

## AN OPENING TO SOLVE THE KOREA CRISIS

# Russia, China, U.S.A. New Silk Road Collaboration

by Michael Billington

*The following is an edited transcript of remarks by EIR Asia Editor Mike Billington to a national organizers' conference call of the LaRouche PAC on Dec. 28. His projection that major progress towards Korea negotiations was close at hand, despite belligerent statements from President Trump and Kim Jung-un, has been borne out by the opening of talks on Jan. 3 between North and South Korea, and Trump's announcement Jan. 4 that scheduled military exercises with South Korea would be postponed until after the Winter Olympics, as had been requested by Seoul.*

I'll say a word about Korea, because everybody is talking about Korea—all the headlines are that the world is on the brink of war in Korea, that Trump is making belligerent threats, and that Kim Jung-un is making belligerent threats. The reality, I think, is quite different. The reality is that Trump, in his typical way, believes that when you negotiate you have to be a tough guy. I don't particularly approve of that, but that's the way he is. And the idea that he and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson are at odds with each other is nonsense. It's clear that Trump knows very well what Tillerson is doing when Tillerson says the United States is willing to negotiate with North Korea without pre-conditions, and that when he pledges to the North Koreans that we will not invade, we will not have regime change, he means it.

The question, really, is will the North Koreans believe it? They have seen what happened to Iraq, and they saw what happened to Libya, after Libya gave up its nuclear weapons program and was promptly bombed back to the stone age: Leaders of both countries were killed. So the question in my mind is, if the North Koreans are going to believe it, it's only going to be because they also believe that the

United States is, in fact, working with Russia and China—not just in negotiating or imposing sanctions on North Korea, but working with them sincerely, everywhere in the world. If they see that this New Paradigm is in place, then they have a basis for believing that they can talk, and that they can talk in terms of eventually changing their whole nuclear posture—but on the basis of being part of the New Silk Road, of being part of the development of the Russian Far East, and of becoming part of a great development process sweeping across the world.

So all of this is imminently possible, if we defeat the Mueller coup, if Trump is in fact allowed to proceed with his intention of working with Russia and China.

The worst hotspots globally are in Southwest Asia and Korea. These situations were created for a reason. In Southwest Asia, the British purposely created Israel



State Department photo  
*U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson speaking at the State Dept. Dec. 21, 2017.*



KCNA

*North Korea Head of State Kim Jung-un.*

such that there would be a permanent, constant crisis between the Arabs and the Jews. They wanted that—they wanted that as a cockpit for war, where everyone would have to line up—either you are with the Israelis, or you are with the Palestinians. This is the East versus the West, a perfect cockpit for keeping the imperial global division of East versus West alive.

Korea is the same thing. The Korean crisis *was solved*, in 1994, under the Bill Clinton Administration. Clinton had, along with Bill Perry who was his Defense Secretary and a few other decent people, basically solved the problem. Under what was called the Agreed Framework—the North Koreans shut down their nuclear weapons program, and shut down their nuclear plant that produced plutonium, and agreed to let the West build a safer nuclear plant and to send in some oil, and agreed to have IAEA monitors all over the country to make sure they didn't build any weapons. It was all solved. And it was moving ahead—slowly, but it was moving ahead—until Bush and Cheney got elected and scrapped the whole thing. They said, we don't like North Korea and we believe they are cheating, so we're going to cancel this program—even though their own Secretary of State, Colin Powell, said it was working well and it should be maintained.

What did this reversal do? It meant the North Koreans went back to their nuclear weapons program. By being hostile, the policy was, “Go ahead and build a bomb.” Then when Obama came in, he had a policy called “strategic patience,” which was: we're not going to talk to you until you do what we say. So, of course, what's the real policy behind this? “Go ahead and build

your bomb!” Why?

Because the British empire needed a cockpit for war. They needed an excuse for Obama's pivot to Asia, the isolation of China, and the military ring around China and Russia, all under the guise of, “Oh, we're defending ourselves against North Korea.” Well, you don't need much to defend against North Korea. This military deployment is not aimed at North Korea—it's aimed at China and Russia.

The British imperial policy of keeping the world divided depends upon such hot spots.

That said, what's going on now? If you have Russia and the United States and China openly, publicly collaborating on the New Silk Road, and on strategic wars against terrorism in Syria and elsewhere, if this is open and public, the way that Lyndon and Helga LaRouche have fought for this for the last fifty years, then there is no reason for the existence of these hot spots. They no longer have a purpose in the world. In other words, the British empire's game is finished.

And the Korean hotspot will be resolved, not through some political wheeling and dealing with North Korea alone, but through the New Silk Road global paradigm shift, which gives everyone the confidence that we can trust each other, that we are working together as human beings, and therefore that these seemingly intractable and dangerous situations can be resolved.



White House/David Scull

*President Clinton meeting high level north Korean military officer, Jo Myong-rok, 2000.*