

How the Korean Question Has Become Internationalized 1

***ORIGIN OF THE KOREAN  
QUESTION***



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## Preface

From the first days of its emergence from the sea of blood of American Indians, the US waged ceaseless wars of conquest with the ambition of territorial expansion. Since it stretched its tentacles of aggression against Korea in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it inflicted immeasurable disasters and misfortunes on the Korean people over the past decades.

It manoeuvred overtly and covertly to internationalize the Korean question in pursuit of its strategy for world hegemony.

Now professing to be the world's only superpower, it has spread anti-DPRK rumours on the plea of "nuclear problems" and "proliferation of weapons of mass destruction," calling it part of the "axis of evil," a "rogue state" and an "outpost of tyranny." To isolate and suffocate the recalcitrant country that aspires after independence, it is resorting to every conceivable means to form an international encirclement such as abusing the name of the UN and other international apparatuses and collaborating with its satellite states.

Owing to the US tenacious moves to internationalize the Korean question, the Korean nation have had to live divided into north and south and endure all sorts of trials and hardships for more than half a century.

As the US is manoeuvring wickedly to bring the

Korean people to their knees by internationalizing the Korean question at all costs in pursuit of its world strategy, the editorial board publishes this book to make a historical analysis of the US moves to internationalize the Korean question and lay bare their reactionary nature.

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# 1. SWORN ENEMY OF KOREA

The US aggression against Korea has a long history.

Having accomplished transition from capitalism to imperialism by achieving forced initial accumulation of capital through aggression and plunder, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the US and European powers made their colony of extensive regions in Africa, America, Southeast Asia and on the shores of the Pacific. Not satisfied with it, they plunged into a competition for seizing before anyone else Korea, Qing China and Japan that had been still outside of any other country's influence.

Especially intense was the US moves to occupy Korea. The US, a latecomer in this competition, tried to contain the intervention of other powers in the Far East; its primary efforts in the Far East were directed to Korea.

The US moves were related first of all with the aggressive nature it had in its birth.

The US history started in 1606, when the Anglo-Saxons set foot on the soil of North America on the shore of the Atlantic by establishing their first settlement in Jamestown.

Since then the American ancestors resorted to the most aggressive and brigandish methods to expand their territory and, within less than half a century, seized 13 states in North America after annihilating most of the millions of Indians of over 70 tribes.

They brutally cracked down on the resistance of the Indians that took place between 1675 and 1677 in New England (the present-day New Hampshire, Massachusetts, etc.) and declared independence on July 4, 1776.

After independence, the US embarked on the road to territorial expansion.

It had encompassed only 13 states along the coast of the Atlantic, and it expanded its territory by occupying the vast areas east of the Mississippi through a war with Britain (1776-1783).

In 1803 it bought from France Louisiana at a price of a few cents per acre, and in 1819 acquired Florida from Spain.

Later it took Texas, part of the Mexican territory, in 1845, Oregon, a British colony, in 1846, and California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and Colorado successively through a war with Mexico in May 1848. In 1853, it took the northern territory of Mexico, areas west of the Mississippi, thus expanding its territory further to the coast of the Pacific.

It was quite within the bounds of possibility that the US, which emerged and developed with the aggressive nature, stretched its tentacles of aggression against Korea.

The US had its eye on Korea because of the importance of its strategic position.

Korea, which abounds in natural resources, borders China and Russia and is close to Japan. It is linked with land roads and sea routes to any place in the Asian Continent and the Pacific.

For the US, the Korean peninsula was a good springboard for its easy advance to the Asian countries.

That is why it attached primary importance to the occupation of Korea in its advance to Northeast Asia. This is evidenced by the remark of the then US minister in Russia, who said: In order to gain political and economic domination over Northeast Asia in future, we must build a base for our naval and ground forces; for that place, we must occupy Komun Island, a place as important as Gibraltar, in the South Sea of Korea.

Entering the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the US did everything for the invasion of Korea—armed, ideological and cultural and economic invasion.

First, it designated Korea as a target of aggression.

The modern American industry demanded overseas market not for intermediate trade but for selling its products.

Through the continued infiltration of merchant ships into coastal areas of Northeast Asia across the Atlantic and Indian oceans, the Americans came to know about the underground and other natural resources abundant in Korea, and they saw Korea as a suitable market for its commodities. Entering the 1830s, they began to harbour an ambition for the invasion of Korea and stepped up preparations to this end.

In 1832, the American government tasked Edmond Roberts, a special official, who was going on a trip to the East to enforce unequal treaties on the Southeast Asian countries, to investigate as soon as possible the possibility for invading Korea. On his return to the US, Edmond wrote in his report to the State Secretary, dated May 13, 1834, that there was a practical possibility of opening a road to trade with Korea.



Meanwhile, the American capitalists dealing in opium in the East even hatched a plot to have a German missionary infiltrate into Korea to pave on their own a road to aggression.

Later in February 1845, Flat, a member of the House of Representatives, chairman of Statistics Committee and chairman of the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives, came up with a plan of forcing Korea to open its ports and markets.

Flat was not the first in the US to conceive opening up of Korea.

Earlier many had already made demands that Korea be occupied as soon as possible. They were hawkish elements, especially diplomats resident in countries neighboring Korea and pirates travelling across the Korean Straits.

Now, the quick-witted Flat thought that it was high time that these demands had been reflected in the US policy. This led to preparing a draft plan to be submitted to Congress.

Addressing a meeting of the House of Representatives, held on February 12 in Washington, Flat stressed that it was the time to whet the appetite of the US merchants and seafarers for the Korean ports and markets, adding that Korea was quite necessary not only for their business but also for the universal interest of the US in the Far East, and demanding prompt measures to this end.

This plan had to sit on the shelf because of the war with Mexico (1846-1848).

After expanding its territory to the coast of the Pacific by seizing vast areas through the war with Mexico, the

US, entering the 1850s, turned a sharp eye to Korea.

Around that time voyage from the US to Asia required crossing the Atlantic, going round south of Africa and continuing through the Indian Ocean. Now that it was possible to reach Asia directly by crossing the Pacific, the US got the upperhand of the European powers in the intervention in the Far East region.

Thus, in those days the US grew ambitious to have a base for trans-Pacific voyage not only out of its desire for securing a goods market it had long sought for but also for its advance to the Asian Continent. This was because the technical standards of its steam boats of those days made it impossible to cross the Pacific at a go from San Francisco to Shanghai.

When there were debates over the trans-Pacific voyage, a plan for creating a logistics base in Korea was suggested among the American authorities.

According to Katsu Kaishu, a Japanese who recorded what he had heard in the US in 1849, the US coveted Pusan in Korea and tried to create a storehouse of coal there for the voyage from San Francisco to Shanghai.

This was not simply a rumour. It is evidenced by a recommendation, which a member of the American capitalist circles of the time, submitted to the president. The recommendation reads:

We have to acquire the preferential right in Shanghai. This port has a favourable location and safe anchorage for the largest vessels. As it is situated near the mouth of a big river called the Yangtze, it is a two-day voyage to Korea and Japan. This all gives rise to the preferential right for all of the Chinese harbours as far as trade with Korea and

Japan is concerned and especially for storehouses of coal and places of call for the new sea route of American vessels from Panama to China.

