance in the working conditions with public officials
Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 16315 (April 16, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When hiring active military personnel or reserve forces who have become physically disabled during combat or training related to an operation and their acts have set an example to other military personnel, prescribe provisions to hire them through the career-based competitive examination of appointment targeting a large number of people who fall under said criteria

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Act on the Conferment of Orders of Military Merit for Distinguished Services Rendered During the Korean War	Enactment No. 16346 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As for the exploits of persons of distinguished service who were to be decorated with the Orders of Military Merit for their distinguished service rendered during the Korean War but could not be actually awarded a medal, create the legal basis to confer upon them or the member of their bereaved families the Orders of Military Merit
Act on the Report and Disclosure of Military Service Records of Public Servants, Etc.	Partial Amendment No. 16347 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to increase the effectiveness of the disclosure system of military service information, for the military service information that a person is obligated to report, add the military unit or agency and branch he or she served and his military occupational specialization
Act on Establishment of the Korea Armed Forces Nursing Academy	Partial Amendment No. 16348 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate mandatory provisions to compose the curriculum of the Korea Armed Forces Nursing Academy to be competent enough to award a bachelor's degree in nursing
Act on the Repatriation, Treatment of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces Prisoners of War	Partial Amendment No. 16349 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing that the monetary penalty was too weak compared to the illegality of criminal acts such as receiving money or valuables by fraudulent means by participating in repatriations of ROK Armed Forces Prisoners of War, the monetary penalty for such crimes was amended to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or monetary penalty not exceeding 100 million won in order to meet realistic standards
Act on National Defense and Military Installations Projects	Partial Amendment No. 16350 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandate the Minister of National Defense to conduct a fact-finding survey concerning the current status of the building and use of national defense and military installations every two years and report the outcome thereof to the relevant standing committee of the National Assembly Where, based on the outcome of the fact-finding survey, the State is confirmed to have failed to secure the source of right, such as ownership or right to use, on the land used and occupied as national defense and military installations, mandate the Minister to announce such fact publicly
Military Healthcare Act	Partial Amendment No. 16351 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate the sharing of data such as personal information of persons who have been vaccinated and vaccination details thereof with the relevant central administrative agencies and the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency to ensure that the details of vaccination conducted by the military are managed in an integrated manner
Protection of Military Bases and Installations Act	Partial Amendment No. 16352 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the definition of military installations, specify the research facilities and test facilities or test sites for military use Stipulate that the districts returned by the United States to the ROK are deemed canceled as protection zones when the return thereof is complete
Military Aircraft Airworthiness Certification Act	Partial Amendment No. 16353 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare the airworthiness certification for military aircraft temporarily operated for research, experiment, export, or publicity Stipulate allowing the Minister of the Defense Acquisition Program Administration to designate one of the specialized institutions as the main airworthiness certification institution for each project for military aircraft
Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 16354 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow the Commandant of the Marine Corps who has been promoted or transferred to another position after the end of his or her term of office to be used for other purposes so as to capitalize on his or her expertise in various fields without discharging him or her
Military Pension Act	Partial Amendment No. 16355(April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When a military personnel is deemed to have died in the line of duty as a result of the re-examination by the Central Committee for Examination of Killed or Wounded in Action and Death or Injury in the Line of Duty, allow the initial date of prescription for compensation for death, retirement allowance, and condolence money to be the date his or her death was confirmed so as to reinforce the privileges and compensation for the bereaved family members
Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 16356 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the service management of social work personnel and military service management of public officials, etc.
Act on the Establishment of the Korea Army Academy at Youngcheon	Partial Amendment No. 16357 April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specify the mandatory regulations to ensure that the curriculum of the Korea Army Academy at Youngcheon is sufficiently structured to confer degrees

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Special Act on the Promotion of Promotable Military Personnel Killed in Action or in the Line of Duty	Enactment No. 16358 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribe special provisions for the Military Personnel Management Act so as to allow the bereaved family of promotable military personnel killed in action after September 1, 2001 and before March 28, 20011 and who are eligible to file an application for promotion for 1 year from the effective date of this Act
Special Act on the Support for Mine Victims	Partial Amendment No. 16359 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the period for applying for condolence money, etc. to May 31, 2021
Act on Compensation to Persons Who Performed Special Missions	Partial Amendment No. 16360 (April 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the period for applying for compensation, etc. to 6 months after this Act enters into force
Special Act on Investigating the Truth of the May 18 Democratization Movement	Partial Amendment No. 16577 (November 12, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add persons who have served in the military for more than 20 years to the eligible qualifications of a member of the Commission to Investigate the Truth of the May 18 Democratization Movement
Act on Noise Prevention and Damage Compensation for Military Airfields and Military Shooting Ranges	Enactment No. 16582 (November 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create legal grounds to efficiently promote the prevention of noise generated by the operation of military airfields and military shooting ranges and compensation for damages
Act on the Operation, Etc. of Military Aircraft	Partial Amendment No. 16583 (November 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a person has lent his or her certificate of qualification for Military Air Traffic Controller as required for certifying his or her qualification, strengthen the penalty regulations for the person who engages in air traffic control by means such as canceling his or her certificate of qualification
Framework Act on Military Status and Service	Partial Amendment No. 16584 (November 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening education for basic rights within the military • In order to protect the rights and interests of the bereaved family members of a soldier who has died in the line of duty, stipulate special provisions for the appointment of lawyers for the bereaved family members
Reserve Forces Act	Partial Amendment No. 16585 (November 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stipulate requiring the Minister of National Defense to enforce the necessary measures such as employing indoor training or adjusting the training hours when the level of particulate matter is at or above the standard for issuing air pollution warnings
Special Act on Investigating the Truth of the May 18 Democratization Movement	Partial Amendment No. 16759 (December 10, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the application period to allow people to apply for truth investigation within 1 year of the date the Commission to Investigate the Truth of the May 18 Democratization Movement is organized
Military Pension Act	Full Amendment No. 16760 (December 10, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with the enactment of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers, restructure pertinent provisions and introduce the installment pension scheme to enhance the guarantee of livelihood at old age of the divorced spouse
Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers	Enactment No. 16761 (December 10, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to develop a professional, systematic military accident compensation scheme, separate the military accident compensation scheme from the Military Pension Act and enact the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers
Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 16926 (February 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strike a balance between the constitutional freedom of conscience and the duty of military service by establishing a new alternative service and ensuring equity in the duty of military service among alternative service and active duty service, reserve service, or supplementary service.
Act on the Assignment and Performance of the Alternative Service	Enactment No. 16851 (December 31, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strike a balance between the constitutional freedom of conscience and the duty of military service by providing an alternative service program such as assignment, screening and performance of alternative service where military service is performed in lieu of serving as military personnel in active duty for the freedom of conscience

