

The Coming Three Front War

The World War that is coming will, like World War Two, be fought on three fronts: the Pacific, the Middle East and the Home Front.

I have recently written two articles on the sorry state of North Korea: *Silence of the Kim* and *Kim Isn't Feeding his Army*. There are additional indicators of the continuing destruction of the North Korean economy caused by the various sanctions imposed upon the North.

The North Korean regime has recently ordered a nationwide shutdown of landline telephone services as it attempts to change its phone number system. Across the country, ordinary residents and officials alike are reacting to the measure with open frustration. The move appears to be in response to an incident last summer in which an official phone directory was smuggled out of the country.

A source in the capital Pyongyang informed Daily NK on December 11 that "landline telephone services in Pyongyang and elsewhere have been suspended since the authorities began working on changing the phone number system. Merchant activity has been disrupted of course, but even government offices have been hurt by the move." (<http://www.dailynk.com/english/read.php?num=14886&catald=nk01500>)

Daily NK has acquired images showing Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) soldiers participating in a loyalty oath ceremony near the border with North Korea. The event is thought to be in response to military tension on the Korean Peninsula.

According to the source who provided the images to Daily NK, hundreds of soldiers attended the event recently held in the mountains near Changbai, Jilin Province, near the North Korean border city of Hyesan.

The source added that "the military is nervous about North Korea's military provocations lately, so the ceremony was held to make the PLA soldiers promise to never abandon their posts and prepare to fight to the death to protect the nation."

Besides the military, university students in China are also typically required to take part in boot camp training and allegiance-swearing ceremonies. However, this marks the first time that the Chinese authorities have conducted a war-related loyalty oath ceremony near the North Korean border.

China notably stepped up its efforts in this regard following the November 29 Hwasong-15 ICBM test by North Korea. A statement in the local Chinese mouthpiece Jilin Daily referring to plans to build refugee camps along the border with North Korea as a 'common-sense response' to their neighbor's pursuit of nuclear weapons prompted many to question if there could be a war on the Korean Peninsula.

A different source in China close to North Korean affairs also told Daily NK that "Chinese soldiers were seen moving towards the border last Saturday (December 9) in the Tumen region. Residents in the

area are saying that it feels like a sign that war might actually break out."
(<http://www.dailynk.com/english/read.php?num=14887&catald=nk01500>)

President Moon Jae-in and Chinese President Xi Jinping held a summit and agreed to four principles to enable peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, the Blue House said in a press statement. The two leaders talked for two hours and 15 minutes in two rounds of discussions accompanied by aides.

According to the statement, Moon and Xi agreed that they will not accept a war on the Korean Peninsula. They agreed to a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula and to look for a peaceful resolution through negotiations to resolve all issues regarding denuclearization of North Korea.

Moon and Xi also agreed that improvement of inter-Korean relations is important to resolve the crisis on the peninsula.

Urging the North to stop provocations, Moon and Xi agreed to work together to pressure Pyongyang to start negotiating through sanctions and pressure, including faithful implementation of UN resolutions, the statement said. (<http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3042103&cloc=joongangdaily> | home | top)

A North Korean government official in charge of tuberculosis control sent a letter to a U.S.-based humanitarian foundation asking for more aid, a rare move that hints at the regime's struggle in the face of international sanctions, the Eugene Bell Foundation said Thursday.

Stephen W. Linton, founder and president of the group, explained in a press briefing in Seoul that the letter was sent from Choe Dong-chol, an official of North Korea's Ministry of Public Health, on Nov. 27.

Choe was said to have explained that his country was facing difficulty treating tuberculosis patients due to a lack of medical aid, adding the international sanctions were blocking humanitarian aid from reaching the North.

Linton said he was asked by Choe to help treat triple the amount of North Koreans the foundation was currently treating, from 1,000 every year to 3,000 annually.

(<http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3042091&cloc=joongangdaily> | home | newlist2)

Seoul and Washington have after all agreed to delay joint annual drills until late April so they do not overlap with the 2018 Winter Olympics and Paralympics in Pyeongchang. The annual drills normally kick off in late February or early March.

"Washington was against the idea at first, but accepted Seoul's request in the end," a diplomatic source said Wednesday. "But they could adjust the schedule again depending on the situation on the Korean Peninsula next year."

