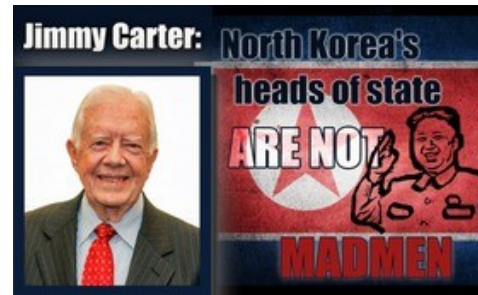




Jimmy Carter: North Korea's heads of state are not madmen



On October 8, 2017, North Korean state media disseminated the idea that the North Korean nuclear program was a "powerful deterrent" which would guarantee the sovereignty of the communist state. According to North Korea's state media, the head of state Kim Jong-un addressed the "complicated international situation", which would show that the parallel development of nuclear weapons and economy would absolutely be right.

On October 8, 2017, North Korean state media disseminated the idea that the North Korean nuclear program was a "powerful deterrent" which would guarantee the sovereignty of the communist state. According to North Korea's state media, the head of state Kim Jong-un addressed the "complicated international situation", which would show that the parallel development of nuclear weapons and economy would absolutely be right. This explanation was published shortly after US President Donald Trump launched new threats at North Korea via Twitter. "Only one thing will work," the US president tweeted on October 7, yet without explaining what he meant by that.

So how credible are the words of North Korea's head of state who is constantly being branded crazy by Western media? One who should be competent to assess the situation, due to his experiences, is former US President Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States from 1977 to 1981. Carter previously met with North Korea's founder, Kim Il-sung, and with Kim Jong-nam, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, as well as with other leaders. The US-American newspaper "The Washington Post" gave Carter the opportunity to discuss one of the most burning issues, namely how another Korean war could be avoided. This one with a potential for nuclear weapons, which would not limit its devastation to the Korean peninsula.

In the following the US-American journalist and author Stephen Lendman summarizes Carters assessment and commented on it:

Carter literally said, "The strong possibility of another Korean war ... is the most serious existing threat to world peace, and it is imperative that Pyongyang (the North Korean government) and Washington find some way to ease the escalating tension and reach a lasting, peaceful agreement." Lendman added that the problem would truly lie in Washington (with the US government), not Pyongyang, for decades wanting normalized relations with America and the West. Carter found the heads of state of North Korea and other government representatives to be "completely rational and dedicated to the preservation of their country." They were not madmen, as falsely portrayed by US- and other Western hardliners. Their demands were entirely legitimate, Carter explained, they wanted direct talks with Washington, a peace treaty ending decades of an uneasy armistice. Carter emphasized, "They want an end to sanctions, a guarantee that there will be no military attack on a peaceful North Korea (as in the 1950s war), and eventual normal relations between their country and the international community."

Lendman added: "They (i.e. North Korea) pose no threat to America or any other country. They want their sovereign independence respected. They deserve to have their demands fulfilled."

Carter literally said: "They (the North Koreans) are probably the most isolated people on Earth and almost unanimously believe that their greatest threat is from a preemptory military attack by the United States."

This being the reason – as Lendman comments - why they've pursued nuclear and ballistic missile deterrents. Yet solely for defense, not offense. Throughout its entire post WW II history, North Korea never attacked any other country. The USA, on the other hand, threatens naked aggression against all nations not bending to its will, independent states are targeted for regime change. Carter judged that because of the menace Washington poses, there is "no remaining chance that [North Korea] will agree to a total denuclearization as it has seen what happened in a denuclearized Libya [...]".

According to Carter, they are largely immune to tough sanctions, finding ways to deal with tough situations. To them the nation's survival matters most. Carter urged the Trump administration "to send a high-level delegation to Pyongyang for peace talks or to support an international conference including North and South Korea, the United States and China, at a mutually acceptable site."

Even US Secretary of State Tillerson is said to have suggested talks. Lendman added that Trump would reject them, regrettably calling them a waste of time. America would need enemies invented, because none exist, used to justify unjustifiable out-of-control military spending and warmongering.

Stephen Lendman concluded:

Pyongyang knows what happened to Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen and other countries Washington attacked preemptively. It intends pursuing the strongest defense possible to prevent becoming its next target. Having nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles gives Trump administration hawks pause about attacking a nation able to strike back hard, endangering its regional forces and allies.

The commented assessment of former US-president Jimmy Carter, gives a completely different picture than that portrayed by most of the established media. The voice of President Trump's predecessor once again makes it clear who is the real aggressor, the real maniac indeed.

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