Moreover, the US made undisguised attempts to coerce and invade Korea by force of arms.

The US moves to occupy Korea and make it a springboard for its invasion of the Asian Continent gathered momentum since the industrial bourgeoisie had assumed the real power of the country after the Civil War (1861-1865). With the rapid development of capitalism after the war, the bourgeoisie raised a strong demand for the capture of overseas markets.

Consequently, from 1866 the US Congress began to discuss the question of invading Korea as an urgent issue whose solution brooked no further delay.

The US opted for the use of armed forces.

The intrusion of the ship *General Sherman* was the beginning of aggression against Korea.

In July 1866, when France declared war against Korea, picking a quarrel with the latter's execution of its missionaries, the US, judging that Korea may be plunged in extreme terror, calculated that beating other powers by availing itself of this opportunity would allow it to carry out its plan with ease. That is why it sent the aggressor ship *General Sherman* to Korea as a scout, a pirate ship that had been perpetrating pillage in the Southeast Asian countries including Qing China, Viet Nam and Thailand.

According to the American publication titled *Korea in the Nineteenth Century*, the *General Sherman* was built in 1861 as a naval vessel belonging to the Southern armies and named *Princess Royal*. During the Civil War, it was

captured by the Union forces. In 1863 it was repaired and transformed into a warship before participating in different battles.

The *Princess Royal* that had belonged to the 11<sup>th</sup> Military District during the Civil War was renamed the *General Sherman* after William Sherman, commander of the military division of the Mississippi.

The ship was 60.085m long, 8.235m wide and 9m high. It had a displacement of 600 tons. It was equipped with two boilers, a funnel, two masts, four sails, and several boats and guns. The crew numbered dozens.

In August 1866, the fully-armed ship with Preston as captain was dispatched to Korea.

As regards it, an American book writes that it was “on a mysterious mission” that the heavily-armed *General Sherman* left for Pyongyang, and the other book *Korea, A Hermetic Country*, notes that “their strange arms aroused suspicion about the purpose of its voyage from the first day of its departure.”

In August 1866, *General Sherman* left Qing China, and intruded into the territorial waters of Korea, sailing up to the estuary of the Taedong River.

Misrepresenting the ship’s nationality and behaving arrogantly despite several rounds of protest from the local authorities, the pirates demanded trade, saying that they could not return home before attaining their goal. They continued to go upstream along the river, perpetrating intolerable provocative acts and brutal atrocities. Boating up and down the river, they committed hostile acts like measuring the depth of the river and spying on the conditions of Pyongyang as far

as Turu Islet below Mangyongdae.

They illegally landed on the riverside in Mangyongdae and scouted as close as four km up to a pond called Ogyonji and raped Korean women. On August 27, they raided by surprise the ship carrying a military officer of the Pyongyang local government, which had been keeping watch on the pirate ship at the mouth of the Pothong River and abducted him and his men.

On August 28, at Hansa Pavilion on the bank of the Taedong River, a talk was held between a delegate of the Pyongyang local government and a gang from the pirate ship. The Korean side exposed and denounced its illegal acts and protested them, calling for the return of the military officer and other Koreans and its immediate withdrawal. However, the US gangsters' response was blatant; they said that they would neither return Koreans under custody nor go home unless the Korean side brought them 1 000 *sok* (one *sok* equals to 4.9629 bushels) of rice and large amounts of gold, silver and insam.

When their demands were rejected and the talk came to a rupture, the aggressors revealed their nature: they raided Korean boats going up and down the Taedong River and fired guns indiscriminately at the inhabited areas along the river, killing over 10 innocent people in several days. Having intruded as far as the vicinity of Yanggak Islet, they transferred themselves to boats and reached the Othan Ferry, attempting to enter the Pyongyang Wall.

The intrusion and barbarities committed by the US aggressors aroused indignation on the part of the local people.

The people of Mangyongdae and other parts of Pyongyang, led by Kim Ung U, great-grandfather of President Kim Il Sung, and soldiers sank the ship in September 1866 through fire-attack tactics.

Instead of drawing a due lesson from the incident of *General Sherman*, the US continued its aggression against Korea.

In January 1867, the naval vessel *Wachusette* intruded into Korea on the plea of finding the whereabouts of the *General Sherman*. Later it worked out a plan of invading Korea by dispatching its fleet to Hansong on the grounds of taking “reparation for the damage.” In 1868 a substantial debate was held over a possible invasion of Korea. It was about digging up by stealth the tomb of Prince Namyon, father of Prince Taewon, who was the regent and the holder of real power in Korea at the time, and using the remains as a bargaining chip for an unequal treaty with the Korean government.

Referring to it, a Jewish pirate from Germany, who had been involved in the conspiracy, said: Prince Taewon values his father’s tomb as his own life; if it is unearthed by stealth and the buried treasures are taken from the coffin, even the arrogant regent cannot help but accede to our demand; the regent and the Korean government will accept our demand for opening up the country and sign a treaty to retrieve the treasures.

The burglary of the tomb started in early April 1868 with the intrusion of *Shenandoah* carrying nine guns and about 230 troops into the sea off Phungchonbu (present-day Kwail County), Hwanghae Province. Sailing up and down along the coasts of Phyongan and Hwanghae

provinces at the estuary of the Taedong River, the aggressors fired guns and perpetrated provocations, murder, arson and pillage.

Calculating that the barbarity committed by *Shenandoah* would have attracted the attention of the Korean soldiers and people, more than 100 American gangsters led by Jenkins, former interpreter at the US consulate general in Shanghai, aboard the pirate ship *China* and with an unequal draft treaty to be forced on the Korean government, entered the estuary of the Samgyo River in Asan Bay, Chungchong Province on May 10, and robbed Prince Namyon's tomb at Kayadong, Toksan County.

However, the US plan to force an unequal treaty and make Korea open its door fell through, and the aggressors aboard *Shenandoah* and *China* drew back in mid-May.

Learning that diplomatic intrigue, intimidation and blackmail could never work with the Korean government, the US switched over to a large-scale armed invasion.

In 1869 the US reinforced its Asia Fleet, and, based on it, formed a Korea expeditionary fleet. At the end of the year, the US minister resident in China was empowered to conclude a treaty with Korea, and the commander of the US Asia Fleet was appointed commander of the expeditionary fleet. The fleet hastened preparations for the expedition, conducting combat drills in the waters off China.

In May 1871, five naval vessels including the flagship *Colorado* (3 425-ton class), carrying over 80 guns and 1 230 troops, set sail at Shanghai, stopped off at Nagasaki of Japan and reached Asan Bay on the West Sea of Korea on

May 21. This was the largest armed force the US could enlist for an expedition to Korea.

Claiming that showing any leniency in dealing with any government and people in the Orient was a political fault, they intruded deep into the territorial waters of Korea without any advance notice. Passing through Mulchi Islet south of Kanghwa Island, they raided the Korean battery in the Sondolmok area on June 1, and attacked Chojijin on Kanghwa Island on June 10 and Kwangsongjin on June 11.