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Military Court Act	Partial Amendment No. 16926 (February 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the change in the name of military police into a natural Korean expression that clearly reflects their mission is being promoted, reorganize the relevant regulations
Act on the Execution of Criminal Penalties in the Armed Forces and the Treatment of Military Inmates	Enactment No. 16929 (February 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to improve the human rights of servicemembers, abolish the confinement facilities among the types of disciplinary action against servicemembers; to replace them, however, reorganize the Act by adding military discipline training and reducing salaries as the types of disciplinary action
Act on the Development and Support of the Defense Industry	Enactment No. 16929 (February 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separate the parts related to the development of the defense industry from the Defense Acquisition Program Act to enact this Act and prescribe matters necessary for the development and support of the defense industry
Act on the Promotion of Innovation in Defense Science and Technology	Enactment No. 17163 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As technological development continues to gain momentum due to the Fourth Industrial Revolution, etc., innovation and development are also required in the field of defense science and technology, but research and development under the current Defense Acquisition Program Act are focused on the means for obtaining weapons systems. As a result, the research and development system for the promotion and development of defense science and technology is insufficient; thus, lay the foundation for promoting challenging and innovative defense R&D projects by enacting this Act
Protection of Military Bases and Installations Act	Partial Amendment No. 17164 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to implement the programs on terminal sewage treatment and wastewater treatment pursuant to the Act on Acquisition of and Compensation for Land, Etc. for Public Works Projects in the Flight Safety Zone 1, establish the grounds for allowing the installation of facilities and appurtenances thereof laid underground through consultation with the commander of the jurisdictional unit
Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 17165 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While enacting the Act on the Promotion of Innovation in Defense Science and Technology to systematically and continuously promote R&D for the innovation of defense science and technology, delete and amend the pertinent details stipulated in this Act
Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 17166 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the service period of servicemembers on active duty in the Air Force by one month, strengthen the surveys on the status of onboard ship reserve service with shipping companies, etc., require the head of a shipping company, etc. to submit a pledge to fulfill the working conditions that will enhance protection of the rights of onboard ship reserve service, thereby improving some shortfalls found in the operation of the current system
Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea	Enactment No. 17266 (May 19, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Korean workers go on unpaid leave due to the delayed settlement of the Agreement Between the United States and the Republic of Korea Concerning Special Measures Related to Article V of the Agreement Under Article IV of the Mutual Defense Treaty Between the United States and the Republic of Korea, Regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of the United States Armed Forces in the Republic of Korea, the status and life of Korean workers affiliated with the USFK were put in an unstable situation. Therefore, formulate systematic and specific support measures for Korean workers affiliated with the USFK who are on unpaid leave so as to create a legal basis that will minimize the threat to their livelihood and disadvantages in their lives
Military Court Act	Partial Amendment No. 17367 (June 9, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the safeguard for the human rights of servicemembers in the military criminal proceedings while reflecting the key amendments made to the recently amended Criminal Procedure Act by means such as allowing the military prosecutor to select a public defender for the victim of a crime that has occurred among servicemembers and civilian workers in the military and extending the period of filing an application for adjudication for appeals proceedings of the plaintiff or complainant against the disposition not to institute public action by the military prosecutor to up to 30 days from the date of receipt of the disposition

Presidential Decrees

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Operations Command Ordinance	Partial Amendment No. 29321 (December 4, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to integrate the 1st and 3rd Army Commands previously under the Field Army Command Ordinance into the Ground Operations Command, which commands ground operations units at the corps level
Defense Intelligence Agency Ordinance	Partial Amendment No. 29322 (December 4, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment to abolish the Defense Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and integrate the relevant tasks to be performed by the Intelligence Command
Enforcement Decree of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 29373 (December 18, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate reducing the service period of full-time reserve forces by up to 6 months
Enforcement Decree of the United Defense Act	Partial Amendment No. 29399 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend to improve the current system by means such as allowing the united defense councils for city (si) and province (do) and united defense councils for city, county (gun) and district (gu) to hold video conferences to ensure the implementation conditions of efficient united defense operations
Regulations on the Organization of Military Courts	Partial Amendment No. 29400 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the location of the 2nd and 4th divisions of the General Military Court of the Army Headquarters to reflect the amendments to the Operations Command Ordinance
Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 29496 (January 22, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to set forth matters included in the written proposals of requirements as identical to the matters contained in the force requirement plan to ensure that agencies proposing requirements such as Army, Navy, and Air Force Headquarters propose objective and reasonable requirements for weapons systems, etc.
Enforcement Decree of the Military Healthcare Act	Partial Amendment No. 29497 (January 22, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a legal basis to allow the Minister of National Defense to provide medical service subsidies within the budget to military healthcare professionals who have acquired specialist qualifications according to their medical treatment results, and, if medical service subsidies are paid by fraudulent or any other illegal means, to redeem such medical service subsidies
Cyber Command Ordinance	Full Amendment No. 29561 (February 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to establish the status of the CyberCommand, which performs cyber operations and tasks to support such operations in the defense cyberspace, fully amend the current provisions of the Cyber Command Ordinance
Enforcement Decree of the Special Act on the Payment of Severance Benefits for Servicemembers Retiring Before December 31, 1959	Partial Amendment No. 29637 (March 25, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set the specific scope of data or information that the Minister of National Defense may request from related agencies for fact-finding such as the address, resident registration number, military service information, etc. of the person of national merit When applying for the payment of severance benefits, stipulate allowing the applicants to submit the confirmation of their signature in lieu of the certificate of seal impression to be submitted as an attached document
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 29640 (March 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of personnel required to provide and expand the use of public data for the MND by two persons (one grade-5, one grade-6) and one person (grade-5) required to prevent sexual violence in the military
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Excavation of the Remains of Soldiers Killed in the Korean War	Partial Amendment No. 29672 (April 2, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add those who are eligible to receive reward payment by allowing the Minister of National Defense to pay reward not exceeding 10 million won to those who have contributed to the identification of the war dead's remains of the Korean War with their DNA samples
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 29734 (May 7, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the personnel by one person (professional officer) necessary to reinforce the function of gender equality policy in the defense domain
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Repatriation, Treatment of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces Prisoners of War	Partial Amendment No. 29747 (May 7, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate allowing the Minister of National Defense to provide honorable treatment such as welcoming ceremony or retirement ceremony for registered prisoners of war, determine whether to provide honorable treatment depending on whether the prisoners of war aligned themselves with the detaining country, etc. during the period of detainment at the request of the Minister him/herself or the bereaved family members thereof, and vary the degree of honorable treatment

