

between the two nations which does not concern Japan. But Fukuda knows that the whole Korea issue is an extremely emotional issue with the opposition parties and any overt pro-S. Korean move to keep U.S. troops on his part would enrage the "left," and bolster charges that he is involved in Japan-Korean dirty-money scandals. Fukuda's dilemma is that he must also propitiate Washington, which so far is continuing its anti-Park maneuvers and threatening to pull out its troops.

As a result of his maneuvers, Fukuda has succeeded in enraging large sections of both the Liberal Democratic Party and the South Korean government. The LDP's own conservative Foreign Policy Council was forced to vigorously attack Fukuda's "hands off Korea" policy as being contrary to stated LDP understandings with the United States government — in particular, the 1969 "Nixon-SATO" agreement, in which LDP premier called the security position of the South Korean peninsula "vital" to the security interests of Japan. Fukuda's kowtowing posture on Korea with Walter Mondale last month further angered these circles.

Fukuda's desperation over the Korea issue was revealed in a letter to last week's Wall Street Journal by former National Security Council staff member Morton Kaplan, now a professor at the University of Chicago. Kaplan revealed that on his visit to Japan only a few days before Mondale's arrival he was "whisked" from the airport by limousine to a dinner meeting with Fukuda and seven members of his cabinet. At the meeting Fukuda begged Kaplan to make sure that the U.S. government understood Fukuda's real opposition to hasty U.S. troop withdrawals, despite his government's public indifference.

#### *The Double Cross Game*

Fukuda's desperation is understandable. By refusing to fight Carter on the troop withdrawal issue, Fukuda has

annoyed South Korean President Park Chung Hee, who fears that behind all of Washington's talk is a plot to depose him. Fukuda, in Park's eyes, is therefore an accomplice in a plot which may include murder of the fiery, emotionally high-strung leader of that troubled nation. No Diem, Park has begun to fight back, and could act to depose Fukuda.

#### *The Moon Connection*

Park is now in the midst of cracking down on Reverend Moon's operations in South Korea, a mere appendage of men like former premier Kishi and Fukuda in Japan, and certain U.S. Wall Street families linked to the Rockefeller's Dillon Read banking house. Park's KCIA has all the dirt it could ever want on Fukuda's Kishi-Moon connections, which it could leak at any time. Fukuda himself is already so jittery about the entire affair that he ordered seven of his cabinet ministers with special Korean ties to publicly deny that they had received Korean bribes.

But the scandal will not go away so easily, and already the opposition parties are having a delightful time at Fukuda's expense. One such tormentor is JSP secretary general Masahi Ishibashi. Ishibashi, according to the Feb. 8 Yomiuri, "took up the problem" of Reverend Moon with Fukuda in front of the Lower Houses Budget Committee. Ishibashi "said that the prime minister must have received complaints from parents" of children caught in the religion. "But the prime minister said that he had received no such complaints. He said he would order an investigation." Then "Ishibashi reminded Fukuda that he had eulogized Mun Son Myong (Rev. Moon) when he was finance minister in Sato's cabinet. Ishibashi claimed Fukuda had said that a great leader named Mun Son Myong had appeared in South Korea. Fukuda replied that he had only praised the "love for humanity taught by Christianity."

## Korea's Park Counters U.S. Scandals With Some Crackdowns Of His Own

South Korean President Park Chung Hee is beginning to take a tougher stance toward the United States, primarily because of the Carter administration's private encouragement of scandal-exposures involving South Korean influence peddling on Capitol Hill. The London Economist reported Feb. 5 that one of Park's aides recently warned that if there are any more "revelations" from Washington, the Koreans might disclose "positive evidence" that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has been channelling money to Korean dissidents for some item.

For the same reasons, the Korean government has begun to crack down on the domestic activities of "Reverend" Sun Myong Moon and his Unification Church. Recently, the executives of two South Korean business firms with close connections to Moon, the Il Hwa Phar-

maceutical company and the Ginseng Tea Exporting company, were arrested on charges of tax evasion.

President Park has been a consistent supporter of U.S. policy in Asia since his seizure of power in a 1961 military coup, but has been threatening to adopt a more independent stance because of clear messages from the Carter administration that it would like to see him replaced. Park's threats are undoubtedly a sort of diplomatic "chicken game" with Carter, in which Park hopes the administration will back down and maintain a policy favorable to his regime. There are indications, however, that the flow of "KCIA revelation" in the U.S., rather than abating, is on the rise. This could force the reluctant Park to follow through on his threats and make public his considerable knowledge of illicit connections between Washington, Tokyo, and Seoul, connections that dwarf

the current Washington influence-peddling charges.

