

## **EDITORIAL**

# Korea: Get the Tractors Rolling!

by Mike Billington

*The following is adapted from a video presentation on LaRouchePAC TV on Aug. 15. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTWwanhiHgM>*

Aug. 26—Headlines across the Western world over the past few weeks have been blaring that President Trump is about to nuke North Korea, and/or North Korea is about to nuke Guam. This is mostly hysterical nonsense. There is a grave danger that there could be a war provoked over North Korea, which would really not be targetting North Korea; but rather, targetting China. Or, to be more specific, targetting the very close, friendly relationship between President Trump and China's President Xi Jinping.

What I would like to do is put in historical context how this crisis, and one other perpetual crisis—the Palestinian-Israeli crisis—are intentionally created hotspots, created by the British and British intelligence networks within the United States and elsewhere. The only purpose for these seemingly unresolvable conflicts, is not to deal with the so-called regional crises in Korea or in the Middle East, but rather, to maintain a perpetual crisis scenario in which the British Empire can keep the world divided—and especially keep the world divided between East and West. The original set-up of the Israeli-Palestinian crisis, was from the very beginning intended to be a perpetual conflict, removing people from their homes, and creating territorial, religious and ethnic divisions which would be a basis for perpetual warfare by the British Empire. This is the whole idea of “divide and conquer”—sustaining a conflict which can be ignited anew whenever such a crisis is needed.

But behind the regional conflict, set up in order to



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*President Trump and President Xi Jinping at their April 6, 2017 meeting at Mar-a-Lago.*

control the Middle East and so forth, was the idea that this would be a cockpit for war between the West and Russia, and with China. By creating this conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians, you would effectively get all of the Western “free world” nations behind Israel, and all of the “dictatorial”—or “communist” in those days—forces from Russia and from China and elsewhere, supporting the Palestinians. Then you’d have no chance for the kind of policy Franklin Roosevelt was fighting for in World War II—namely, for the U.S. and Russia and China to work together to defeat fascism and end the British Empire—to end the destruction and looting of the Third World, and instead to bring American System methods to bear for the development of the formerly colonized nations in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and so forth. So, this is *why* the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was created by the British Empire.

The same situation exists in Korea. The history of

how Korea got divided after World War II and how the Korean War got started—I won't try to go into all of that. But the British wanted to keep that division permanent; they didn't want peace between North and South Korea. They wanted to keep a perpetual crisis there which would keep the United States and the Europeans on the side of South Korea, and the Chinese and the Russians on the side of North Korea; and thereby prevent any chance for the U.S., Russia and China to come together behind a development perspective which would counter the power of the British Empire.

I want to go through a couple of historical facts about this situation. Not the origin of the crisis, but something that developed in the 1990s which I think will provide a very clear flavor of how this works.

In 1993, the Oslo Accords were signed between the Israelis and the Palestinians, with Bill Clinton, then the President of the United States, as the primary sponsor. The agreement was worked out in Oslo, with Russian collaboration, but essentially in secret—in particular, in secret from the British. The British were not involved; they were kept out of the negotiations, for very good reasons. When Bill Clinton came into office, he said that the special relationship America would have under his leadership would be with Germany, not with the UK. That's why he was eventually watergated and impeached. It wasn't Monica Lewinsky—she was used in order to bring him down for the crime of failing to follow dictates from Britain.

This is why Lyndon LaRouche began to give his qualified support to President Bill Clinton, who was breaking the British domination of U.S. policy-making after the death of FDR, and even more so after the assassination of JFK. This was quite the opposite of what Hillary Clinton became later on—a complete tool of the British, advocating confrontation and war with Russia and with China.

So at that time, Bill Clinton orchestrated this potential peace agreement in the Middle East. The Oslo



Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left), PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat (right), and U.S. President Bill Clinton at the Oslo Accord signing ceremony in Washington D.C., September 1993.

Accord was really quite profound; it led to Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and PLO leader Arafat coming to Washington, shaking hands with Bill Clinton at the White House, and committing themselves to a long-term policy for peace in the Middle East. What was most important about the Oslo Accord was not just that the Israelis were going to remove some of their troops from Gaza and from some of the West Bank, and that the Palestinians were going

to recognize Israel's existence and so forth. That was important, but the real importance was something they called the Palestine-Israel Committee for Economic Cooperation. They were going to work together for the development of the Middle East, and the Palestinian territories in particular. Mr. LaRouche at that time said—immediately, I remember clearly the day when the Oslo Accord was announced—within minutes, Mr. LaRouche said “Get the tractors rolling! Get the development process going, and don't let the World Bank or the IMF anywhere near this process, or the tractors will never roll.”

LaRouche argued that you must have a development process in place which locates the actual interests of both sides of this conflict; a development process which would put the skilled Palestinian workers to work, building especially water projects, with scientists from Israel and experienced Israeli corporations which would be able to develop the water, the energy, the transportation, and all the infrastructure needed for that region to develop, to resolve the poverty on the Palestinian side, and bring Israelis and Palestinians together in a collaborative process.

