

THE HOUR OF ACTION COULD WELL BE UPON US

North Korea is preparing for war. That is, almost, a guarantee.

How extensive will this war become is open to speculation, but war is war. And war is hell!

The number of people that was killed in World War II is known to have been between 50 million and 70 million, men, women and children.

Nobody wants to witness another war of this magnitude, but North Korea's 30, year-old leader has all the makings of being a loose cannon; and so, the world is waiting to see whether or not this young man will order his troops to open fire on what he believes are his sworn enemies.

It seems highly unlikely that North Korean has any great concern over its unilateral declaration of war on South Korea because its military organisation is the largest in the world, dwarfing that of its southern neighbour.

With a human population of about 25 million people, about 40 percent of that number – that is about 10 million people between the ages of 16 years and 49 years – are known to be fit for military service, according to statistics, compiled by the US Government's Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

This military force is expanding at the rate of not less than 400,000 men and women, annually, the CIA estimates. Conscription is mandatory for periods, ranging from three years to five years.

North Korea has admitted, openly, that it possesses not less than 4,000 battle tanks, about 18,000 artillery pieces, 11,000 air-defence guns, 915 naval vessels and 1,748 military aircraft, of which number, 478 aircraft are fighters and 180 aircraft are bombers.

In addition, annually, the country is manufacturing not less than 200 battle tanks, 3,000 heavy guns, and 200,000 Kalashnikov rifles in 180 underground defence plants.

Who will fire the first shot in this war is open to speculation, but history has proved that only too often mistakes have been made, mistakes that have led to a horrendous loss of innocent lives.

It would be unthinkable (and irresponsible) of the Government of the United States that it had not, already, put in motion, measures to counter any and all actions by the Government of North Korea's 30 year-old leader, Kim Jong Un ().

One of the many problems when trying to deal with children is that they do not understand or can even appreciate the meaning of fear – and, sadly, they cannot even spell the word.

While it is almost unthinkable that North Korea's advanced weaponry has the capacity to reach the mainland shores of the US, today, at least with any accuracy, but tomorrow is another day.

It is well accepted, however, that this reclusive country has the ability to have its military rein down havoc on many a US military base in Asia and in the Pacific Ocean.

If such a provocation should come to pass, it would trigger international condemnation and that could lead

to an all-out invasion of North Korea.

Any determined, preemptive military attack on any country, especially one launched by North Korea, has the ability to result international chaos.

The equity markets of the world would see their key indices sag; tens of billions of dollars would be wiped out in a single day as the prices of scrip nosedive; publicly listed companies would buckle under the heavy weight of the actions that would, inevitably, follow as banks tighten their purse-strings; and, prices of staples would rise very materially in anticipation of the horrors that a war would bring.

The above, however, are only some of the initial reactions to a preemptive military attack by North Korea.

The worst will follow and most, far-sighted people know this, only too well.

The dire financial problems that faced – and continue to face – Cyprus would all be forgotten as the world faces the likelihood of an all-out war, initiated by the most-reclusive country of the 21st Century.

The big question for the leaders of the Western World, today, is not *'If North Korea ...'*, but *'when will North Korea ...?'*

If the Supreme Leader of North Korea, today, does not authorise the pushing of the 'Go' button for the first, devastating rocket attack to be launched at South Korea – South Korea is the likely first target of Kim Jong Un – then, surely, it will be a close tomorrow for the attack to come.

The chances are very high, however, that the US will not wait for North Korea to fire the first shot of this war since the 317 million people of the US still remember December 7, 1941.

On that Sunday morning, Japan attacked Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, with 353 Japanese fighters, bombers and torpedo aeroplanes, all of which had been launched from six aircraft carriers.

All eight, US Navy battleships, harboured at Pearl Harbour on that fateful morning, were damaged, with four, being sunk. The Japanese, also, sank or damaged three [cruisers](#), three [destroyers](#), an anti-aircraft training ship and one [minelayer](#).

Not less than 188 US aircraft were destroyed; 2,402 Americans were killed; and, 1,282 Americans were wounded.

At 12:30 p.m. on December 8, 1941, Washington time, [US President Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) stood before Congress and gave what is now known as his *'Day of Infamy Speech.'*

In that speech, President Roosevelt declared that December 7, 1941, the day that the [Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour](#), would remain *'a date which will live in infamy.'*

The people of the US will never forget the unprovoked attack on Hawaii by Japan; and, it is highly unlikely that President Barack Hussein Obama would want to be remembered as the President of the strongest nation of the world, who procrastinated while a North Korean *'kid'* was tuning up his violin, readying it to play his first war ballad.

The clock of war is ticking.

The hour of action is upon us.

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