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Regulations on Military Entrusted Students	Partial Amendment No. 29790 (May 28, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulations on strengthening the management and supervision of military entrusted students
Organizational Setup of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	Partial Amendment No. 29819 (June 11, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to reinforce the combat readiness inspection function of operation units and combined units, establish a combat readiness inspection group as a special staff section under the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Enforcement Decree of the Protection of Military Bases and Installations Act	Partial Amendment No. 29893 (June 25, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof by setting the conditions for agreement of the commander of the jurisdictional unit, etc. as the case where alternative facilities are installed in the previous military installations, prohibiting any unreasonable or inaccessible conditions such as banning the installation of windows facing the unit, and requiring the facilities directly used for military purposes to be used for war equipment, production of supplies, and storage facilities
Enforcement Decree of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 29894 (June 25, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof for the event where there are no lineal descendants of grandparents or lineal ascendants of grandchildren other than the military personnel him/herself, so there is no one to care for the grandparents or grandchildren, thereby allowing the military personnel to take a leave of absence to care for said grandparents or grandchildren Amend provisions, such as modifying the chemical division to the CBRN division among the names of basic branches in each service, so as to correctly reflect the mission of each branch in the name thereof
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 29937 (July 2, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When calculating the period of continuous service for civilian personnel in the military service, be sure to add all the relevant experiences only for civilian personnel in the military service who has been converted from extraordinary civilian personnel or general civilian personnel in contractual service into general civilian personnel in the military service
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Conferment of Orders of Military Merit for Distinguished Services Rendered During the Korean War	Enactment No. 29993 (July 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary to implement thereof, such as the method of applying the registration of the person of merit or bereaved family members thereof and the tasks of the investigation team for finding the order of military merit for the Korean War
Enforcement Decree of the Special Act on the Promotion of Promotable Military Personnel Killed in Action or in the Line of Duty	Enactment No. 29994 (July 23, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof to ensure that, when any bereaved family member of military personnel killed in action or during the course of his or her duty and who was set to be promoted applies for promotion, the member is asked to submit documents such as a certificate of family relations attached to the promotion application to the Minister of National Defense; enable the Minister to require the Chief of Staff of each service or the commander of the Marine Corps to verify the facts regarding whether the person for which an application for promotion has been submitted is indeed the person set to be promoted and make reports thereof within 30 days
Decree on Disciplinary Action Against Military Personnel	Partial Amendment No. 30022 (August 6, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to reinforce the protection of military personnel who have made positive administration, amend the provisions to ensure that, when a person subject to review such as sanctions testifies of the fact or submits evidence, it includes also the fact that it corresponds to the grounds for exemption such as sanctions
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 30041(August 13, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appoint a general public official falling under the scope of high-level public officials as the logistics management officer of the MND and increase the needed manpower by one person (high-level public official)
Decree on Military Ceremony	Partial Amendment No. 30064 (September 3, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to require play etiquette music only without any wind instruments for foreign guests of the State and skip playing wind instruments limited to ceremonial events where no salutes are fired for the President, thereby reducing the time required for playing honors music

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Decree of the Framework Act on Military Status and Service	Partial Amendment No. 30065 (September 3, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow military personnel to take emergency leave of up to 3 days in the event of the death of their grandparents, maternal grandparents, children or spouses of their children, and servicemembers who have served for more than half of their mandatory service period to take an emergency leave of up to 2 days for their job-seeking activities such as employment counseling and taking recruitment tests
Enforcement Decree of the Military Pension Act	Partial Amendment No. 30066 (September 3, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to ensure that, when an investigation is ongoing or a criminal proceeding is underway for a criminal activity where the military personnel or a person who used to be military personnel may be punished by a sentence of imprisonment due to causes that arose during his or her military service, and where a decision has been made to place him or her on the wanted list because his or her whereabouts are unknown as he or she has fled, suspend payment of 50/100 of the severance benefits until he or she is removed from the wanted list or the notification thereof is lifted
Organizational Setup of the Marine Corps HQ	Partial Amendment No. 30067 (September 3, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions for reorganization by transferring the policy tasks of the force planning office and newly establishing the head of the policy office to efficiently perform the tasks and functions of the Marine Corps HQ
Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 30090 (September 24, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Among the subcommittees of the Defense Acquisition Program Promotion Committee, integrate the Policy and Planning Subcommittee, Program Management Subcommittee, and Military Logistics and Procurement Subcommittee, which have been separately operated by promotional stage, into the Defense Program Planning and Management Subcommittee Increase the prescribed number of members of each subcommittee from 20 to 26
Decree on Korea Armed Forces Athletic Corps	Partial Amendment No. 30121 (October 15, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjust the rank of unit commander of the Korea Armed Forces Athletic Corps from a general-level officer or a field-grade officer to a grade-2 or higher civilian personnel in the military
Enforcement Decree of the Military Welfare Fund Act	No. 30122 (October 15, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Military Welfare Fund Act, reorganize related terms
Enforcement Decree of the Military Healthcare Act	Partial Amendment No. 30135 (October 22, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require the Minister of National Defense to transmit the vaccination record of servicemembers, etc. possessed by the MND to the head of the relevant central administrative agencies within 14 days of vaccination
Enforcement Decree of the Act on National Defense and Military Installations Projects	Partial Amendment No. 30136 (October 22, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set matters delegated by the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof such as the methods and procedures of fact-finding surveys and announcements by requiring the Minister of National Defense to conduct the fact-finding survey on an even-numbered year to report the results thereof by May 31st of the following year
Enforcement Decree of the Military Aircraft Airworthiness Certification Act	Partial Amendment No. 30137 (October 22, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate the provisions delegated under the Act by specifying the scope of devices that may be used for aviation prescribed under the Presidential Decree to unmanned aerial vehicles, powered parachutes, powered paragliders, etc.
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Report and Disclosure of Military Service Records of Public Servants, Etc.	Partial Amendment No. 30162 (October 29, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add served units or organizations, branches, and military specializations to the military modifications to be verified by the head of the Military Manpower Administration Prepare the basis for requesting data from the Chief of Staff of each military service for the head of the Military Manpower Administration to verify changes in military service of the person required to report
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Assignment and Operation of Responsible Administrative Agencies in the Military	Partial Amendment No. 30185 (November 5, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to reinforce the operational autonomy of the responsible administrative agencies in the military, adjust the scope of the right to appoint civilian personnel in the military delegated to the head of the institution and allow the head of the institution to separately set the amount and method of payment of the reward by the responsible administrative agency in the military