However, owing to the do-or-die resistance and hard-line attitude of the Korean people, the aggressors had to beat a retreat on July 3.

The US moved cunningly to trample upon the sovereignty of Korea and subordinate it.

This found a concentrated expression in the conclusion of the Korea-US Treaty in 1882.

The US aggression against Korea gathering momentum at the time was connected with the favourable conditions created by Japan for opening a road to invasion (On February 3, 1876, Japan concluded Kanghwado Treaty, an unequal treaty, with Korea—Ed), and with the requirements of the development of its capitalism.

At the time the US was at the initial stage of transition to imperialism. It gave priority to the invasion of Asia in pursuit of its ambition for world hegemony. In particular, the US desire for invading Korea grew stronger than ever because the country was situated in the gateway to the Asian Continent.

The US put forward imposing an unequal treaty on Korea as an urgent task. In April 1878 the Senate



deliberated measures for concluding a treaty with Korea through “good offices of Japan” and dispatched Shubert, who had been to Asian countries including Korea several times, as a plenipotentiary.

However, conclusion of the treaty through “good offices of Japan” failed owing to the opposition by the Korean government. The crafty US cajoled the feudal rulers of Korea through Qing China, telling that Japan was about to invade Korea and that the US would “protect” Korea from it if it concluded a treaty with the US.

Consequently in August 1880, the first Sino-American talks were held between Li Hongzhang, who was minister in charge of the Beiyang area and real power holder in the diplomacy of Qing China, and Shubert of the US, followed by the second Sino-American talks between July 1881 and April 1882, and Sino-Korean talks between January and April 1882, all aimed at realizing negotiations for concluding a Korea-US treaty.

In April 1882, talks over the draft Korea-US Treaty were held. The sycophantic and capitulationist policy of Empress Myongsong and her men led to the conclusion of the Korea-US Treaty on April 6 at Jemulpho.

The treaty was a brigandish, unequal treaty that bestowed many privileges upon the US and only duties upon Korea.

Above all, the treaty contains articles designed to trample upon the political sovereignty of Korea and intensify political domination over it.

Article 2 stipulates that the US shall have its “diplomatic delegate” reside in Hansong. Article 4 stipulates consular jurisdiction (extraterritorial rights) for

the US while referring to the unilateral duty of the Korean government to immediately dispatch its troops as required by the US consul to disperse troublemakers and arrest the culprit and put him to death in the event of the Korean people's struggle against the US. Moreover, the US added a special article on sending Korean students to the US in anticipation of training pro-American elements who would be used in intensifying its aggression in the future.

And Article 3 grants the US the rights to conduct trade through the open ports in Korea, operate various businesses, lease buildings and land, and construct houses and warehouses.

In particular, Article 14 stipulates the status of most favoured nation, giving the US the privilege of winning new rights from the Korean government.

The US did not forget to reflect its "friendly feelings" towards Korea. Article 1 stipulates that the two countries shall be "on eternally peaceful and good terms" and "necessarily help each other and mediate well" when any other country has caused an unfair and humiliating incident and a party informed the other party of it. The US stipulated this in the first article of the "treaty" in order to facilitate the realization of its invasion of Korea by creating an illusion and feeling of dependence on the US among the feudal Korean rulers and pretending to be a supporter and mediator for Korea.

After the conclusion of the Korea-US Treaty, the US concluded the Taft-Katsura Agreement with Japan on July 29, 1905 and actively supported Japan's invasion of Korea in order to defend its immediate interests and use Japan as

a “shock force” of aggression against Asia. (In the Taft-Katsura Agreement, the US recognized Japan’s protection of Korea and, in return, Japan promised not to interfere with the US supremacy over the Philippines.) During the Korean war, Ridgway, the then commander-in-chief of the UN forces, said that although the US promised in the 1882 treaty with Korea to render it “mutual assistance” when it was subjected to “illegal treatment” by a third country, it made no efforts to check it while it was urging Korea to observe the trade agreement. These facts show that the Korea-US Treaty was an aggressive and unequal treaty fraught with hypocrisy and deception.

In addition, the US channelled efforts into ideological and cultural infiltration aimed at laying foundations for invading Korea.

Religion claimed the lion’s share in the US ideological and cultural infiltration into Korea.

Originally, the imperialists’ ideological and cultural infiltration was often the prelude to their armed invasion.

From the start, the US clung to ideological and cultural infiltration combined with armed invasion. The reason lay in the fact that at the time the feudal Korean government was effecting a national isolation policy and a hard-line policy towards Catholicism, a faction of Christian religion.

The US ideological and cultural infiltration into Korea, combined with armed aggression, started with the 1866 intrusion of its aggressor ship *General Sherman*.

The aggressors on *General Sherman* put on board many copies of the New Testament at Tianjin, China, in

order to propagate Christianity among the Korean people. And they had a British missionary, who was an “interpreter and guide,” personally engaged in missionary work among the Korean people. After intruding as far as Sinjang Port in Pyongyang, wherever the ship anchored, they spread Christianity among the local people, handing them copies of the Bible.

Later the US sent many missionaries to Korea to spread religion lawfully.

The US moves to win the legitimate right to propagate religion to Korea had already started when concluding the Korea-US Treaty in 1882. At the preliminary negotiations for the conclusion of this treaty, Shubert rejected the Korean side’s demand for adding to the treaty an article on banning the dissemination of Christianity.

Later, in early July 1883, an American missionary was sent to Korea to obtain from the Korean government informal permission for propagating religion among people other than Koreans.

Availing itself of this opportunity, the US began to spread Christianity lawfully in Korea. Between 1884 and 1885, American missionaries of Presbyterianism and Methodism flocked to Korea en masse, and Christianity spread to extensive areas of Korea in the 1880s.

After Japan occupied Korea, the US, claiming that “as Japan held the power in Korea, the US will take the heart of Koreans,” set the goal of increasing the number of Korean Christians to a million and perpetrated a huge-scale invasion by religion. This goal was declared at the Conference of Missionaries held in Hansong in the spring of 1910.

The American missionaries in Korea numbered 306 in 1910, accounting for two-thirds of foreign missionaries in Korea. In particular, one-third of the missionaries the Northern Presbyterian Church of the US sent to other countries was in Korea. In 1920, missionaries in Korea from four American Churches—Northern Presbyterian Church, Southern Presbyterian Church, Northern Methodist Church and Southern Methodist Church—numbered 336, with the number of churches and doctrine courses amounting to more than 2 300 and the clergymen, evangelists and deaconesses totalling over 23 000.

The Northern Presbyterian Church launched the missionary work in 1885 centring on Hansong and Phyongan Province in 1895. By 1920, it set up missionary chapters in Hansong, Sonchon, Uiju, Sinuiju, Kanggye, Nyongbyon, Jaeryong, Haeju, Chongju, Taegu and Andong, each chapter with propagation bases of various names like chapel, oratory and Sunday school. The Northern Methodist Church propagated religion in Kyonggi, Chungchong, Kangwon, Hwanghae and Phyongan provinces, while the Southern Methodist Church conducted missionary work centring on Kyonggi, Kangwon and Hamgyong provinces from 1885.

