

HOW MUCH LONGER CAN THE WORLD SUFFER THE PARIAH STATE OF NORTH KOREA ?

As the Carl Vinson Strike Group ploughed through the seas of Asia in the general direction of the Korean Peninsula, the world waited (and prayed) that this seeming provocation – as the Government of North Korea has claimed it to be – would not lead to another violent, armed struggle between, initially, The United States of America and the pariah state of North Korea.

One cannot help but recall the date of September 1, 1939, when Germany attacked Poland, leading to the start of World War II, an international struggle that resulted in the deaths of some 70 million people in the ensuing six years that followed Germany's unprovoked and undeclared war on Poland.

North Korea, its Supreme Leader, being Kim Jong Un (), makes no bones of its intentions: It fully intends to become a nuclear power, sooner rather than later, and, by viewing the most-recent past events, it is making headway apace in achieving its avowed intent.

On April 10, 2017, the Foreign Ministry of The **D**emocratic **P**eople's **R**epublic of **K**orea (**DPRK**), the official name of the country, was quoted by the Korean Central News Agency as stating, inter alia: That the deployment of the Carl Vinson Strike Group was '*reckless*' and it was, clearly, aimed at launching an attack on North Korea, an attack that would be met '*by powerful force of arms.*'

The Foreign Ministry warned:

'We will hold the US wholly accountable for the catastrophic consequences to be entailed by its outrageous actions. The DPRK is ready to react to any mode of war, desired by the US.'

The DPRK went on to state that the country could well defend itself and that it, already, had '*tremendous military muscle with a nuclear force.*'

Two days later, the Rodong Sinmun Newspaper, the official Government newspaper of the DPRK, stated:

'Our revolutionary strong army is keenly watching every move by enemy elements with our nuclear sight focused on the U.S. invasionary (sic) bases not only in South Korea and the Pacific operation theatre but also in the U.S. mainland.'

The Carl Vinson Strike Group comprises:

- The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson;
- Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers, USS Wayne E. Meyer and USS Michael Murphy; and,
- Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Champlain.

With the American flotilla of warships, now stationed in The Sea of Japan, within striking distance of the Korean Peninsula, it is unthinkable that the Supreme Leader of the DPRK had not, as a matter of urgency, called numerous meetings with the heads of his army, navy and air force in order to nut out various plans of attack with regard to what he perceives as the impending threat.

Many people believe, to this day, that the present definitive actions, initiated by The United States of America, were too long a time in coming.

These people ponder as to the rationale of the former Administration of President Barack Hussein Obama in not taking a tougher line in respect of the bellicose acts of the DPRK.

For what reason did the strongest nation in the world procrastinate, faced with the stated, jingoistic foreign policies of this Asia nation?

A spokesman for the US Pacific Command said that the determination in ordering The Carl Vinson Strike Group to head to The Sea of Japan was '*a prudent measure to maintain readiness and presence in the Western Pacific.*'

Mr David Benham, also, stated:

'The Number One threat in the (Asian) region continues to (be) North Korea due to its reckless, irresponsible and destabilising programme of missile tests and (the) pursuit of a nuclear weapons capability.'

During the past few months, the DPRK had been testing medium-range missiles and, according to reported statements by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, the country '*had entered the final stage of preparation for a test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile*', capable to hitting The United States of America.

President Donald John Trump responded to this statement with just three words:

'It won't happen!'

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un must have been somewhat taken aback when the realisation struck him that, for the first time since assuming the role as the hereditary leader of DPRK, that was in December of 2011, another nation had had the chutzpah and courage, obliquely, even to threaten his country with a military action; and, it would appear logically imperative that, come what might, he must not flinch as the threat comes knocking at his door.

Further, if logic is to play any part in the charade in respect of the statements and actions of the Supreme Leader, as he discusses his country's plans to take on the world's largest, and most-advanced military might, he must not give any outward appearance of real concern – although, if common sense is to be the language of the day at North Korea's war cabinet, it must be a frightening inner contemplation for this 33 year-old leader of a nation that is the home to some 25 million men, women and children.

But fear is highly unlikely to have been obvious in any part in his monologues with loyal members of his war cabinet because, among other things, it is more than likely that the word '*fear*' has never been part of his vocabulary due to the fact that, if it had been known to him, he would not have indulged in his pet fantasies in the past, as he had so acted.

Faced, as he is today, with a very real and present threat to his Asian '*fiefdom*', he cannot be seen to flinch, outwardly, while, inwardly, he must try to keep his daintiness – if that be possible.

Comparing Like With Like

From the point of view of Mr Donald John Trump, the relatively newly elected President of The United States of America, he would appear to have a number of attributes, somewhat similar, in substance, to those of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

(These attributes, however, notwithstanding the President's gross obesity.)

Firstly, President Donald John Trump is the most-powerful man on planet earth. He is slightly more

powerful than his nemesis, living in the DPRK.

President Donald John Trump, as with Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, is the Commander-In-Chief of his country's army, navy and air force.

Both President Donald John Trump and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un have never, thus far, had the opportunity to play seriously with their military '*toys*', at least, not to any great extent.

One of the major differences between President Donald John Trump and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un is that, in respect of President Donald John Trump, the leader of some 324 million, men, women and children, he is subject to the many constraints, placed upon his Office by The Constitution of The United States of America.

With regard to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, he does not need to appreciate any particular law of his country or even any oral statement, smacking of dissent, uttered by anybody – even by a member of his extended family.

In the event that he finds himself, potentially caught in a cleft stick, there is, always, The Order of The Gun ... or cannon, or missile, as may be determined most useful and/or most convenient so as to act as a clear deterrent to others who might be considering uttering words, suggestive of a complaint.