The two countries agreed to stage the "Key Resolve" drill, a command post exercise, from the fourth week of April until the first week of May, according to sources. A second drill, a combined field training

exercise dubbed "Foal Eagle," will also be postponed and shortened.

(http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2017/12/14/2017121401483.html)

He, (Kim Jong Un) indicating the orientation of further glorifying the country as the world's strongest nuclear power and military power, set forth long-term objectives, primary objectives, strategic tasks and important tasks to be fulfilled to develop the defense industry of the country into the ultra-modern self-supporting defense industry in the 21st century, true to the line of Juche, and made clear the ways to do so.

He said it is the important mission of our defense industry to consolidate the national defense capability as firm as a rock and thus defend the Party and the revolution, the country and its people, guarantee the successful advance of the revolutionary cause of Juche and steer and accelerate the building of a socialist powerful nation.

The Juche-based national defense industry will continue to develop and we will win victory in the showdown with the imperialists and the U.S. and certainly achieve the cause of socialism and the revolutionary cause of Juche thanks to the banner of the line of simultaneously developing the two fronts advanced by the WPK, the heroic workers in the munitions field and talented scientists and technicians in the field of defense science faithful to the Party, he said. (<http://www.kcna.kp/kcna.user.special.getArticlePage.kcmsf>)

"I would say there's a three in 10 chance we use the military option," Graham predicted in an interview. If the North Koreans conduct an additional test of a nuclear bomb—their seventh—"I would say 70 percent."

Graham said that the issue of North Korea came up during a round of golf he played with the president on Sunday. "It comes up all the time," he said.

"War with North Korea is an all-out war against the regime," he said. "There is no surgical strike option. Their [nuclear-weapons] program is too redundant, it's too hardened, and you gotta assume the worst, not the best. So if you ever use the military option, it's not to just neutralize their nuclear facilities—you gotta be willing to take the regime completely down."

"We're not to the tipping point yet," he noted, but "if they test another [nuclear] weapon, then all bets are off." (<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2017/12/lindsey-graham-war-north-korea-trump/548381/>)

Kim Jong Un has ordered the country's military forces along the Chinese border to immediately shoot at fellow residents who attempt to escape the country as the regime intensifies efforts to prevent defections.

The North Korean authorities have begun issuing fresh orders to prevent copycat defections following last month's daring escape by a soldier via the Panmunjom Joint Security Area (JSA).

A source in Ryanggang Province told Daily NK on December 13 that orders were issued on November 23 detailing the JSA incident, informing the soldiers that "the entire border region should now be considered the frontline of defense - not just the border itself."

Referring to the border with China, the source added that "the military forces stationed along the border are expected to have a greater 'revolutionary spirit' and have been told to convert the border region into an impenetrable fortress." (<http://www.dailynk.com/english/read.php?num=14892&catald=nk01500>)

In the Middle East tensions continue to rise after the United States declaration that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel.

DEBKAfile's military sources report that the daily rocket assault from Gaza is turning into a war of attrition declared by three Palestinian extremist groups, Hamas, the Jihad Islami and the Popular Resistance Committees, on the orders of Gen. Qassem Soleimani, chief of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Al Qods external terrorist arm, and supreme commander of Iranian forces in the region. Our sources reveal that the order was given Monday in a phone conversation Soleimani held with Marwan Issa, commander of the Hamas armed wing, the Ezz e-din al-Qassam. It was the first direct, phone conversation between a high-ranking Iranian general and the Hamas commander and it was deliberately overt. The Iranians wanted the Israeli and Egyptian intelligence agencies eavesdropping on incoming and outgoing phone calls to and from Gaza to hear Soleimani pledge full Iranian support for any military action conducted against Israel. (<https://www.debka.com/hamas-rockets-onset-anti-israel-war-attrition-ordered-irans-gen-soleimani/>)

The ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), the main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) on Dec. 13 called on the international community to recognize East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine.

"We call on the Organization of Islamic Cooperation [OIC] and all other countries to recognize East Jerusalem as the capital of an independent Palestine, which is currently under occupation and whose borders were defined in 1967," said the political parties in a joint declaration.