In order to strengthen its religion-oriented aggression against Korea, the US held a conference of missionaries in Hansong in May 1894, and in 1897 the missionary headquarters designated Korea as an independent missionary district. Consequently, many other American missionaries entered Korea, and the number of chapels and missionary schools increased.

The missionary work to imbue the Korean people with the spirit of non-resistance and idea of worshipping America was conducted in combination with the so-called education and medical treatment.

The Americans, professing themselves to be missionaries who were conveying the will of the God, educators or philanthropists, built hospitals and schools like Kwanghye Hospital, Eihwa School and Paejae School in 1885 with part of the wealth they had plundered from the Korean people, where they instilled the ideas of servile submission and worshipping America in the Korean people.

The US manoeuvred craftily to lay a foundation for the invasion of Korea by training pro-American elements and spies through religion.

An important mission for the US missionaries was to train these pro-American elements and spies in Korea.

A typical example was the Young Men's Christian Association of Korea. The association had an American as its honorary director, and was led successively by pro-American elements and traitors to the nation like Syngman Rhee, Yun Chi Ho and Sin Hung U. Superficially, it advocated religion, education, sports and fellowship, but its real objective was to propagate ideas of worshipping America among the people including the young.

The American missionaries trained pro-American elements and spies to be used as a foundation for dominating Korea in the future in the way of sending bourgeois sycophants and the like to the US to study at the expense of part of the colossal wealth obtained by bleeding the Korean people white.

Economic aggression against Korea by the US was wicked, too.

After winning many privileges including the extraterritorial right and most favoured nation treatment before anyone else through the Korea-US Treaty, the US moved to reduce Korea to its commodity market, a source of precious metals and other raw materials, and an object of capital investment.

The US trade with Korea began in the middle of 1883 in Inchon. In May 1884, Townsend founded a company after his name in Inchon, and monopolized the sale of goods and contract ordered by the Korean government. The company made huge profits while acting as a Korean agent for the American monopoly companies.

American capitalists brought surplus goods like old firearms, petroleum, tobacco and drops to sell them at exorbitant prices. Consequently, the US export volume for Korea multiplied over 80 times, from 320 000 *won* in 1910 to 27 710 000 *won* in 1937. And they purchased Korea's precious metals including gold and silver at dirt cheap prices.

The US outperformed other foreign aggressors in winning economic interests in Korea.

In the 1880s the US seized the rights to open sea routes between Inchon and Shanghai and between Pusan and Nagasaki, to fell trees on Ullung Island, to extract alluvial gold and pearls, to set up glass, match and chemical plants, and to explore gold in Unsan, and overworked Korean workers. In the 1890s it won the rights to lay a railway line between Hansong and Inchon and between Hansong and Kaesong, to lay electric lines,

water pipes and tramline in Hansong and to fell trees in the Amnok River basin, and sold most of them to other countries at expensive prices.

Especially, the US was hell bent on taking mining rights.

From the spring of 1881, before the conclusion of the Korea-US Treaty, the US had conducted illegal prospecting of gold deposits in Korea, and by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it monopolized the rights of mining in the Kojindong Mine in Kapsan, Hamgyong Province, Unsan Mine and Huichon Mine (a joint venture with Japan) in Phyongan Province, Hwachon and Kangnung mines in Kangwon Province, Sadong Coal Mine in Pyongyang, Holtong Mine in Hwanghae Province, Jiksan Mine in Chungchong Province and others, and precious metals including a huge amount of gold.

From the Unsan Mine alone that claimed 70 percent of Korea's total gold output at the time, Americans extracted gold worthy of 2-5 million *won* annually and, in 25 years between 1903 and 1928, extracted gold equivalent to 82 million *won*. (The output value of gold and silver at four gold and silver mines—Unsan, Suan, Changsong and Jiksan, large mines run by Americans—accounted for 80 percent of total output value of gold and silver in Korea between 1909 and 1920. Of 11 757 000 *won*, the total output value of gold and silver in 1916 in Korea, 9.4 million *won* belonged to those four mines.)

While resorting to different methods for invading Korea, Americans committed all sorts of brutal atrocities like murder, robbery, rape, arson, pillage, destruction and terrorism.



## **2. MAJOR TARGET OF THE US**

Towards the end of the Second World War, the US began to advocate a “new order of the US-led world,” backpedaling on its commitments to the anti-fascist Allied Powers. Since then, it has openly pursued the “power policy” to “stamp out” socialism on the globe and achieve world supremacy.

Achieving world supremacy is the ultimate goal of US imperialism.

In realizing this strategy, the US set Korea as its major target and treated the Korean question arbitrarily in international arenas including the UN in collaboration with its satellite countries.

### **Geopolitical Position of Korea**

Towards the close of the Second World War, the US declared an aggressive foreign policy, claiming that “the world movement must be led by the US,” and channelled efforts into seizing regions of strategic importance in establishing a “new order of the US-led world.”

In particular, it was dead set on seizing the Korean peninsula.

Korea is situated in the middle of the eastern part of the Asian Continent, and has an area of 224 252km<sup>2</sup>. Of it,

the area of islands, large and small, is 5 851km<sup>2</sup>.

Because of the significance of its geopolitical position, the Korean peninsula became the most important strategic point in Asia that was indispensable for the US in achieving world supremacy.

For this reason, successive policies of the US have always focused on the question of the Korean peninsula, and the successive US ruling circles have openly stressed the need to seize the peninsula without fail.

The following is part of the materials related to it.

-The US envoy in China, who made desperate efforts to impose an unequal treaty on Korea in the 1860s said: I oppose war with Korea or another country for the single purpose of opening up the country to boost foreign trade. My attitude is based on the consideration that there's something more important than mere commercial interests.

-In 1882, the US envoy in China Young, recommended to his government: Any person who comes to Korea will, from military point of view, be in a position for opening the door to the Qing Empire.

-Immediately after the liberation of Korea on August 15, 1945, MacArthur, commander-in-chief of the US army in the Far East, said: I have always recognized Korea as a military advance base of limitless value. Korea can serve as a dominant base in the northeastern coast of Asia.

He also said: When viewed from military and strategic point of view, Japan is a prospective springboard while Korea is a bridge leading to the continent; if we occupy the whole of Korea, we can break the only supply route linking Soviet Siberia with the south to pieces and take

control of the whole area between Vladivostok and Singapore.

-Dulles, the then US State Secretary, described Korea as a “dagger” for cutting the “morsel” of Asia.

-In the early summer of 1946, the special assistant of the US president in reparation issues, visited the north and south of Korea, and in June presented to President Truman a report, titled, *View, Conclusion and Recommendation on the Situation in Korea*, in which he wrote that Korea, though small, can serve as a stage of ideological warfare decisive of the overall victory for the US in Asia, and recommended political, economic and military measures for dominating Korea.

-Immediately after Korea’s liberation, the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the State Department prepared a secret report, in which it wrote: Even now the Korean peninsula is an arena of competition where conflicting interests and ideologies of other countries are reflected on the internal affairs of the country as it has been throughout its history and so holds sway over them; in view of its geographical location in Northeast Asia, dominating the country and its people will considerably consolidate the position of our country; Korea’s political importance for the US is certainly beyond doubt.

