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CONCERN GROWING US AND SOUTH KOREA COULD FAIL TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON TROOP COST-SHARING

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By Barbara Starr and Kylie Atwood

A national security crisis is brewing on the Korean Peninsula amid fears the Trump administration and South Korea could fail to reach agreement on a new cost-sharing formula for keeping US troops there, according to several senior US military and defense officials.

If a new agreement is not reached by the beginning of April, as many as 9,000 Korean workers could be furloughed from their jobs on various US military installations, a move that could undermine the US military mission amid tensions with North Korea, top officials say.

The dispute over the cost of the 28,500 US troops stationed on the Korean peninsula erupted after President Donald Trump asked for a 400% increase in South Korea's contribution under the so-called Special Measures Agreement. The demand outraged Seoul and concerned US lawmakers in both parties.

Read more at: https://edition.cnn.com/2020/02/20/politics/us-south-korea-troops-costs/index.html

Kaynak/Source: