

## **N. Korea vs. Madness Nation**

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One of the life or death necessities for late stage capitalism is the conquest of safe zones (people and other resources) for the export of capital in order to make more of the same. Allowing capital to remain idle means a slow death, thus the systematic nation breaking for the purpose of making safe for capital client states. With the major media fake news sources depicting North Korea's ruler as a madman seeking nuclear war against the world's mightiest military force for no discernible reason, a brief account of recent history is in order.

The US invaded Korea after the Japanese surrender and when Soviet and Korean forces were close to mopping up the enemy. The reason for the unnecessary invasion (WW 2 was over) was the same as the British (followed by the US) invasion of Greece in 1944 – to prevent a victory over fascist forces by communist insurgents which would make those countries unavailable for capitalist exploitation.

The immediate aftermath of the US invasion was a divided Korea. The Soviets withdrew its forces in 1946. The forces led by the current Kim's grandfather were popular throughout Korea because they were the only Koreans to fight against foreign occupation. Korean capitalists either fled or collaborated. The US initially placed in power the Japanese and Korean fascists until they could import a figurehead, but the vast majority of Koreans in the south wanted immediate unification with the north. That led to many uprisings that were brutally suppressed. The most significant was Cheju Island off the southern tip of the mainland (and furthest away from 'communist' Korea). US forces transferred fascist forces to the island for a full-scale massacre. Under South Korean military rule the slaughter was ignored, but in 1992 an elected government issued a report stating that up to 30,000 were killed. More recent independent research places the figure at 80,000 dead. So much for the democratic intervention in order to establish a free and independent Korea.

What led the North to go on the offensive is not known. It may be that days before a majority vote in the legislature to unite with the North, despite massive US efforts to prevent it, was taken as advanced approval of military action. A few think the North may have been faked out. Most Koreans in the South opposed continued US occupation and were letting the occupier know it. The US may have thought the only way to solve the situation, short of withdrawing, was to initiate a war and occupy the North. There had been many tit for tat mini-invasions by both sides across the demarcation line. Shortly before the offensive the South crossed and occupied a larger portion of the North than was usual in these instances,

including a small peninsula on the west coast. SK forces retreated so rapidly that NK must have thought the war would be a piece of cake and went further than planned. Disastrous consequences followed. Bomb them into the stone age Curtis LeMay bragged about bombing (mostly napalm) every city and town in the North, and in the South, too. Three million Koreans died along with almost a million Chinese soldiers that crossed once US forces approached the Yalu River. A minor aside for those keen on Orwellian tidbits. The government tried to get American newspapers to withdraw their reports of the South to North mini-invasion just prior to the start of the war. Somehow they made it seem the NK reaction was justified – it didn't look right.

The war ended in 1953. The US refused to recognize the North or negotiate a treaty. A large armed force was kept in SK, for many years (maybe even now) it included nuclear weapons. Joint nations military rehearsals for an invasion of NK are a regular affair. As for NK's development of nuclear weapons, massacring Asians such bombs has an American precedence. The US knew six weeks before the bombing that the Japanese had expressed surrender terms. The US wanted unconditional surrender. The only Japanese concern was to preserve the monarchy. The US had already decided to keep the emperor. Thus, no substantive difference in surrender terms. Eisenhower rushed over from Europe to try to dissuade Truman. It's an island nation. It's navy has been destroyed. It has been defeated. The had US had just fire bombed Tokyo killing 100,000 with no losses of its own. Life Magazine published an article tracking the views of the Japanese ruling elite on surrender terms. After both bombs were dropped they remained exactly as they were for or against surrender. The actual surrender came during another massive conventional bombing. As for the idiotically lame excuse of a million or more American dead in an invasion. Historic military strategy for a nation in Japan's straits is to lay siege and inflict as much damage from a distance to prevent any recovery. It would have been purely an American crime to place American lives in danger at that point.

200,000 mostly civilian Japanese were murdered in the nuclear bombing. Admiral Leahy, chairman of the Joint Chiefs at the time, called it a war crime – genocide. The purpose of the bombing was nothing more than a warning to the USSR. 200,000 dead as a presentation display. There has never been any acceptance of criminal wrongdoing by American rulers over the decades. Does Kim really have something to worry about? You bet he does. The acceptance of mass murder combined with awesome power in the hands of American madness should worry the world.

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– How financial news is reported. Factory orders were up in July 5.4% year over year. Great news – But really not so great when combined with 22 straight months of contraction from October 2014 (which happened to be when the last official QE ended). It's significance is minimal in that context.

– The BLS reported that unit labor costs for the nonfarm (private) sector fell in the second quarter; that's two of the last 2 quarters. That doesn't happen with full employment and an unemployment rate of 4.4%. There has been no growth in real earnings once the CPI and PCE deflator are taken into account.

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