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 30199 (November 5, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to ensure that, as for general civilian personnel in the military with outstanding attitude to performing positive administration, allow the reduction of the period required for promotion after continuous service by one year and, as for the person who has been subject to sanction due to negative administration or DUI, add 6 months to the restricted period for general promotion due to disciplinary action and prohibit the person from being promoted during that period
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Execution of Criminal Penalties in the Armed Forces and the Treatment of Military Inmates	Partial Amendment No. 30213 (November 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate allowing units commanded by grade-2 or higher civilian workers in the military to install military detention facility for detainees pending trial
Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 30225 (December 3, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate addressing the issue of requiring munitions sales agents to submit identical documents repeatedly, and where the Commissioner of the National Tax Service or the Korea Customs Service has conducted a tax audit, etc. on taxation data in connection with reporting the brokerage fees of munitions sales agents submitted by the Minister of DAPA, and where the content differs from the taxation data in the investigation results, require the notification thereof to the Minister of DAPA
Regulations on the Payment of Honorable Discharge Benefits for Military Personnel	Partial Amendment No. 30269 (December 24, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include military personnel who have died after applying for honorable discharge benefits in the scope of people who are eligible to receive honorable discharge benefits to clarify the scope of those who are eligible to receive honorable discharge benefits Where the person who had received honorable discharge benefits has been reappointed as a state public official, allow the Chief of Staff of each service who has paid honorable discharge benefits to request data necessary for redemption so as to assist the heads of central administrative agencies who have made such reappointment
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 30279 (December 31, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate the provisions to allow authorities to hire any person falling under the scope of persons with disabilities with physical impairment under the Act on the Employment Promotion and Vocational Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities through the career-based competitive examination of appointment In order to create a public service culture where work and life are balanced, where both parents of the first child have taken a leave for childcare and the leave of absence of each person is 6 months or longer, add the entire duration of the leave of absence to the minimum number of years required for promotion
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 30281 (December 31, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to solidify the foundation of democratic control over defense policies, appoint general public officials who correspond to high-level public officials for the informatization planning officer and mobilization officer who had been previously assigned with general-level officers and provide matters regarding manpower increase Extend the evaluation period for one division in the Office of National Defense Policy by two years according to the evaluation results obtained thus far
Enforcement Decree of the Framework Act on Military Status and Service	Partial Amendment No. 30312 (December 31, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to create a culture where childbirth and child-rearing can be carried out concurrently through work-life balance, expand the leave available for military personnel who are pregnant or who have children
Enforcement Decree of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 30323 (January 7, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplify the procedure for disposition for military service by reducing the waiting period for the physical re-examination of those who are subject to active duty and who are returning home due to illness, etc. after the enrollment and physical examination, and expanding the scope to those who may be exempted from military service or transferred to wartime labor service without a draft physical examination so as to improve the current system
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 30364 (January 29, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stipulate provisions to extend the duration of existence of the military air base relocation project group established in the MND as a temporary organization by two years from January 30, 2020 to January 30, 2022

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Decree of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 30384 (February 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the name of the military police, one of the basic branches of servicemembers, and establish the intelligence division as the basic branch in the Marine Corps so as to enhance the expertise of the intelligence of the Marine Corps
Decree on Military Officials in Diplomatic Offices	Partial Amendment No. 30385 (February 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the prescribed number of military officers at diplomatic offices by two from 75 to 77 (one field-grade officer from the Army and another one from the Air Force)
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 30452 (February 25, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the provisions in relation to manpower increase by increasing the number of personnel required for employment support for young servicemembers by two (grade-5 and grade-7)
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 30553 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to expand the opportunity for persons with severe disabilities to be appointed as military personnel, establish the grounds for allowing only persons with severe disabilities to apply for the career-based competitive examination of appointment and allow them to be exempted from the written examination in this case • Establish cyber forces in the information and communications position of general civilian personnel in the military
Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 30554 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the provisions to prepare a separate safety management system for safety-related accidents concerning manufacturing and storage of military firearms, swords, explosives, etc., and waive the export permit where the same defense supplies as those that have previously obtained export permit are exported to the same consumers
Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 30635 (April 28, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust part of the assigned administrative affairs of the Office of Personnel and Welfare and the Office of Military Force and Resources Management under the MND; add the tasks of establishing military safety management policies to the assigned administrative affairs of the Office of Military Force and Resources Management
Enforcement Decree of the Framework Act on Military Status and Service	Partial Amendment No. 30695 (May 26, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Framework Act on Military Status and Service, set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof, such as facility criteria subject to the management of indoor air quality, specific matters needed for the management of indoor air quality, and purpose, methods, and types of military discipline training
Enforcement Decree of the Military Pension Act	Full Amendment No. 30759 (June 9, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the enactment of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers, modify the relevant provisions; with the full amendment of the Military Pension Act, set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof such as the standards for recognizing the duration of marriage excluded from the installment pension and procedures for claiming installment pension
Enforcement Decree of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers	Enactment No. 30760 (June 9, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the enactment of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers, set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof such as the standards for recognizing the duration of marriage excluded from the installment pension
Organizational Setup of the MMA and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 30767 (June 9, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the enactment of the Act on the Assignment and Performance of the Alternative Service, reflect modifications such as establishment of Commission for Examination of Alternative Service in the MMA, increase 20 personnel required therefor, establish two divisions of the Commission for Examination of Alternative Service as the organization subject to evaluation, and reassign two prescribed MMA personnel under the control of the MMA so as to increase efficiency of the organizational and personnel operation
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Assignment and Performance of the Alternative Service	Enactment No. 30807 (June 30, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the enactment of the Act on the Assignment and Performance of the Alternative Service, set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof by preparing the draft and mobilization postponement procedures for those who have applied to be transferred to an alternative service, organizing and operating the Commission for Examination of Alternative Service, and setting the details necessary for the alternative service

