

October 1992: The National Security Planning Agency has arrested 62 people for allegedly spying for Pyongyang and setting up a southern branch of the North communist party. The agency said the north smuggled one of its spies to set up espionage rings to run operations aimed at uniting the two Koreas under a communist regime by 1995. [FEER-B, Oct.15]

There will be no reduction in the 37,400 US troops in South Korea until "uncertainties" over North Korea's nuclear weapons program are "thoroughly addressed," according to an 8 Oct. communique following the annual meeting between US Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and South Korea's Defense Minister Choi Sae Chang. The decision extends a moratorium on a planned pullout of 6,500 troops by 1995. [FEER-B, Oct 22]

November 1992: South Korean President Roh Tae Woo and Japanese PM Kiichi Miyazawa, holding a day-long working session in Kyoto on 8 Nov., have agreed to press for N. Korea's acceptance of bilateral nuclear inspections with the South, according to S. Korean presidential spokesman Kim Hak Joon. [FEER-B]

December 1992: North Korea's PM has been replaced. Yon Hyon Muk has been demoted, reportedly for his failure to push through economic reforms, analysts in Seoul say. South Korean officials expect new Prime Minister Kan Song San's emergence to signal an increase in economic cooperation between the two countries. [FEER-B, Dec.11]

Pyongyang on Dec. 19 announced its decision to boycott the 9th round of inter-Korean premeirs' talks scheduled to take place in Seoul beginning December 21. The North Koreans had demanded the South Korean side to scrap its plan to resume next spring's "Team Spirit," and to notify the North of the decision by December 15th. [NKN N.663]