-Immediately after Korea’s liberation, bourgeois critics wrote: Korea occupies a peculiar position in the current complicated political configuration in the Far East today; it is because it assumes an important strategic position between China, Japan and the USSR.

-In the summer of 1949, a news dispatch from New York reported that the American hard liners viewed Korea

as a strategic point for attacking China.

-After the Korean war the US made frantic efforts to reinforce the troops of the south Korean army and update their equipment, calling south Korea an “American fortress in the Far East.”

-On May 1, 1975, the then US Defence Secretary Schlesinger said at a news conference that south Korea was a “front defence area” for the US, where nuclear weapons were deployed. In the 1980s President Reagan declared that the Korean peninsula was a “strategic point” corresponding to “A-class area” for the use of nuclear weapons. Defence Secretary Weinberger, noting that south Korea was the “first line of the US strategy” together with Europe, said that turning south Korea into a reliable strategic base was a nucleus of the US Asia military policy and seizing the Korean peninsula was an important task of the US Asia policy.

-The “multiple retaliation strategy” advanced by the US in the 1980s presented the “theory of three wars” in Europe, Middle East and Korea. Referring to it, the chief of staff of the Marines said that for the present among the three wars, especially the area of the Korean peninsula in the direction of west Pacific was particularly important.

-*Washington Post* wrote: Even after the end of the Cold War, the strategic value of the Korean peninsula has not changed; what never changes despite the remarkable change in the current situation on the Korean peninsula is its geographical conditions; Korea lies in the middle of Northeast Asia, one of the strategically most important and active regions in the world.

-The American book *Two Koreas* wrote: After the

Cold War, the strategic importance of the Korean peninsula has been brought into bolder relief; the Korean peninsula is the only place in the world, where the interests and security concerns of four powers—the US, Japan, China and Russia—are intertwined.

-American strategists advanced the “periphery strategy” for seizing the Eurasian Continent, the centre of the world, to dominate the world by seizing the periphery of the continent to take effective control of its central part. They stressed that for the US to achieve hegemony in the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it should take control of three regions—East Asia that include the Korean peninsula, and Germany where the eastern and western Europe meet, and Afghanistan and Middle East where the US and Soviet forces stand face to face.

-Far East specialists in the Heritage Foundation, which is an “anti-north Korean” research institute and involved in policy making by American rightwing conservatives, said, on the future direction of the US foreign policy, that “the basis of the US foreign policy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is its Asia policy, of which the focal point is the Korean peninsula,” and explained the reason as follows: Without settling the question of the Korean peninsula it is impossible to secure peace and stability in Northeast Asia and the absolute US interests in this region nor guarantee the establishment of a new international order and the leading position and role of the US.

As seen above, the US has made desperate efforts to seize the Korean peninsula lying at a strategic point, important politically, economically and militarily, whenever opportunities cropped up.

The US that had long stretched tentacles of aggression to the Asian Continent moved the centre of its global military strategy from Europe to Asia-Pacific after the Cold War. This was based on the acknowledgement that only when Asia-Pacific, featuring major strategic points and resources areas, came into its hand, could the US rule the world.

Asia-Pacific, home to abundant resources, huge population and vast market, has now become an arena of competition of big powers. The region that attracts their particular attention is Northeast Asia, which is a hub of political, economic, military, technological and cultural activities. A Japanese journal wrote: Major powers are about to hold a strategic competition in Northeast Asia for their influence, prestige, security and authority.

The US is spearheading the competition. What it relies on to overcome the geographical disadvantages and economic vulnerability in taking the initiative in Northeast Asia and contain other powers is its military and strategic superiority.

What the US directs its particular attention to is the Korean peninsula. It sees the Korean peninsula as a major target in implementing its strategy of world supremacy.

The US knows full well that the Korean peninsula is a strategic area of political importance. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea holds an important position and plays a great role in the world.

The DPRK is the only fortress of socialism in the world and the epicentre of the movement for socialist reconstruction.

Although the US-led imperialist allied forces have

long run wild to suffocate the country at a go, it has advanced straight along the road of socialism.

In particular, after the collapse of socialism in the erstwhile USSR and eastern Europe, the DPRK has energetically stepped up its march for shaping the rosy future of socialism under the red flag.

VOA described the country as the only socialist fortress that grew stronger regardless of the dramatic changes in the East and West.

Its vigorous advance dealt a blow at the imperialists who were raising a cheer, claiming that imploding of the USSR meant the end of socialism.

The US never overlooked the developments. It now feels extremely uneasy about the fact that the DPRK is not only a socialist fortress but also the centre in promoting reconstruction of socialism on the worldwide scale.

Today the world socialist movement has greeted with excitement a new era of history, when it is guided by the immortal Juche idea.

It is eloquently proved by the fact that the number of parties that signed the Pyongyang Declaration is growing year by year in the five continents of the world.

The Pyongyang Declaration, titled, *Let Us Defend and Advance the Socialist Cause*, constitutes a historic declaration signalling a new start of the international movement for the reconstruction and final victory of socialism and a militant banner of unity and struggle of the peoples of the countries that champion and defend independence and socialism.

At the time of the release of the declaration on April 20, 1992, 70 Communist and Workers' parties and other

political parties that aspire after socialism signed it; by 2010, the number reached over 280.

The reality of socialist Korea, which is winning victory after victory in the building of a powerful socialist country, resolutely foiling the frantic moves of imperialists and reactionaries to isolate and stifle it, gives the world people unshakeable confidence in and expectation for revival of socialism.

VOA reported that in future north Korea could become the most influential entity that could bring about the revival of socialism not only on the Korean peninsula but also in Northeast Asia and further on the worldwide scale.

For the US that pursued building a “unipolar world” exclusive to capitalism, the existence of socialist Korea was no longer tolerable, and it has persistently clung to moves for sanctions to check its triumphant advance after the Second World War.

The DPRK is also the standard-bearer of the times that leads peoples of the developing countries along the road of anti-imperialism and independence.

Once *New York Times* carried an article by an anti-war, anti-nuclear activist in the US, in which he wrote that in the “new world order” advocated by the US, among the developing countries only the countries that are puppets of the US could exist. This is a revelation of a hidden part of the “new world order.” In other words, this is a warning that the US strategy of world supremacy is aimed at setting up an order designed to make the developing countries and their peoples vassals of the US.

This order runs counter to the aspirations and



interests of the peoples of the non-aligned and other developing countries struggling to replace the unjust old international order with an equitable and impartial new one. The US tried to impose its will on the developing countries by means of high-handedness, intimidation and blackmail, and made no scruple of resorting to force with regard to the independent and revolutionary countries. However, the peoples imbued with the spirit of independence have stood up against the US arbitrariness everywhere, and their ranks are expanding as the days go by.

Peoples armed with the spirit of independence have nothing to be afraid of, and no force can bring them to their knees.

The US recognized that if the DPRK, native place of the Juche idea, the idea of independence, which awakens peoples of the developing countries to the consciousness that they are masters of their destiny is left as it is, it could not dominate the world.