The parties recalled that parliament had issued a joint declaration on Dec. 6 against the U.S. move recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's "undivided" capital. (<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/three-turkish-parties-issue-joint-declaration-on-jerusalem-124098>)

On the Home Front,

Intercepted radical Islamic "chatter" is calling for armed attacks upon CHURCHES beginning Christmas Eve and continuing into Christmas day, in retaliation for President Trump recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Further, some of the "chatter" has come from people believed to be GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES such as Pakistan and Turkey - directly communicating attack instructions including against SHOPPING MALLS on the day after Christmas, when people are exchanging gifts!!!!

Worse: The "chatter" specifically includes talk of targeting "small to medium size towns" for such attacks because the thinking in the radical Islamic element is that smaller local police departments will become immediately overwhelmed and unable to stop what's being done!

Intercepted communications included talk of mass shootings, suicide bombings and fire bombings of churches on Christmas Eve during Midnight Mass, continuing in other churches on Christmas day, and in shopping malls the day after Christmas.

Shortly after my weekly talk-radio show began airing last night at 9:00 PM eastern US time, I began to address covert intelligence gathered by my former colleagues in the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force. Almost immediately upon commencing that talk, my web site came under Distributed Denial of Service Attack, which took FIVE load-balanced servers offline.

(<http://haltturnerradioshow.com/index.php/news/world-news/1770-this-site-was-attacked-last-night-offline-for-ten-hours-as-i-began-to-reveal-radical-islamic-chatter-calling-for-attacks-on-churches-and-shopping-malls-at-christmas>)

The [Muslim Brotherhood](#) has effectively [declared war on the United States](#) (Arabic link):

*The Muslim Brotherhood is launching today a solidarity call with all Palestinian factions and Islamic movements to ignite an uprising throughout the Islamic world against the Zionist occupation and the **American administration** in support of the occupation and against the rights and freedoms of the peoples.*

The last "uprising" some 15 years ago resulted in the deaths of hundreds of civilians – Christians, Jews and Muslims. (<https://clarionproject.org/muslim-brotherhood-declares-us-enemy/>)

The Justice Department declined requests by Project Cassandra and other authorities to file criminal charges against major players such as Hezbollah's high-profile envoy to Iran, a Lebanese bank that allegedly laundered billions in alleged drug profits, **and a central player in a U.S.-based cell of the Iranian paramilitary Quds force**. And the State Department rejected requests to lure high-value targets to countries where they could be arrested.

(<https://www.politico.com/interactives/2017/obama-hezbollah-drug-trafficking-investigation/>)

Analysis. I still believe there is a possibility if war in Korea this Winter. That possibility is decreasing as we get closer to Christmas with no intelligence that the Korean Peoples Army (KPA) has begun any movements towards the border. Nor have there been any reports of the live missile and artillery firings associated with the end of training cycle exercises. Considering the state of the KPA as has been reported previously, live firings may have been eliminated from the exercise program.

It appears that Kim is getting even more desperate to hide the true state of North Korea from the World. Shooting into a neighboring country is usually considered an act of war whatever the reason. The natives must be very restless to attempt to cross the frozen Yalu to an uncertain future in the Peoples Republic of China (PRC).

The state of North Korea appears to be one of continuing descent into implosion. The KPA isn't being fed much above starvation rations. Neither are the people. In the best of times North Korea cannot feed itself. It does not have enough arable land. That is all in the South. North Korea has tried terracing hillsides in the past only to watch the crops and the hillsides slide into the Yellow Sea during the monsoons or the occasional typhoon. Resorting to human fertilizer is another major sin of stress. By now there is not an uninfected farm in North Korea with the possible exceptions of the ones that feed the elite.

I anticipate that even with Key resolve/Foal Eagle possibly postponed until after the Winter Olympics that Kim will make some effort to sabotage the Olympics. North Korea has been invited to participate as part of a combined Korean team. I doubt they will accept.

The next available period for invasion of the South is the period beginning the last two weeks of June and extending to the end of July. This is the end of the next training cycle. Again, the combat activities of the KPA are regulated by the agricultural cycle. The KPA can fight until the end of September when it must redeploy to harvest whatever crops are remaining. In the event of active hostilities there won't be much to harvest.