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 30814 (July 1, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to enhance the capability of the Minister of DAPA to perform defense force enhancement projects and to improve the transparency and efficiency in the procurement of military supplies, prepare the grounds for the Minister of the DAPA to entrust part of the force support system among the military supplies to the head of the Public Procurement Service
Decree on Disciplinary Action Against Military Personnel	Partial Amendment No. 30880 (July 28, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Military Personnel Management Act, reorganize the relevant regulations and require the disciplinary committee that reviews sexual violence crimes or sexual harassment to, in principle, include at least 1/3 of members whose gender is identical to the victim, so as to establish the grounds for operating the disciplinary committee and the appellate review committee by means of video teleconference
Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 30881 (July 28, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require the disciplinary committee for civilian military employees, which reviews sexual violence crimes or sexual harassment to, in principle, include at least 1/3 of members whose gender is identical to the victim, so as to establish the grounds for operating the disciplinary committee and the appellate review committee by means of video teleconference
Enforcement Decree of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 30891 (August 4, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set matters delegated under the Military Personnel Management Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof, such as deleting the provisions on the establishment of the General and Central Committees for Examination of Killed or Wounded in Action and Death or Injury in the Line of Duty which have been upgraded according to the amendment of the Act, and where the war-wounded, etc. has applied for the disclosure of the minutes of the general or central committee meeting, mandating such disclosure within 3 days
Enforcement Decree of the Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea	Enactment No. 30945 (August 19, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the enactment of the Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea, set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof, such as the specific selection criteria and payment methods as to the relevant fund
Decree on Joint Forces Military University	Partial Amendment No. 30963 (August 25, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to allow each service to carry out professional educational tasks that meet the characteristics thereof, delete the provisions regarding Army College, Navy College, and Air Force College that had been under the control of the Joint Forces Military University and place each college under the respective service
Enforcement Decree of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 31058 (September 29, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Military Service Act, add the status of any human rights violation to matters requiring fact-finding survey in relation to the onboard ship reserve service and require the head of a shipping company to attach a pledge for faithful implementation of the agreed-upon working conditions when submitting the application of transfer to the onboard ship reserve service to the head of the competent regional military manpower office
Enforcement Decree of the United Defense Act	Partial Amendment No. 31092 (October 7, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among the members of the Regional Integrated Defense Committees, designate the head of the regional military manpower administration or the head of the military manpower branch office and head of the fire & disaster headquarters or head of the fire department as the previous head of the regional military manpower office considering the formation or roles of the organization; for the practical protection of key national facilities, require the manager of the facilities, vice commander of the local unit, and chief of the police station to sign jointly a guard agreement regardless of jurisdiction
Enforcement Decree of the Military Healthcare Act	Partial Amendment No. 31122 (October 27, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a servicemember in full-time reserve service or on active duty suffers from illness or injury in the process of education or trainings during the period of service and receives treatment at a civilian medical institution, establish the grounds for the Minister of National Defense to purchase insurance to cover such treatment expenses; while entrusting tasks such as insurance subscription and termination to the Military Mutual Aid Association, establish the grounds for using the personal information held by the MMA to process the relevant tasks

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Decree of the Reserve Forces Act	Partial Amendment No. 31123 (October 27, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the laws and provisions on the grounds for mutatis mutandis application following the enactment of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers are modified, and the criteria for payment of compensation for injuries and deaths are unified to the average amount of monthly income of all public officials in accordance with the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers, apply the same payment criteria to the reserve forces as the servicemembers on active duty so as to enhance compensation for personnel in the reserve forces who have sustained injury or died during the performance of their duty or training
General Rules on Defense Organization and Capacity	Partial Amendment No. 31124 (October 27, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to respond rapidly to the sudden change in the defense environment such as the Fourth Industrial Revolution and reorganization of future unit structures, expand the scope of delegated rights to adjust occupational groups and line or work of general civilian personnel in the military, which are currently delegated by the Minister of National Defense to the Chief of Staff of each service and the Commander of Marine Corps, from general civilian personnel grade-6 or below to all ranks
Enforcement Decree of the Act on Noise Prevention and Damage Compensation for Military Airfields and Military Shooting Ranges	Enactment No. 31173 (November 24, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the enactment of the Act on Noise Prevention and Damage Compensation for Military Airfields and Military Shooting Ranges, set matters necessary for the designation and announcement of areas requiring countermeasure against noise, specific calculation methods of compensation for damages arising from noise, and payment method thereof

Ministerial Ordinances

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 974 (December 24, 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the manpower of the MND by using the total labor cost system to support job-oriented state administration and facilitate state affairs
Rules on Special Service Allowance for Military Personnel, Etc.	Partial Amendment No. 976 (January 24, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Regulations on Allowances, Etc. for Public Officials, amend the provisions by assigning aerospace physiological instructors to those who are eligible to receive hazard pay allowance
Rules on the Payment of Military Incentives	Partial Amendment No. 977 (January 31, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where applicable, military incentives could only be paid in the fourth year of a four-year college in the past; in the future, however, by considering the selection of officer candidate and the time of graduation from the university of cadets, amend the provisions to make the payment even before the start of the officer candidate course if the student consents
Enforcement Rules of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 978 (February 27, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions by extending the scope of public organizations where the military personnel who work as alternative social workers work; thus, where an application is made to be transferred to wartime labor service due to the livelihood of the family, require the submission of the detailed history of employment insurance and daily work history under the employment insurance along with the documents to be verified by the head of the regional military manpower office through the joint use system of administrative information
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 981 (March 5, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect modifications as the organizational setup of the MND and its affiliated organizations are amended to increase the manpower required for providing public data and expanding the use thereof to the MND and its affiliated organizations