The anti-Japanese national liberation struggle and the Fatherland Liberation War the Korean people fought guided by the Juche idea ushered in a new era of colonial national liberation movement on the worldwide scale.

Awakened under the bright rays of Juche, hundreds of millions, who, abandoned by the times, had been sidelined in history for centuries, turned out in the sacred liberation struggle for their dignity and the independence of their countries.

A gunshot on a mountain in Algeria in November 1954 triggered the national liberation struggle of its people, and the wave of liberation struggle of the people,

who rose up to break the chains of colonialism in every part of Africa, engulfed the whole of the continent that had been called a “continent of darkness,” marking the 1960s as the decade of independence for Africa.

The capture of the US armed spy ship *Pueblo* by the Korean people in the late 1960s gave confidence in victory and courage to peoples of the developing countries, who had once shrank in the face of US intimidation and blackmail.

Inspired by the victory of the Korean people who had crushed several times the arrogance of the US that was engrossed in aggression and intervention, sabotage and intrigue to stretch tentacles of domination to the developing countries that had embarked on the road of creating a new life, peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin-America staged an energetic anti-imperialist, anti-US struggle to defend their independence and sovereignty. An American publication described the DPRK as the motive force that set the fire of independence in the spirit of peoples of the developing countries.

The anxiety over the growing inclination towards anti-imperialism and independence among the developing countries hardened the US ambition to stamp out Juche Korea, the source of the hot wind of anti-imperialism and independence sweeping the developing countries.

To this end, the US openly claimed that it would resort to every method and means and, if necessary, would not hesitate to have recourse to nuclear weapons.

Another reason why the US regards the Korean peninsula as a major target in implementing its strategy of

world supremacy lies in the fact that the peninsula is a strategic point from the military point of view.

The Korean peninsula is linked to the vast Asian Continent to the north and sea-girt on other three sides—the east, west and south, the northwestern coastal waters of the Pacific.

In the north it borders China and Russia with the Amnok and Tuman flowing between them, through which it is possible to reach Asia and Europe. In other words, through China it is possible to go to Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia and other Asian countries including Singapore lying at the bottommost part of the continent. Through Russia it is possible to go to Europe and Central Asia via Vladivostok.

As seen above, the Korean peninsula serves as a “shortcut” to Asia and Europe because it lies near the heart of East Asia. It is situated latitudinally between 33° 06’ 45” N (southern tip of Mara Island, Sogwipho, Jeju Province) and 43° 00’ 33” N (northern tip of Phungso-ri, Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province) and longitudinally between 124° 10’ 45” E (western tip of Pidan Island, Sindo County, North Phyongan Province) and 131° 52’ 22” E (eastern tip of Tok Islets, Ullung County, North Kyongsang Province.)

For the US that advocates establishment of a “unipolar world” by relying on its military strength, the Korean peninsula is a strategic point of military importance, which would facilitate its efforts to conquer the Asian countries and dominate the whole world.

The seas surrounding the Korean peninsula are connected to the Pacific, making it convenient to keep

contact with any region and any country in Asia-Pacific.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the voyage from American countries including the US to Asia required to cross the Atlantic, turn around the south of Africa and travel through the Indian Ocean, a long journey. However, it is easier now as it is possible to reach the Indian Ocean through the Strait of Malacca with Japanese Islands or especially the Korean peninsula as an intermediate stopover. The Korean peninsula in an intermediate place between the Pacific and the Indian oceans can serve as an appropriate base for providing fuel, drinking water and other supplies.

For the US that plans to advance any time to any place in the world on the strength of military superiority, the Korean peninsula is an important military and strategic point in view of its maritime location.

As mentioned above, for the US that claims it is its responsibility to settle as soon as possible an emergency event occurring at any place in the Asia-Pacific area and restore regional stability, the Korean peninsula facing the Asian Continent on one side and the Pacific on the other side is an indispensable military and strategic advance base which no other country can substitute for.

To this end, the US has to place the whole of Korea in the sphere of its influence and guarantee complete freedom of its actions there.

Another reason why the US regards the Korean peninsula as a major target for implementing its strategy of world supremacy lies in that the peninsula is a strategic point in view of economic terms.

As it is located in a place where the Asian Continent

meets the Pacific, the peninsula is endowed with various natural conditions reflecting the continental and oceanic features.

There are rich deposits of a variety of underground resources. It has long been called a “gallery of samples of valuable minerals” in the world.

Discovered so far are 300 kinds of minerals, and over 200 of them are valuable minerals.

Sea-girt on three sides, it has favourable conditions for boosting fishery and marine transport and developing marine resources.

Beautiful in landscape, it has many promising tourist attractions.

Belonging to the Asia-Pacific area, especially Northeast Asia, the peninsula can exert a great influence on the development of the global economy.

The fierce confrontation among big powers over the political, military and strategic superiority is always based on economic interests. In the current age, called the age of Asia-Pacific, this area has become an arena of cut-throat competition among them because it has enormous potential for becoming a hub of a global economy.

Towards the late 20<sup>th</sup> century the area had already become a vibrant stage of the global economy. The proportion occupied by the Asia-Pacific area in the world’s total GDP accounted for 41% in 1980, but it kept increasing, to 50% in 1990 and to 55% in 1993. In 1997, there were three countries in the world with the annual steel output exceeding 100 million tons, the first and second places taken by Asian countries.

The centre of global trade has also been moved to the Asia-Pacific area.

The fact that the Asian area has become an area vital to the US is evidenced by its huge economic dependence on it.

In West Asia there are inexhaustible deposits of oil resources and natural gas, and in East Asia there are also rich resources and high-grade manpower accounting for 40% of the world population.

It is a common view that in future the prospect of economic development of the major world powers relies on how sufficient amount of raw materials is supplied to the industry with the remarkably expanded processing capacity.

It is the less-developed Northeast Asia that draws world attention as a source of rich raw materials, especially the Far East region of Russia and Northeast region of China, where there are rich deposits of all kinds of raw materials convenient to be transported.

An important thing in developing Northeast Asia is transport. Using the Korean peninsula is a prerequisite for easing the strain on transport.

The Russian ports in the Far East region are frozen in winter, making it indispensable to use the ports on the Korean peninsula. As regards shipping abroad raw materials and goods from Northeast Asia, marine and land transport via the Korean peninsula can remarkably shorten the distance and time, which means reduced cost.

East Asia is known to the world for abundance in manpower resources with outstanding technology and skills. It is a view of experts and big powers that use of the

resources rich in this area and high technology for the production of goods will make it possible to strengthen international competitiveness and play the leading role in the world market.

The US, concerned with the growing influence of other powers on the Asian countries that have economic advantages, is hell bent on winning control over Asia, especially the Korean peninsula, an economic and strategic point lying at the gateway to Northeast Asia.

As mentioned above, all problems arising in the implementation by the US of its strategy for world supremacy are linked to the Korean peninsula, a strategic point politically, militarily and economically. Consequently the US came to a conclusion that if Korea is left to its own devices, it could not implement the strategy.