Well, the exact opposite happened. Rabin was killed by the right-wing British assets within Israel, and the situation rapidly unravelled. But most important, again, the reason it didn't work, was because they put the World Bank in charge of overseeing the development process; which meant there was not going to be any development. The World Bank's argument was that “Well, we can't expect the private sector to come in here and

invest if there's not peace. We have to have peace first, then we can have development." LaRouche insisted that the exact opposite was the case. Get the development process rolling, and then you have a basis on which a political settlement can actually make sense and be lived up to.

So, what was the British purpose? The purpose, as I said, was to keep the division between the United States and Russia; which is why the British moved in to crush Oslo, including the killing of Israel's greatest leader—Yitzhak Rabin.

Now, look at the Korea situation; it's really precisely the same. The Oslo Accord was in 1993. In 1994, just one year later, Bill Clinton organized something called the "Agreed Framework" regarding North Korea. We were on the brink of war in 1992-93 with North Korea, over nuclear weapons. They had built a nuclear power plant that was producing weapons-grade material, at the Yongbyon nuclear complex, and we were insisting that they stop; and they said no. But through a process—Jimmy Carter got involved somewhat on behalf of Clinton—but primarily it was Clinton and his Defense Secretary William Perry—who is still today the most sensible mind on the whole Korea situation—who moved in and said, "Let's actually guarantee North Korea's energy and their security, in exchange for their giving up any program for producing nuclear weapons." And it worked! They signed. Kim Jong-il signed; and when he died, his son signed. The "Agreed Framework" worked. They shut down the Yongbyon nuclear plant in exchange for us building them another nuclear plant that didn't produce weapons-grade material, providing them with oil, and providing a framework toward having a peace agreement between the United States and North Korea. We're still officially at war with North Korea ever since the Korean War, because there was only an armistice, not a peace agreement.

So, the process was taking place. There were fits and



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Former Vice President Dick Cheney.

starts, but during the entire Clinton Administration this moved forward; the U.S. and South Korea began building the nuclear plant; there were regular negotiations; and UN inspectors were brought in with North Korea's concurrence. Things were moving.

Then, boom! Bush and Cheney came in; the neo-cons took over—Dick Cheney in particular. Even though the Secretary of State, Colin Powell, said, as soon as he came in, "We are going to continue with the Agreed Framework; we are going to continue this process which is working to bring peace to the Korean peninsula"—Cheney said, "Like Hell!" and squashed it, and accused the North Koreans of cheating. The whole thing was scrapped. There was an effort by the South Koreans, under Kim

Daejung, and the Chinese and the Russians to keep the process going with what they called the "Six Party Talks," with Japan and the United States. But the problem was, they didn't really have the United States supporting this process; it was Bush and Cheney. Theirs was a neo-con policy—geopolitics. They quickly undermined the deal, saying the North Koreans were cheating, and the whole process got scrapped. The North then threw the UN out and began building nuclear weapons. It didn't help when they saw what happened to Iraq when they gave up their nuclear weapons program, and Bush and Cheney proceeded to bomb them back to the stone age, kill their leader, dismantle their army, and turn the country over to warring terrorist factions.

When you move toward establishing peace on a sensible basis, as in these two crucial hotspots, the British and their assets in the U.S. move in immediately to crush it. Why? Because they don't want peace. Do they like war? Yes, local "surrogate" wars—but even global war is viewed as acceptable, if it's necessary to prevent the U.S. coming together with Russia and China, which would threaten the British Empire's control through its control of the world financial system, its control of trade, and so forth.

Now the whole Western financial system is in a state of general breakdown. That is, in a certain sense, an advantage, to show to the American population why this anti-Russia, anti-China hysteria has to end. That we have to do what Trump wants to do, which is to bring the U.S. into line with the New Silk Road of China, and to work with Russia on countering the terrorist scourge; and most important, to bring back the American System here, based historically on the Hamiltonian policies of our Founding Fathers, but in particular on what Roosevelt did in countering fascism—as we have to counter terrorism today—through collaboration among Russia, China, and the United States.

So, this is what is now taking place in Korea. There is reason for optimism; because very high-level diplomacy is taking place. The foreign minister of North Korea met with both the Chinese and Russian foreign ministers in Manila just last week. And we now know that President Trump has reinitiated back channel discussions through his envoy to North Korea, Joseph Yun, with the North Korean ambassador to the United

Nations in New York.

So while there's a lot of fire in the news, in the headlines, and accusations flying back and forth, very serious diplomacy is taking place along the lines of the kind of policy that Mr. and Mrs. LaRouche have fought for throughout these last 50 years; which is to get a development process going which addresses the common aims, the common needs of all nations and all peoples. Then these political problems—caused and orchestrated by the British Empire—can be brought to an end. In other words, there's no reason for the Korean crisis or for the Middle East crisis to exist any longer. They only exist in order to maintain the British division of the world into East versus West. If President Trump succeeds in bringing those nations together for development along the LaRouche principles, then there's no cause for these crises, and they can be resolved almost overnight.

That's where we stand. This is a fight which can and must be won; but it's one that, in fact, is in keeping with the needs of the human race at a moment of great crisis for our species.