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Rules of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 983 (April 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of equity with the officer promotion systems, amend the provisions by deleting the grounds for excluding those who are excluded from the group of people entitled to undergo promotion and selection of NCOs, and establishing grounds for prohibiting the promotion before any announcement is made, thereby improving the promotion system of NCOs
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 984 (May 7, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations (Presidential Decree No. 29734, promulgated and enforced on May 7, 2019), set the specific positions of increased manpower and modify the previous titles of the Outplacement Support Policy Division and Defense Women and Family Support Division to the Defense Employment Policy Division and Gender Equality Policy Division, respectively
Enforcement Rules of the Regulations on Military Entrusted Students	Partial Amendment No. 985 (May 30, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the provisions to make improvements by upgrading to the Regulations on Military Entrusted Students, deleting the prescribed details, and enabling the Minister of National Defense to inspect the status of military entrusted students reported by the Chief of Staff of each service every semester and reflect the results thereof when approving the educational plan for military entrusted students
Enforcement Rules of the Decree on Disciplinary Action Against Military Personnel	Partial Amendment No. 986 (June 25, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the provisions so as not to impose any disciplinary action or penalty as disciplinary action for any misbehavior recognized to have arisen while faithfully and proactively processing tasks by establishing and executing policies for public interests such as making improvements in unreasonable regulations
Enforcement Rules of the Protection of Military Bases and Installations Act	Partial Amendment No. 987 (July 8, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the upgraded enactment of the Act that allows conditional consent where the head of the relevant administrative agency consults with the Minister of National Defense or the commander of the jurisdictional unit, etc. for permission or other disposition in the protected area, amend the provisions by deleting the relevant provisions
Enforcement Rules of the Decree on Disciplinary Action Against Military Personnel	Partial Amendment No. 988 (August 6, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend related provisions by amending the form to provide whether the grounds for exemption are applicable in the resolution for disciplinary action, etc. so as to be exempted from disciplinary action against positive administration, etc.
Enforcement Rules of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 989 (August 6, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the form to provide whether the grounds for exemption are applicable in the resolution for disciplinary action, etc. so as to be exempted from disciplinary action against positive administration, etc.
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 990 (August 13, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations (Presidential Decree No. 30041, promulgated and enforced on August 13, 2019), reflect the modifications
Enforcement Rules of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 991 (August 27, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the service period of servicemembers on active duty is gradually reduced, prepare the grounds for reducing the minimum service period to be promoted to private first class, corporal, and sergeant by one month and extend the minimum service period to be promoted up to one month on account of the characteristics of each service
Enforcement Rules of the Military Pension Act	Partial Amendment No. 993 (September 3, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Enforcement Decree of the Military Pension Act (Presidential Decree No. 1180, promulgated and enforced on September 3, 2019), amend the relevant forms, such as the personal details report of people residing overseas and claim for payment of the remaining severance benefits due to the elimination of the grounds to restrict payment, and reflect such details
Enforcement Rules of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 995 (September 24, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the amendment to the Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act, (Presidential Decree No. 30090, promulgated and enforced on September 24, 2019), modify the subcommittee that reviews core technology proposals from its previous affiliation to the Policy and Planning Subcommittee to the Defense Program Planning and Management Subcommittee

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Rules on Fostering and Supporting Reserve Forces	Partial Amendment No. 996 (September 26, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previously, the procedure for submitting requests for fostering and supporting reserve forces was delegated to be set by local governments' ordinances; since there is no need to set the provisions for each local government, however, deleted the regulations delegating the role to ordinances
Rules on the Payment of Retaining Fee and Interim Payments for the Defense Industry	Partial Amendment No. 997 (October 11, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to extend the period of exception that temporarily suspends the payment of the guaranteed amount specified in the guarantee of payment of subcontractors or submission of the guarantee of payment, etc. for the amount equivalent thereto by shipbuilders
Enforcement Rules of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 998 (October 18, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to make system improvements by allowing the Chief of Staff of each military to give extra points up to a certain limit considering the environment and characteristics of each service's labor acquisition in relation to the extra points given in the selection of long-term NCOs and NCOs eligible for promotion, and set the appointment criteria to at least 300 flight hours when appointing pilots for rotary-wing aircraft to increase accuracy
Enforcement Rules of the Military Aircraft Airworthiness Certification Act	Partial Amendment No. 999 (October 24, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions to set matters delegated under the Act and Presidential Decree and other matters necessary for implementation thereof by setting the detailed criteria for unmanned aerial vehicles (JAV) among military aircraft and requiring the head of the project management agency who intends to apply for airworthiness certification for the purpose of research, etc. to submit the application for airworthiness certification containing details such as the operational purpose and period of military aircraft to the Minister of DAPA
Enforcement Rules of the Act on the Report and Disclosure of Military Service Records of Public Servants, Etc.	Partial Amendment No. 1000 (October 29, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Act on the Report and Disclosure of Military Service Records of Public Servants, Etc. and its Enforcement Decree, amend the provisions to improve some shortfalls found in the operation of the current system by amending the forms necessary for such implementation, including the notice to report modifications in the military service information
Enforcement Rules of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 1001 (December 4, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act, amend the provisions by deleting the form of the relevant agreement on security requirements
Rules on Calculating the Cost of Goods Subject to the Cost of Defense Industry	Partial Amendment No. 1002 (December 30, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions by improving the profit calculation standards to guarantee appropriate profits for the defense industry and introducing the unit cost of defense wage and concept of standard amount of work
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 1004 (December 31, 2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations (Presidential Decree No. 30281, promulgated and enforced on December 31, 2019), amend the provisions by reflecting the modifications and designating the chief of Gender Equality Policy Division in MND as an open position to ensure efficient operation of open positions
Enforcement Rules of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 1006 (January 7, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Decree on the Act on Welfare of Persons with Disabilities, which revises the grade of disability, amend the provisions by reforming the criteria for people who require draft physical examination among persons with disabilities in the preliminary military service who are eligible to be exempted from military service
Enforcement Rules of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 1008 (January 23, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the provisions by deleting the age in the selection criteria for promoting NCOs so as to eliminate unreasonable discrimination in relation to age, as well as allowing those who have not completed their mandatory service period due to physical or psychological impairment to continue to serve on active duty through deliberation by the committee for examination on discharge from active service of the Army, Navy, and Air Force considering their capacity to serve such as the possibility of treating the physical and psychological impairment and characteristics of each branch