### *Bigger Things at Stake*

The pressure on Park from the Carter administration has basically revolved around the much talked about Carter plan to withdraw the remaining U.S. ground troops from Korea. Washington's tactics are in part devised to spark an internal revolt against Park. High level Washington sources have reported that National Security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski has a particularly strong dislike for Park and would like to see him replaced by a regime of U.S. university-trained technocrats. But there are greater strategic interests involved. The Carter cabinet wants to use the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Korea to force a rearmament of Japan with the anticipated help of the Trilateral Commission's Japanese Prime Minister Fukuda.

At a press conference in Washington two days ago, the chief of the international department of the Japanese Socialist Party, Hideo Den, made public a plan associated with U.S. Congressman Donald Fraser (D-Minn) to organize an international conference on "the Korean problem" some time in the near future. Den was in Washington investigating possible connections between South Korean bribery operations and Japanese politicians. Fraser, whose House Subcommittee on Human Rights has been used for some time as a forum for charges of "human rights violations" against the Park regime, was recently empowered by the House Committee on International Relations to carry out an 18-month investigation into all aspects of U.S.-Korean relations. It is expected that the proceedings of this committee will keep the Washington scandal and other anti-Park "revelations" in the news.

High level sources in Washington acknowledge that the Carter administration has directly helped Fraser's anti-Park "revelations" in the past, and has deployed present State Department Policy Planning chief Anthony Lake to aid his "investigations."

The possible military overthrow of Park has not been ignored as an option by the Carter forces. The Japanese press agency Jiji reported that then-Assistant Secretary of State Philip Habib (now Under-Secretary for Political Affairs) met last December with the chief of staff of the Korean Army to inquire as to the support for Park in the armed forces.

Most recently, the State Department went to considerable efforts to embarrass the Park regime in connection with Vice President Mondale's trip to Japan. Informed sources have reported that the State Department fabricated reports that the South Koreans invited Mondale to visit Korea — an invitation Mondale supposedly rebuffed. The Koreans however, never extended an invitation to Mondale. They did invite Assistant Secretary of State for Far East Affairs, Richard Holbrooke, who, according to the same sources, was told that he could only meet with officials "on his own level," and possibly the Foreign Minister, "if the Minister is available."

Top observers have noted that should Park be forced to expose U.S. CIA operations in South Korea, he would also have to undertake a full purge of CIA operatives who have infiltrated the ranks of the KCIA. News which sur-

faced last year of the wiretappings of Park's Blue House offices by U.S. intelligence agencies reportedly enraged the President, not only because South Korea's leaders were being spied on by the country's nominal major ally, but also because such a bugging could only have taken place with the complicity of sections of the KCIA.

Last December Park made a shift in the directorship of the KCIA, (one of several in recent years), naming to the post previous Construction Minister. The new director had been key in developing independent construction and oil-related contracts with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Any exposure by Park of the CIA would hit at Moon and the Unification Church, long suspected by Park to be some sort of "dirty tricks" operation against his government. In Washington's ultra-partisan version of Korean corruption, the role of the Unification Church has been presented as relatively minor, with the main focus of attack being on Korean entrepreneur Tongsun Park — a man generally believed to be fairly close to President Park's inner circles.

Moon and his organization are key intermediaries for illicit relations between New York banking circles and their willing accomplices in Japan. Moon himself, whose main base of operations is Japan, has been heavily funded by Japanese arch-rightist Ryoichi Sasagawa. Sasagawa is an intimate of former Japanese Prime Minister Kishi and present Prime Minister Fukuda. All three have close ties to the U.S. CIA. Testimony before the Fraser subcommittee last year by ex-members of the Unification Church brought out clearly the diverse relations the Unification Church has with Park and the Japanese. One ex-member testified that in 1970 Park was seriously considering killing Moon, but the intervention of circles close to Sasagawa put a cork on these plans.

One of the more powerful threats in Park's treasure chest of damaging information against the U.S. CIA is the exposure of the full story behind the much-publicised "Kim Dae Jung Affair." Kim, a leading South Korean opposition figure in South Korea, was kidnapped from a Tokyo hotel room in 1973, and Park and the KCIA have long been held responsible. This has led to strained economic and political relations between the Park government and Japan. Speculation as to the responsibility for the kidnapping has hit the news again with the publication by anti-Park Korean journalist Julie Moon in Washington of a "handwritten" document by Kim himself which reportedly names his KCIA kidnappers. Several independent investigations into the affair have uncovered evidence that gangsters closely associated with Tatsuo Tanaka (recently named by Fukuda to head Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry and generally believed to be Fukuda's liaison with South Korea) aided the "KCIA" kidnappers. Recently a South Korean legislator from the semi-opposition Democratic Unification Party was in Japan — probably with Park's backing — admitting that the KCIA was involved in the kidnapping. This has given rise to speculation that Park may be willing to make public evidence that shows that sections of the KCIA infiltrated by foreign circles carried out the caper. This could prove highly embarrassing for the Fukuda government.