Should the DPRK fire the first shot, even in the general direction of the Carl Vinson Strike Group, President Donald John Trump is expected (and permitted under the powers, vested in his Office) to push the green button of immediate retaliation.

But following this, The President must convene an emergency meeting of The Congress of The United States of America in order to propose that the country declare war on the DPRK.

Unlike the situation that existed in Syria when, allegedly, on Friday, April 7, 2017, the Government of President Bashar al-Assad permitted – or ordered or condoned – the dropping of canisters, containing highly toxic sarin gas, killing some 89 people, including many very young infants, an act that horrified, right-minded people, the world over, on learning of some of the details of the news of the carnage that befell a small Syrian town, they were dumbfounded.

This single act of barbarism caused President Donald John Trump to order a surgical air strike on the Syrian Government's air base, housing fighter planes, thought to have carried out the horrific raid.

In contrast to the reaction of President Donald John Trump, Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un would have had no compunction in ordering the deaths of any '*reasonable*' number of his human population, innocent that they might be, on the premise that it was a very necessary act for and on behalf of the entire country: The sacrifices, obtained by the deaths of certain members of the human population, were in the best, long-term interests of the state which must survive, come what may.

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, clearly, maintains that, after all, the state is much more important than any single life of any of the human residents of the state and, in addition, the state must be protected from any and all members of the state.

President Donald John Trump is bound, hand and foot, by The Constitution of The United States of America, being the supreme law of the country.

The Constitution empowers the sovereign authority of the people by the framers of this historic document and the consent of the legislatures of the states.

It is the source of all Governmental powers; and, it, also, provides important limitations on the Government so as to protect the fundamental rights of the citizens of the country.

In a nutshell, therefore, the people of The United States of America must be protected from/by the actions of the state, not the state, being protected from the people.

In respect of Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, however, regardless of any laws in existence, today, he is not, necessarily, subject to them because, inter alia, he is, after all, the Supreme Leader of the country and, therefore, he is not, necessarily, bound by any and all laws that apply to the laity.

The Limited Options On The Table For President Donald John Trump

President Donald John Trump has stated, in the past and continues to state, even to this day, that should push come to shove with regard to the DPRK, '*All options are on the table.*'

This is not, exactly, the case, however.

It is, in fact, more than a slight exaggeration, but, then again, President Donald John Trump has been known for his slight exaggerations of the facts as he perceives them.

Since 2006, unabashed, the DPRK has been testing nuclear weaponry while the Administrations of Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Hussein Obama merely watched with few definitive, worthwhile reactions.

In many cases, these former Presidents appeared to be almost completely impervious to many of the acts of the DPRK.

This lack of any material action merely emboldened the DPRK to continue with its nuclear programme despite grave concerns, expressed stentoriously in many quarters of the world.

The continued, albeit limited successes, of the DPRK's nuclear programme were not held to be secretive. Far from it, and, in fact, the Supreme Leader boasted of his country's many advances in nuclear technology.

The fears of the Western World, today, and especially from Asian countries – which would, most definitely, be '*soft*' targets from any bellicose act of the DPRK – should the first shots be fired on orders of the Supreme Leader, it could result in catastrophic repercussions.

In the next few years, as things stand, today, it is quite likely that the DPRK would have the ability to strike The United States of America with nuclear-armed, long-range missiles.

Should this transpire, it would be World War III.

And, from the looks of things, today, only the '*dear*' Supreme Leader of the DPRK would be beating the drums of an international war.

If the President George W. Bush had, seriously, considered surgical strikes at the nuclear facilities of the DPRK, President Barack Hussein Obama shelved the suggestion, on taking over the reins of Government of The United States of America, obviously, for good and valid reasons: He feared the immediate consequences.

Thus, '*conscience doth make cowards of us, all*', wrote William Shakespeare in his immortal play: The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark.

It appears, at this juncture, that President Donald John Trump is not made of the same intestinal fortitude as that of President Barack Hussein Obama.

But, having stated that, President Donald John Trump has yet to be tested when faced with adversity of massive proportions.

In the past, economic sanctions, imposed on the DPRK, have had limited direct effect because, inter alia, about 85 percent of the country's external trade was with the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Any future, new economic sanctions, therefore, must be with the expressed – not implicit – approval of the PRC Government.

But, even choking off the DPRK-PRC external trade and freezing DPRK accounts at PRC banks may not have the desired effect and, more than likely, the DPRK will continue with its nuclear programme, much to the chagrin of The United States of America and its many allies, those in Asia as well as those in Europe.

As far as the PRC Government is concerned, at this juncture, the devil that it sees in the present leadership of the DPRK is far better than the devil that it cannot even envisage.

The recent '*explosive*' utterances of President Donald John Trump and, also, some very terse words, issued by Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, on April 4, are highly unlikely to be just bluster.

The following is that which Mr Secretary Tillerson feels about the DPRK:

'North Korea launched yet another intermediate range ballistic missile. The United States has spoken enough about North Korea. We have no further comment.'

Mr Secretary Tillerson's remarks could hardly have been considered the height of diplomacy: Clearly, he does not suffer fools, gladly.

For regimes of the like of the DPRK, the powers-that-be in control of them must concern themselves, firstly, with their continuum.

As history has recorded, dictatorships come ... and dictatorships go.

In the natural course of events, the Asian regime, today controlled by Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un, will fade into history, also ... as may his entire family.

It is all a matter of time.

But, in the interim, the DPRK is a very real danger to the peace-loving people of the world.

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