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 1009 (January 29, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend the duration of the military air base relocation project group established as a temporary organization under the MND by two years and reduce one of the existing prescribed number of affiliated temporary personnel
Enforcement Rules of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 1011 (February 17, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to reinforce the assessment capacity of the screening interview among new recruitment tests for general civilian personnel in the military and to minimize the number of people with tied scores, subdivide the scores for each evaluative element of the screening interview
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 1013 (February 25, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations, reflect the modifications
Enforcement Rules of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 1014 (March 31, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Enforcement Decree of the Defense Acquisition Program Act, set the criteria, etc. of the harms prevention regulations for those who have acquired the license for manufacturing facilities for military firearms, swords, explosives, etc., and set the export status forms and attached documents that those who have been exempted from export permit and exported defense industry supplies, etc. are required to submit within 7 days of export
Rules on Special Service Allowance for Military Personnel, Etc.	Partial Amendment No. 1015 (April 2, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Regulations on Allowances, Etc. for Public Officials that aimed to expand the scope of people who are eligible to receive allowance for special tasks, set the monthly amount of allowance paid to the pilots who are general-level officers
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 1017 (April 28, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations (Presidential Decree No. 30635, promulgated and enforced on April 28, 2020), adjust the administrative affairs assigned to lower organizations and the names of departments
Enforcement Rules of the Framework Act on Military Status and Service	Partial Amendment No. 1018 (May 27, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Framework Act on Military Status and Service, set the management standards for maintaining indoor air quality of the facilities needed for barracks life at a pleasant level
Enforcement Rules of the Military Personnel Management Act	Partial Amendment No. 1019 (June 1, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the personnel management system by preparing a special screening system of admissions to appoint NCOs who have become physically impaired due to acts that may set an example for other military personnel during battle or training related to operations as warrant officers
Enforcement Rules of the Defense Acquisition Program Act	Partial Amendment No. 1020 (June 2, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the President of the Defense Agency for Technology and Quality received an application for the renewal of certification from a defense company but is unable to conduct field inspection due to extenuating circumstances, allow the Agency to carry out the inspection with data submitted in lieu of the field inspection
Enforcement Rules of the Military Pension Act	Full Amendment No. 1022 (June 11, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set matters delegated by the Enforcement Decree of the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof, such as the reporting procedure for the duration of marriage excluded when calculating the installment pension
Enforcement Rules of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers	Enactment No. 1023 (June 11, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the enactment of the Enforcement Decree of the Act on Accident Compensation for Soldiers, set matters delegated under the Act and other matters necessary for implementation thereof
Regulations on Officer Candidates for Reserve Officers' Training Corps	Partial Amendment No. 1024 (June 19, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the number of officer candidates of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps to 40 and NCO candidates to 30 and prepare the grounds for the transition of military records
Enforcement Rules of the Act on the Assignment and Performance of the Alternative Service	Enactment No. 1026 (June 30, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set the application form for transfer to alternative service and require the applicants to attach other documents such as their written statements and the statements of their parents and surrounding people when submitting the transfer application

Title	Promulgation No. (Date)	Main Contents
Enforcement Rules of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 1027 (June 30, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Military Service Act, modify the provisions and forms by adding matters regarding alternative service to the subjects that may submit the abstract of resident registration card in lieu of the certificate of military service
Regulations on the Selection of Persons in Charge of Reserve Forces Management	Partial Amendment No. 1028 (July 15, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the qualification to apply for the selection of commanders of reserve military units, the commander for the operation of the reserve forces management organization and personnel to provide assistance include those with experience as officers in command in the Army personnel department; modify the number of questions and assigned scores in the written examination among the selection exams, thereby improving shortfalls in the operation
Enforcement Rules of the Decree on Disciplinary Action Against Military Personnel	Partial Amendment No. 1029 (July 28, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the standards for imposing disciplinary actions for servicemembers and prepare the standards for imposing disciplinary actions against officers and NCOs who neither report nor whistle-blow on negative administration, bribery acceptance, or embezzlement of government money, thereby improving shortfalls in the operation
Enforcement Rules of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service	Partial Amendment No. 1030 (July 27, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Management of Civilian Personnel in the Military Service, establish test subjects for the new recruitment of general civilian personnel in the military in cyber forces, amend the evaluation elements of interview exams for the new recruitment of general civilian personnel in the military, and allow the head of the testing agency to collect reference data required for evaluating interview exams and provide them to the interviewers
Enforcement Rules of the Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea	Enactment No. 1032 (August 20, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the enactment of the Enforcement Decree of the Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea, set matters delegated under the Act such as procedures for raising objections for decisions made by the Minister of National Defense regarding the provision of the relevant support fund
Enforcement Rules of the Military Service Act	Partial Amendment No. 1033 (September 29, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the amendment to the Military Service Act and its Enforcement Decree to require the submission of the pledge to faithfully implement the working conditions agreed upon with onboard ship reserve servicemembers, set the applicable pledge form
Enforcement Rules on the Organizational Setup of the MND and Its Affiliated Organizations	Partial Amendment No. 1034 (October 21, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to increase the efficiency of organizational operation, adjust part of the assigned administrative affairs and part of the line of work for personnel at the MND HQ
Enforcement Rules of the Act on Noise Prevention and Damage Compensation for Military Airfields and Military Shooting Ranges	Enactment No. 1035 (November 24, 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the enactment of the Act on Noise Prevention and Damage Compensation for Military Airfields and Military Shooting Ranges, set how to calculate the noise impact level according to the operation of military aircraft and firing exercise at military shooting ranges, types of installations limited in the noise countermeasure zones and such limiting conditions, and how to make announcements for the plan of installation of automatic noise measurement network