In the Middle East, the Sunni Shiite Islamic Sectarian Civil War is becoming more violent. Saudi Arabia has been directly attacked by missiles fired by the Houthi rebels in Yemen. These missiles are supposedly manufactured in Iran and delivered to the Houthis by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Quds force. Iran has been the main supplier of the Shiite Houthis for pretty much the duration of the Houthi rebellion.

The Saudis have had almost no success ending the rebellion. Even using Jordanian Special Forces several years ago did not suppress the rebellion. Neither has air power and the use of other Gulf Cooperation Council forces. There is no indication that any kind of armistice will occur in the near future.

In Syria, the Saudi sponsored insurrection that gave us ISIS is over. ISIS is all but destroyed in Syria and western Iraq. However, the ISIS fighters are either going underground or returning to their homes to cause trouble. There have been reports of Christmas decoration in some towns being destroyed by arson. No suspects are named but one can suspect that the culprits are Muslims who either came to Europe as "refugees" or are returning ISIS fighters. In either case, Europe is in serious trouble that will take years to fix.

Saudi Arabia is still surrounded by the Shiite Crescent postulated by King Abdullah II of Jordan. Iran now has a secure land route from Tehran to the Mediterranean Sea. Both Syria and Hezbollah can now be sustained without the expense of using Iran's limited and possibly poorly maintained cargo aircraft fleet.

The American recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital has not gone over well in a lot of places. However, the Sunni states of the Gulf Cooperation Council haven't said much. They realize that Trump is serious about making America great again. Since their militaries are almost entirely equipped with American weapons, there is some discretion being exercised here. Qatar has just ordered 36 more new F-15QA aircraft from the US.

The Palestinian (lack of) Authority is crying foul. As long as they continue not to negotiate in good faith towards a peace treaty with Israel, they should expect other actions to be taken to ruin their dream of a Palestinian state.

However, the most unsettling news is the report that there is a cell of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps Quds force in the United States. Hezbollah has been here since 1987 that I am aware of. The addition of Quds force personnel gives Iran a military force in the United States that is capable of overwhelming most law enforcement agencies and National Guard units.

We are simply not prepared for hostile foreign military forces to engage our law enforcement people. SWAT teams are limited. Most line police officers are trained to deal with suspects with limited firepower and military training. They are not prepared to deal with regular military forces operating in units from squad size to platoon size bent on causing maximum death and destruction. Single terrorists and small teams of terrorists cause enough damage and death before they can be disabled or killed. A squad of Quds Force personnel dedicated to collecting their 72 virgins, armed with light machine guns, assault rifles and rocket propelled grenades (RPGs) will be orders of magnitude more destructive than your average "home grown" terrorist.

I suspect that the Quds Force command structure is actually in northern Mexico working with the drug gangs. The Iranians will do their best to use members of the drug gangs, MS-13, Los Zetas and other groups to cause maximum distraction for law enforcement while the Quds Force members and Hezbollah members are assigned to high value targets such as government centers, banks, National Guard armories and other places where forces may be gathered to oppose them.

Iran realizes that openly using its military forces will result in attacks on Iran. Given their apocalyptic religious doctrine, they may not care. If the Mahdi can only emerge from the Occultation in a time of great calamity, they may not care whether or not they get attacked or nuked. That would just add to the calamity.

This may also be Iran's way of hitting the United States without having to develop Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs). North Korea does not have that option although we cannot discount that North Korean special forces personnel are also in the United States. North Korea appears to be dedicated to causing more damage to the United States than can be caused by small special forces detachments if we attack them.

It has been a long time since the continental United States has been attacked in any serious way. We do not have the mental preparedness required to sustain ourselves should that happen. We depend too much on "just in time" inventory management and not on maintaining sufficient stocks to cover natural disasters. This Summer's three hurricanes should have been a wake up call to prepare. As we found out in 2004 and again this year, it only takes a few well placed wild fires to potentially close off the Los Angeles area to freeway traffic. Now imagine what life would be like with the Interstates blocked by downed bridges guarded by people who don't want them fixed.

Our enemies are dedicated to bringing the war to our homeland. Are you ready?

ADDENDUM: The Security Council has invoked new and tougher sanctions against North Korea. So far there has been no reaction from North Korea at least via the Korea Central News Agency. I expect

there will be a reaction and nobody will like it. Work has recently been done on the West Portal at the nuclear test site. This may or may not be an indication of Kim's next provocation.