For this reason, the US regards it as a major goal for implementing its strategy to stamp out the DPRK and dominate the Korean peninsula as a whole, and is resorting to every means to internationalize the Korean question.

## **The Real Intention of the US**

To internationalize questions arising in the relations among countries and nations and in international society means expanding them into international ones by arousing international public opinion over the ones controversial in these relations, ones that cause threat to international society or aggression against other countries, and by joining forces under the approval of the UN.

Historically, as far as the Korean question is concerned, there was nothing worth a controversy that could create danger in international society.

Nevertheless, the US has always resorted to every means to internationalize the Korean question, making this or that excuse.

It was totally due to the US which abused the name of the international organizations and dragged its satellite states into solving the Korean question, that serious difficulties have cropped up in every period and at every stage of the Korean revolution—from treatment of the Korean question during the Second World War in the interests of the Allied Powers in disregard of the independent demands and opinion of the Korean nation, setting up of a puppet regime in south Korea after the country's liberation on August 15, 1945, outbreak of the Korean war, obstacles laid on the road of the country's reunification, to nuclear crises.

The US moves to internationalize the Korean question are aimed at satisfying its unilateral interests by arousing even the international public opinion.

The US describes its aggression, intervention and war moves as ones for protecting its national interests. This sounds quite plausible, but underlying it is its aggressive nature.

There are a great number of sovereign states in the world. They all value their national interests and do not tolerate even the slightest encroachment upon them. However, it is forbidden to infringe upon the national interests of other countries even though the national interest of one's own country is precious, and furthermore,



any move to achieve domination and subjugation by infringing upon the sovereignty of other countries can never be tolerated. Otherwise, it may inevitably lead to conflict between countries and, in a serious case, to the outbreak of a war. Therefore, national interests of every country should be set properly on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and respect.

However, the US national interests are set in quite a different way; they presuppose the domination of the world and aggression and plunder.

In February 1999, the US released the National Defence Report, in which it clarified its world strategy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

According to the report, the US national interests include protecting its sovereignty, territory and population, checking the advent of a hostile regional alliance or a hegemonic power and providing unlimited access to major markets, energy supply and strategic resources. In this way, it openly declared that it would retain supremacy in the world and monopolize strategic resources.

This reveals the true colour of the imperialist ringleader that plans to enrich itself by invading and plundering other countries.

The US, in pursuing its strategy of world supremacy, schemes to put the whole of Korean peninsula, situated at a place important both politically and militarily, under its control and make a colony of it.

After occupying south Korea by manipulating the international conferences and its satellite countries, the US has committed all sorts of schemes to isolate and suffocate

the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the north of the Korean peninsula.

As a link in the chain of its schemes, it has made every possible effort to internationalize the Korean question.

This scheme is, in a nutshell, the most vicious one aimed at realizing its domination of the whole of Korea at all costs by stifling it in the way of forming encirclement politically, economically, militarily and diplomatically.

KBS of south Korea reported that the US was pursuing the strategy of international encirclement to intensify economic and political pressure to bear upon the north, and that this is aimed at inducing the crumbling of the north by bringing the maximum level of economic and political pressure.

As mentioned above, the US moves to internationalize the Korean question is aimed at pulling down the socialist system and state of the DPRK by means of international sanctions and pressure without recognizing its political system, so as to realize its ambition for dominating the whole of the Korean peninsula at all costs and furthermore dominate the whole of the Asian Continent and the world with the Korean peninsula as its foothold.

Aggression and plunder is the intrinsic nature of the US, and putting up a signboard to hide it is its stereotyped method. It touted the "frontier spirit" when it was making inroads into the western part of North America in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; it professed itself to be a "liberator" and "helper" after occupying south Korea in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century; it called itself a "liberator" and "peacekeeping force" after occupying Iraq in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Historically, in handling the Korean question the US

seldom came to the fore but realized its sinister design by wire-pulling the UN and other international organizations or its satellite states. It was based on the calculation that “settlement” through the UN and other international organizations or its satellite states would add more to the international justification and rationality. In other words, it planned to realize its ambition by isolating and suffocating the DPRK and obtain international acknowledgement of the lawfulness and validity.

In arousing the international public opinion, the US made every kind of excuse each time.

When Korea was liberated from Japanese colonial rule, the US called for placing it under international trusteeship on the plea that its people lacked self-governing capacity; when the Korean war broke out it dragged its satellite states into the war, claiming that assisting south Korea was UN’s responsibility as the south Korean government was established by the UN; it presented the theory of “two Koreas” on the international arena under the pretext that it was necessary to ensure the “simultaneous entry” into the UN by the north and south of Korea and “cross recognition” of the north and south by countries in the socialist and capitalist camps as the question of Korea’s reunification should be settled on the international arena.

Moreover, it kicked up a fuss about “nuclear issue,” “prevention of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction” and “human rights situation,” aimed at arousing international public opinion.

The purpose of the US racket for arousing international public opinion is to gain international

justification in treating the Korean question as demanded by its Korea policy.

This racket started after Korea's liberation.

After the Second World War, the US occupied south Korea on the plea of "disarming" Japanese troops. Even though it brought the Korean question illegally to the UN, it could not realize its ambition for the conquest of the whole of Korea. Then it masterminded the holding of "separate elections" in accordance with a UN "resolution" and cobbled together a puppet government in south Korea, undermining the establishment of a unified and democratic interim government in Korea and dividing Korea into north and south.

At the time, the US advocated holding "separate elections" in south Korea under UN's supervision, claiming that the Soviet forces were fermenting rebellion in the US-occupied areas of Korea and that the question of the "genuine" independence of Korea should be settled by the UN to prevent the expansionist policy of the USSR.

However, it was no less than gibberish to hide its identity as an aggressor and interventionist with the help of the UN.

It found its concentrated expression in Wedemeyer's report to his government who had been dispatched to south Korea by the then US President Truman in September 1947. The report reads: Withdrawal of US troops would be conducive to the propagation of communism as south Korea would be communized; the Korean peninsula would turn into a Soviet Union's satellite country and Japan would be put into the danger of being communized as well; therefore if the problems

planned in Korea by the US are not settled by the US-USSR Joint Commission, they must be put on the table at the talks of four countries—the USSR, the US, Britain and China; if they fail there as well, they should be settled at the UN; if they fail again, they must be settled by the US single-handedly.

In a word, it meant Korea must never be given up in any case.

These testify to the fact that the US had already hatched a plan to internationalize the Korean question and been carrying it out.

To continue, the US Congress adopted a “north Korean human rights act,” raising the “human rights issue” that does not exist in the DPRK, and launched an international “human rights offensive.” Making a fuss about the “improvement of human rights situation” in the DPRK, it gives financial and material support to overthrowing the system of the DPRK, and is forcing other countries to take part in its endeavour. (Organizations and individuals involved in it are supplied with USD 24 million a year from the US budget.)

In its attempt to isolate and stifle the DPRK, dominate the whole of Korea and thus make it a bridgehead for its strategy of world supremacy, the US is using international organizations and its satellite countries in a cunning way.

It is the same old trick for the US to try to fish in the troubled water without experiencing direct damage or loss.