Organization and Major Activities of the National Defense Committee of the National Assembly

As of December 31, 2020

Senior Expert Member	Expert Member	Committee Chairperson (Democratic Party of Korea)	
<p>Bae Yong-geun Grade-1</p>	<p>Lee Sin-woo Grade-2</p>		<p>Min Hong-chul (born in 1961, Gimhae-si Gap in Gyeongsangnam-do) Third-term (19th, 20th, and 21st National Assembly) Department of Law and Master's degree in Law at Pusan National University; Army Judge Advocate General; President of the High Court for Armed Forces; (former) Brigadier general of the ROK Army; (former) Attorney; (former) Supreme council member of the Democratic Party of Korea; (current) Chairperson of the Democratic Party of Korea Gyeongsangnam-do Party Chapter National Assembly Building Rm. 421 O) 784-6490, 784-6491, F) 6788-64855</p>
Legislative Examiners			
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Democratic Party of Korea		People Power Party	
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Major Activities of the National Defense Committee of the National Assembly (January 2019 - December 2020)

Session	Date	Main Contents
The 20th National Assembly		
367th Extraordinary Session (March 7 - April 5, 2019)	March 18, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received progress reports (under MND, MMA, and DAPA jurisdictions) Introduced the Inspection and Investigation of State Administration Report for 2018 Introduced 50 legislative bills including the Military Service Act Passed resolution for the continued development of the ROK-US Alliance commemorating the 50th anniversary of SCM and resolution urging the Japanese military to issue an apology for posing a threat with maritime patrol aircraft and cease any further recurrence
	March 28, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted the Inspection and Investigation of State Administration Report for 2018 Adopted the subcommittee's activity report for the improvement of the special military service system Passed 30 legislative bills including the Military Personnel Management Act
369th Extraordinary Session (June 20 - July 19, 2019)	July 3, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received major pending issue reports (under MND, MMA, and DAPA jurisdictions) Introduced 49 legislative bills including the Act on the Organization of National Armed Forces
	August 5, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received status report on MND affairs (regarding North Korean missile launch, North Korean small wooden ship situation, and Russian military aircraft invasion of airspace) Passed resolution condemning the nuclear advancement and missile provocation of North Korea and demanding the cessation of any further recurrence
370th Extraordinary Session (July 29 - August 27, 2019)	August 21, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced proposed settlement of accounts for the 2018 fiscal year Received progress report on the demand for modification related to the inspection and investigation of state administration in 2018 and on the settlement of accounts for the 2017 fiscal year Passed 31 legislative bills including the Special Act on Investigating the Truth of the May 18 Democratization Movement
	September 4, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed proposed settlement of accounts for the 2018 fiscal year
	September 19, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public hearing on the legislative bill for alternative service program for conscientious military service objectors
	September 24, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted the Inspection and Investigation of State Administration Plan for 2019 Passed 14 legislative bills including the Military Pension Act Introduced 25 legislative bills including the National Defense Reform Act
371st Regular Session (September 2 - December 10, 2019)	October 2 - 26, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted the inspection and investigation of state administration for 2019
	November 4, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced the 2020 budget bill
	November 7, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed the 2020 budget bill Introduced 6 legislative bills including the Military Secret Protection Act Introduced a motion to extend the dispatch to the waters of the Gulf of Aden and a motion to extend the dispatch to support the UAE forces
	November 19, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed the motion to extend the dispatch to the waters of the Gulf of Aden and the motion to extend the dispatch to support the UAE forces Passed 27 legislative bills including the Military Secret Protection Act
376th Extraordinary Session (February 17 - March 17, 2020)	February 24, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major pending issue report (under the MND, MMA, and DAPA jurisdictions) Introduced 27 legislative bills including the Defense Technology Security Act Passed one revised bill for the Military Service Act Passed resolution urging the enactment of the Defense Industry Day
377th Extraordinary Session (April 16 - May 15, 2020)	April 29, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced 6 legislative bills including the Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea Passed the Special Act for the Support of Korean Workers in the United States Forces Korea

Session	Date	Main Contents
The 21st National Assembly		
379th Extraordinary Session (June 5 - July 4, 2020)	June 22, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received progress reports (under MND, MMA, and DAPA jurisdictions)
	June 29, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced and passed the 3rd supplementary revised budget bill for 2020
380th Extraordinary Session (July 6 - August 4, 2020)	July 28, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received progress reports (under MND, MMA, and DAPA jurisdictions)
381st Extraordinary Session (August 18 - 31, 2020)	August 25, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced proposed settlement of accounts for the 2019 fiscal year Received progress report on the demand for modification on the settlement of accounts for the 2018 fiscal year
	September 1, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed proposed settlement of accounts for the 2019 fiscal year
	September 24, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received urgent status report on MND affairs (regarding the disappearance of a public official from the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries) Passed resolution condemning the shooting of the public official from the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries and armed provocation
	October 7 - 26, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted the inspection and investigation of state administration for 2020
382nd Regular Session (September 1 - December 9, 2020)	November 9, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced the 2021 budget bill Introduced 69 legislative bills including the United Defense Act Introduced a motion to extend the dispatch to the waters of the Gulf of Aden and a motion to extend the dispatch to support the UAE forces Passed resolution urging the enactment of the Defense Industry Day
	November 12, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed the budget 2021 bill
	November 20, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed 32 legislative bills including the Special Act on Support, Etc. for Pyeongtaek-si, Etc. Following Relocation of US Military Bases in Korea Passed the motion to extend the dispatch to the waters of the Gulf of Aden and the motion to extend the dispatch to support the UAE forces
	December 8, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed the partial amendment to the Special Act on Investigating the Truth of the May 18 Democratization Movement

Videos



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Navy promotional video
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Marine Corps promotional video
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