In the early days of the First World War, the US made huge profits, selling arms to both of the warring parties under the signboard of neutrality, but when the end of the

war was around the corner, it joined the Allies in April 1917 to take part in the postwar treatment. It made profits of USD 3 billion, an amount larger than any other country during the war, and turned from an indebted to a creditor nation.

During the Second World War, it also joined the anti-fascist Allies; thus after the war, it concentrated the biggest economic strength on itself and made immense profits in the capitalist world.

During the Korean war, it dragged its 15 satellite countries into it by internationalizing the Korean question. The main purpose was to ease its burden of the war at the cost of sacrifice of its allied countries.

It made it a point of sending the troops of its satellite countries to the most dangerous places.

During “December 1950 general retreat,” when hundreds of thousands of soldiers of the UN forces were surrounded, a marines unit and 29<sup>th</sup> Brigade of Britain, in the eastern front and western front respectively, were both annihilated while covering the retreat of the US soldiers. While bringing up the rear during the retreat from Wonju of the US soldiers, the French forces suffered a fatal blow and the Greek forces were annihilated; the same fate befell on the Turkish brigade, which had been thrown into the firstline and played the back during withdrawal in the “general offensive.”

Owing to the US crafty schemes, 36 000 soldiers of these satellite countries were killed or captured during the three-year war.

A French lieutenant wrote in his diary that the French soldiers were being used in Korea like silly mules, and

that the main burden of fierce battles was borne by all except the Americans who were trying to take advantage of others. A noncommissioned officer of the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Philippine army recollected that they had been treated as men of the second category, and that during the whole period of the war the casualty figure of the whole of the US 3<sup>rd</sup> Division was smaller than that of the Philippines.

The US plotted to gain profits like finishing the Korean war with ease in a short period at the cost of the blood shed by the soldiers of its satellite countries, named UN forces, but it ended up increasing the conflict among the aggressors and further isolating and weakening the US.

Instead of drawing a due lesson from the Korean war, the US has so far resorted to various means to realize its aggressive and brigandish Korea policy by dragging the UN, international organizations and allied and satellite countries.

## **Evil Hand**

The US moves to internationalize the Korean question, which has lasted for more than half a century, are characterized by its wickedness, craftiness and doggedness.

The first feature is that it has used international organizations and its satellite countries in its moves.

The US has involved international organizations and countries including the UN and its satellite countries in

“settling” the Korean question on the international arena, thus building up a public opinion that it is an international and complicated question. That is because the US has keener interests in the question of the Korean peninsula than anyone else.

For the US, it is vital to seize the Korean peninsula that is situated at a place which is very important politically and militarily. It views that without taking the Korean peninsula it is impossible to realize its ambition for dominating the Asian Continent including Northeast Asia, and furthermore the whole world. The Korean peninsula is an important link in the whole chain of its efforts for realizing its ambition of world supremacy.

That is why the US has not only hatched various plots like internationalizing the Korean question but also manoeuvred on the international arena to see to it that the question is treated as demanded by it by dragging the UN and its satellite countries for the past decades.

The US created an atmosphere on several occasions that the DPRK was a target for international pressure, branding it as “part of the axis of evil,” “outpost of tyranny,” “state sponsor of terrorism,” “rogue state” and “propagator of weapons of mass destruction.” It also made frantic efforts in various ways to bring pressure to bear upon the DPRK and impose sanctions on it by mobilizing the UN, international organizations and several countries including its satellite countries.

International organizations and countries which the US dragged into internationalizing the Korean question were not interested in the question at the outset.

The US contributions to most of the international



organizations for their operation claim a sizable share, so they could not help but accept the US recommendations and initiatives and handle the Korean question under the US high-handedness and pressure.

Its satellite countries are also blindly toeing the US line to get even the meager “assistance” from the US.

These facts clearly disclose the craftiness of the US that used international organizations and its satellite countries for internationalizing the Korean question with keen interests in the Korean peninsula.

Another feature of the US moves to internationalize the Korean question is that it resorted to international pressure, sanctions and blockade in any case, driving the question to the extreme, instead of trying to settle it by means of discussion and negotiations.

These moves found vivid expressions in international conferences sponsored by the UN.

Generally speaking, when a discussion is held on problems of a country at the UN, it must be directed toward finding solutions to them. It goes without saying that otherwise the sovereignty of the country would be encroached upon and the problems of the country would develop into international ones, becoming more and more complicated to be settled.

However, the US has never hosted international conferences on the UN arena to discuss proper solutions for the Korean question.

The US has already had a plan to isolate and suffocate the DPRK. It hosted international conferences in name only, so as to have its plan adopted on the international arena.

Whenever countries refuted the draft “resolutions” on the Korean question, advanced by the US at the international conferences, it neglected it without specific discussions. Then, according to its ready-made scenario it drove international organizations and its satellite countries willy-nilly, claiming that the international pressure, sanctions and blockade were the “only way” to settling the Korean question.

Although it could impose pressure, sanctions and blockade on Korea single-handedly, for making excuse that the question had been discussed on the international arena the US internationalized the question. In other words, it intended to have the Korean question discussed and corresponding “resolutions” adopted at international conferences so as to obtain formal acknowledgement that its policy hostile to Korea went through international proceedings.

The US moves to internationalize the Korean question were not confined to one specific area but covered all fields ranging from politics, military, the economy and diplomacy and were varied in method—intimidation and blackmail, pressure, assault, sanctions, blockade, etc.

In order to isolate and suffocate the DPRK, the US allowed no gap or interval in time and space. It regarded it as its absolute right to deal successive international blows at the DPRK, denying it any breathing spell until it finished isolating and suffocating it and achieving its ambition for dominating the whole of Korea.

The US moves to internationalize the Korean question were not confined to a certain field but covered all fields.

The US kicked up a racket for internationalizing the

political and diplomatic problems, and took simultaneous measures for military intimidation and blackmail and economic sanctions and blockade on the international arena.

The US not only took measures of all kinds for economic sanctions and restrictions but also resorted to all sorts of political stratagems by using international conferences, international organizations and means of propaganda while rallying its allied and satellite countries to form aggressive military organizations and alliances and intensify intimidation and blackmail through them.

Alongside this, the US applied extremely vicious, brazen-faced and mean methods including intimidation, blackmail, pressure, assault, sanctions and blockade according to objects they targeted.

The US moves to internationalize the Korean question and to isolate and suffocate the DPRK on the international arena were unprecedented in human history not only in terms of means, method and wickedness but also protractedness.

During the Second World War, fascist Germany and its ally, Finland, placed Leningrad of the former USSR under siege for about three years from 1941.

However, the US has imposed international sanctions and blockade on Korea, which is not a city but a sovereign state, for several decades in the peaceful period, not wartime.

Indeed, the US moves to internationalize the Korean question are the most vicious, brigandish, brazen-faced, cunning, tenacious and dogged criminal acts that are unprecedented in human history.

How the Korean Question Has Become Internationalized 1

**ORIGIN OF THE KOREAN QUESTION**

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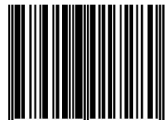
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